



United States Department of Agriculture

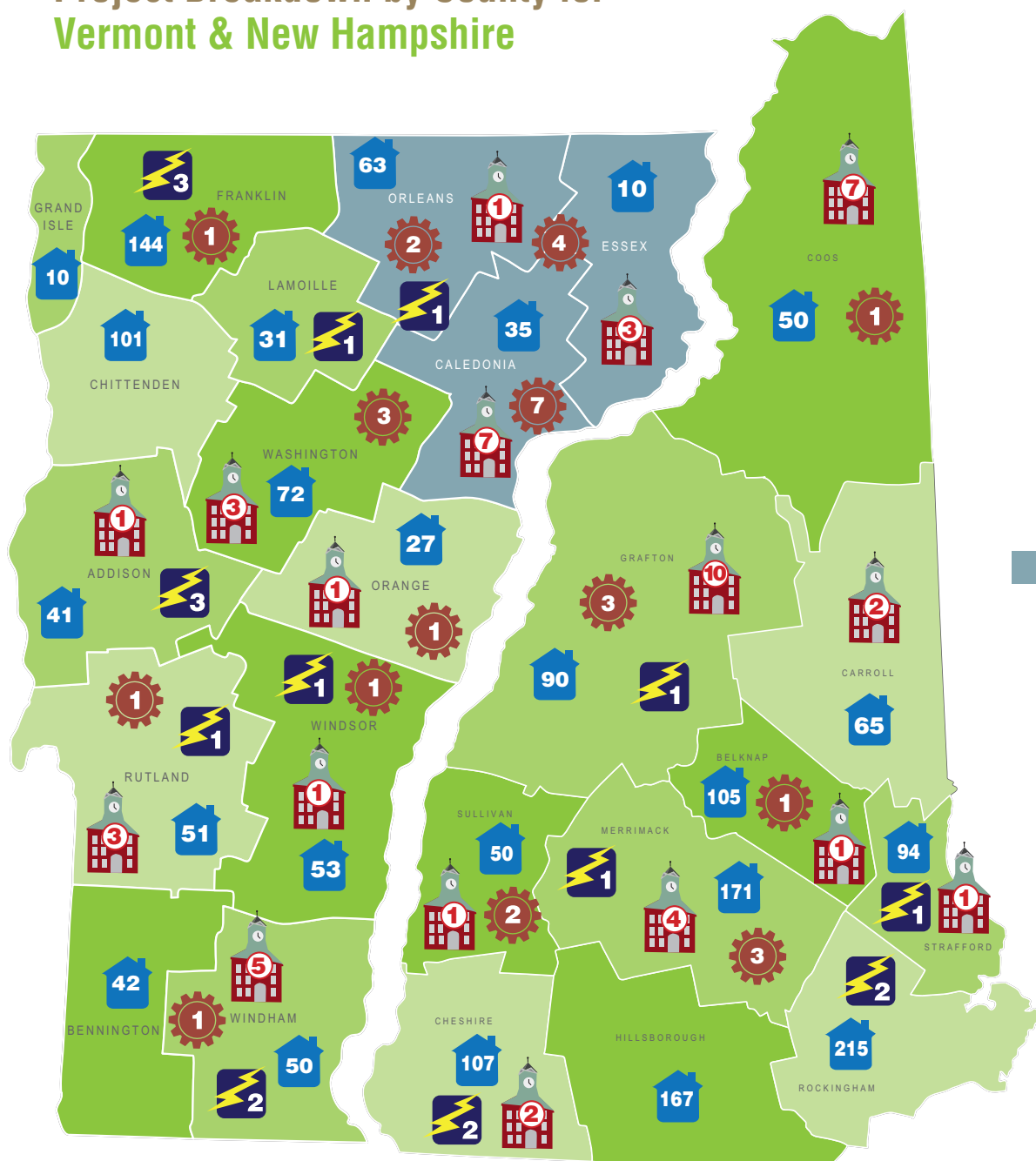
USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT VERMONT AND NEW HAMPSHIRE



2014
ANNUAL
REPORT

*Committed to the future
of rural communities.*

Project Breakdown by County for Vermont & New Hampshire



BUSINESS



COMMUNITY



ENERGY



HOUSING

The Northeast Kingdom of Vermont is one of five **Rural Economic Area Partnership Zones** in the country. U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy reauthorized the program in the 2014 Farm Bill, giving applicants in these counties access to set aside RD funding. In FY14, the designation brought the region an additional **\$4,206,532**.

NOTE: Multi-family rental properties receiving rental assistance were counted as one project. Each multi-family rental property represents multiple families receiving Rural Development assistance.

VERMONT

PROGRAM AMOUNT

BUSINESS	\$	5,876,445
ENERGY	\$	362,980
COMMUNITY FACILITIES	\$	1,201,926
HOUSING	\$	108,201,257
UTILITIES*	\$	9,545,300
TOTAL:	\$	125,187,908

NEW HAMPSHIRE

PROGRAM AMOUNT

BUSINESS	\$	5,352,732
ENERGY	\$	734,079
COMMUNITY FACILITIES	\$	1,935,848
HOUSING	\$	172,395,260
UTILITIES*	\$	9,115,632
TOTAL:	\$	189,533,551

*UTILITIES INCLUDE WATER AND WASTE WATER PROJECTS AND ARE NOTED ON THE ABOVE MAP AS COMMUNITY PROJECTS.

FOR A DETAILED BREAKDOWN OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENTS BY COUNTY, VISIT [HTTP://WWW.RURDEV.USDA.GOV/NH-VTHOME.HTML](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/nh-vthome.html)



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

To help keep our communities viable, USDA Rural Development offers grants and loans to town governments and non-profit organizations that provide essential community services. Our government loans have very favorable rates and terms.

- Community Facilities
- Water and Environmental Programs
- Solid Waste Management Grants
- Broadband and Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants
- Rural Community Development Initiative Grants



18,298 PEOPLE

in Vermont and New Hampshire have **cleaner**

or safer water because of FY14 RD Water and Environmental Programs.

INVESTING IN THE BIO-ECONOMY AT BURKE TOWN SCHOOL

As the leaves began to turn in late September, Burke Town School fired up its new high-efficiency wood pellet boiler that will keep 250 students, teachers, and staff warm through the winter months for years to come. The new boiler replaced an expensive and inefficient oil heating system the school used for decades.

A \$50,000 USDA Rural Development Community Facility Grant paid for a portion of the wood pellet boiler purchase and installation costs. This project will cut the school's heating bills while fostering energy independence from oil and supporting livable wage jobs in New England's wood pellet industry.



Marc Brown with Burke Town School's new wood pellet boiler.



BUSINESS PROGRAMS

USDA Rural Development's Business and Cooperative Programs support rural entrepreneurs, lenders, and non-profit organizations that are creating economic opportunities for the people of Vermont and New Hampshire.

- Business and Industry Guaranteed Loan Program
- Intermediary Relending Program
- Rural Business Enterprise Grants
- Rural Business Opportunity Grants
- Value-Added Producer Grants
- Rural Energy for America Program Grants and Loan Guarantees

1,992 VERMONT & NEW HAMPSHIRE JOBS were created or saved through **RD LOANS AND GRANTS** during FY14.



INVESTING IN FOOD SYSTEMS IN VERMONT'S NORTHEAST KINGDOM

With the help of a USDA Rural Development Rural Business Enterprise Grant, Green Mountain Farm Direct is supporting Vermont agriculture and promoting healthy choices in Vermont's youth of the Northeast Kingdom.

During the months where schools are open a phone call to Green Mountain Farm Direct connects farmers with crop supplies in danger of becoming waste to schools in need of their abundant product. In the summer, Green Mountain Farm Direct connects Vermont farmers and children by operating a 'Lunchbox' truck that delivers good, healthy food from local farms to children who otherwise may not have access to lunch away from school.



Executive Director of Green Mountain Farm Direct Katherine Sims and U.S. Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Krysta Harden open Green Mountain Farm Direct's Lunchbox Truck windows for business.



HOUSING PROGRAMS

USDA Rural Development Housing Programs support families in need of extra financial assistance to purchase, rent or rehabilitate housing in rural communities.

- ▶ Single Family Housing Programs
 - Low Income Home Loans
 - Guaranteed Loans
 - Home Repair Grants and Loans
- ▶ Multi-Family Housing
 - Rural Rental Housing Loans
 - Loan Guarantees
 - Rental Assistance Program
- ▶ Housing Preservation Grants
- ▶ Farm Labor Housing

5,395 VERMONT & NEW HAMPSHIRE FAMILIES benefitted from USDA Rural Development Housing Programs during FY14.



INVESTING IN COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN BERLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

In June, USDA Rural Development invested in a community economic development project that brought Tri-County Community Action Program, Public Service New Hampshire Energy Efficiency Services, New Hampshire Housing and Community Contact, Sherwin Williams, Caron Building Center, Rockingham Electric and Jim Lavirtue Carpentry together to improve an economically disadvantaged area of New Hampshire by bringing new life to an old home.

For Leon and Priscille Boucher of Berlin, New Hampshire, a \$7,500 USDA Rural Development home repair grant put a new roof on their family home of 47 years. It was also just the beginning of a flood of state, local business and volunteer efforts to install energy-saving insulation, update wiring, rehabilitate two dilapidated porches, put on a new coat of paint and plant a vegetable garden for these Berlin seniors.



Chuck Henderson, representing Sen. Jeanne Shabean, presents the Bouchers with an American flag in honor of Priscille's uncle, Army Pvt. Armand Couture of Berlin, who served in World War II.

To learn more about USDA Rural Development and to sign up for notifications of grant and loan opportunities using GovDelivery visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/NH-VTHome.html>.



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COVER PHOTOS:

Top row—left to right: (1) Bob Essman in his apartment at RD's Multi-Family Housing Project, Wright House in Shelburne, VT (2) Governor Peter Shumlin cuts the ribbon to Wright House in Shelburne, VT (3) Olivia Nason of Miles Smith Farm, a Value-Added Producer grant recipient, sits on one of the farm's riding cattle.

Middle row—left to right: (4) Rural Housing Administrator Tony Hernandez stands with Norma Pariseau in her apartment at a RD Multi-Family Housing complex in Bedford, N.H. (5) Deputy Agriculture Secretary Krysta Harden receives a tour of Intervale Farm in Burlington from Farm Manager Andy Jones (6) Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack stands with the farm crew at Miles Smith Farm in Loudon, N.H.

Bottom row—left to right: (7) The Alyward family in front of their new home in St. Albans, VT purchased with a Rural Development home loan guarantee (8) Wastewater Treatment Facility Superintendent Elizabeth Walker and Town Manager Melvin Adams stand in front of construction of the new RD Water and Environmental Programs-financed facility in Randolph, VT.



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