
From: The VTGC Board of Directors <board@vermonttgc.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2023 1:48 PM
To: The VTGC Board of Directors
Subject: Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Flood Recovery

Hello Trails & Greenways Council,

First and foremost, I hope you all are safe and dry. Some of us have undoubtedly been directly affected by the historic flooding, and our thoughts and hearts go out to you as the waters recede and recovery begins.

In the days and weeks ahead, we will also get a sense of the impacts this historic event has had on our trails and related infrastructure. Governor Scott's request for an emergency declaration for all 14 counties has been accepted by President Biden to allow for federal disaster relief resources to be deployed. The Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD), alongside State Emergency Management officials, will be working with FEMA and other Federal agencies to secure assistance in repairing the damage from this storm.

ACCD has asked the VTGC to gather insight into trail-related damages across the state and develop a collective sense of the impacts and what recovery will look like. In the days ahead and when it is safe to do so, it is important to document damages to our outdoor recreation infrastructure to help ensure Vermont secures the necessary support to recover swiftly and fully. If you can share these reports, including photos/videos as possible, with our co-Chair [Nick Bennette](#), it will help ensure we provide a comprehensive picture to ACCD.

For more acute needs, State emergency management officials and recovery resources are accessible at vermont211.org and by calling 2-1-1. In the event of an emergency, Vermonters should call 9-1-1. Vermonters should also consider signing up to [receive emergency alerts](#) and observe [road closures](#) and [power outages](#).

For those who own or operate outdoor recreation businesses, we similarly advise you to document the damage to your business and inventory via photos and videos as soon as it is safe to do so. Kelly Ault of the Vermont Outdoor Business Alliance (VOBA) will be playing a similar liaison role with the State on behalf of outdoor recreation businesses - please share the impacts you are facing via [email](#) or voice/text at 802-272-0795.

As the State shifts from emergency first response to recovery, ACCD will continue to communicate with VTGC and other partners, and the Council will keep all of you informed so that we can most effectively support and take advantage of recovery efforts statewide.

Best of luck, and stay safe,

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The VTGC Board of Directors

