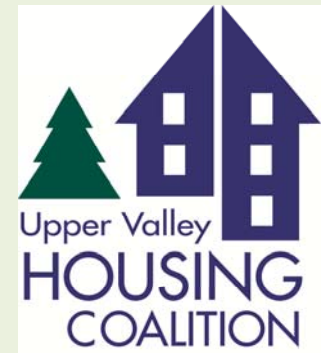


Lessons Learned from Irene And Sandy, and the Lebanon Flooding, and ...

Anne Duncan Cooley

Executive Director, Upper Valley Housing Coalition,

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It Happened Here

- Irene
- We got lucky and Sandy missed us
- But there was flooding in Lebanon

- What does this tell us?



Local Matters

- In the response stage communities can really be on their own
- As time progresses, more outside resources may...or may not...be available...with strings.
- The power to recover effectively comes from local people and organizations
- Disasters like Lebanon bring fewer outside resources so local really matters



Communicate, Communicate, Communicate

- Radios are important in response
- Establishing these networks pre-disaster pays off – Lebanon Flooding is an example
- Communicating through media to get resources is also key
- People may act quickly and make uninformed decisions if there isn't good communication.



Community Connections

- In recovery, it's networks of people that can mobilize people and resources to get things done
- Managing volunteers during recovery takes expertise – it doesn't just happen like magic
- Resources and planning ahead are required to make that happen. Websites, fundraising links, shovels, email lists, etc....



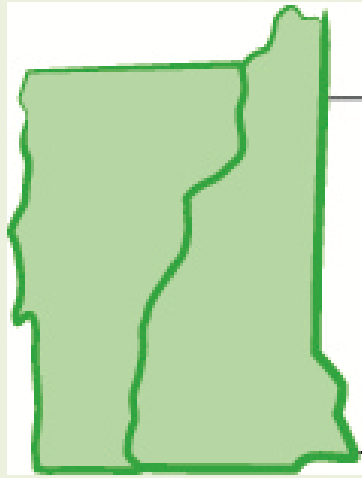
While Big Picture Thinking is Important

- Don't forget the practical things we learned
- Propane tanks, hay bales and mobile homes float
- 4 Wheelers and Horses can go places cars can't
- Having simple paper forms to gather information works when there's no power
- Mad River and Roaring Brook were named that for a reason.



A well coordinated recovery makes a difference to people





Upper Valley
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Thank you!

