environmental commission on the impact to the historic resource. In addition to the sites listed on
the National Register, there are numerous other sites and structures are recognized in the State
Register.

- **Vermont Designated Downtown and Village Program**: This program seeks to recognize and
  protect the cultural and economic investments in villages and downtowns by offering technical
  assistance and tax credits. Currently, there are two designated downtowns (Brattleboro and
  Bellows Falls) and 14 designated villages in the Windham Region.

- **Local Historic Districts**: Vermont State law (24 V.S.A. 4414) allows towns to create and
  administer a local historic district. The purpose of an historic district is to protect and preserve
  areas of outstanding architectural and historic value from inappropriate alterations and additions
  which might otherwise detract from the character. Towns may also designate historic landmarks
  and enact Design Review Districts.

- **Preservation Trust of Vermont**: The Preservation Trust of Vermont is a charitable, non-profit
  organization that initiates and assists local and statewide efforts to preserve Vermont’s historic,
  architectural, and community resources. Through educational programs and technical and
  financial assistance, the Preservation Trust works to protect and restore significant historic
  properties, downtowns and community centers.

- **Certified Local Government (CLG) Program**: The CLG Program is a federally funded program
  administered by the state. A local government can participate in the program once the Vermont
  Division for Historic Preservation certifies the municipality. Matching grants are made each year
  to CLGs for survey and planning projects, including National Register nominations and education
  and advocacy projects. Rockingham is the only CLG in the Windham Region.

### 7.12 ENERGY AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Instituting energy-conservation measures on a community-wide scale can help local governments and
citizens manage energy costs. Community energy programs can be designed to meet specific goals. In the
Windham Region, Brattleboro is currently working with the Cities for Climate Protection to reduce
energy consumption. Decisions made at both the municipal and individual level, such as having police
officers patrol downtown on foot or on bicycle, converting conventional light bulbs to compact
fluorescent light bulbs, making energy-efficient upgrades to buildings, and reducing the solid waste
stream through recycling and composting can have a positive impact on the environment and provide
financial savings to communities.

### 7.13 COMMUNITY RESOURCES POLICIES

**Public Water Supplies**

1. Extend municipal water mains to only those areas where future development is being encouraged, as
   identified by growth center and growth area designations in approved town plans and this Plan or in
   areas where extension is required for public health purposes.

2. Maximize water conservation when planning for development in order to limit demands on public
   water supplies.

3. Discourage activities and land uses that may degrade the watersheds of public water supply sources.

5. Limit land uses within source protection areas to those uses that pose no threat of contamination to public water supplies.

**Private On-Site Water Supplies**
1. Locate and install wells using proper isolation distances and drilling techniques.

2. Ensure that new development does not impact existing private on-site water supplies.

**Wastewater Treatment**
1. Promote environmentally sound and affordable wastewater treatment, including research regarding the viability of alternative on-site management systems such as composting toilets and gray water recycling.

2. Ensure long-term reliability of the region's wastewater management systems and facilities, including the long-term ability to properly treat septage.

3. Plan development so as to manage wastewater effectively and maintain surface and groundwater quality.

4. Plan development so as to minimize water consumption, in order to lengthen the life and improve the efficiency of wastewater treatment facilities.

5. Support proposals to upgrade and improve existing wastewater treatment facilities. Extend sewer systems to only those areas where future development is being encouraged, as identified by growth area and center designations in approved town plans and this Plan or in areas where extension is required for public health purposes.

6. Assist towns to work cooperatively to ensure long-term access to reliable and affordable disposal systems.

7. Encourage installation of community treatment systems in villages, in clustered housing developments, and in remote areas where existing on-site septic systems are not adequate.

8. Assist towns and the Agency of Natural Resources (ANR), as feasible, to develop and disseminate educational material related to reducing hazardous elements and compounds in wastewater.

9. Reduce the use of hazardous materials. Improve collection and recovery systems of such materials in order to decrease their presence in the region's wastewater.

**Privately Owned On-Site Wastewater Treatment**
1. Encourage on-site sewage disposal system owners and operators to properly maintain their systems.

2. Ensure that new development has properly designed, constructed and inspected on-site sewage disposal systems.

3. Support programs to assist with the replacement of failed on-site sewage disposal systems.
Solid Waste Management
1. Ensure that planning for waste management and disposal addresses public health, environmental quality, and impacts on adjacent and nearby land uses.

2. Reduce the amount of solid waste generated in the region by developing recycling, composting, waste reduction and reuse, and general waste management programs that will be flexible and reliable amidst rapidly changing economic and regulatory environments.

3. Reduce the use of hazardous materials. Improve collection and recovery systems of such materials in order to decrease their presence in the region's solid waste.

4. Support the assessment of waste disposal fees that accurately and fairly charge disposal costs to the waste generators.

5. Support the inclusion of recycling programs in all solid waste management programs, and work with the District Environmental Commission to address waste management in Act 250 land use permit applications, as appropriate.

6. Encourage the financial support of recycling programs at the town and solid waste district level.

7. Assist in the planning, designing, and building of permanent collection facilities for household hazardous wastes and for small quantity generator hazardous wastes, in order to help protect the region's public health and environment.

8. Assist towns and solid waste districts to establish and enforce regulations governing the safe disposal of all wastes, including hazardous wastes. Encourage non-district towns to support and participate in regional or state-sponsored household hazardous waste collection programs.

9. Support federal, state, and local actions that will reduce the volume and toxicity of municipal solid waste in the Windham Region.

10. Assist towns and the ANR, as feasible, to develop and disseminate educational materials that promote public awareness regarding the use of hazardous materials and their environmental impacts.

Low Level Radioactive Waste
1. Ensure the safe and effective storage, transportation, and disposal of low level radioactive waste (LLRW).

2. Work to assure that standards at least as stringent as those proposed for a LLRW storage site in Vermont are applied to any alternative site.

3. Minimize the generation of LLRW.

High Level Radioactive Waste
1. Encourage a requirement that permanent spent nuclear fuel (SNF) storage be resolved prior to any consideration of extending or reviewing the operating license of Vermont Yankee.

2. Support increased local and regional public involvement regarding all SNF permitting and licensing decisions.
Emergency Planning
1. Build disaster resistant communities by promoting sound land use planning that accounts for known hazards.

2. Encourage towns and the State of Vermont to improve existing roads and design culverts and bridges to carry a minimum of a 25-year flood event without damage.

3. Encourage all towns to require that all new public and private roads and driveways are properly constructed so that they do not contribute to the damage of town roads from runoff.

4. Support a regional effort to develop an all-hazards plan that stresses disaster mitigation.

5. Encourage towns to adopt a model flood hazard area regulation.

6. Encourage the development and improvement of emergency evacuation plans.

7. Encourage the inclusion of provisions for pets and livestock in town disaster plans.

8. Explore efforts to develop a regional emergency response plan that includes surrounding areas in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts.

Emergency Response
1. Provide timely and effective emergency services to all persons regardless of their ability to pay for these services.

2. Provide fire hydrants or other water sources in proposed developments so that fire-fighting personnel can adequately serve all structures.

3. Design and build new roads so that emergency vehicles can readily maneuver and access all proposed structures.

4. Ensure that the emergency service personnel, facilities, and equipment needed to effectively service new development are available to avoid placing undue demands on existing personnel, equipment, and facilities.

5. Support the installation of an additional or improved repeater to upgrade the quality of the Southwest New Hampshire Mutual Aid system's radio broadcasts.

Educational System
1. Support efforts to increase the availability and affordability of childcare.

2. Help to secure greater assistance from the state (financial and facilities assessment) to local and union school districts to provide quality education services and resources, as well as to meet state educational facility and program requirements.

3. Promote school construction and renovation projects in existing developed areas such as downtowns and village centers in order to take advantage of existing infrastructure, encourage walking and bicycling to school, and to enhance revitalization of communities.
4. Increase opportunities for public and private cooperation in offering vocational and basic competency training to employees of area businesses and industry.

5. Revise current state aid formula to place less emphasis on property wealth. Explore broad based, more equitable funding sources to make education less dependent on local property tax revenues.

6. Support efforts of local and regional libraries to provide materials and facilities for independent learning and development of life-long education.

**Communications**

1. Promote universal access to broadband telecommunications and information services that are competitive in availability and cost.

2. Encourage reduced rates on advanced telecommunications services, equipment, and user training for libraries, educational and health care facilities. Support local access to diverse life-long distance learning opportunities and to low-cost public-use computers connected to electronic information.

3. Support greater penetration of public access, educational and government programming (PEG) through new PEG group formation and regional agreements. Encourage cable companies and other video programming service providers to support PEG operating and capital budgets. Encourage cable television companies to provide coverage of regular town meetings and other important local events as part of their cable franchise agreements.

4. Encourage expansion of transmission and receiving equipment at existing transmission and receiving stations, including co-location of carriers.

5. Encourage siting, design, and access of towers and structures in all cases to provide quality transmission and minimize negative impacts on natural and scenic resources.

6. Ensure that new and existing telecommunication facilities comply with Federal Communications Commission emission standards in order to protect public health in the Windham Region.

7. Support increased access to public information, and information about local events in user-friendly electronic formats.

8. Encourage increased access for residents to state and local public meetings and hearings through Vermont Interactive Television and PEG channels.

**Human Services**

1. Promote economic development opportunities that will contribute toward meeting the region's social service needs.

2. Address the childcare, eldercare, and care for persons with disabilities needs of families by encouraging the development of appropriate facilities.

3. Avoid duplication of human service efforts by assisting the coordination of community service organizations, as feasible and appropriate.

**Recreation**

1. Provide varied and accessible opportunities for outdoor recreation.
2. Facilitate the orderly development of needed public and private recreational facilities.

3. Encourage public opportunities for multiple use recreation and public access to recreation lands and waters, where the uses do not compete.

4. Maintain high environmental quality in the development of outdoor recreation facilities.

5. Recognize the recreational potential of watercourses and shorelines and provide facilities for water-oriented day use.


8. Encourage federal, state, and local acquisition of land and facilities well-suited for outdoor recreation, provided that adequate financial and management arrangements are made with the involved local governments.

9. Support United States Forest Service acquisition, other than by eminent domain, of private holdings within and selected lands adjacent to the Green Mountain National Forest, provided that adequate payments in lieu of taxes are made to the affected local governments.

10. Plan and provide recreational opportunities for the disabled and elderly.

11. Provide separate areas or facilities for conflicting uses of recreational resources. For example, swimmers and motorboats should not compete for the use of the same resource when such conflicts create safety hazards or significantly impair the use or enjoyment of the resource.

**Cultural and Historic Resources**

1. Support efforts to maintain and enhance the region’s libraries.

2. Strengthen the role of cultural and artistic disciplines in public education.

3. Encourage community-based facilities and organizations which will support cultural needs, along with improvements in marketing and distribution of the arts.

4. Support organizational and communication networks serving the region to promote the enhancement of cultural opportunities.

5. Protect places of outstanding educational, aesthetic, archeological, or historical value from development that unreasonably impairs their character and quality.

6. Discourage development that would adversely affect cultural resources, including their destruction or alteration, alteration of surroundings, or the introduction of non-harmonious visual, audible, or atmospheric elements.

7. Encourage rehabilitation of significant historic sites and structures. Emphasize adaptive use of historic resources whenever it is economically viable.
8. Encourage development that preserves the historic and architectural character of town and village centers and the rural landscape.

9. Seek public uses and/or ownership to preserve significant historic sites or structures.

10. Support local, regional, and state non-profit historic preservation trusts.