

Welcome to the WOODLOTS PROGRAM!



More than two-thirds of Vermont's forest land is privately owned. Maintaining the health and resilience of the region's forests therefore relies on many individuals who steward independent parcels--including you!

Of course, many aspects of forest health and resilience occur at a scale much larger than a single parcel, and these can be difficult to address as independent land stewards. The Woodlots Program creates a peer-to-peer network of neighbors that allows landowners

to learn from each other and from experts about land stewardship practices and opportunities in the region. We believe that by working together, woodlot owners have a greater impact toward enhancing wildlife habitat, mitigating climate change, and stewarding the local forest economy than each could have alone. This cooperation also allows Cold Hollow to Canada (CHC) to apply for grants and work with partners to bring resources to many area landowners at once that may not be available to each individual. By working together, we can do more!

What to Expect

Gatherings

Four times a year, the group will get together on the land of one of our members for a 1-2 hour walk.

We may explore:

- Wildlife, habitat, and natural history
- Best management practices (BMPs) for working lands
- Water quality protection
- Managing for climate change resiliency
- Many, many more topics

Once COVID allows, we will start or end these gatherings with potlucks to connect in a less formal setting.

Songbird Habitat Assessments

Each landowner who wishes will receive a Songbird Habitat Assessment through Audubon Vermont, at no cost. Audubon performs these assessments as part of their Forest Bird Initiative, creating recommendations that can be integrated into a forest management plan.

One advantage to having assessments done as part of this Woodlots group is that Audubon will be able to think about habitat across the entire region. While



you will receive an assessment specific to your parcel, we will also receive a synthesis of how habitat fits together across the entire town.

Climate Change Analyses

Similarly, each landowner will receive a Climate Change Analysis through a process designed as part of the <u>Climate Change Response Framework</u> at the Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science. This analysis can help you better understand what strategies in your existing forest management plan will help with climate resilience, and it will identify additional opportunities.

Additional Opportunities

CHC is constantly looking for new resources and learning opportunities to bring to our Woodlots groups. We'll be in touch as these arise!



Contact Us

If you have additional questions, please don't hesitate to reach out:

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