

# Vermont Bounces Back, Races Forward

*Vermont's Lt. Governor to pilot 'Vermont Strong' car at ACT Invitational at New Hampshire Motor Speedway*

**MONTPELIER, Vt.** – ‘Vermont Strong’ is the battle cry that has rallied thousands of Vermonters, and volunteers from around the country, together to confront the impacts of Tropical Storm Irene. Now, in the three weeks since the storm, it has come to define the resilience and unity of a small, rural state as it bounces back and opens its doors for one of the most important seasons of the year.

On Saturday, the strength and character of the Green Mountain State, and the extraordinary effort it has made to be open for the fall foliage season, will be highlighted as the state’s Lt. Governor pilots the ‘Vermont Strong’ late model stock car in one of the region’s biggest auto races.

Drawing tens of thousands of race fans from around the country on Saturday and more than 100,000 spectators on Sunday for the premier NASCAR Sprint Cup Series event, Lt. Governor Phil Scott said this was an opportunity to highlight how Vermont is relentlessly driving forward and, as a result, is ready to welcome visitors.

“Being resilient, compassionate, hard working and innovative is what means to be ‘Vermont Strong.’ Because we’re ‘Vermont Strong,’ we’re bouncing back quickly and, though we have more work to do, we are ready to welcome visitors for our spectacular fall foliage season,” Lt. Governor Scott said.

In addition to featuring a ‘Vermont Strong’ logo, the race car will highlight [vermontvacation.com](http://vermontvacation.com) and carry stickers from communities most impacted by Irene.

“The way that Vermont has responded to the challenges of Irene is a real inspiration,” Scott continued. “When I get behind the wheel, it will be one of the great honors and privileges of my life to drive a car dedicated to the people of my state and that symbolizes the fact that when Vermonters work together, there is nothing we cannot accomplish and no setback that we cannot overcome.”

Scott noted that his objective was one part economic and two parts pride. “Sure, we want everyone to know that we’re open for business; that you can get here from there; and when they get here, we’ll be ready to greet them with the tremendous and authentic hospitality that our state is known for,” he said. “But, we’re proud of Vermont. We’re proud of how we’re responding to these challenges. And we’re proud to be ‘Vermont Strong.’”

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