

Conservation Commission Report

The Sandown Conservation Commission enjoyed an eventful 2021.

The Conservation Commission once again sponsored the Community Garden this year. The garden is open Memorial Day through mid-October. If you are interested in joining the Community Garden, please contact the Conservation Commission in early May to reserve your plot. The Conservation Commission would like to thank Scott Bassett for tilling the Community Garden again this year. The Commission is beginning work on creating a pollinator garden located on the same property as the Community Garden

The Conservation Commission was able to hold its annual Fishing Derby this year again. 82 Children were registered for this year's event. 94 fish were caught this year between the four age groups. Special thanks to all of those who participated as well as donated great prizes for the kids.

The Red Barn has seen some great work last year, this year and in the coming year. Last year the roof was replaced. This year, recycled plastic was used to create benches by Mackenzie Byron-Chaput to earn her gold award with the Girl Scouts. Next year, the Red Barn will be having a cupola placed for an Eagle Scout Project.

Sandown Conservation was proud to host a "Conservation Round Table Meeting" with surrounding towns. The commissions were able to share their strengths, weaknesses as well as what they felt was their best outreach program. We would like to thank Commission Members Brian Butler and Jillian Winmill for helping put this event together. We would also like to thank Triple Elm and Saint Julien's Macaroons for providing light refreshments for the night.

Chairman Butler worked with new developments in town to acquire land for the towns benefit. The new land holds ten vernal pools and will have great learning and teaching potentials.

The trails were also busy this year. Great groups of volunteers were out multiple times to clean up the trails and keep them safe from any hazards. The Commission held snowshoe hikes in January and February. The Commission also partnered with the library to put in two story walks in the Fremont Road Town Forest. Josie West-Geary held a not so spooky walk in the Fremont Road Town Forest to help raise money for her Girl Scout Gold Project and had a great turnout.

The Conservation Commission continues to exist and do meaningful work because of the community support it receives. If you are interested in getting involved with the commission and helping volunteer throughout the seasons, please contact us at colsen@sandown.us. You can also find us on Facebook at *Sandown Conservation Commission*.

Respectfully submitted by the Sandown Conservation Commission,

Brian Butler- Chairman, Nicholas Ortins - Vice Chairman, Timothy Robinson, Pamela Gaudreau, Christy Ortins, Jill Winmill, Mark Traeger- Alternate, Terry Knuuttunen- Alternate