



## Vermont Council on Rural Development

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### *Vermont Communities in a Digital Age February 16*

(Montpelier, VT) – The e-Vermont Community Broadband Project is working across Vermont to help communities solve local issues with 21st century tools. On February 16 e-Vermont will host *Vermont Communities in a Digital Age* to highlight some of the projects taking place and bring leaders and learners together to share what they have discovered so far. Topics include mobilizing community resources during emergencies, a hands-on lab about digital tools for business, a showcase of how technology is expanding the classroom for 4-6th graders, and a preview of how town meetings can reach a wider audience. The all-day workshop takes place at Vermont Technical College in Randolph Center.

“High speed Internet is the critical resource of the 21<sup>st</sup> century for business, education, community building, good governance and communicating with friends and family. It touches on all parts of our lives,” says e-Vermont Project Director Helen Labun Jordan. “But making the best use of this resource takes the kind of creative thinking we’ll be sharing on February 16.” Labun Jordan notes that this workshop is for people who are comfortable with computers and focused on applying those skills to larger community goals, not on learning basic skills.

Anne Galloway is the keynote speaker. Anne is an award-winning journalist and founder/editor of VTDigger.org, a statewide news website dedicated to coverage of Vermont politics, consumer affairs, business and public policy.

Registration is only \$20 and includes course offerings, refreshments and lunch. For a complete schedule and to pre-register online visit the e-Vermont website at

[www.e4vt.org](http://www.e4vt.org), call 802-859-3090, or e-mail [joanna@snellingcenter.org](mailto:joanna@snellingcenter.org). Follow e-Vermont on Facebook (e-Vermont) and Twitter (@eVermont).

e-Vermont partner The Snelling Center for Government is the lead organizer for *Vermont Communities in a Digital Age*.

“The whole day will offer participants new ideas about how digital tools can be used to create jobs, reinvent schools, attract visitors, improve civic involvement, and enliven Vermont communities,” stated conference coordinator Joanna Cummings. “We hope that hearing directly from some of our communities about their projects will inspire other towns to adapt these tools for their unique needs.”

The e-Vermont Community Broadband Project is led by the Vermont Council on Rural Development, and is made up of the Vermont State Colleges, the Vermont Department of Libraries, the Vermont Department of Public Service, Vermont Small Business Development Center, the Snelling Center for Government, Front Porch Forum, Digital Wish, Evslin Family Foundation and Vermont Community Foundation.

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