

# Conservation Solutions *for the Places You Love*

UPPER VALLEY LAND TRUST May 2016

## Join Us to Celebrate Conservation, June 14



Our annual conservation celebration and membership meeting will include a variety of hikes and tours featuring our conservation land at Smith Pond and its historical connection to the Shaker community in Enfield. Please come learn about our work, explore some of the special places we have conserved, and join the volunteers and supporters

who make our work possible. Events begin at 2:00 p.m. and include dinner, awards and recognition. We welcome you to any and all. Details on [our calendar](#).

## River Protection Grows in West Fairlee



Odd Dog Farm sits in a broad valley where the Ompompanoosuc River sweeps through low lying grassland. It's an area prioritized by Vermont's Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) because allowing the river to move naturally here will protect water quality and improve flood resilience. With grants from DEC and the Connecticut River Mitigation Enhancement Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation UVLT has purchased conservation easements along Odd Dog's

river corridor and on the property next door -- 129 acres and 1.7 miles of river frontage in total. Read more [here](#). Information about Vermont's Clean Water Initiative [here](#).

## Farmland Grant for Blackmount



The conservation of a Haverhill farm took a critical step forward this week with federal approval of a grant that will pay for 50% of the value of a conservation easement. The next step, says UVLT Project Manager Megan Chapman, is applying for state funding for most of the rest of the costs. If successful, this project will conserve 180 acres of

high quality soils and transition to a fourth generation of family ownership. Want to learn more? Contact [Megan.Chapman\(at\)uvlt.org](mailto:Megan.Chapman@uvlt.org)

## Talking about Land Use

We know you love the  
Upper Valley

**WE DO TOO!**

Please join with us  
to conserve Upper Valley  
farms, forests, natural areas  
and trails. Make a difference  
right here, on the ground  
today!

**Donate Now**  
Secure donations through  
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**Upcoming  
Events**

Visit our [calendar](#) for details.

**Paddle the Border**  
Sunday, May 22

**UVLT Annual  
Conservation Celebration  
& Membership Meeting**  
Tuesday June 14



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Why is the Upper Valley landscape important? How will land use affect our region's future? Each of us has something to contribute to the discussion of what should be conserved, and a stake in the outcome. UVLT President Jeanie McIntyre spoke with members of the Leadership Upper Valley class of 2016 at Environment Day. Leadership Upper Valley provides participants - about 30 annually - with networking, learning, and service opportunities. The program runs from September through June each year, spending one day each month learning about a different aspect of the Upper Valley. Enrollment is currently open for 2017. Learn more [here](#).

Visit us at  
[www.UVLT.org](http://www.UVLT.org)

**Masthead photo:** Smith Pond Shaker Forest. Two hikes are planned on June 14. Check our calendar for details.

## What We Found: Vernal Pools at Brookmead



Our recent Volunteer Training at Brookmead Conservation Area in Norwich included a walk in the woods and learning about the vernal pools there. The photo at left is egg masses of Jefferson salamander, rare in Vermont, and Yellow spotted salamander egg (in the bowl) from one of the vernal pools. Our stewardship plans for Brookmead include

continued observation of vernal pools and studying deer browse impacts on forest species.

## Campsites Open, Paddling Season Begins



UVLT's nine primitive Connecticut River campsites are open for the season. Most of the sites are owned by private landowners and are maintained by volunteers for the enjoyment of the public. This Sunday you can enjoy the river at Paddle the Border, a multi-town river celebration. Learn more: about [our sites](#), about [Paddle the Border](#), about the [Connecticut River Paddlers Trail](#).

The Upper Valley Land Trust helps people conserve land in 45 New Hampshire and Vermont towns. We invite you to learn about our work, explore some of the special places we have conserved, and join the volunteers and supporters who make our work possible.

Upper Valley Land Trust, 19 Buck Road, Hanover, NH 03755

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