



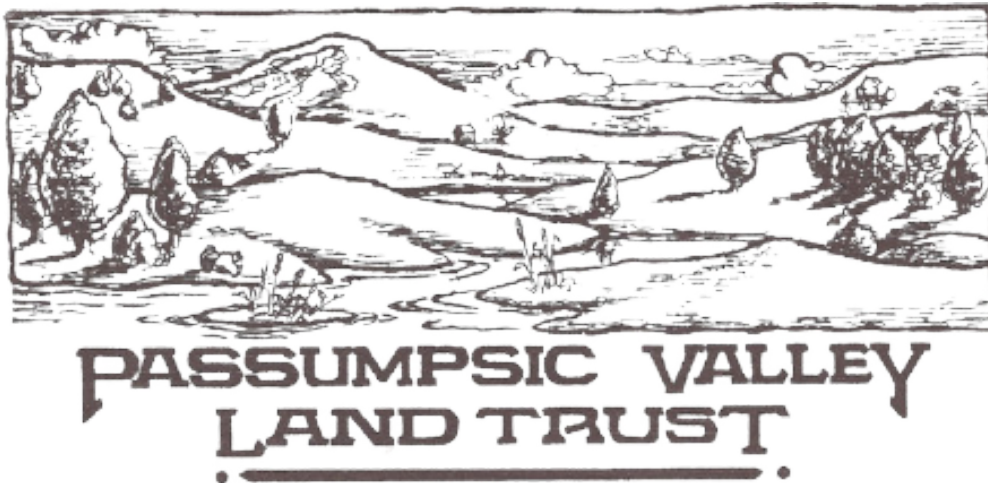
P.O. Box 624  
St. Johnsbury  
Vermont 05819

**Annual Meeting**  
**Sat. January 16, 2022**  
**at 11 AM**  
**See inside for details**

## **Passumpsic Valley Land Trust**

**2021 NEWSLETTER: VOL 27**

**WWW.PVLT.ORG**



The Passumpsic Valley Land Trust is a nonprofit conservation group composed of local volunteers who are dedicated to preserving the beauty and ecological habitats of the Passumpsic River and its watershed, as well as improving public access.



# Passumpsic Valley Land Trust

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## PASSUMPSIC VALLEY LAND TRUST NOTICE OF 2021 ANNUAL MEETING

The Passumpsic Valley Land Trust invites you to attend its 28th Annual Meeting, for the year 2021.

**WHEN:** Sunday, January 16, 2022, 11:00 a.m., snow, sleet, rain, or shine

**WHAT:** Annual Business Meeting, followed by a walk/snowshoe along the Passumpsic River

**WHERE:** Lyndonville: PVLT's Murphy parcel, behind The White Market / Agway / Hoagie's Plaza, US Rte 5, south of Lyndonville Village, just north of I-91 Exit 23.

**The meeting will take place outdoors.**

### The Annual Meeting Program

The PVLT Board of Directors will conduct a brief Business Meeting with a presentation of the Annual Report, the Financial Report, the Nominating Committee Report, and the result of the voting for Directors. Light refreshments will be offered. Immediately following the Business Meeting, anyone interested may join in a walk/snowshoe on the Murphy parcel along the Passumpsic River, the site of extensive tree plantings in Fall 2020 and Spring and Fall 2021.

### Annual Business Meeting Agenda

1. Reading and acceptance of Annual Report
2. Reading and acceptance of Financial Report
3. Report of Nominating Committee and Election of Directors

### Voting for Directors

In accordance with PVLT Bylaws (Article III, Section I, parts A, B, and C), the Nominating Committee presents the following slate of Directors for a three-year term beginning January 2022:

Damon Cawley (2022-2024) Re-election

Daisy McCoy (2022-2024) Re-election

- Current PVLT members are eligible to vote in the election of Directors to the PVLT Board.
- If two or more names are shown on your mailing label, you may have a current family membership entitling two family members to cast ballots. You may photocopy the ballot below to enable a second vote.
- If you are not a current member but wish to establish or renew your membership to enable you to vote for Directors in the 2022 election, you may submit your annual membership dues along with your ballot. Tax-deductible membership contributions are \$10 for an individual, \$25 for a family, or \$25 for a business or organization. Contributions larger than the threshold for membership are welcomed and gratefully appreciated.

#### Gifts to Passumpsic Valley Land Trust

Support PVLT's conservation activities related to the Passumpsic River and its watershed.

Every gift makes a difference and impacts the recreational, educational, ecological, and historic assets of these resources. Now is the time to consider giving to Passumpsic Valley Land Trust! Want to learn more? Please contact board member

Laurie Olszowy at  
lcocappy@gmail.com

**PVLT Bylaws:** Article II Membership and Structure. Section I – Members. A. Any person or organization shall be entitled to membership in the Trust upon payment of annual dues. B. For the purposes of voting, annual membership for new members shall be effective 14 days following the receipt of dues payment and shall run for one full year beginning with the effective date. For renewing members, membership shall begin immediately and run for one full year from the date of dues receipt by the Trust.

Ballots for election of Directors must be received **no later than Friday, January 14, 2022**, at  
PVLT, PO Box 624, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819.

Please cut here and return your completed ballot to:

PVLT, PO Box 624, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819, for receipt **no later than Friday, January 14, 2022.**

**Ballot for PVLT Board of Directors, for 3-year term 2020-2023**

**(Check or write-in no more than one name)**

Damon Cawley [ ] or Write-in candidate \_\_\_\_\_

Daisy McCoy [ ] or Write-in candidate \_\_\_\_\_



## Tree planting in Burke

The students and faculty of the East Burke School went out one rainy day in October to plant a variety of trees on PVLТ land near the school. The students cheerfully dug holes in the rocky soil above the river and carefully spread the roots before refilling the holes and packing down the dirt. They will monitor the site and water the trees as necessary through the school year. PVLТ is grateful for the work of these students.



## Summer Intern: Dana

This fall we were glad to have Dana Welch from Lyndonville as an intern. Dana came to us from the Community College of Vermont where he is finishing his associates in Environmental Science. He was looking for an internship in his local area and while doing research on watersheds in Vermont for class, he came across our organization. After Dana reached out to us and met with the Board, we decided this would be a great opportunity for Dana to gain firsthand field experience and an even greater opportunity for us to have a local student serve our organization. Dana has served as an invaluable resource helping with our signage project, Leopold bench dedication, planting of trees at the Murphy property, and helping connect us to his contacts with local community leaders who could be valuable connections for us in the future.



Looking back on his time with us, Dana stated, "One of my goals during my time with PVLТ and as I finish at CCV was to figure out where I wanted to go after this. While serving PVLТ, I have built connections with the Board and would like to stay in contact with them in the future. I have also decided that I want to continue my education and get a Bachelors in Environmental Science with a concentration in conservation. I enjoyed seeing the things that I have learned in class being applied to the real world and being a greater part of the community that I live in. I have greatly enjoyed my time with PVLТ and hope I can continue to be a part of this organization in the future."

We are grateful for Dana's time and work this fall and wish him well as he continues his education. We know that wherever Dana decides to take his talents, he will be an invaluable asset to that organization.

## Big news: We have new signs for our properties!

**CCV intern Dana Welch started placing signs on PVLТ properties.**

**Stay tuned in 2022 as we get more signs placed!**



## Bench Event

Guests at our bench dedication on a chilly Sunday morning included friends and students of Airie Lindsay and David Conant, former and current PVLТ board members, PVLТ's CCV student intern, neighbors, local landowners, and a representative from US Fish and Wildlife. Memories were shared about our connections to the land and to each other.



David Conant grew up on the Connecticut River, and the Passumpsic feeds it from the Lindsay property. His daughter remembered swimming with him there for years. Several attendees recollected what great people Airie and David were and how honored they were to work with and know them. We all reflected on the simple Leopold benches that connect us to conservation efforts everywhere. Airie and David were both people who connected us to a sense of place. They were humane individuals whose legacy and community building are a testament to their lives.

Airie was a model for all who knew her, and she always came through for a friend in need. She was dedicated to bettering her community. She was also good friends with David and would be pleased to honor him. Airie was passionate about preserving wild spaces and helping others appreciate them. The swimming spot was a special place for her. She loved that it was both hidden away and also accessible to people in the area. That is why she donated the property to PVLТ, because she wanted it to remain open to all who wish to use it. Thanks to our stewardship, her vision has been respected and will continue for years to come.

David met Airie when he was in his first year of teaching at the Living Arts Center, a special school for teenagers who were severely disabled. He said she was a wonderful team member, and "we made it up together as we went along."

PVLТ was honored to know both Airie and David and to continue their legacies. We ended the event by honoring the Abenaki that held that land as a sacred home long before us.







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## TREE PLANTING ON PVLT'S MURPHY PARCEL

The Passumpsic Valley Land Trust (PVLT), Connecticut River Conservancy (CRC), and NorthWoods Stewardship Center (NWSC) again partnered to continue the efforts to restore floodplain forests on PVLT-owned lands in Lyndon, Vermont.

This effort follows two previous rounds of planting in Fall 2020 and Spring 2021. Through these three plantings, 1,876 trees and shrubs have been planted on this particular PVLT property. The species planted include American elm, black willow, eastern cottonwood, silver maple, shrub willow, and red-osier dogwood, among others.

Robust floodplain forests help reduce the effects of flooding on infrastructure and developed areas, reduce streambank erosion, filter nutrients and sediments, provide important fish and wildlife habitat, and shade and cool water temperatures.

"We look forward to continuing with this momentum and moving forward with restoration projects on other floodplain properties we own in Lyndon and beyond," says PVLT Board President Damon Cawley. Both PVLT and CRC were recipients of Watersheds United Vermont (WUV) Woody Buffer Block Grants, which paid for the planning and management of this project as well as the purchase of the trees and shrubs.

The NorthWoods Fall Watershed Crew, funded through a VT Department of Environmental Conservation (VT DEC) Work Crew grant, planted trees alongside volunteers for 3 days, tucking the last tree into the ground on a sunny Friday afternoon. The crew worked rain or shine and has even worked in late Spring and Fall snowstorms to meet tree planting goals.



**Visit the PVLT website for additional information about the Murphy parcel and other conserved properties. PVLT has 24 parcels in 10 Passumpsic Valley Watershed towns totaling approximately 600 acres.**

The planting effort was coordinated by Fritz Gerhardt of the CRC, who developed the planting plan and has been an integral part of bringing this and other conservation projects to fruition. "We value this partnership with PVLT and NorthWoods and look forward to continuing these restoration efforts next spring," says Gerhardt.

PVLT owns or holds easements on 24 properties within the Passumpsic River Valley and manages those properties for water quality, wildlife, and responsible recreation.

## PVLT's Annual Membership Renewal Reminder

In the past PVLT changed the way it reaches out to members annually to renew your support for your land trust. PVLT is now on a once-per-year reminder integrated into this newsletter. A membership that is current entitles you to cast a ballot for your Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting or to vote on any special items that may come up, such as Bylaws changes. PVLT depends on your faithful support not just for underwriting your organization's land conservation activities but also for demonstrating to grantors that PVLT is recognized, vital, and respected.

The mailing label on this newsletter displays the month and year that your membership will or did expire, roughly one year following your most recent contribution. If you recently sent us a renewal, or prefer to stick with a different annual cycle that works for you, just ignore this reminder.

Annual membership dues (minimum amount) by membership category (# of voters). Contributions larger than the threshold for membership are welcomed and gratefully appreciated.

Individual (1) \$10 // Family (2) \$25 // Organization/Business/Corporate (1) \$25

Name(s):\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address :\_\_\_\_\_

Phone:\_\_\_\_\_

Email:\_\_\_\_\_