



Lewis Creek Association 2017 Program Highlights

2017 was an exciting year for Lewis Creek Association - we continued to grow our programs, got a brand-new website, and won three environmental excellence awards. This year we continued our focus on water quality through our growing "Ahead of the Storm" program, water quality monitoring, and aquatic invasive species management. We also shifted our focus to habitat planning through learning and teaching planning tools, encouraging inter-town planning efforts, and completing the Monkton wildlife crossing project.

This year your contributions were critical in helping to leverage funds from the Lake Champlain Basin Program and VT Agency of Natural Resources. Grant funding helped to afford some of the projects highlighted below. LCA so enjoys working with towns and residents to improve the health of the special lands and waters in our two counties and seven towns. Our long-standing partners include state and regional government groups, our watershed towns, South Chittenden River Watch, Addison County River Watch Collaborative, Vermont Family Forests, state and local land trusts, foundations and conservancies, Watersheds United Vermont and the Vermont Water Monitoring Council.

We welcome your interest! To join a board meeting or assist with special projects and board activities, please visit our library at lewiscreek.org and learn about daily activities on Facebook.

Program Highlights (\$100,000 annual budget)

Restoration and Conservation

Worked with SCS students and engineers to design and implement a rain garden on campus (Shelburne)

Worked with CCS students and Sea Grant to plan and plant a vegetative buffer on campus (Charlotte)

Worked with HCS students to maintain Silver Street rain garden on school campus (Hinesburg)

Year 9 - Thorp Kimball Invasive European Frogbit Plant Control - Charlotte

Year 6 - LaPlatte Invasive European Frogbit Plant Control - Shelburne

Year 3 - Invasive Yellow Iris Survey and Control - Ferrisburgh, Charlotte, Shelburne

Planning and Data Collection

Provided fiscal sponsorship support for Addison County River Watch Collaborative, South Chittenden River Watch and the LaPlatte Watershed Partnership.

Worked to identify/further plans for five Ahead of the Storm (AOTS) sites to become water quality improvement demonstration sites.

Completed annual water quality sampling plans for the Lewis, LaPlatte, Thorp and Kimball streams.

Education and Outreach

Cosponsored a "Water Matters" event about water quality issues facing VT (Hinesburg)

Participated in ECHO Leahy Summit

Created a new LCA website and maintained Facebook site.

Led discussion among watershed towns for habitat planning.

Shared water quality condition reports with towns, VT DEC and Chittenden Reg. Planning Commission.

Worked with three area schools to share the math & science behind installing AOTS sites on campuses.

Won Governor's Award of Environmental Excellence on behalf of AOTS program

Won Zetterstrom Environmental Award from Green Mountain Power

Won Federal Highway Administration Environmental Excellence Award for Monkton Wildlife Crossing

Marty Illick, Executive Director, Won Otter Creek Audubon Silver Feather Award

LCA BOARD of DIRECTORS and STAFF: Louis duPont, Chris Runcie - Starksboro;

Peter Erb, Andrea Morgante – Hinesburg; Chris Slesar- Monkton;

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