

Town of Montgomery

P.O. Box 356
Montgomery Center, VT 05471
802-326-4719



<https://www.montgomeryvt.us>

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING
WEDNESDAY April 6th 5:30 pm
Location: Montgomery Library

1. Additions/Changes to Agenda
2. Welcome Visitors
3. Approval of minutes from: March 2nd 2022
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Events:
 - a. Planned
 - i. UMATR Grant: Town Forest – Update & Potential Recreation Grants
 - ii. Conservation District's Tree Sale Pickup Montgomery: Saturday, May 7th 10 to 1pm
 - iii. [Green Up Day](#)
 - iv. Mary Niles Farm
 - v. Emerald Ash Borer Talk: ECC/RCC
 - vi. Bee Keeping – John Little
 - vii. ['Live Animals of Vermont' by Southern VT Natural History Museum](#): ECC/RCC co-sponsor
 - b. Proposed
 - i. Natural Resource Inventory for Town: [ANR/VT Fish & Wildlife Presentation](#)
6. Discussion:
 - a. Montgomery Town Library Bulletin Board: Announce the conservation Discovery backpacks, Celebrate Earth Day: April 22
 - b. Fruit/Nut Tree Planting
 - c. Leased Town Land Assessment

Hi Kate,

Sorry for the delay getting back to you on this. Sounds super neat, and very interested in participating. I've copied the chair of our conservation commission here as well.

We do have one town owned parcel that we can noodle on about this----it's currently in corn production, but the lease is up this year and if the Town decides not to renew it (for whatever reason) this may be a great option for the site. Other than that I can't think of any town owned properties other than the rec center (copied here) and the school (principle copied here as well).

thanks!

Charlie

On Wed, Feb 23, 2022 at 7:35 PM Kate Gannon <mobilize@350vt.org> wrote:

Greetings everyone,

My name is Kate Gannon, and I'm the spring intern at 350VT. I'm writing on the recommendation of Mary Niles, and hoping to connect with Charlie Hancock.

As part of the Rewild Vermont project, 350VT is donating fruit and nut trees to address food insecurity and community resiliency. We supply the trees, volunteers to plant the trees, and we help communities organize their own support for caring for their new mini orchards or food forests. Would you be interested in a mini food orchard or food forest for communities or schools in your area, or do you know of any locations in Vermont that would benefit from one?

If nothing comes to mind, do you know who we might ask? We hope to help schools, nursing homes, vulnerable areas, marginalized communities, indigenous communities - we'd love to help any community that could benefit. We can also supply berry shrubs!

With gratitude,

Kate

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Kate Gannon (she/her)

(802) 488-4048

Mobilization & Training Intern

350 Vermont

[179 S. Winooski Ave, Suite 201](#)

Burlington, VT 05401

350VT.org

As an intern, my hours are Wednesdays through Fridays. If you'd like to get in touch with someone from 350VT immediately regarding a mini food orchard, please email Jaiel Pulskamp at Jaiel@350vt.org. Thank you, we're excited to work with you!

Live Animal Presentations

MEET THE MAMMALS!

You're one, so is your dog and so is your cat! But what does it take to be part of this exclusive club? We'll take a close look at the what it takes to be a mammal, examine some mammal furs, skulls and even meet a couple of our furry education animals. This program takes place indoors but can include some of the outdoor games used in our other programs. For a more diverse study, this program can also include a great slideshow of Vermont Mammals!

Wildlife Tales

Take a literary journey around the world as our very own Storytelling Naturalist shares tales of animals and magic from around the world. With each story, a live animal will visit to bring a natural history piece to the myth and legends!

Adaptable to all age groups and a big hit wherever we present it!

OWLS OF VERMONT

This birds of prey program focuses on the raptor night shift. The adaptations that make owls the supreme hunters of the night is the focus with an exploration into the various species that call the Northeast home. We'll bring live owls, touchable artifacts and interactive demonstrations to make this an unforgettable presentation.

SYMBOL OF THE SUN: Raptors and Us

The relationship between humans and birds of prey goes back thousands of years. An interactive slideshow and discussion is punctuated with live birds of prey

that will help us see what our ancestors saw as they watched these magnificent predators.

TURTLES!

Meet some of the museum's live animal educators for an up-close look at the incredible Turtles! Interactive demonstrations and engaging discussion are highlighted with live turtles from the museum collection. We'll have the opportunity to watch a turtle swim, learn why snapping turtles snap and meet a threatened Vermont turtle!

TURTLES TO TOADS: Herps of the North

The reptiles and amphibians of Vermont are some of our least understood and most fascinating animals. Museum staff will present an interactive slideshow, introduce us to live animals and touchable artifacts. Afraid of snakes? Don't worry, we can help.

VERMONT RAPTORS

Meet the birds of prey! Three to four live hawks, owls and falcons will come for a face-to-face exploration of what it takes to be a raptor. The optional slideshow enhances the program with a wider range of species and topic possibilities.

VERMONT WILDLIFE

A variety of live animals will be on-hand to put a face to the challenges Northeastern wildlife must rise to meet. Museum staff will bring furs, skulls and other artifacts for an exploration of our local fauna. Special focus programs are encouraged!

Working Landscape Variation

Vermont Wildlife with an historic twist! We'll travel through the history of Vermont with a special look at events that shaped the way we use the land around us. Our live animal ambassadors will serve as example species as we look at how different events in our history changed the land and the species that could live on it. A multi-media presentation and plenty of discussion support the animal encounters.

Science, Historical and Guided Explorations

CHANGING VIEWS: HUMAN AND NATURAL HISTORY OF VERMONT

Using Diana Todd's study of the 1770's Bishop family farm as an example, Museum staff will walk us through the changing land use and attitudes towards our natural resources from 1760's to present. Interwoven with the historical facts will be observational tools that you can use to explore the history of your own back yards. Artifacts and interactive discussion supplement this audio-visual focused presentation. A guided exploration of your local field and forest can lend a fantastic outdoor component, supporting the information and skills presented during the formal program.

This presentation is made possible by a generous donation from the Riverledge Foundation.

ECOLOGY OF FIELD AND FOREST

How does the climate, geology and human history of our State influence what plant communities and animal species exist here? An interactive presentation, touchable artifacts and hands-on activities will explore the interactions that balance Vermont's natural world. Ideally, this program will take place outdoors in your local forest or woodlot. Food Web and Ecosystem foci are also available.

FIELD WATERSHED STUDY

Building on “What is a Watershed?” or as a stand-alone program, this field survey is a fun, hands-on immersion into your local water resources. Students will learn to use water quality test kits and capture aquatic life to measure the health of their local water resources.

WHAT’S A WATERSHED?

This program explores your local watershed: how it works and what factors are influencing your water quality. Hands-on activities and water quality experiments are a valuable supplement to this presentation. Every Watershed program is customized to target your specific area.

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