

CLIMATE+HEALTH

Climate and Health Adaptation Plan for the Public Health Council of the Upper Valley

Prepared by:
Public Health Council of the Upper Valley
With Assistance From:
Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission





Planning Partners

- Public Health Council of the Upper Valley
- Dartmouth-Hitchcock Community Health
- Upper Valley Adaptation Workgroup
- Upper Valley Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
- Upper Valley Housing Coalition
- Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission
- Vital Communities

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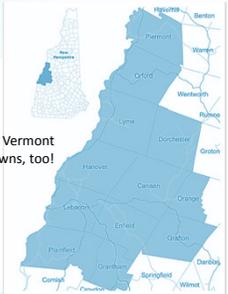
What is the Public Health Council?

- Community leaders and representatives from a diverse group of community sectors working together to create a more healthy, safe, supportive, and vital Upper Valley.
 - Advancing collaboration
 - Delivering core public health services
 - Establishing public health priorities, and
 - Mobilizing resources to achieve measurable outcomes.



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What is the Public Health Council?



And Vermont Towns, too!

- **Vision:**
 - Working together, our Upper Valley community will be healthy, safe, supportive, and vital.
- **Mission:**
 - To improve the health of Upper Valley residents through shared public health initiatives and services within a network of community stakeholders.

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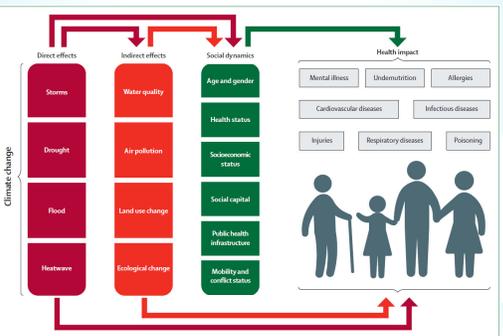
PLAN: We looked at...



- **Geography**
 - Population Centers
 - Topography
 - Infrastructure
- **Demographics**
 - Population
 - Age Cohorts
 - Projections
- **Existing Work**
 - Regional & Municipal Emergency Response Plans
 - Hazard Vulnerability Assessments

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PLANNING: What are the potential health risks?



Direct and Indirect Impacts of Climate Change on Health and Wellbeing. Source: [Health and Climate Change](#), 2015, The Lancet Commissions

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Health Vulnerability Prioritization Summary

<p>High Priority Exposure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing occurrence of extreme heat events (increase in days over 90°F) Increased extreme precipitation and occurrence of extreme weather events Threats to mental health 	<p>Health Impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heat stroke Complicates chronic disease Injury Drowning Carbon Monoxide Mold Stress, Depression
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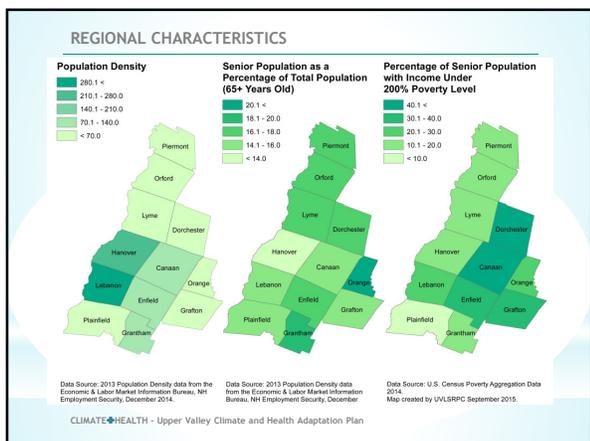
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Health Vulnerability Prioritization Summary

<p>Medium Priority Exposure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Longer Growing Seasons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vector-borne disease Allergens Water and food security, food and water-borne diseases 	<p>Health Impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lyme & West Nile Aggravates respiratory illness Crop contamination Water Supply
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PLANNING: What is the significant demographic trend?



	PHC Total Pop	Pop 65 yrs +	Percent 65 yrs +
2010 Census	44,020	7,568	17%
2015 Est.	44,015	9,098	21%
2025 Est.	45,463	13,354	29%
2040 Est.	46,676	16,727	36%

Population estimates for study area based on 2013 NHOEP Population Projections

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Reducing the Impact of Severe Heat: Goals



- Help older adults remain healthy when we experience very hot days in the summer
- Build partnerships with organizations that serve older adults so they can help us get information and resources out
- Figure out the strategies that are going to work best in our communities
- Strengthen our capacity to address this and other health impacts of climate change.

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Reducing the Impact of Severe Heat

Effective Interventions

- Outreach and Education
 - Heat Alert Systems
 - Access to Cooling Shelters

Upper Valley Approach

- Phase One (until 9/2016)**
 - Outreach and Education
 - Community Forum
 - Work with Partners in Contact with Older Adults
 - What strategies might work?
 - What are the barriers?
 - Pilot Project
- Phase Two (after 9/2016)**
 - Heat Alert Systems
 - Determine thresholds & strategies
 - Access to Cooling Shelters
 - Build off current work of Emergency Planning

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