



SERVICES TO MONROE IN 2023

CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND LAND USE

- Reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the E131 Asset Condition Refurbishment Project and submitted comments to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act office. This National Grid transmission line passes through Monroe and is being upgraded. FRCOG reviewed several project impacts, including those within Monroe State Forest.

COMMUNITY HEALTH

- Supported town officials with information and technical assistance on spending opioid settlement funds.
- Provided funding and facilitation support to the Mary Lyon Foundation for the creation of the West County People Supporting People Network, which hosted a resource fair to bring the county's healthcare and human service agencies to West County.

SHARED MUNICIPAL SERVICES

- Monroe contracted with the FRCOG to receive collective bid pricing for highway products and services, including for rental equipment, and for dog tags and licenses. Staff conducted bids for a new highway truck and heavy-duty equipment package. Staff also assisted with a collective five-year bid for student transportation encompassing nine Franklin County School Districts, including the Franklin County Technical School.
- Monroe is a comprehensive member of the Cooperative Public Health Service (CPHS), a regional health district based at the FRCOG. CPHS Staff:
 - Assisted businesses, organizations, and individuals with the CPHS on-line public health permitting system; evaluated and made determinations on 11 applications for Monroe, and on an additional 14 applications for regional permits. Among these, inspectors permitted and inspected one short-term rental unit.
 - To enforce the septic code for the town, inspectors witnessed three soil evaluations, reviewed two system plans, and witnessed three Title-5 inspections prior to property transfer.
 - Responded to housing complaints with varying degrees of complexity and provided guidance to the board of health.
 - Gave 259 Flu and 257 COVID vaccinations at drop-in nursing hours and home visits. Monroe residents received four vaccinations.
 - Completed state-mandated infectious disease surveillance and reporting for communicable disease cases in district member towns, checking state disease-tracking system daily and followed up as required, including for two Monroe cases.
 - Offered sharps collection and box exchange in collaboration with Franklin County Solid Waste Management District at all drop-in nursing hours: 69 boxes exchanged.
 - Began hosting district "Train the Trainer" events: The first taught community members to train peers to recognize and respond to opioid overdose.
 - Presented a similar community training on how to identify and respond to an overdose in collaboration with a local library.
 - Offered tick-bite prevention outreach by providing educational materials and co-hosting 7 permethrin "shoe spraying" events with district boards of health.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

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

Municipal Officials' Continuing Education

Selectboard 101 – 1

TRANSPORTATION

- Administered a MassTrails Grant for trail improvements and information kiosks on the Mohican-Mohawk Trail.
- Facilitated the design of trailhead kiosk panels for the Mohican-Mohawk Trail.