

Possible partners: A list of state and regional organizations

Organization	Description of engagement
Vermont Chapter of The Nature Conservancy	Provides technical assistance and public outreach about invasive terrestrial plant prevention and management. www.nature.org/vermont/weeds 802-229-4425 x120 and www.vtinvasives.org
Vermont Forest, Parks & Recreation (VT FPR) Forestry Division	County and state foresters provide technical assistance and education on sustainable stewardship of private and public forests. Manages the Don't Move Firewood campaign and other initiatives to reduce the spread of invasive insects. http://www.vtfpr.org/
Vermont Fish & Wildlife (VT F&W)	Regulates the importation and stocking of fish species and the use of fish as bait. Regulates the importation of live, wild animals into the state. Vermont's Wildlife Action Plan includes language about maintaining quality wildlife habitat (which is adversely affected by invasives). Consider referring to this document when developing projects and gaining support at the local or regional level. http://www.vtfishandwildlife.com/SWG_home.cfm
Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)	Conducts outreach, management and prevention programs about invasive aquatic species, including the Vermont Invasive Patrollers program. http://www.anr.state.vt.us/dec//waterq/lakes/hm/ans/lp_ans-index.htm tal Conservation
Vermont Agency of Agriculture	Oversees the implementation of Vermont's Quarantine Rule. http://www.vermontagriculture.com/ARMES/plantindustry/plantPathology/weeds/index.html Oversees pesticide certification program. http://www.vermontagriculture.com
USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service	The NRCS assists private landowners with conservation of their natural resources. NRCS oversees the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) and Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), two federal programs that provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners for invasive plant management. http://www.vt.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/WHIP/Index.html . Or contact your local USDA Service Center: http://www.vt.nrcs.usda.gov/contact/ . Phone under US Government Agriculture Department – NRCS.
Vermont Natural Resource Conservation Districts (NRCD)	The 14 regional Vermont NRCDs educate citizens and stakeholders to manage invasive plant species to include their identification, biologic considerations, and removal; assist public agencies and landowners to actively control invasive plant populations; and/or design and implement management programs on private lands. http://www.vacd.org/

Vermont Agency of Natural Resources (ANR) watershed coordinators	ANR has divided the state up into 10 basins. Watershed coordinators provide outreach and technical assistance on protecting and restoring watersheds and riparian areas. http://www.anr.state.vt.us/cleanandclear/basinplan.htm
Vermont Coverts	Offers landowner education on land management practices that support wildlife. Participants go through a multi-day training that includes invasive species. Participants, or cooperators, are asked to share what they have learned with other landowners. www.vtcoverts.org
Local conservation commissions	Oversee conservation-based projects at the local level. Often oversee the purchase and management of town-owned conservation lands. Contact your town for more information.
Vermont Local Roads	Offers workshops and technical assistance to local road crews. Partners with TNC to offer road crew workshops on invasive species. http://www.vermontlocalroads.org/
Regional Planning Commissions	Assist towns in planning conservation, development and road building activities. http://www.vapda.org/
UVM Extension Master Gardeners	The UVM Extension Master Gardener program provides science-based information on all aspects of home and community gardening, with an emphasis on significantly reducing or eliminating the use of pesticides. Trained volunteers support Vermont gardeners by phone and email via a Garden Helpline, through direct education, and by community activities focused on invasive plant and pest control, local food production, clean waterways, ornamental gardening, and more. http://www.uvm.edu/mastergardener/
UVM Extension Stewards of the Urban Landscape (SOUL)	Stewardship of the Urban Landscape (SOUL) is an eight-week course that prepares participants to become stewards of their community's tree resources. After completing the basic SOUL course participants are required to complete a community project before they can become a certified SOUL Tree Steward. The program could be a good way to reach potential volunteers. http://www.uvm.edu/extension/environment/?Page=landscape.html
Vermont Invasive Exotic Plant Committee(VIEPC)	VIEPC is comprised of representatives of state and federal agencies, The Nature Conservancy, and Green Works. The group developed the original 2002 Quarantine Rule and has in 2010 proposed additions to the rule. VIEPC is also engaged in public outreach and partnerships with the horticultural industry. www.vtinvasives.org
Land Trusts	State and regional land trusts own land outright or have easements on conservation properties. Go to www.findalandtrust.org for a list of some local and statewide land trusts operating in Vermont.
Vermont River Conservancy (VRC)	VRC protects public access, wildlife habitat, clean waters, scenic natural beauty and ecological integrity by conserving undeveloped land along rivers, lakes and wetlands of Vermont. Once they protect a property from development, they have a vested interest in protecting the habitat. Consider including VRC if a community project involves land that VRC owns or might be interested in protecting. http://www.vermontriverconservancy.org/

Vermont Chapter of The Nature Conservancy
Montpelier, Vermont
(802) 229-4425

The Nature Conservancy 
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

For more information, go to www.vtinvasives.org.