



MEDIA INQUIRIES

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PRESS & MEDIA KIT

BACKGROUND

Founded in 1972, the Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS) is a nonprofit environmental education organization based in Quechee, Vermont. VINS' mission is to motivate individuals and communities to care for the environment through education, research and avian wildlife rehabilitation.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

vinsweb.org

NATURE CENTER

The VINS Nature Center serves as the center of VINS' organizational operations, a resource for Vermont and New Hampshire residents, and a destination for tourists to the region. The 47-acre campus features interpretive nature trails, exhibit spaces, adventure playscape, classrooms and state-of-the-art raptor enclosures.

The Nature Center's self-guided nature trails wind visitors through a floodplain forest and along the Ottauquechee River, noting important natural features along the way, and through an upland meadow with established native wildflower species.

VINS invites visitors to explore the Forest Exhibit, which captures the sights, sounds and smells of a natural forest. Discover common trees in our area and how to identify them. Investigate the amazing diversity of mammals, birds, reptiles and insects that call the forest home. Also explore our Adventure Playscape, a natural place for children with elements for creative play and fun for all ages.

vinsweb.org/visit
vinsweb.org/exhibits-activities

FOREST CANOPY WALK - OPENING FALL 2019:

vinsweb.org/exhibits-activities/forest-canopy-walk

RESEARCH / CITIZEN SCIENCE

Most citizen science projects are completely free, and involve observing the natural world, then entering observations online. For as little as 15 minutes once a year, or a little time every day, citizen scientists help conduct real, urgently needed scientific research. Projects include ProjectFeeder Watch, eBird, NestWatch, and Great Backyard Bird Count.

vinsweb.org/research

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CENTER FOR EDUCATION

VINS delivers place-based environmental education programs, combining environmental science concepts with hands-on exploration to build empathy and empower individuals to care for local natural ecosystems.

vinsweb.org/education
vinsweb.org/animal-encounters

VINS School Programs enhance the STEM, science inquiry and place-based education in schools across the Upper Valley and beyond through embedded teacher professional development and direct student instruction.

vinsweb.org/school-programs

VINS Field Trips are designed to work with and enhance classroom curriculum making every visit to VINS a valuable experience for students and teachers. All VINS Field Trips are aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards and can be customized to fit seamlessly into your curriculum.

vinsweb.org/field-trips

VINS Teacher Professional Development immerses teachers in the best practices in science instruction, focusing on implementing science content and Next Generation Science Standards in the classroom. This is done by using Science and Engineering Practices, Disciplinary Core Ideas, and Crosscutting Concepts.

vinsweb.org/teacher-resources

CENTER FOR WILD BIRD REHABILITATION

VIEW: 2018 WILD BIRD REHABILITATION DATA:

<http://vtnature.blogspot.com/2019/01/2018-in-wild-bird-rehabilitation.html>

DOWNLOAD: 2018 WILD BIRD REHABILITATION DATA:

vinsweb.org/2018-wild-bird-rehabilitation-data

Our avian rehabilitation program is responsible for providing excellent care to injured avian wildlife. We are the largest such provider in Vermont. Our communities have come to expect the best possible care for the patients they entrust to us.

Several foundations and private donors including The Windham Foundation, Red Acre, Sarah K. DeCoizart Perpetual Charitable Trust, Horne Family Foundation, and Davis Foundations, have bolstered VINS' goals of providing high-quality emergency and long-term treatment for each avian patient admitted to the Center for Wild Bird Rehabilitation.

Furthermore, our birds are a keystone feature of our popular and important public education programs, which engage, inspire and empower our neighbors in Vermont and New Hampshire, New England and beyond to steward the habitats and wellbeing of avian wildlife.

vinsweb.org/wild-bird-rehab

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RECENT NEWS

- **Into the Wild: A Quechee Science Center Teaches Children About the Natural World**
<https://www.kidsvt.com/vermont/into-the-wild-a-quechee-science-center-teaches-children-about-the-natural-world/Content?oid=4110937>
Source: Kids VT / Brett Stanciu / July 2, 2019
- **Bats Released Back Into the Wild**
<https://www.wcax.com/content/news/Bats-released-back-into-the-wild-509104701.html>
Source: WCAX / Alexandra Montgomery / April 26, 2019
- **High Reports of Dead Owls Unusual, But Not Cause for Concern**
https://www.rutlandherald.com/news/local/high-reports-of-dead-owls-unusual-but-not-cause-for/article_6751a6df-1e31-594a-aaa0-31b2fce59729.html
Source: Rutland Herald / Keith Whitcomb / April 10, 2019
- **WTF: Why Are There More Owl Spottings in Vermont This Year Than Normal?**
<https://www.sevendaysvt.com/vermont/wtf-why-are-there-more-owl-spottings-in-vermont-this-year-than-normal/Content?oid=26755249>
Source: Seven Days / Ken Picard / March 27, 2019
- **Organization Seeks to Expand School's Use of Outdoor Education**
<https://www.vnews.com/Funding-group-for-placed-based-education-reaching-out-to-community-24108598>
Source: Valley News / Sarah Earle / March 18, 2019
- **A Bumper Crop of Young Owls Faces a Rough Winter**
<https://www.vpr.org/post/bumper-crop-young-owls-faces-rough-winter#stream/0>
Source: Vermont Public Radio / Jane Lindholm & Sam Gale Rosen / March 14, 2019
- **City Police Swoop in to Save Owl**
https://www.rutlandherald.com/news/local/city-police-swoop-in-to-save-owl/article_d9ae1bbc-9781-594b-a234-970b42c9e042.html
Source: Rutland Herald / Gordon Dritschilo / March 1, 2019
- **Local Educators Net Grants for Hands-on Nature Learning**
<https://www.addisonindependent.com/201902local-educators-net-grants-hands-nature-learning>
Source: Rutland Herald / Gordon Dritschilo / March 1, 2019
- **Postal Enthusiasts Flock to Vermont**
<https://www.vnews.com/Birds-In-Winter-Postage-Stamps-20274878>
Source: Valley News / Jared Pendak / September 23, 2018
- **At Play Among the Trees**
<https://www.vnews.com/VINS-plans-forest-canopy-12874819>
Source: Valley News / Nicola Smith / October 7, 2017

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OTHER SOURCES

PRESS RELEASES
vinsweb.org/news

ANNUAL REPORTS
vinsweb.org/news

NATURE BLOG
vinsweb.org/nature-blog

VINS LOGO & MEDIA PHOTOS
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SOCIAL MEDIA

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 www.youtube.com/user/VINSWildlife