



# TOWN HEALTH OFFICERS WORKSHOP

co-sponsored by  
**VLCT Municipal Assistance Center**  
**Vermont Department of Health**

Wednesday, May 27, 2015  
Best Western Windjammer, South Burlington  
and  
Saturday, May 30, 2015,  
Capitol Plaza Hotel and Conference Center, Montpelier

## AGENDA

- 9:00 Registration (coffee and light breakfast provided)**
- 9:30 Welcome and Overview of the Day**  
**Abby Friedman, Director, VLCT Municipal Assistance Center**
- 9:35 Duties of a Town Health Officer, Part 1**  
In this opening session, we will cover the statutory authority of the town health officer and the local board of health. We will pay particular attention to defining a “public health hazard,” the tools needed to conduct a proper investigation, enforcement options, and writing effective health orders.  
**Lillian Colasurdo, MELP, JD, Public Health Policy Advisor, Vermont Department of Health**
- 10:30 Break**
- 10:45 Duties of a Town Health Officer, Part 2**  
Our presenter will further explore the first session’s topics.  
**Lillian Colasurdo, MELP, JD, Public Health Policy Advisor, Vermont Department of Health**
- 11:45 Lunch (provided)**
- 12:45 Emergency Preparedness and Response Roles for Town Health Officers**  
In response to state emergencies, town health officers may be asked to inspect properties which have been significantly damaged and need to be condemned. This session outlines the legal authority regarding when a health officer may exercise this authority and how to conduct this type of inspection.  
**Michael Desrochers, Director, Division of Fire Safety, Vermont Department of Public Safety**
- 2:00 Break**

**2:15 Basics of Rental Housing and Vermont Landlord-Tenant Laws**

Often, rental housing inspections can lead to a town health officer trying to navigate landlord-tenant issues. In this session you will learn the basics of rental housing laws in Vermont and some best practices for responding to public health issues.

**Angela Zaikowski, Esq., Principal, Vermont Apartment Owners Association**

**Pamela Favreau, Esq., Director, Vermont Tenants, Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity**

**3:25 Complete evaluations**

**3:30 Conclusion**

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND AND WHY**

This workshop is designed to assist town health officers, selectboard members, and town managers and administrators who deal with local public health hazards and rental housing code of enforcement.