

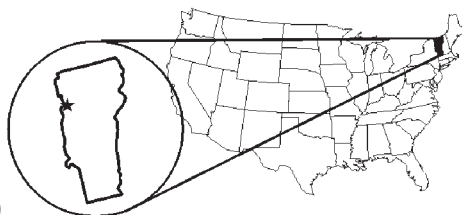
BURLINGTON, VERMONT



Population Rank: U.S... # 918
Vermont..... # 1

Proportions: 2:3 (unofficial)

Adopted: Circa 1991 (unofficial)



DESIGN: The flag of Burlington is divided horizontally. The upper section is medium blue, with a curved scroll in yellow with **BURLINGTON** in red. In the top half of the lower section is a mountain range in dark and medium green. Below it is a lake in light blue with four medium-green islands near the hoist. In the center of the flag is a quartered shield. The first quarter is royal blue with a white dove flying toward the hoist; the second is red with a yellow “lamp of knowledge” with a white flame; the third is yellow with seven dark green pine trees placed from top to bottom 2,2,2,1; the fourth is royal blue with five white narrow horizontal stripes charged with thin black stripes; overall are the two masks of the theater, tragedy and comedy, in white and outlined in black. In the center of the shield is a white globe cen-

tered in the mid-Atlantic Ocean (depicted in light blue) with the edges of North and South America, Greenland, and Europe and Africa depicted in dark green. Between the first and second quarters, above the globe and emanating above the shield into the center of the scroll, is a city hall image in white, outlined in black, with a yellow dome atop a tower (the new city hall is shown, as opposed to the image of the old city hall that appears on the city seal). The tower overlaps a yellow half-disk with four red conjoined triangles in a semi-circle touching its top on either side of the tower; the dome overlaps the scroll below the “N” of the city’s name.

SYMBOLISM: The medium blue represents the sky, while the light blue symbolizes Lake Champlain, one of the largest lakes in the United States, on which Burlington is located. The mountain range is New York’s Adirondack Mountains, the view from Burlington westward across Lake Champlain. The islands are the Four Brother Islands, with Juniper Island farthest from the hoist.

The first quarter’s dove symbolizes peace and Burlington’s connections to its sister cities: Yaroslavl, Russia; Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua; Burlington, Ontario, Canada; and, since the introduction of the flag, both Arab and Israeli Bethlehem, Israel. The second quarter’s lamp of knowledge represents the colleges and universities in Burlington: The University of Vermont, Champlain College, Burlington College, and Trinity College (which closed in 2001). It also represents the city’s commitment to education and in particular its public schools.

The third quarter’s pine trees represent the city’s commitment to the environment and conservation. According to the flag’s official description, the pine tree was chosen because it is “the state tree of Vermont”, although the sugar maple is actually the state tree. However, the pine tree does prominently figure on the Vermont state seal and on the Vermont coat of arms. Two pine boughs flank the arms and are referred to as the “Vermonters’ badge”, as troops from Vermont wore such a badge in 1814 at the Battle of Plattsburgh. The fourth quarter’s theater masks reflect the city’s love of the arts. The globe represents the theme of “we are one world”.

HOW SELECTED: A group of students in the Paradise Project at Edmunds Middle School developed the flag. The project was conceived and led by Cara Wick, an eighth grader.

DESIGNER: Students at the Edmunds Middle School in Burlington, Vermont.

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