



SERVICES TO ROWE IN 2023

CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND LAND USE

- Worked to complete a Rowe Climate-Resilient Open Space and Recreation Plan, to be published in 2024.
- Assisted the town with managing and administering its Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grant in support of a forest climate resilience program.

COMMUNITY HEALTH

- Conducted the annual student health survey to assess teen attitudes and behavior among middle and high school students. Staff reported to Mohawk Trail Regional School District (MTRSD) administrators on results from 101 Mohawk students, representing 81% 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.
- Worked with MTRSD admin and staff to implement Restorative Practices school climate improvements.
- Provided training, materials, and technical assistance for the evidence-based PreVenture substance use prevention and mental health promotion program in the MTRSD.
- Supported town 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

- Rowe contracted with the FRCOG to receive collective bid pricing for highway products and services, including, rental equipment: heating and vehicle fuel; elevator maintenance; fire alarm services; and dog tags and licenses. Staff assisted the town with bids for bridge replacement on Ford Hill Road, paving for the DPW garage parking area, and for the refurbishment of fire apparatus. Staff also conducted a collective five-year bid for student transportation encompassing nine Franklin County School Districts, including the Franklin County Technical School.
- FRCOG staff organized and facilitated educational meetings for members of town energy committees, including presenting information on various topics and conducting follow-up communication.
- The Franklin County Cooperative Inspections program issued 24 building permits, 19 electrical permits, six plumbing/gas permits, and one certificate of inspection for Rowe in 2023.
- Rowe is a comprehensive member of the Cooperative Public Health Service (CPHS), a health district based at the FRCOG. CPHS Staff:
 - Facilitated COVID-19 and flu vaccine clinics between state mobile vendors and local schools, libraries and senior centers. Clinics in CPHS towns served 726 individuals and provided 1075 doses of vaccine. At the Rowe School clinic, 58 people were served 101 vaccines given.
 - Gave 259 Flu and 257 COVID vaccinations at drop-in nursing hours and home visits. Rowe residents received 15 vaccines, including five during home visits coordinated with the town nurse.
 - Completed state-mandated infectious disease surveillance and reporting for communicable disease cases in district member towns, checking state online disease-tracking system daily and following up as required, including for nine Rowe cases.
 - Offered sharps collection and box exchange in collaboration with Franklin County Solid Waste Management District at all drop-in nursing hours: 69 boxes were exchanged.
 - Supported the Franklin County Age- and Dementia- Friendly Communities initiative by working with the steering committee, subcommittees, and community partners to write and publish a five-year action plan in response to local priorities identified from the needs survey data.
 - Offered tick-bite prevention outreach by collaborating with boards of health to provide prevention materials and seven permethrin "shoe spraying" events, including one in collaboration with the Rowe Town Nurse. Helped residents access the tick-testing program.

- Began hosting “Train the Trainer” events. The first taught residents to train peers to recognize and respond to opioid overdose. Offered a similar training in collaboration with a local library.
- Assisted businesses, organizations, and individuals with the CPHS on-line public health permitting system; evaluated and made determinations – following inspections when required – for 45 permit applications for Rowe, and an additional 14 regional applications. Among these were five food and one temporary food establishments, three recreational camps for children, one bathing beach, and one short-term rental.
- To enforce septic code for the town, staff witnessed 11 soil evaluation/percolation tests, issued three local upgrade approvals, four installation permits, and witnessed 13 septic inspections prior to property transfer.
- Provided guidance to the Rowe Board of Health, as needed.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

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

Emergency Preparedness

- Child Emergency Assessment & Stabilization – 1
- Firefighter Fire Response – 1

Public Health & Community Awareness

- Food Safety – 1
- Opioid Settlement Presentation – 5
- USDA Rural Development Grant Info Session – 1

TRANSPORTATION

- Began mapping and collecting GPS data to create a conceptual trail to connect Catamount State Forest in Colrain to Mohawk State Forest in Charlemont via Heath and Rowe.
- Assisted with a MassTrails grant to buy trail building/maintenance equipment for Pelham Lake Park.