

Vermont Farmers Food Center Campus Renovation Project Community Update #2



Farmers Hall Goes Mint Green (temporarily)!

We're excited to share what we've been working on this winter in our second **VFFC Campus Renovation Project Community Update**.

With the temperatures we've had this winter, we've been especially grateful to see our new thermal upgrades in action. These improvements are already making the building warmer, more comfortable, and more efficient. As we continue the adaptive reuse and renovation of our building, we're investing in smart energy upgrades that will reduce long term costs and strengthen the sustainability of this space for years to come.

Each stage of our progress reflects years of thoughtful planning and shared investment by our grantors, partners, and our community. Together, we are making strategic improvements that strengthen the long term sustainability of our food center. Let's take a closer look.



Preparing for our Winter Coat

Earlier this winter, our contractors prepared the entire exterior of the building for its first major thermal upgrade. Holes were patched and sealed, the old metal siding was carefully removed, and new sheathing was installed to create a solid surface for the building's thermal base layer and vapor barrier to be applied.

Pardon our Mint Green!

We love this bold splash of color you can now spot from a mile away driving down West Street in Rutland. But this bright coating is actually a liquid-applied vapor barrier that seals the building and prevents water vapor, air leakage, and moisture intrusion. It's the essential base layer that tightens the building envelope and keeps radiant heat where it belongs, inside!

Once spring arrives, a new roof and insulated siding, in our original shade of green, will be installed to complete the thermal upgrade.



Our energy upgrades made the news!

With the freezing temps we've had this winter, heat has been top of mind. Our local news station featured VFFC's weatherization efforts during a recent cold snap and highlighted how these improvements to our food center support our farmers.

[VFFC on local WCAX](#)



Fueling the Next Phase of Renovation

As our campus renovation continues and we prepare for next phases for this spring, we're thrilled to announce a \$500,000 Catalyst grant from USDA Rural Development and the Northern Border Regional Commission. This funding will help cover the costs of the new roof and siding, building on our progress and strengthening the food center for farmers and the community.

[Link to Award Announcement](#)



Coming Up Next

Looking ahead, the next phase of visible transformation is right around the corner. This spring, as the market moves back outdoors, you will see us begin installing our new roof and insulated siding to complete the building envelope upgrades. Meanwhile, behind the scenes, we're working closely with our team of designers, engineers, architects, and community stakeholders to finalize plans and complete pre-construction work for our new produce packing center addition — coming this summer!

Thank you for being part of this journey. We couldn't do it without our incredible community.