

Barbara Farr
Senior Associate



Education

- > MS, Environmental Law, Cum Laude (Vermont Law School)
- > Bachelor of Science, Environmental Conservation, (University of New Hampshire)

Key Areas of Expertise

- > Emergency Management
- > All Hazard Planning, Preparedness, Response, Recovery & Mitigation
- > Radiological Emergency Preparedness

Relevant Experience

- > Director, Vermont Emergency Management (VEM) Agency
- > Treasurer, Regional Vice President, Preparedness Committee, Vice-Chair, Hazard Mitigation Committee, NEMA
- > VEM received EMAP accreditation under her leadership

Ms. Barbara Farr is a Senior Associate with ARMADA, Ltd. and has over thirty years of demonstrated leadership experience developing partnerships in the emergency management arena at the local, state, national and international levels. From 2005 - 2011, Ms. Farr was the Director of the Vermont Emergency Management (VEM) where she was responsible for that division receiving accreditation from the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP). During her six year tenure, she was named by the Vermont Governor as State Coordinating Officer with FEMA for seven presidential declarations; coordinated disaster response and recovery to areas affected by natural disasters; performed extensive interagency coordination for all aspects of strategic planning, risk assessment and all-hazards planning/preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation; incident director for all-hazards events and exercises including radiological FEMA graded exercises for offsite emergency response plans and a statewide catastrophic exercise. Additionally, she provided expert legislative testimony on emergency management issues including Vermont's nuclear power plant emergency plans, disaster response and budgets and provided strategic leadership to enhance delivery of emergency support for first responders.

Ms. Farr attended the Harvard School of Public Education, a one week intensive course on radiological emergency planning. She was a Deputy Incident Director for one FEMA graded Ingestion Pathway exercise (once every six years) as well as the Incident Director for two Plume Phase graded exercises, which received high marks. She was also Incident Director for numerous quarterly drills including: special needs populations, evacuation procedures, bus transportation procedures and reception center procedures with decontamination simulation. Ms. Farr had oversight of approximately 100 different radiological emergency plans including: state agencies, military, schools, daycare centers, nursing homes, municipalities, etc.... She was responsible for the development of radiological budgets and training for municipalities within the 10-mile emergency planning zone in Vermont. In all of the



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above exercises and planning efforts intensive communication and collaboration were required with EPZ municipalities, EM directors and personnel in NH and MA, all respective departments of health and environmental organizations. Finally, she has had direct involvement in a FEMA Disaster Initiated Review (DIR) with FEMA and the NRC in 2010 as well as experience with the VT Departments of Health and Environmental Conservation, legislature, Governor, NH and MA officials in response to a large and ongoing tritium leak due to aging underground pipes at a nuclear power plant. She has a balance of experience with both evaluating exercises and being an actual Incident Director consistent with her role as the Director of the Vermont Emergency Management Director. During her tenure at VEM, a major milestone has been the transition to conduct radiological exercises within the NIMS/ICS system using HSEEP as a tool for improvement.

Prior to her appointment to VEM, Ms. Farr owned her own consulting company and was contracted through U.S. Department of Homeland Security and FEMA funds to prepare hazard mitigation plans, emergency response plans and document critical facilities for fifty (50) communities in Vermont. Additionally, she was the Vermont Emergency Management (VEM) State Project Impact Coordinator for a FEMA initiative to reduce repetitive damage in communities due to natural disasters; liaison to regional planning commissions and local communities.

Ms. Farr earned a MS in Environmental Law (Cum Laude) from Vermont Law School in 1993 and a Bachelors of Science in Environmental Conservation from the University of New Hampshire in 1980.