

Dear [Landowner],

Cold Hollow to Canada is starting a new Woodlots Program in Waterville and Belvidere. You're invited to participate!

What is the Woodlots Program?

The Woodlots Program brings together neighboring landowners interested in exploring the role their land plays in the greater region. *By working together, we believe landowners have a greater impact toward enhancing wildlife habitat, mitigating climate change, and stewarding our forest economy than each could have alone.*

Every season, Cold Hollow to Canada (CHC) organizes an outdoor excursion on the land of a group

member. Speakers include CHC staff and board members as well as other professionals who can speak to topics of interest, and landowners learn from each other as well. A potluck often follows or precedes the walk. CHC currently coordinates Woodlots groups in Enosburgh, Richford, Montgomery, Fletcher, and Bakersfield. We are excited to add this new program in Belvidere and Waterville! There is NO COST to participate.

"I've enjoyed learning from experts. It makes me appreciate this incredible area even more. Plus, it's great to connect with the other landowners in the Woodlots groups and to have an opportunity to experience others' land." -Joan Hildreth, Montgomery Woodlots member

How would I benefit from the program?

The #1 program benefit is learning. Participation will provide opportunities to see your land and the region in new ways as neighbors and professionals share perspectives and experiences. Selection of specific topics will be partially driven by each group, but examples include:

- Bird-friendly sugaring
- Forest roads
- Vermont geology
- Invasive species management
- Conservation easements

- Wildlife habitat management
- Winter Tree ID
- Succession planning
- Climate forestry
- Forest hydrology & management

In addition, we strive to connect Woodlots members with technical and financial assistance when possible. For example, members receive a Songbird Habitat Assessment and a Climate Change Analysis for their land at no cost. In the past, we've been able to follow up on these assessments by connecting some landowners with funding for management practices that enhance forest health and resilience. By working with partner organizations, we hope to continue offering similar opportunities. Participation in these programs is always voluntary.

How do I get started?

We're offering two ways to introduce you to the program. Choose one or come to both!

To register, please contact monica@coldhollowtocanada.org.

Waterville and Belvidere Woodlots Virtual Meet & Greet Wednesday, September 7, 2022 6:30-7:30pm

Learn more about what joining a Woodlots Group will entail—without leaving home. We can't wait to meet you!

1st Outdoor Woodlots Walk in Belvidere

September 17, 2022 1:00pm Potluck and Walk

This will be the first "real" Woodlots gathering, where you can get a taste of what the program truly entails.

If you'd like to simply meet us and learn more about CHC, we have several upcoming public programs, too! Please check out the "Events" section of our website for more information: <u>www.coldhollowtocanada.org/events</u>.

We do hope you'll join us. Please feel free to contact me or any of our board members listed below if you have questions. Those with an "I'm 4th generation maple syrup producer. Since joining the Woodlots program, I've learned so much more about my own backyard. I am making better management decisions to maintain a healthier forest landscape. I'm also able to use our designation as Bird Friendly Maple Syrup as a marketing tool." -Jessica Boone, Richford Woodlots member

asterisk (*) next to their name are part of a Woodlots Group and would be happy to tell you about their experience. You can also learn more at <u>coldhollowtocanada.org</u>.

Sincerely,

Monice, Pryyperhart

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