

## **Climate Smart Community Initiative Proposal**

Richmond Resident Caitlin Littlefield seeks partnership from the Town of Richmond on a Climate Smart Community Initiative proposal. Littlefield is developing this proposal, and her employer Conservation Science Partners would serve as the prime award recipient.

Littlefield is proposing to advance prioritization, planning, and implementation of restoration activities to increase Richmond's resilience to flood risk exacerbated by climate change. (Bolton and Jericho will also be included in project activities.) Briefly, this will entail:

- Collating spatial data and qualitative input (e.g., from town leaders, neighborhoods) on key locations subject to flooding damage,
- Mapping upstream parcels where process-based restoration activities (e.g., strategic woody additions) may reduce downstream flooding,
- Adapting an existing protocol (i.e., Storm Smart Assessments) to encompass natural lands,
- Training volunteers to apply the revised protocol at select properties following landowner outreach and approval,
- Following the assessment, implementing activities at >4 locations with volunteer support.

With a focus on private parcels and volunteer empowerment, this project will complement, not duplicate, existing efforts by the Town (e.g., associated with the ongoing Flood Mitigation Study by Stone Environmental) and will be carried out in collaboration with the Friends of the Winooski River.