

Pre-disaster planning grants available for New Hampshire's historical resources

The DHR is pleased to offer a new source of grant funding to help property owners and communities plan for future disasters. Pre-disaster planning for historic and cultural resources is critical to ensuring better protection of these irreplaceable resources the next time a major disaster strikes. Proposals that will better prepare historical properties for future disasters, such as new or updated historical inventories, community and site-specific disaster planning, National Register nominations, and educational programming and training will be considered. In addition to pre-disaster planning efforts, any historic properties damaged by Superstorm Sandy that did not apply in the fall 2014 grant round are also eligible to apply for assistance. Details and applications materials for rehabilitation projects can be found at <http://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/programs/gis.htm>. The 2015 grant round will open **June 15, 2015 with applications due on August 10, 2015**. Approximately \$200,000 in total funding is available in this round.



Stone arch bridge threatened by flood

After Superstorm Sandy, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued major disaster declarations in 12 states, including New Hampshire. Six of New Hampshire's ten counties - Belknap, Carroll, Coös, Grafton, Rockingham and Sullivan - were determined eligible for Public Assistance through FEMA. Only communities, organizations and property owners with historical properties in these six counties are eligible to apply for this grant program.

Priorities for the 2015 grant round include:

- Identification and inventory of particularly vulnerable or significant historic and archaeological properties
- Townwide, district or neighborhood inventories, or inventories that benefit the greatest number of resources
- Updates to previous historic inventories in disaster-prone areas
- Listing eligible properties or districts in disaster-prone areas to the National Register of Historic Places
- Disaster mitigation plans for properties or districts eligible or listed to the National Register of Historic Places. See FEMA publication 386-6 for a suggested format
- Projects that are innovative and can serve as a model for other communities or property owners as they integrate historic and cultural resources with disaster mitigation planning.



Water Street in Keene during a 2009 flood event

For more information about the grant round, please contact Amy Dixon at 603-271-3558 or amy.dixon@dcr.nh.gov.