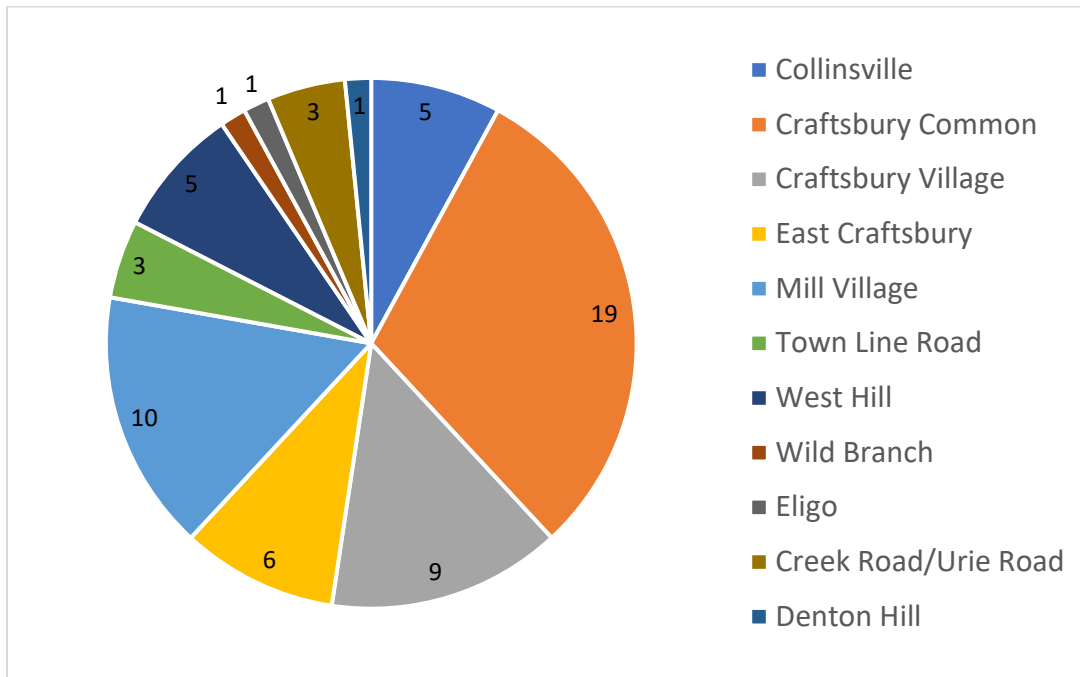
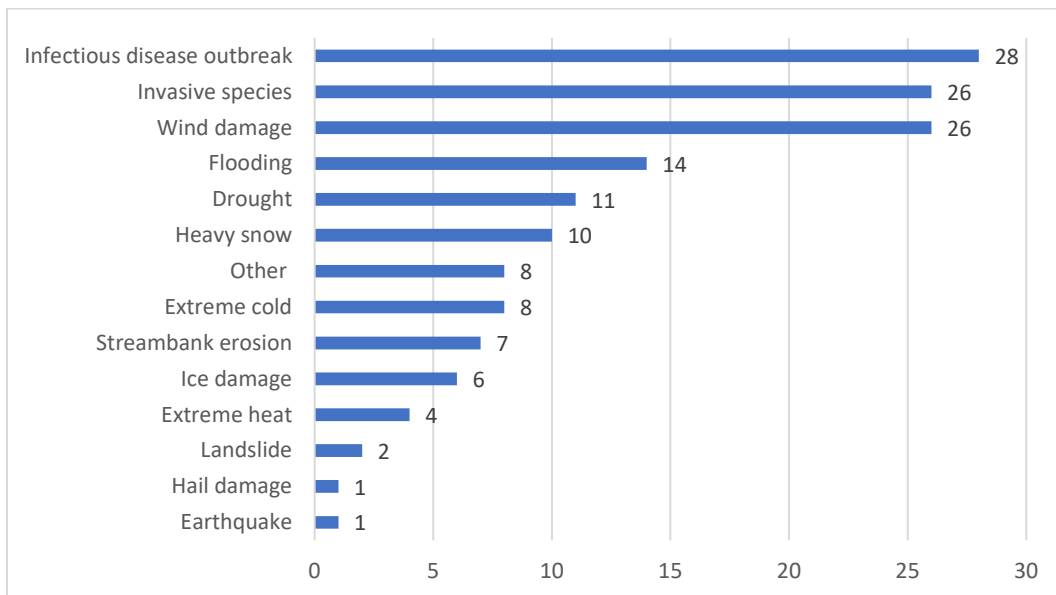


Craftsbury Hazard Mitigation Survey (67 Responses total)

1. Please tell us what part of town you live in. (Answered: 63; skipped: 4)



2. Have any of these hazards/events adversely affected you in the past 10 years? Please provide as many details as possible to help us understand how to lessen the impact in the future. For example: power loss, property/crop/livestock damage, time lost from work, injury, etc. (Answered: 63; skipped 4)



Comments:

Power loss from heavy snow/wind + Covid-19 both affected ability to work.

The most significant was the Halloween storm a few years ago that wiped out a few hundred feet of our road. It seems like it was put back together more substantially.

Lack of winter snow; Freeze/thaw fluctuations.

We've had a few trees come down in heavy winds. Thankfully they missed all structures. Branches snapped from ice and snow. Ongoing battle with knotweed as our neighbor likes it as a privacy hedge. One year of drought which thankfully ended before the well went completely dry.

Limb falling on car from wind.

Trees blown down; Buckthorn invasive; European spindle tree invasive; Asiatic bittersweet invasive

The only "serious" consequential threat is loss of normal winters and other effects of changes to the climate which result from greenhouse gas emissions far in excess of levels which ensure a sustainable climate.

PFAs in water supply. Extreme cold caused my pipes to freeze and my house to flood. Basement is often wet because of water table. High wind has taken down several trees and occasionally causes power outages, although not as many as some other parts of town. Nuisance species along roadsides that take over (although I'm not sure which ones are invasive and which are native)- bishops weed, knotweed, that wild parsley plant.

Burdock and possibly ash borer; Wind damage prior to our purchase of house (Note: the citing of ash borer was investigated, and it was not ash borer.)

Frequent power outages (resulting in no ability to communicate - when power goes out, internet goes out and only have wi-fi calling ability with cell service).

Damage to structures from high wind gusts; Crop damage from drought; infectious disease - obvious. social isolation.

Wind damage has taken down trees on our property including one that nearly destroyed an automobile. Wind and heavy snow have also resulted in numerous and extended power outages that make life difficult especially with young children. Exposure to some invasive plants has cause skin irritation and the nuisance of keeping them from overtaking native vegetation.

We currently have an unfolding disaster of unpotable contaminated drinking water on the Common, for all residents, the school, college, library, and church. This disaster has serious repercussions for the community and the volunteer board has been navigating very challenging and expensive regulatory hurdles to try to rectify. We do not have a new source identified and it is anticipated that we may not have new water for another 6 months to a year or more.

Contamination of drinking water. Community water system serving Craftsbury Common contamination with PFAS.

Japanese knotweed on my property. Got COVID.

Fluvial at my brook and culvert; drought - 2018, which caused well to go down further w/ arsenic results! Invasives: bishops weed, phrag, milfoil; infectious - mom at CCCC, 2 years of isolation for both of us; had to handle outbreak at CCCC. Lots of stress; affected gainful employment.

Figure not SB's job to help with dry well!

Winds break trees and can interrupt power. We now have a generator. This week we have lost power 3 times! Unusual, thankful for the generator, but hate the propane it uses! Many invasive plants, due to ditch drainage on all sides. COVID has affected every human all over the world...

Power outage

Wind - trees - microbursts - 2019 Halloween & others; COVID - lost job 9 mos. - so kids caregiver; 2013 ice storm -- trees

Flooding -- wrote "road washouts to work"; Heavy snow -- wrote "gets stuck"; Infectious disease -- wrote "COVID stopped working"

Next to "wind damage" wrote "tornado -- maybe more than 10 years"; Next to drought, wrote "apple tree damage"

Landslide -- erosion from stream; Invasives -- buckthorn

Invasives -- knotweed; Infectious -- "struggle w/help" and "isolation"

Earthquake -- in the 80s, cracked foundation; invasives -- milfoil

Flooding -- Town Line Road

Invasives -- Japanese knotweed

Flooding -- in cellar from storms or snow, regularly; Wind damage -- couple trees last winter; Infectious disease -- she stopped working

Wind damage -- trees down; Invasives -- honeysuckle

Infectious disease -- income impacted & emotional; Other -- road washout at Town Line

Flooding -- driveway and cellar; Wind damage -- tree in utility wires; Cold - pipes & house flooding; COVID -- school activities cancelled so cut 30% or more

Flooding -- Wild Branch washout affected commute; Invasives -- Honeysuckle invasion; Infectious disease -- COVID -- affected both jobs

Infectious disease -- COVID, work challenges, being cautious about illness

This last decade has been less costly than the 2 decades before.

I have only lived in Craftsbury Common for 16 months.

Well, we've got COVID for one. I had to do a bit of working getting rid of invasives on the little chunk of property I rent. The cold drains the oil in my furnace (old farmhouse), and the basement is by no means waterproof.

River bank is constantly folding into river!

3. Do you have any suggestions on how to lessen the adverse impacts of these hazards/events?(Open-ended comments; Answered 24; Skipped 43)

Bury all power lines-less impact from adverse environmental not to mention it looks 100% better.

Make sure that any roadside mowing operators clean their mower decks after cutting knot weed and other invasives.

Until we have, as a state and nation, decided that climate change is real and near, individual suggestions seem naïve.

Address climate change by the state and federal governments adopting policies and spending money on programs for all to reduce GHG emissions.

Given the thin soil over rocky ledge I'd love to see a community group to assist with the safe clearing of trees adjacent to homes, outbuildings and power lines.

I don't see invasive species as a hazard or "event", but invasive plants need to be eradicated.

As identified by the State of Vermont's Climate Action Plan, adverse impacts should be addressed by shifting away from fossil fuels which will require more renewable energy production and the necessary use of battery storage.

Area generators?

Commit to a plan & actions to eliminate dependence on fossil fuels in the town, and improve electric grid sustainability by incorporating microgrids & battery storage in infrastructure.

It is hard to advocate for clearing electrical lines wider in order to prevent trees from reaching lines so I'm not sure there is a way to make electrical service more resilient. Invasive management and limiting spread could be improved but requires a lot of buy in from many parties including the state. If state mowing takes place after plants have gone to seed they are just spreading more and more.

We need more community coordination on this issue. Aid in navigating the regulatory process, guidance, etc.

I live by the area where the conservation commission is working to control knotweed. More of would be good, I think.

Good planning and education!

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Continue to work on hydrologically connected roads. Citizen monitoring of hazards -- ROW mitigation outreach.

Power: would vastly prefer to have enough solar power with battery backup instead of relying on fossil fuels. Batteries to be made and improved to be more affordable would be excellent.; 2) Invasives require endless mulching, our problem. 3) Infectious diseases -- seems like we're all learning as we go. How to make do their best to care for one another, honoring big picture over fighting face mask rights.

These events are expected to happen in our winter environment and big winds. To lessen the impact -- have water reserved, keep flashlights that work, keep gas in the car, know your neighbors, offer help.

Town road crew needs to be sure the dirt they are hauling from one place to another is free of invasives. All landowners should be notified before the side mowing of streets and roads in their neighborhood so they can put up "DO NOT MOW" signs in invasive species areas so that the invasives are not spread.

Bush hogs, lawn mowers and other equipment that potentially comes in contact with invasives should be cleaned before being brought to a new site so that the invasives are not spread.

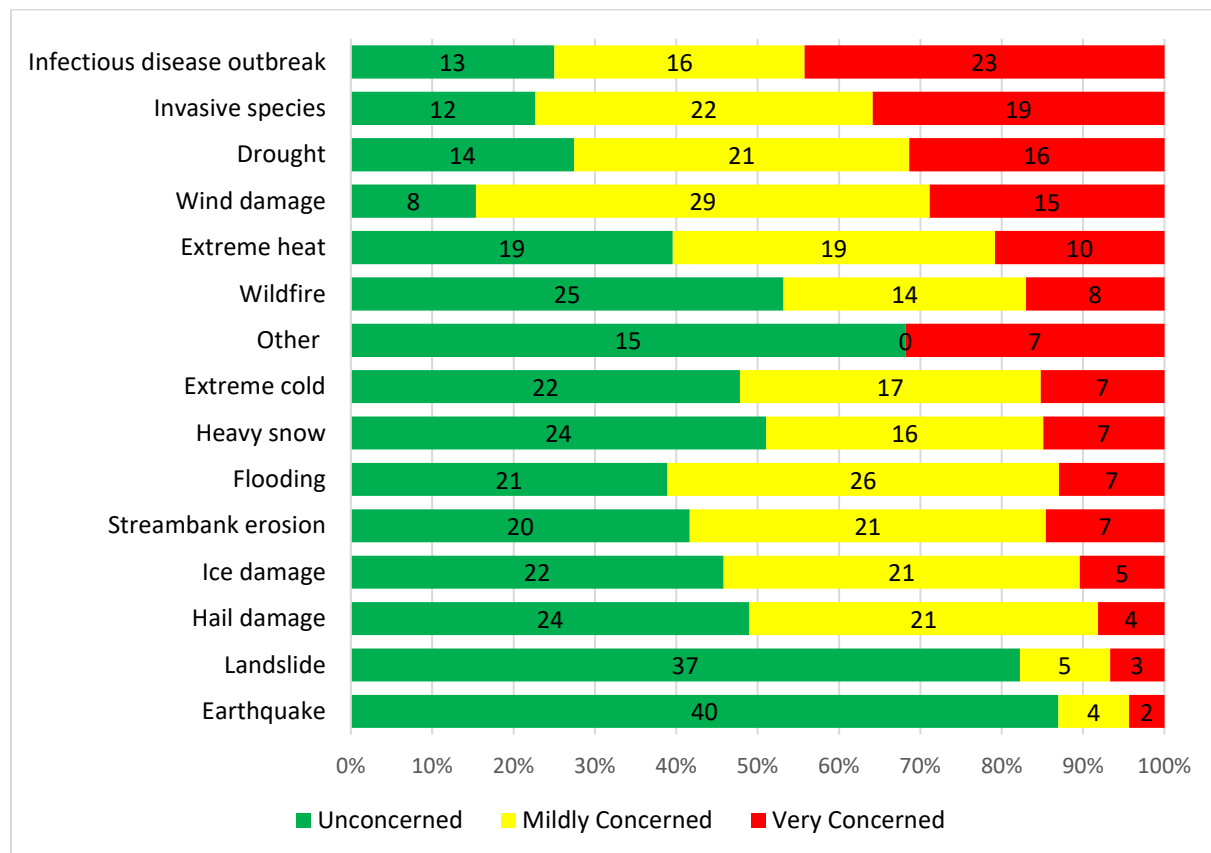
Get out of farming and get a job that does not depend on the weather.

Better building practices would go a long way at the house I'm in. Invasives are already gone, but awareness for everyone as to what's an invasive and how to get rid of them would be good. COVID is its own can of worms.

Willow planting along river.

Invasives - All neighbors recognize that it is a problem and help to eradicate things like Buckthorn, and Burning Bush so that it doesn't spread to the neighbors and beyond.

4. Are you concerned about these hazards affecting you in the future? (Answered 61, skipped 6)



Comments:

Is the "you" in this question refer to me personally or the community at large? Loss of winter. Summer heat. There is no mention of the economic, social or cultural impacts associate with these or other conditions not listed above.

Extremely concerned about PFAs and their effects on health.

Lack of power/ability to call for help/service: lack of quality high-speed broadband services (it's the digital divide): rural communities pay more for lower-quality, outdated DSL service. We have almost zero choice.

I am very concerned about potable water and the sustainability of our dwellings and institutions on the common without a potable water source.

Food availability and affordability; clean water availability.

Building in wet zones and flood zones. ;Old Septic tanks in flood zones. Not having an adequate drinking water source for Craftsbury Common.

World and climate -- need to worried about all of these.

Climate! All of these.

Most concerned about not being able to work .

Other is food supply/supply chain

Yes. I'm making it my job to combat all of these.

5. Please add any comments that could help Craftsbury avoid or be better prepared for the adverse impacts of natural hazards. (Answered: 17; Skipped: 50)

Solar for the town, bury power lines

Don't use bureaucrat speak. Words like hazard and mitigation are confusing and meaningless to many. Also their must be acknowledgement that climate change is causing an increase in events that are impacting Vermonters and the economy.

Cell coverage Broadband for all addresses. Emergency Shelter and transportation.

Educational programs to help community members identify and remove invasive species. Town officials could be more responsive to trees that are on the verge of falling into roads. I was nearly hit by a large one.

Keeping roadside drainage clear and maintained. Dissemination of emergency shelter/services info.

Join a NEK broadband service effort - get away from Consolidated and create a community-owned network; provide jobs for locals as well as provide quality high-speed broadband capabilities for citizens.

Look ahead to the future rather than assuming what has worked in the past will be good enough.

The most important thing is to ensure that any work that is done in the future takes these issues into account. Road design, construction, and maintenance, building design and construction, and operating practices can all have an impact and the most important thing we can do is not create things that will make matters worse.

Proactively planning for water contamination mitigation at the town level. this type of issue could affect any or all of us and involves life sustaining water supplies.

Taking steps toward making our designated emergency shelter, i.e. Craftsbury Academy more prepared for our residents is important. Solar power with battery backup would work! Hope another opportunity shows up that would help make this more reachable. As prevention goals: save energy, weatherize, go electric, limit methane, care for our ailing planet, etc.

Routinely advertise the system: who is in charge in case of emergency, where to go," "Remind people of helpful tools: sleeping bags, flashlights, etc., list of equipment, tractors, etc.

Make sure all bridges are in good shape so that people won't become isolated by a bridge being washed out. Fix the infrastructure in our community centers to have adequate and up to date septic systems and water resources. Be kind to Mother Nature.

If "woodchipping" was available once or twice a year, perhaps more residents would remove dead wood from their properties, lessening the fire risk.

If I had my way, we'd have many more beavers (for drought and flooding), have a monitoring system for invasives (groups going out to sites for removal), incentives for better building insulation techniques/materials, and sweeping protections for all riparian zones (and make them larger).

Bolster the food pantry program! Community-based remediation projects (invasives, erosion control, etc.)

To me a lot of these are Climate-related. So implementing practices that reduce Climate change is important - Renewable Energy Generation, Energy Conservation, etc.

6. Do you know the location of your nearest emergency shelter or services?

