

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments provides a variety of services and programming to the municipalities of Franklin County and to the greater Franklin County region. The FRCOG's 2016 Annual Report, which will be available in April of 2017 and on www.frcog.org shortly thereafter, will highlight our work over the past year. Specific services to the Town of Charlemont in 2016 included the following.

Administration and Special Projects

- Staff worked with the Selectboard, Finance Committee and Town Administrator to develop a long-range capital plan as part of the Baker-Polito Community Compact Program. By formally accepting the plan, the Town has earned points toward future state grant opportunities.

Collective Bidding & Purchasing Program

- Charlemont contracted with the FRCOG to receive cooperative bid pricing for up to 24 different Highway Products and Services. Total estimated highway needs for FY17 is \$603,679.
- Charlemont participated in the #2 Fuel, Gasoline, and Diesel Fuel bids.
- Charlemont participated in the Dog Tags and Licenses collective bid program.
- The Chief Procurement Officer (CPO) issued a bid for Legate Hill Road repairs.
- The CPO issued bids for Road and Bridge assessments consulting services.
- The CPO issued bid for Mountain Road Bridge construction.

Cooperative Public Health Service Health District

Charlemont is a comprehensive member of the CPHS health district, sharing health agents and a public health nurse.

- Staff attended 5 Board of Health meetings, conducted 19 food inspections, witnessed 30 septic system inspections and 5 septic system installations, and 10 perc tests.
- Staff conducted 45 Title-5 (septic) related activities including soil evaluations, plan reviews, site visits, inspections, and local upgrade approvals.
- Staff held 11 monthly walk-in wellness clinics at Charlemont Federated Church where 13 area residents made 41 visits with the nurse for health screening services.
- Through an FDA Food Safety Grant that will improve food inspection and data collection, the district offered low-cost food safety training to 27 town residents and employees.
- Staff conducted 3 family-type campground inspections, 2 pool inspections, and 3 routine motel/lodging house inspections.
- Staff provided services to attendees of monthly "Good Neighbors" food distribution at Charlemont Federated Church where 24 area residents made 58 visits with the nurse for health screening services.
- Staff conducted 11 housing inspections or re-inspections, and represented the Board of Health at 3 Housing Court appearances.
- Staff provided coordinated vaccine and supplies for a Charlemont Council on Aging Senior Center Flu Clinic serving 55 area residents.

- Three Charlemont residents took advantage of the low-cost tick tests offered through a Board of Health subsidy. Thirty percent (30%) of tick tests locally tested positive for the Lyme pathogen, and an additional 6% tested positive for either Anaplasmosis or Babesiosis.
- Staff completed all state-mandated infectious disease investigation, reporting and case monitoring. Follow-up was provided as needed for 11 locally and 104 regionally reported incidents of communicable illness.
Staff coordinated vaccine and supplies assisting Town officials from Charlemont, Hawley, Rowe, Heath, Monroe, and Rowe in conducting a Hawlemont Region Emergency Dispensing Site drill flu clinic and animal rabies clinic. A total of 41 area residents were served with the help of GCC nursing students and community volunteers.

Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program

- Staff issued 59 building permits, 49 electrical permits & 33 plumbing/gas permits for Charlemont in 2016. Twenty-six (26) Certificates of Inspection were issued.

Partnership for Youth

- Staff conducted a Teen Health Survey to assess teen attitudes and behavior among middle and high school students. Staff reported to Mohawk Trail Regional School administrators on results from 137 Mohawk students, representing 63% of the 8th, 10th, and 12th grade classes. Survey data meets federal requirements for the school and is valuable for grant-writing and program planning.
- Staff presented to the CPHS Annual Meeting on the Healthy Community Design Toolkit, Volume 2: Municipal Strategies to Increase Food Access.

Planning and Development Department

- Staff secured Brownfields funding to complete a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment for the North Sherman properties (\$4,819).
- Staff developed and implemented a tri-town community food assessment survey, working with the Charlemont Agricultural Commission in collaboration with the Towns of Colrain and Heath.
- Staff made a presentation to the Charlemont Planning Board on the OSRP update process and the DCS grants available.
- Staff revised the schedules, brochures, and maps of the FRTA's Fixed Routes.
- Staff began updating a new map/brochure for the Mahican-Mohawk Trail.
- Staff continued to advocate for funding to repave Route 2 throughout the town, and to construct village center traffic calming features.
- Staff prepared a Draft Business Plan and Legislation for the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership Project for 11 West County towns including Charlemont, with specific recommendations and projects to support Natural Resource Based Economic Development, Forest Conservation & Municipal Financial Sustainability.
- Staff conducted traffic counts as requested on East Oxbow Road, West Oxbow Road, Legate Hill Road, South River Road, Zoar Road, and North Heath Road.
- Staff assessed the air quality impacts of the MassDOT project to resurface a segment of Route 2 in Charlemont.

Regional Preparedness Program

- Staff conducted quarterly contact drills and a site notification drill to test the *Hawlemont Emergency Dispensing Site Plan*.
- Staff designed and executed a drill that tested the Plan for the use of the Incident Command System, set up of the emergency operations center, and the receipt of medical countermeasures from the Strategic National Stockpile.
- Staff presented to the Board of Health information about the statewide plan for a potential outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, and the emergency response roles for local officials.

Workshops & Training

The following list represents the FRCOG workshops and training sessions that Charlemont public officials, staff, and residents attended, and the number in attendance.

Municipal Official Continuing Education Series

- Commercial Scale Wood Heat & Air Quality Impacts — 2
- Public Records Law — 4
- Municipal Farmland Leasing and Protection — 1

Cooperative Public Health Service

- ServSafe/Choke Saver/Allergen Training Series — 27
- Food Systems — 2

Regional Emergency Preparedness

- Multiple Casualty Incident Exercise — 4
- Hazardous Materials Exercise — 1
- Hazardous Materials Awareness — 7
- Sudden Unaffiliated Volunteers — 1
- Intro to Public Health Emergency Preparedness Capabilities — 1
- Hawlemont Emergency Dispensing Site Exercise — 1