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Happy Spring, Forest Hero!s

New season, new newsletter! In honor of the growing season, this issue of our quarterly newsletter focuses on rewilding our landscapes, starting with our own backyards. Thank you for all you do to protect biodiversity in Vermont.

Cheers,

Elizabeth Spinney & Lina Swislocki



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Cool Tools

A Handy Website and App for Rewilding Your Yard

With information on pollinators, wildflowers, and methods to get rid of turf grass, this is a great tool for people looking to get more native species in their lives. Plus, the quiz on the app is pretty fun! Check it out: <https://www.lawntowildflowers.org/>



Planting for Pollinators

Supporting the "little things that run the world" (as E.O. Wilson called insects, and which we're expanding to include all pollinators) is necessary



expanding to include all pollinators) is necessary, planting flowering plants is a good way to start. [This list](#) from the Xerces Society highlights plants that are highly attractive to Vermont pollinators, and widely accessible to Vermont gardeners. Available in web and printer-friendly versions, it's a great place to start when planning your plantings.

Interesting Articles

Bees Are Not the Only Pollinators

A UVM ecologist researches cotton pollination in Texas, and uncovers an interesting new butterfly effect.

[Read all about it](#)



People Can -- and Have -- Positively Impact Biodiversity

New interdisciplinary research overlays 12,000 years of human land use data with modern biodiversity information, and suggests that people may have created spectacular biological hotspots.

[Find the paper here](#)



Network News

Lina Swislocki Returns to the Invasive Plant Program as the Assistant Coordinator

Lina Swislocki (pictured right) spent two very happy summers removing invasive plants from State lands as an integral part of the Invasive Plant program. Now, she's returning in a new role: as the Assistant Coordinator of the program. Her background in education and experience removing invasives in both Vermont and New Zealand have her well on the way to becoming a Forest Hero!



Resource Page LIVE on the Website

[A one-stop-shop for Network resources](#)



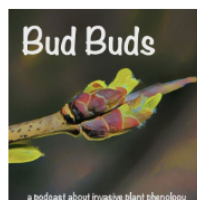
Statewide Invasive Plant Monitoring Project

In the second full week of each month of the growing season, volunteers observe invasive plant phenology (life stage) across the state, then submit that data to be entered into a master spreadsheet. Please [email Lina](#) if you'd like to be part of this collection effort.



Coming Soon! Invasive Plant Podcast

Keep your ears tuned for an upcoming podcast series from Elizabeth and Lina. We'll cover most things invasive, and then some! Details to follow shortly



Digging Deeper

A casual, relaxed, virtual meet-up to discuss any questions, concerns, or ideas you may have about invasive plants and event planning. Dates



and times TBD so watch for a follow up email invitation.



Network Updates is brought to you by the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation's Invasive Plant Program, and all our project partners. Visit our website www.vtinvasives.org. Network Updates is made possible in part by the USDA Forest Service Landscape-Scale Restoration Grant.

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