



**JAM Golf LLC. vs. City Of South Burlington:
Lessons for Vermont Communities**

**A Workshop for Vermont Planners, Land Use Attorneys &
Natural Resource Professionals**

**Vermont Law School,
South Royalton, VT
March 20, 2009**

Last year the Vermont Supreme Court issued a decision *In re Appeal of JAM Golf, LLC*, which has far reaching implications for Vermont communities engaged in land use planning, development regulation and natural resource protection. The decision struck down a South Burlington zoning bylaw protecting an array of natural resource features including wildlife habitat on the basis that the bylaw did not specify sufficient conditions and safeguards to guide applicants and decision makers.

How this decision affects other Vermont communities that have adopted similar bylaws intended to protect natural resources, and how those communities can avoid similar decisions in the future, will be the topic of a workshop sponsored by the Vermont Law School’s Land Use Institute, Vermont Natural Resources Council and Vermont Planners Association on March 20 at the Vermont Law School.

The workshop will consist of a panel of Vermont land use attorneys who will explain the case and the legal implications for Vermont communities, followed by a panel of consulting planners and natural resource professionals who will share their thoughts on how to approach natural resource planning and land use regulations in light of the JAM Golf decision. The second panel will be highly interactive with all attendees encouraged to offer insights and opinions. The session will conclude with a facilitated discussion on what next steps, if any, should Vermont communities take to respond to the case.

Lunch will be served, and we expect that continuing education credits will be available for planners and attorneys. Workshop capacity will be limited to 75 people.

Registration Form, Please Return by Friday, March 13, 2009.

Name/Organization:	\$ ___ Enclosed (\$25/person)
Address:	Make checks payable to: Vermont Planners Association
Phone/Email:	Send to: VPA, c/o VLCT 89 Main Street, Suite 4 Montpelier, VT 05602-2948

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Meeting Agenda

- 8:30 - 9:00 **Registration/Coffee**
- 9:00 - 9:10 **Introduction**
Kinvin Wroth, Director, Land Use Institute, Vermont Law School
- 9:10 – 10:30 **Panel Discussion: Overview of JAM Golf LLC. vs. City of South Burlington
and Implications for Vermont Communities**
Steve Stitzel, Stitzel, Page & Fletcher, P.C.
Tim Duane, Associate Professor of Law, Vermont Law School
Jim Barlow, Senior Attorney, Municipal Assistance Center, Vermont League of
Cities & Towns
Jamey Fidel (Moderator), Forest and Biodiversity Program Director & Legal
Counsel, Vermont Natural Resources Council
- 10:45 – 11:45 **Panel Response: Working with Vermont Communities in Light of JAM Golf
Decision**
Juli Beth Hinds, Senior Project Manager, VHB Pioneer
Sharon Murray, Principle, Front Porch Community Planning
John Austin, Director of Wildlife, Vermont Department of Fish & Wildlife
Jens Hilke, Conservation Planning Biologist, Vermont Department of Fish &
Wildlife
Brian Shupe (Moderator), Sustainable Communities Program Director, Vermont
Natural Resources Council
- 11:45 - 12:15 **Next Steps for Communities – Group Discussion**
Peg Elmer (Facilitator), Associate Director, Land Use Institute, Vermont Law
School
- 12:15-1:00 **Lunch**

Co-Sponsored by the Vermont Land Use Institute, Vermont Planners Association &
Vermont Natural Resources Council