

■ 2 | Summer Fun



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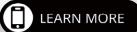
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The Everyday Magic Of The Northeast Kingdom

BY LORALEE TESTER

NEK Chamber of Commerce

ast summer, we celebrated the energy and artistry that pulses through our region – from live music on closed-down streets to the rhythms of mountain bikers flying down Kingdom Trails. And while the festivals, concerts, and grand views remain essential threads in our tapestry, there's another side to the Northeast Kingdom that calls just as powerfully: the quieter, slower, everyday magic that makes life here feel meaningful.

It's in the honest warmth of a diner waitress who remembers your order. It's the sound of loons on a still lake at dusk. It's the worn wooden floorboards of a general store where locals exchange weather updates and town gossip. It's real people, living real lives, in one of the most beautiful corners of the country.

Essex County is full of under-the-radar gems that reveal themselves slowly, but deeply. Spend a weekend hiking Middle Mountain in Avery's Gore, picnicking at Maidstone State Park, or watching moose (and maybe a fly fisherman or two) in the Silvio O. Conte Wildlife Refuge. For something unexpected, book some time with NEK Country Riders in Island Pond or book a stay at Quimby Country in Averill, one of the oldest sporting camps in Vermont. Afterward, slide into a booth at Mooselook Diner, where the pancakes are thick, the coffee is strong, and local directions might be safer than trusting your GPS.



Downtown Newport City is surrounded by Lake Memphremagog and South Bay, as seen from this aerial photograph taken in October 2019 looking southeast at the city dock area. (File Photo)

Head west into Orleans County, where the Barton area hugs the Green Mountains and is surrounded by water. From Crystal Lake State Park to Willoughby Gap, the lakes here draw you in. Shadow Lake, Long Pond, and Bald Hill Fish & Wildlife Management Area offer the kind of day trips that don't need an itinerary – just a towel, a book, and someone you love. And tucked away in Glover, you'll find the brilliantly quirky Museum of Everyday Life, a roadside barn that transforms toothbrushes, safety pins, and laundry lint into poetry. It's odd and profound and wholly NEK.

Further north, Newport is coming into its own as a destination that balances charm and creativity. Grab brunch at Green Mountain Natural Cafe, browse Pick and Shovel or MAC Center for the Arts, and toast the sunset with a cider tasting at Eden Specialty Ciders. End your night with Thai food at Dusit Thai or pizza and music at Kingdom Brewery – where you're as likely to meet a farmer as a musician.

And don't miss our vibrant downtowns. Each has its own rhythm, its own flavor. Hardwick hums with community grit and creative food. St. Johnsbury blends history and innovation, with independent shops, galleries, and architecture that reveal something new every time you visit. Newport offers both serenity and surprise along its lakefront streets. You could spend a day in any of these towns popping in and out of shops, perusing local art, and striking up warm conversations. What binds them all together is a sense of authenticity - you're not just passing through, you're invited in.

That's the thing about the Kingdom. It doesn't try to impress you - it just is. And in doing so, it touches something deeply human. Here, the ordinary is the experience.

So this summer, try taking a different turn. Skip the itinerary. Ask a local. Order the pie. The Northeast Kingdom is full of places not found on TripAdvisor – and that's exactly where the magic is.

Welcome home.

Loralee Tester is the executive director of the Northeast Kingdom Chamber of Commerce.



The Joys Of Birdwatching In The North Country & Northeast Kingdom

BY ROBERT BLECHL

Staff Writer

s summer gets underway in northern New Hampshire and the Northeast Kingdom, many outdoor enthusiasts turn to popular pursuits like bicycling, hiking, and boating.

Another activity, though, combines physical activity, social or solitary recreation, stillness surrounded by nature, observing an engaging form of wildlife, and partnering in conservation — bird watching.

Varieties of birds abound, from raptors like hawks, eagles and owls, to sparrows, warblers, ducks, great blue herons, loons, waxwings, orioles, hummingbirds, tanagers, thrushes, chickadees, swallows, swifts, bluebirds, blackbirds, American robins, and more.

"You can bird anywhere you go," said Jillian Liner, director of conservation for Audubon Vermont. "Once you get a little tuned in to the birds and the songs, you start to pay attention to birds everywhere and it ends up being an activity you can do anywhere, and at any age. You can bike and bird, hike and bird, you can also just pop out of your car and sit somewhere, and you can bird from your house. There's a lot of different ways."

Her first piece of advice is to determine which birds are actually around you. That can be done through a field guide, but often a more accurate guide to identify birds, including by



A loon snatches breakfast on East Inlet, just north of the second Connecticut Lake in the Connecticut Lakes State Forest in Pittsburg. (File photo by Robert Blechl)

color or song, is eBird.org.

"You can pick your state, pick your location, pick your time of year," said Liner. "You can figure out what's been seen today, what's been seen historically. It's a really great resource. Figuring out what's around you at the time of year and where you're located is really important."

Anyone can can create an eBird.org account and make submissions. Birders, volunteers, scientists, and others regularly upload their observations, data, photographs, and information.

Regional eBird reviewers vet submissions and ask for addi-

tional information and photographs if a bird sighted is highly unusual for an area.

"Those submissions don't get shared publicly until a reviewer reviews and confirms it," said Liner.

eBird also has a component called hot-spots, which are known birding places, many of them federally owned prop-

"That's a nice place to start," said Liner. "They will be public, accessible, and will have checklists and a fair number of submissions."

In the Northeast Kingdom, hot-spots include Lake Willoughby, the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge parcels along the Connecticut River, and the Barton River Marshes, the latter of which has had 151 bird species documented.

"For beginning birders, it's so helpful to go out with people who know a little bit more than you," said Liner.

Along with eBird.org, the app called Merlin, named after the species of falcon, is a great tool to identify which birdsong is from which species.

As for equipment, the two most indispensable pieces are binoculars and a field guide or eBird to help identify species and the myriad habitats they are found, be it by water or a marsh, a field's edge, higher up in the mountains, or deep in the woods, and which times of the year they're there.

For binoculars, NH Audubon recommends a magnification of 7.5 to 8 times, though some birders prefer 10-power.

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To capture photographs, a telephoto lens is a must. Some birders recommend a minimum focal length of 400 mm. A tripod is also useful.

For protection, bring a hat, sunscreen, quality hiking or walking shoes, long pants and long sleeves if it's sunny or if you're walking through brush, knee-length waterproof boots if you're walking through water or swampy areas, insect repellent, and enough food and water. To blend in, bright-colored clothing is not recommended.

Recommended is a seat cushion for comfort and a vest with multiple pockets to carry items.

The best time to go out is early morning, when most birds become active, or late afternoon or evening.

The number one rule is to be quiet and not venture too close to birds or disturb or distress them.

Across the Granite State, NH Audubon owns and manages 40 wildlife sanctuaries as well as other properties for which it has management agreements, in all encompassing more than 8.000 acres.

In the Great North Woods is the French Wildlife Sanctuary. In Sugar Hill is the Holman Wildlife Sanctuary.

One of the more popular sanctuaries in the White Mountains is the 6,450-acre Pondicherry Wildlife Refuge, in Jefferson and Whitefield and also part of the Sialvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge. It features wetlands, woods, and diverse habitats.

In Landaff is the Scotland Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, a 102-acre property that has ponds, wet meadows, and conifer and hardwood forests.

Beyond NH Audubon lands, the North Country is also home to other tracts that make for good birding, including state and community forests.



Birding is an increasingly popular summertime activity that combines physical activity with education, being surrounded by nature, and more. Here is a blackpoll warbler in Vermont. (Photo by Kenneth Schneider)

Locally and worldwide, modern times have not been kind to birds.

In the past half-century, it's estimated that more than 3 billion birds in North America alone — equating to more than one in four — have been lost due to habitat destruction or fragmentation (the number one driver), human development, pollutants and pesticides, and death from domestic cats and glass windows.

Although forest bird species are largely faring well, shoreline species, those that live in shrubs or grasslands, insectivores, and far-ranging migratory species have taken hits to

their populations.

New Hampshire is home to almost 300 bird species, about 200 of which breed in the state. Vermont is also up there.

"Our northern forests in the Northeast support some of the highest population of forest breeding birds anywhere in the country," said Liner. "We have an incredible diversity of birds, hundreds of species."

During a recent Audubon Vermont bird-athon, 87 species within 12 hours were sighted.

Owing to the large number of migratory species, many only spend part of their life cycles in the northern forests.

"But they rely on our forests, landscapes, and habitats at a critical time of year, which is when they're trying to produce more babies," said Liner.

For those wishing to share their photographs and data to improve bird conservation efforts, they can submit them to eBird.org as well as to New Hampshire Bird Records, at www. nhbirdrecords.org, and Audubon Vermont.

The information can be used to better help ornithologists (bird scientists) assess the health, abundance, and geographic range of a particular species.

"At Audubon, we've used eBird for the bird monitoring and surveys that we do and volunteers that we train," said Liner. "We can use eBird to collect that data and a range of people use eBird to collect and store data and look at data ... There's lots of ways people can make a difference in conservation."

To join field trips or birding walks, visit the Audubon websites in Vermont and New Hampshire, at www.nhaudubon.org and https://vt.audubon.org

"Don't be intimidated by it," said Liner. "You can bird in any way and in all these different places. Give it a try. Start listening wherever you are."

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Martin and Susan both came to the area as music teachers and church musicians. They love sharing what the area has to offer and look forward to helping you plan your day.



Burke Mountain Gears Up For A Big Summer Under New Ownership

From Lift-Served Mountain Biking To Live Music And Kids Camps, NEK Resort Rolls Out Full Summer Slate

BY PAUL HAYES

Staff Writer

A new chapter begins this summer at Burke Mountain Resort as it kicks off its first season under the ownership of Bear Den Partners — and it's shaping up to be a season full of adventure, music, and mountain magic.

Tucked in the heart of Vermont's Northeast Kingdom, Burke Mountain has long been a four-season destination, and this summer it's pulling out all the stops. With a jam-packed event calendar, outdoor programs for all ages, and the return of its signature mountain biking experience, Burke is ready to welcome locals and visitors alike to explore all it has to offer.

Pedal-Powered Thrills

The Burke Mountain Bike Park is a mecca

for mountain bikers of all abilities. With trails ranging from mellow flow lines to high-adrenaline downhill tracks, the park offers lift-served access to a variety of terrain, including singletrack, machine-excavated jump trails, and technical descents. Riders can also connect directly to the world-renowned Kingdom Trails network, making Burke a central hub for two-wheeled ex-

Skill clinics, youth programs, and summer camps are offered throughout the season, ensuring there's something for everyone — from first-timers to seasoned shredders.

Kids Camps and Family Fun

Partnering with the Northwoods Stewardship Center, Burke offers week-long day camps designed to help kids ages 7-14 experience the mountain in a safe, exciting environment. These



Burke Mountain Resort kicks off its first season under the ownership of Bear Den Partners — and it's shaping up to be a season full of adventure, music, and mountain magic. (Courtesy Photo/Burke Mountain Resort)

camps blend outdoor adventure, nature learning, and mountain biking — with some sessions even featuring one overnight stay.

Hike It, Drive It, or Fly From It

Whether you're on foot or behind the wheel, the historic Burke Toll Road offers a scenic route

to the summit with panoramic views of the Willoughby Gap and surrounding forests. Once at the top, visitors will have access to hiking trails and mountain biking trails, and paragliders can take off from one of Vermont's most iconic

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Camp and Stay Mid-Mountain

For those looking to unplug, the Burke Mountain Campground is an ideal base camp. Located mid-mountain, the campground features 25 sites, including five lean-tos, and offer easy access to the Burke Mountain and Kingdom Trails Association mountain bike trails as well as hiking trails through the surrounding Darling and Victory Hill State Forests. It's a perfect way to stay close to the action — and to nature.

Sip, Savor, and Soak in the View

After a day outdoors, visitors can head to The View Pub on the second floor of the Burke Mountain Hotel. Open daily, the pub offers a rotating menu of local brews, craft cocktails, and casual fare — all with sweeping views of the Willoughby Gap as a backdrop.

Save the Dates

Burke's summer event calendar is packed with reasons to visit — and it's still growing. Highlights include:

June 8 – Burke Mountain Venue Showcase: Planning an event or a wedding? Join this exclusive open house and explore Burke's venue spaces. Meet the sales team and local vendors, sample refreshments and signature cocktails. Special hotel rates are available for the weekend.

July 5 – Vermont Symphony Orchestra: Pack a picnic and your blankets and enjoy the VSO music under the stars followed by a fireworks display. This year's dynamic program, Summer of Love, features works from across the world



and a range of genres. Tickets are required.

July 12-13 - VMBA Days at Burke: Hosted by Vermont Mountain Bike Association and Lawton's Finest beer, VMBA Days include learn to ride, downhill riding, raffles, live music and

Aug. 23-24 - Maxxis Eastern States Cup: One of the East Coast's premier mountain biking events returns to Burke, hosting a stop on the Stan Enduro Series. Amateur and pro riders alike will compete in a high-stakes, high-speed weekend.

Plan Your Summer at Burke

From thrilling rides to scenic vistas, and from kids camps to concerts, Burke Mountain is the Northeast Kingdom's go-to summer playground. Visit www.skiburke.com for full program details, event listings, campground reservations and updates throughout the season.

With Bear Den Partners now at the helm, Burke Mountain is embracing its future — and inviting you along for the ride.

Exploring Region's Unique Trails

The Northeast Kingdom of Vermont and the North Country of New Hampshire are home to some of the most breathtaking hiking trails in New England. While the Presidentials in New Hampshire get a lot of attention, there are many other hikes from panoramic fire tower views to cascading waterfalls, that offer a mix of adventure, history, and natural

Fire Tower Hikes: Panoramic Views from the Peaks & Restoration Efforts

Burke Mountain Fire Tower - Burke, Caledonia County, Vermont

Located in Burke, the Burke Mountain Fire Tower offers one of the most spectacular views in the Northeast Kingdom. The summit provides a panoramic look at Willoughby Gap, the Green Mountains, and even into Canada. The tower has been rebuilt over the years, notably in 1938 following the destruction of a wooden structure in the great hurricane of 1937.

This summer, as part of Vermont's fire tower restoration project, the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation is

set to begin maintenance and safety improvements on the tower between May 15 and July 31. The work, part of an effort to restore many of Vermont's fire towers and funded by \$450,000 from the U.S. Economic Development Administration, will enhance visitor safety while preserving the tower's historic character. More information is available at:

- Northeast Kingdom Hiking Trails: https://northeastkingdom.com/hiking-2/
- Trail Finder (updates on closures): https:// www.trailfinder.info/

Bald Mountain Fire Tower - Westmore, **Orleans County, Vermont**

If the Burke tower is closed, another challenging yet rewarding hike on Bald Mountain features a historic fire tower at its summit. The Long Pond Trail (2 miles) and Mad Brook Trail (3 miles) lead hikers through dense forests to the summit, where the fire tower provides breathtaking views of Lake Willoughby, Seymour Lake, Lake Memphremagog, the Green Mountains, and the White Mountains. The summit also features a

Trails continues on 10



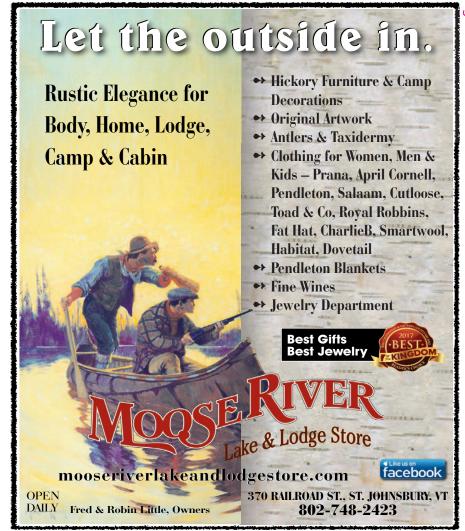
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Trails

Continued from Page 9

restored shelter for hikers.

As part of FPR's restoration efforts, Bald Mountain's fire tower will receive new safety railings funded by the Recreational Trails Program, with work expected to extend into spring 2026. Hikers visiting the fire tower this summer should check for updates on potential short-term closures due to construction. More details can be found at:

- · Northeast Kingdom Hiking Trails: https://northeastkingdom.com/hiking-2/
- Trail Finder: https://www. trailfinder.info/

Northeast Kingdom Mountain Challenge: Peakbagging Adventures

For hikers looking to explore multiple peaks, the Northeast Kingdom Mountain Challenge offers a structured way to experience the region's most scenic summits. Originally launched in 1999, the challenge encourages hikers

to visit 20 publicly accessible mountains, documenting their journeys and earning a patch upon completion. Some of the notable peaks included in the challenge are:

- Mount Pisgah Overlooks Lake Willoughby with stunning cliffside views.
- Haystack Mountain A lesser-known gem with rewarding summit vistas.
- Bluff Mountain Located in Island Pond, offering a peaceful, forested ascent.
- Burke Mountain Home to the Burke Mountain Fire Tower, a highlight of the chal-

More details on the challenge and how to participate can be found at:

 Northeast Kingdom Mountain Challenge: https:// www.northwoodscenter. org/wordpress/trails/northeast-kingdom-mountain-challenge/

Waterfall Hikes: Nature's **Cascading Beauty**

Big Falls of the Missisquoi River - Troy, Orleans Countv. Vermont

Designated as a Vermont Natural Area, Big Falls of the Missisquoi River is one of the largest undeveloped waterfalls on a major river in Vermont. Located in Troy, this 16-acre site features 2,400 feet of river frontage and is known for its old-growth hemlock and pine stands. The falls drop approximately 100 feet, creating a dramatic cascade that has long been a favorite spot for swimming, fishing, and sightseeing.

Originally assessed for hydroelectric potential in the 1950s, the land was later deeded to the state in 1996 by Citizens Utilities Company, ensuring its preservation as a natural area. Due to steep cliffs, swimming access from state lands can be hazardous, but safer entry points exist downstream. More details can be found at:

- · Vermont Natural Areas – Big Falls of the Missisquoi https://fpr.vermont. River: gov/big-falls-missiquoi-statepark
- Vermont River Conservancy - Big Falls Access:

https://vermontriverconservancy.org/sites/big-falls-ofthe-missisquoi-river-access

Beaver Brook Falls -Colebrook, Coos County, **New Hampshire**

Colebrook, In Beaver Brook Falls stands at an impressive 80 feet and is one of the most picturesque waterfalls in the North Country. The falls are located within a small roadside park, making them an easy stop for travelers looking to enjoy a scenic picnic or a short nature walk. More information can be found at:

• New Hampshire State http://nhstateparks. org/visit/state-parks/beaverbrook-falls-wayside

Other Must-Visit Hiking **Destinations**

Mount Pisgah - Westmore, Orleans County, Vermont

Overlooking Lake Willoughby, Mount Pisgah is one of the most popular hikes in the Northeast Kingdom. The trail offers breathtaking views of the glacial lake and surrounding mountains, making it a favorite among photographers and outdoor enthusiasts. More details can be found at:

Northeast Kingdom Hik-

Hiking the flat portion of the Long Pond trail up Bald Mountain in Westmore, VT. (Photo by Patrick Lovett)

kingdom.com/hiking-2/ Franconia Notch State Park - Franconia, Grafton County, New Hampshire

ing Trails: https://northeast-

A premier hiking destination in the North Country, Franconia Notch State Park features a variety of trails, including the famous Flume Gorge and the challenging Franconia Ridge Loop. The park is known for its dramatic cliffs, waterfalls, and stunning alpine scenery. Official park information is available at:

• New Hampshire State Parks: https://www.nhstateparks.org/find-parks-trails/ franconia-notch-state-park

The Northeast Kingdom and North Country are filled with remarkable trails, offering hikes that range from leisurely nature walks to challenging summit ascents. Whether you're interested in historic fire towers, scenic mountain challenges, or waterfall treks, there's a wealth of outdoor exploration waiting.





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11 Locations in the Northeast Kingdom of VT, Central VT and Northern NH

Arts & Performances Abound Throughout The Summer

The Northeast Kingdom and North Country come alive in the summer with a rich array of arts and performance venues, offering everything from live music and theater to film screenings and gallery exhibitions. Whether you're looking for an outdoor concert under the stars or a classic stage production, these venues provide unforgettable cultural experiences.

Catamount Arts – St. Johnsbury, VT

Catamount Arts is a cornerstone of the region's arts scene, featuring a movie theater, art gallery, and live performances. Their St. Johnsbury Final Fridays bring free entertainment to downtown, while the Dog Mountain Concert Series offers Sunday evening shows in a stunning outdoor setting. This summer, expect a diverse lineup of music genres, from folk and blues to indie rock and jazz.

• Website: https://www.catamountarts.org/

Highland Center for the Arts – Greensboro, VT

The Highland Center for the Arts is a hub for theater, music, film, and visual arts. With a 250-seat main stage and a smaller performance space, it hosts everything from Shakespeare productions to contemporary concerts. The center also features a gallery and café, making it a perfect spot for a full arts experience.

• Website: https://highland-artsvt.org/

Wednesdays on the Waterfront – Newport, VT

Set against the backdrop of Lake Memphremagog, Wednesdays on the Waterfront is a weekly summer concert series featuring local and touring musicians. These free, family-friendly events bring the community together for eve-



This aerial view shows the concert scene at Final Fridays in downtown St. Johnsbury. (Contributed photo)

nings of live music, food, and scenic views.

• Website: https://www. wednesdaysonthewaterfront. com/

Weathervane Theatre – Whitefield, NH

A staple of the North Country's theater scene, the Weathervane Theatre is known for its alternating repertory format, offering a mix of Broadway musicals, dramas, and comedies

throughout the summer. This season's lineup includes classic and contemporary productions, performed by a resident company of professional actors.

• Website: https://weathervanenh.org/

The Colonial Theatre – Bethlehem, NH

One of the oldest continuously operating movie theaters in the U.S., The Colonial Theatre blends film screenings with live performances. Grammy-winning artists, independent films, and community events fill its calendar from May through October, making it a cultural landmark in the White Mountains.

• Website: https://bethlehem-colonial.org/

Great North Woods Center for the Arts – Colebrook,

The Great North Woods Center for the Arts offers indoor and outdoor performance spaces for concerts, plays, art shows, and community gatherings. With a focus on local and regional talent, it provides a welcoming space for artists and audiences alike.

• Website: https://www.gn-wca.org/

Community Concerts & Events

Beyond these established venues, town greens, parks, and community centers across

the region host free concerts, festivals, and arts events all summer long. Some notable series include:

- St. Johnsbury Town Band Concerts One of the oldest community bands in the U.S., the St. Johnsbury Town Band performs free Monday evening concerts in Courthouse Park throughout the summer, often accompanied by ice cream socials sponsored by local businesses. The band is representative of the rich tradition of community bands with many other towns hosting weekly concerts across the region.
- Website: https://www.st-johnsburyband.org/
- Littleton, NH First Friday Concert Series – On the first Friday of each month in June, July, and August, downtown Littleton comes alive with live music, art displays, and food trucks, creating a lively cultural

Arts continues on 12



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1 12 | Summer Fun The Record | 2025

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SUMMERCALEND

ONGOING

St. Johnsbury Farmers Market, Saturdays 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Pearl St. parking lot, St. Johnsbury, each Saturday

Lyndon Farmers Market, Fridays 3-6 p.m., through Oct. 3, Bandstand Park.

Danville Farmers Market, Wednesdays 3-6 p.m., town

Hardwick Farmers Market. Fridays 3-6 p.m., 150 Granite St.

Littleton Farmers Market, Sundays 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Riverfront Commons, Riverglen Lane.

Lancaster Farmers Market, Saturdays, 9 a.m.-noon, Centennial Park, 16 Church St.

St. Johnsbury Band, Mondays, Courthouse Park pavilion, Main St. St. Johnsbury. Third oldest community band in the U.S., ice cream social follows.

St. Johnsbury Walk & Talk, Mondays 6-7 p.m. Four Seasons Park, Main St., St. Johnsbury. Call 802-748-9405.

Gravel Bike Rides, each Tuesday, 5-7 p.m., meet at LVRT parking lot, St. Johnsbury. Rider friendly, route chosen to accommodate group. Info, landanimaladventures@gmail.com.

Shores Museum One Room School, Lyndon Center, Saturdays, noon-3 p.m., June 7, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept 13.

Paper Mache Cathedral

Shows, Fridays June-August, Bread & Puppet, Glover (no show July 4).

Bread & Puppet Circuses, Sundays, Glover. Sundays July 13-Aug. 31. Pageants follow each circus.

Open Doubles Adult Pickleball, Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9-11 a.m., Kiwanis tennis courts, Barker Ave., St. Johnsbury (below Kiwanis pool). Through October.

Open Doubles Adult Pickleball, Powers Park, Main St., Lyndonville. Through October, Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday. Contact mimiller3149@gmail.com.

Wednesdays On The Common, 2-5 p.m., Lunenburg Common. Every Wednesday June 11-Sept. 24. Info topofthecommon.

Lunenburg Open Mic, second Saturday of the month, June-September.

Mending Mondays, sewing instruction, 3-6 p.m., Craftsbury Public Library. First & third Mondays. Info, Isantamore 77@ gmail.com.

Saturday, June 14

Vermont Highland Games, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Highland Center for the Arts, Hardwick St., Greensboro. Presented by Vermont Institute of Celtic Arts. Music, refreshment tastings, more.

Annual Pollyanna Glad Day, Littleton NH, all day, events/activities throughout town. Info/schedule, GladDav-NH.com.

Lakeshore Planting Day, volunteer event, Prouty Beach, Newport. Event by MWA.

Tuesday, June 17

Li'l Deb & The Breeze, 558 Barton Orleans Rd., Barton. Burgers & Brews series each Tuesday 4-8 p.m.

Maple, New England's Medicine, 7 p.m. Alumni Hall, Haverhill Corner. How maple connects sugarers to the land, ancestors, all that surrounds us. With Damian Costello. N.H Humanities program

Wednesday, June 18

Spring Prom, 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Moose Lodge 2388 Portland St., St. Johnsbury. For adults age 18 & up. Presented by Vt. Choices Self Advocates.

Friday, June 20

Pub Sing, 6-8 p.m., Whirligig Brewing, 397 Railroad St., St. Johnsbury. Third Friday each

Youth Block Party, 6:30-9:30 p.m., Catamount Arts Center parking lot, Eastern Ave., St. Johnsbury. Rain location The Cavern, 49 Perkins St. Presented by Open Stage.

Halcyon Chorale, 7 p.m., York St. Meeting House, Lyndon. Presented by Upright Steeple Society. Show theme "A Celebration Of African American Composers."

Summer Solstice Ritual, 7 p.m., Bread & Puppet, Glover.

Opening Art Reception, 5 p.m., Memphremagog Art Collaborative, 158 Main St., Newport. Exhibit "Summer at the Cottage" runs through Sept. 6.

50th Year Movie Screening, Weathervane Theatre, Whitefield NH. Film Jaws.

Steep Canyon Rangers, 8 p.m., Colonial Theatre, Bethlehem NH. "Bluegrass band with an ability to incorporate influences from all walks of the region."

Fri-Sun, June 20-22

The Prom!, musical comedy by the Borderline Players, Haskell Opera House, Derby Line. Times 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday. Directed by Mary S. Hoadley, music direction by Mark Violette. Also Friday-Sunday, June 27-29. Ticket info, catamountarts.org.

Sat-Sun, June 20-21

Oleanna, 7 p.m. both nights,

Events continues on 13

Arts

Continued from Page 11 experience.

- Website: https://www.discoverlittleton.com/events
- Vermont Children's Theater - Lyndonville, VT - A volunteer-run nonprofit, Vermont Children's Theater provides free summer theater programs for young performers. Their productions showcase local talent and community involvement, making it a great family-friendly entertainment option.
- · Website: https://www.vermontchildrenstheater.com/

Local Artisans & Craft Fairs

In addition to great performances and venues, the region is home to talented artisans who create handcrafted goods, fine art, and traditional crafts. Whether you're looking for locally made pottery, jewelry, fiber arts, or woodwork, these are but a few of the many organizations and events that showcase the best of regional craftsmanship:

- NEK Artisans Guild - St. Johnsbury, VT - A cooperative craft shop and gallery, the Northeast Kingdom Artisans Guild features juried Vermont artists and artisans working in wood, fiber, glass, pottery, jewelry, and fine art. Their Backroom Gallery hosts rotating exhibitions, ensuring there's always something new to discover.

- Website: https://www. nekartisansguild.com/
- Burklyn Arts Council Summer Fair - Lyndonville, VT - Held annually in June (this year June 28), the Burklyn Arts Summer Fair is a juried craft fair featuring local artisans, live music, children's activities, and food vendors. Proceeds support arts education in local schools, making it

a great way to shop while supporting the community.

- Website: https://www. burklyn-arts.org/
- League of NH Craftsmen - Littleton, NH - The Littleton Fine Craft Gallery showcases New Hampshire's finest craftspeople, offering handmade jewelry, pottery, glass, fiber arts, woodwork, and metalwork. As part of the League of NH Craftsmen, this gallery represents over 200 juried ar-
- Website: https://nhcrafts.

Events

Continued from Page 12

Catamount Arts Cabaret Room, 115 Eastern Ave., St. Johnsbury. Presented by Engage With Productions starring Sarah Mercer, David Roth.

Saturday, June 21

Dog Mountain Founders Celebration, noon-4 p.m.. Honoring the legacy of founders Stephen and Gwen Huneck. Doggie Walk of Fame, dog contests, food, live music, hot dog cart, more.

Solstice Sessions, second annual, Jay Peak Resort, Rt. 242, Jay. Schedule/info, jaypeakresort.com.

Butterfly Atlas Volunteer Workshop, 2nd annual, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., NorthWoods Stewardship Center, 154 Leadership Drive, East Charleston, To identify local butterfly species, how to use eButterfly and iNaturalist, tips and tricks on photographing butterflies, more. Info, northwoodscenter.org.

Wetland Paddle & Educational Talk, Eagle Point, Derby. Hosted by Memphremagog Watershed Association.

Sunday, June 22

Danville Town Band/Ice Cream Social, 6-8 p.m. on the town green. Also Sunday, Aug.

Tuesday, June 24

Jimi Jacobs Band, 558 Barton Orleans Rd., Barton. Burgers & Brews series each Tuesday 4-8 p.m.

Wednesday, June 25

Storvtime with St. Johnsbury Fire Department, 10 a.m., Athenaeum, St. Johnsbury, followed by fire truck tour. Ages 0-6.

Wed-Sat, June 25-29

Jagged Little Pill, Weathervane Theatre, Whitefield NH. Based on 1995 album by Alanis Morissette. Opening of Weathervane's 60th season, first of 10 productions in 2025.

Thursday, June 26

NEKCAN Golf Fore A Cause, 8:30 a.m. Orleans Country Club, 316 Country Club Lane, Orleans. Team scramble format to support NEK Cancer Action Network.

Friday, June 27

Final Fridays, 4-9 p.m., downtown St. Johnsbury. Kickoff 2025 event. Railroad St. closes, summer fun takes over, street fair, gallery stroll, art, food, music, culture, 7 p.m. outdoor concert with Ashley Jane's Hootenanny, Railroad St.

Strawberry Festival, West Burke. Info, burkevermont.com.

Ashley Jane's Hootenanny, 7 p.m., outdoor show on Railroad St., St. Johnsbury. Kickoff of Final Fridays. Levitt AMP St. Johnsbury Music Series.

Puppets And Prezzettino, 12:30 p.m., Athenaeum, St. Johnsbury. Ages 6-10.

End-Of-Life Program, 11:30 a.m., Bethlehem Public Library, Main St. Overview of non-traditional funerals/green burials. Part of A Graceful Ending series hosted by WREN, Bethlehem Library.

Fri-Sun. June 27-29

The Prom!, musical comedy by the Borderline Players, Haskell Opera House, Derby Line. Times 7 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 3 p.m. Sunday. Directed by Mary S. Hoadley, music direction by Mark Violette. Ticket info, catamountarts.org.

Saturday, June 28

Burklyn Arts Fair, 56th annual, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Fenton Chester Arena, Lyndon Center. Featuring more than 60 juried crafters. Info, burklynarts40@ gmail.com.

Lunenburg Stewardship Day, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Fox Field, Baptist Hill, Gilman.

Littleton Independence Day, 10th annual, all day. Food trucks, live music, horse rides, rock climbing wall, mechanical bull, photo booth, fireworks dis-

Concerts In The Park, 6 p.m., Remich Park, Littleton NH. Opening of outdoors concert series with Razed On Radio.

Lancaster Heritage Trail,



Joe's Brook Farm in Barnet, in photo, participates in farmers' markets across the NEK and in Littleton. Farmers markets are up and running in 2025. (File photo)

Fireworks Display, dusk,

The Shark Is Broken,

Weathervane Theatre, White-

field NH. Comedy about the film

Jaws. Opening of Weathervane's

Friday, July 4

Remich Park, Littleton NH.

Concerts in the Park series.

Barnvard Incident, 6 p.m.,

Friday-Sunday, July 4-6

First United Methodist

Church Celebration, 18 Main

St., Littleton NH, "175 years on

the same corner." Friday, build-

ing tours 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Sat-

urday 11 a.m.-1 p.m., live music

in the church hall, more. Sunday

church service 9:30 a.m.

Joe's Pond, West Danville. Call

802-595-3226.

rep season.

Ribbon Cutting, noon, new map kiosk, Main St., Lancaster NH. Official opening of restored Lancaster Trails. Info, northerngatewaychamber.org.

Sat-Sun. June 28-29

Far Out, documentary film on life in 1960s communes, Catamount Arts Center, 115 Eastern Ave. Times 7 p.m. July 28, 3 p.m. June 29.

Circus Smirkus Big Top 2025 Debut, Greensboro.

Game Of Logging, Levels I & II, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., NorthWoods Stewardship Center, 154 Leadership Drive, East Charleston. Precision tree felling, safe chainsaw use, equipments care with instructors from Northeast Woodland Traininmg, Pre-registration required, info northwoodscenter.

Amateur Radio Field Day, worldwide, locally, Mt Washington Regional Airport, Whitefield, and Lancaster Fairgrounds. For ham radio operators. Meet & greet, ham radios set up for those wanting to try their hand at making contact.

Sunday, June 29

Monique Dudley Memorial Ladies Golf Tournament, 9 a.m. shotgun, 2-woman best ball,

Wednesday, July 2

Kyle Chadburn & the Earthbound Spirits, 6-8:30 p.m., Waterfront Gazebo, 100 Main St., Newport. Kickoff of Wednesdays on the Waterfront.

Thursday, July 3

Saturday, July 5

AC/DC Tribute Band, 6:30 p.m., The DiSpencery @ AAP, Memorial Drive, St. Johnsbury.

Vermont Symphony Orchestra, Burke Mtn., East Burke.

Sunday, July 6

Becoming Dr. Ruth, Weathervane Theatre, Whitefield NH. Based on true story of Dr. Ruth Westheimer.

Mon-Wed, July 7-9

Water Ski Camp with legendary Steve Dolgin, Harvey's Lake, Barnet. Info, catamountarts.org.

Wednesday, July 9

Bird Tales, 1 p.m., Athenaeum, St. Johnsbury. Family event with storyteller Michael Caduto.

The Tenderbellies, 6-8:30 p.m., Waterfront Gazebo, 100 Main St., Newport. " Music ranges from bold and brazen to improvisational exploration." Wednesdays on the Waterfront music series.

Thurs-Sun, July 10-13

Vermont Children's Theatre production of Magic Tree House: Pirates Past Noon, VCT Barn, 2283 Darling Hill Rd., Lyndonville. Times 7 p.m. July 10-12, 2 p.m. July 13. Ticket info, 802-626-5358.

Friday, July 11

Four Winds Nature Institute, 10 a.m., Athenaeum, St. Johnsbury. Nature stories, discovery play. Ages 0-6.

North Country Chamber Players, 10:30 a.m., Whitefield Recreation Center, Highland St. One to five NCCP musicians play 45 minute show for all ages.

Lil' Deb & The Breeze, 6 p.m., Remich Park, Littleton NH. Concerts in the Park series.

End-Of-Life Program, 11:30 a.m., WREN, Main St., Bethlehem NH. Program about wills, estate planning. Conclusion of A Graceful Ending series hosted by WREN, Bethlehem

Saturday, July 12

All Persons Trail Celebration, 9:30 a.m.-noon, North-Woods Stewardship Center, E. Charleston. Celebrating completion of the trail, storytelling in the Red Pines, activities along the trail. equipment demo by Adaptive Sports Partners, more.

North Country Chamber

Output

Description: Players, 4 p.m., Sugar Hill 5 Meeting House, Rt. 117. Program Summer Romance, Part I.

Great North Woods Arts & Crafts Fair, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., GNWCA, Rt. 3, Columbia NH. au Call (603) 246-8998 or (603) 331-5034.

Sat-Sun, July 12-13



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Discover The Region's Rich History And Culture

North Country are home to a wealth of historical landmarks, museums, and cultural institutions that preserve the stories of early settlers, industrial pioneers, and artistic movements. Whether you're exploring a 19th-century library, a historic museum, or a preserved village, these destinations offer a glimpse into the past while celebrating the enduring spirit of the region.

Fairbanks Museum St. Johnsbury, Vermont

Located in St. Johnsbury, the Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium has been a cornerstone of Vermont's cultural and scientific heritage since 1890. The museum houses an eclectic collection of natural history exhibits, including taxidermy specimens, geological artifacts, and astronomy displays. The Lyman Spitzer Jr. Planetarium, located within the museum, offers interactive presentations on space and celestial phenomena. More details can be found at: www.fairbanksmuseum.org

St. Johnsbury Athenaeum & Art Gallery

W Black

A National Historic Land-

The Northeast Kingdom and mark, the St. Johnsbury Athenaeum is both a public library and an art gallery, dating back to 1871. The Athenaeum houses one of the oldest unaltered art galleries in the United States, featuring works from the Hudson River School, including Albert Bierstadt's massive painting, The Domes of the Yosemite. The library itself is a stunning example of French Second Empire architecture, with a mansard roof, tall arched windows, elaborate woodwork, floors with alternating strips of ash and walnut and spiral staircases. More info at: www. stjathenaeum.org

St. Johnsbury History & Heritage Center

The St. Johnsbury History & Heritage Center showcases the town's rich history through exhibits featuring antique firefighting equipment, local railroad history, and the famous Fairbanks Scale Company. Housed in a beautifully restored building, the center provides guided tours, educational programs, and archival research opportunities for visitors interested in the region's development. More details can be found



A 19th Century-built press passes by the 19th Century-built St. Johnsbury Athenaeum from its former home at The Caledonian-Record to its new home at the St. Johnsbury History & Heritage Center. (File Photo)

at: www.stihistorv.org

Danville Historical Society - Choate-Sias House

The charming red cape, now known as the Choate-Sias house, sits next to the statuesque Danville Congregational Church on Hill Street. It is near the center of the village and has historical integrity. A prototypical Cape Cod style home, it mirrors the austere simplicity of early nineteenth century, rural Vermont homes. The deed research established its construction in 1838. The house with various historic artifacts and displays is open on Tuesdays

and Thursdays, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment. More info at: www.danvillevthistorical.

Old Stone House Museum Brownington, Vermont

Located in Brownington, the Old Stone House Museum & Historic Village preserves the legacy of Alexander Lucius Twilight, the first African American college graduate in the United States. Highlighted by Athenian Hall, the Old Stone House was built in 1836, and now houses a museum that showcases 19th-century life in Orleans County. The muse-

um is also a stop on Vermont's African American Heritage Trail. The museum is part of the Brownington Village Historic District, which includes ten historic buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places. More details can be found at: www.oldstonehousemuseum.org

Littleton Historical Society Littleton, New Hampshire

In Littleton, the Littleton Area Historical Society preserves the town's industrial and cultural heritage. Housed in the Historic Opera House, the museum features artifacts dating back to the late 18th century, including documents from early settlers, memorabilia from local businesses such as the Saranac Glove Company, and exhibits on the town's role in regional development. The museum is open to visitors on select days and offers guided tours upon request. More information is available at: www. littletonnhmuseum.com

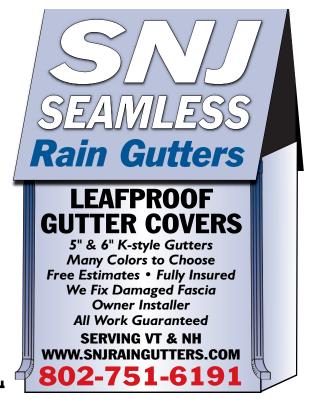
Lisbon Historical Society Lisbon, New Hampshire

The Lisbon Area Historical Society, founded in 1964. is dedicated to preserving the history of Lisbon, Lyman, and

Landaff in New Hampshire. The museum is located in the historic Lisbon Congregational Church Parish House and houses a collection of artifacts, photographs, and genealogical records that document the evolution of these towns from their early settlement days to their industrial growth. The society also hosts educational programs and community events that highlight the region's historical significance. More details can be found at: www.lisbon areahistory.org

Embracing Local History

From the pioneering legacy of Alexander Twilight in Brownington to the artistic treasures of the St. Johnsbury Athenaeum and the industrial heritage of Littleton and Lisbon, these historical sites offer a window into the past while fostering a deeper appreciation for the Northeast Kingdom and North Country's cultural identity. Whether you're exploring museum exhibits, attending historical lectures, or walking through preserved villages, these destinations provide an enriching experience for history enthusiasts and casual visitors alike.







Events

Continued from Page 13

Summer Romance Part I, 4 p.m. both days, North Country Chamber Players mini-festival featuring Romantic masters. Saturday, Sugar Hill Meeting House. Sunday, Mountain View Grand Resort, Whitefield.

Sunday, July 13

Las Karamba, 5 p.m., Dog Mountain, St. Johnsbury. "Las Karamba brings pure joy and fantastic music to the stage. They captivate the audience from the very first moment."

Wednesday, July 16

North Country Chamber Players, 11 a.m., Lisbon Public Library. One to five NCCP musicians play 45 minute show for all ages.

All Night Boogie Band, 6-8:30 p.m., Waterfront Gazebo, 100 Main St., Newport, Wednesdays on the Waterfront music series.

Thursday, July 17

North Country Chamber Players, 10:30 a.m., Abbie Greenleaf Library, Franconia. One to five NCCP musicians play 45 min. show for all ages.

Friday, July 18

Counterfeit Cash, 6 p.m., Remich Park, Littleton NH.

Saturday, July 19

Stars & Stripes Festival & Parade, downtown Lyndonville. Parade 10 a.m. Info, lyndonvermont.com.

Movie Night On The Green, Danville, 8:30 p.m. Film, Princess Bride.

Sat-Sun, July 19-20

North Country Chamber Players, Dow Pavilion Franconia, 4 p.m. both days. Baroque Brass featuring Louis Hanzlick, trumpet and Bernhard Scully,

Vintage Market, Wayside Inn, 378 Main St., Bethlehem NH, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday.

Sunday, July 20

Albannach, perennial local favorite, 5 p.m., Dog Mountain, 143 Parks Rd., St. Johnsbury. Levitt Amp Dog Mountain summer Sunday concerts.

Wednesday, July 23

North Country Chamber Players, 11 a.m., Colonial Theatre, Bethlehem NH. One to five NCCP musicians play 45 minute

show for all ages.

Mal Maiz, 6-8:30 p.m., Waterfront Gazebo, 100 Main St., Newport. Wednesdays on the Waterfront music series.

Wed-Sun, July 23-27

North Haverhill Fair, NH

Thurs-Sun, July 24-27

Vermont Children's Theatre production of Alice By Heart, VCT Barn, 2283 Darling Hill Rd., Lyndonville. Times 7 p.m. July 24-26, 2 p.m. July 27.

Friday, July 25

Final Fridays, 4-9 p.m., Railroad St., St. Johnsbury. Many activities celebrating summer in St. J. At 7 p.m., Phillip Michael Scales concert. "One of the next great American soul singers" -

Slack Tide, 6 p.m., Remich Park, Littleton. Concerts in the Park series.

Fri-Sun, July 25-27

Jerry Jam, Concord Vt. Multiple bands in annual celebration of Jerry Garcia and the Grateful

Sunday, July 27

Larry & Joe, 5 p.m., Dog Mountain, Parks Rd., St. Johnsbury. "Musical inheritances and traditions as well as storytelling about the ways that music, social movements coalesce."

North Country Chamber Players, 4 p.m., The Rocks Estate, Bethlehem NH. Mahler Symphony No. 4 featuring Sara Heaton, soprano.

Wednesday, July 30

Soulshine Revival Band, 6-8:30 p.m., Waterfront Gazebo, 100 Main St., Newport. Allman Brothers tribute band. Wednesdays on the Waterfront music series.

Thurs-Fri, July 31-August 1

North Country Chamber Players, July 31, 10 a.m., Remich Park, Littleton NH. Aug. 1, Weeks Library, Lancaster NH. One to five NCCP musicians play 45 minute show for all ages at both shows.

Friday, August 1

Jumpstreet Band, 6 p.m., Remich Park, Littleton. Concerts in the Park Series.

Saturday, August 2

Danville Fair, 94th annual, 5K Race, parade, inflatable fun zone, Under Attack Nerf Wars, Green Mountain wrestling, live music, food, bingo, more

Summer Dog Party 2025,

noon-4 p.m., Dog Mountain, St. Johnsbury. Live music, food, dog contests, wagging tails.

Lunenburg Old Home Day. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., on and around the common. Parade, live music, horseshoe tournament, more. topofthecommon.org.

Sat-Sun, August 2-3

North Country Chamber Players, Dow Pavilion, Franconia, 4 p.m. both days. Program "Better Than Beethoven."

Sunday, August 3

Kathleen Parks Band, 5 p.m., Dog Mountain, Parks Rd., St. Johnsbury. "Virtuosic fiddle blends and reimagines traditional styles with boundless groove, improvisational spirit."

Sun-Mon, August 3-4

St. Johnsbury Players Auditions for "Amateurs," 6-9 p.m., United Community Church, 1325 Main St.

Wednesday, August 6

Mike Goudreau Band, 6-8:30 p.m., Waterfront Gazebo, 100 Main St., Newport. Finale of Wednesdays on the Waterfront music series.

Friday, August 8

Country Roads, 6 p.m., Re-

mich Park, Littleton NH, Concerts in the Park.

One Man Two Guvnors In Concert, Weathervane Theatre, Whitefield NH.

Saturday, August 9

Ben Lyons Memorial Jam, second annual, St. Johnsbury Academy Fieldhouse. 3v3 basketball tournament, adult, high school, middle school divisions. Proceeds benefit memorial scholarship at VTSU-Lyndon.

House Show, all-ages punk rock show, 948 Lancaster Rd, Lancaster NH.

Sat-Sun, August 9-10

North Country Chamber Players, 4 p.m. both days. Saturday, Court St. Center for the arts, Haverhill. Sunday, Mountain View Grand Resort, Whitefield. Program "All That Jazz" featuring EJ Hwang, piano.

Sunday, August 10

Robert John & The Wreck, 5 p.m., Dog Mountain, St. Johnsbury. "Blending California southern rock with a fresh innovative spirit."

All That Jazz, 4 p.m., Mountain View Grand Resort, Whitefield NH. Pianist EJ Hwang plays spirited jazz takes on music \Box

Events continues on 17 📯

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Get Out On The Water With Local Paddling & Boating Adventures

With its pristine lakes, winding rivers, and scenic ponds, the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont and the North Country of New Hampshire offer some of the best paddling and boating experiences in New England. Whether you're looking for a peaceful canoe trip, an adventurous kayak excursion, or a relaxing day on the water, this region has something for every outdoor enthusiast.

Lake Willoughby – Westmore, Orleans County, Vermont

One of Vermont's most stunning natural landmarks, Lake Willoughby is known for its deep, glacial waters and dramatic fjord-like cliffs formed by Mount Pisgah and Mount Hor. At 328 feet deep, it is Vermont's deepest lake, offering excellent opportunities for boating, kayaking, and paddleboarding. The lake features a free public beach on the north end, while boat launches provide easy access for paddlers and boaters. Anglers can also enjoy fishing for lake trout and salmon in its cold waters. More details can be found at:

• Lake Willoughby – Vermont Tourism: https://vermont-vacation.com/places-to-visit/attractions/lake-willoughby

Clyde River – Brighton to Newport, Orleans County, Vermont

The Clyde River is a favorite among paddlers, offering routes ranging from 5.5 to 16 miles. The river winds through scenic wetlands and forests, making it an excellent choice for all skill levels. Clyde River Recreation provides canoe, kayak, and paddleboard rentals, as well as shuttle services for those looking to explore different sections of the river. More details can be found at:

• Clyde River Recreation: https://www.clyderiverrecreation.com

Lake Memphremagog – Newport, Orleans County, Vermont

Spanning 31 miles and crossing the U.S.-Canada border, Lake Memphremagog is Vermont's second-largest lake and a federally designated navigable waterway. The Newport City Dock serves as a hub for boaters, offering seasonal and transient slips, mooring fields, a public launch, fuel services, and kayak storage. Visitors can explore the lake's 21 islands, many of which feature old-growth forests and hidden caves once used by Prohibition-era smugglers.

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Teens involved in the Northeast Kingdom Teen Adventure Camp battle by paddle in a kayak/canoe race in Lake Willoughby on Thursday, July 13, 2023. (Photo by Dana Gray)

For those looking for a unique experience, Northern Star Cruises offers scenic boat tours departing from Newport, providing breathtaking views of the lake and surrounding mountains. More information is available at:

- Discover Newport Boating & Kayaking: https://discovernewportvt.com/boating-kayaking
- Newport City Dock Marina & Recreation: https://www.newportrecreation.org/citydock.html
- Northern Star Cruises: https://northernstarcruises.com

Connecticut River – Guildhall to Gilman, Essex County,

Vermont

The Connecticut River flows along the Vermont-New Hampshire border, offers great paddling opportunities. The Connecticut River between Canaan Dam and Gilman is the longest navigable free flowing stretch of river in Vermont. The Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail offers a scenic paddling experience along the Vermont-New Hampshire border, with a mix of quickwater sections, calm stretches, and occasional Class I rapids. The Maidstone Bends provide a series of meandering oxbows, creating a peaceful and picturesque route for paddlers. The

river is well away from roads in this section, allowing for a more immersive natural experience. Campsites along the river, such as South Guildhall Campsite, offer stunning views of the White Mountains. More details can be found at:

- Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail: https://www.connecticutriverpaddlerstrail.org/crpt7/node/4806
- Trail Finder Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail: https:// www.trailfinder.info/trails/trail/ connecticut-river-paddlers-trail

Moore Reservoir – Littleton, Grafton County, New Hampshire

Located near Littleton, Moore Reservoir is a popular spot for paddling and boating. The reservoir's expansive waters provide opportunities for kayaking, canoeing, and fishing, with scenic views of the surrounding mountains. North Country Kayak offers guided tours and rentals for those looking to explore the reservoir. More details can be found at:

• North Country Kayak: https://northcountrykayak.com

Forest Lake State Park – Dalton, Coos County, New Hampshire

Situated near Whitefield and Littleton, Forest Lake State Park is one of New Hampshire's original state parks, established in 1935. The park spans 397 acres and features a 200-foot sandy beach along Forest Lake, making it a great destination for paddling, canoeing, and kayaking. While there is no boat ramp within the park, paddlers can access the lake via a carry-in launch or a nearby ramp on Newell Lane. More information is available at:

• New Hampshire State Parks – Forest Lake State Park: https://www.nhstateparks.org/ find-parks-trails/forest-lakestate-park

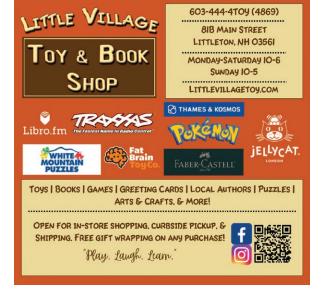
More Paddling and Boating Opportunities

The lakes and rivers of the Northeast Kingdom and North Country provide an ideal setting for paddlers and boaters looking to experience New England's natural beauty from the water. Whether you're embarking on a peaceful sunrise paddle, navigating scenic waterways with friends, or exploring historic routes once used for commerce and travel, this region offers an abundance of opportunities. For a deeper look into available paddling routes, boat launches, and rental services, visit:

- Northeast Kingdom Paddling: https://northeastkingdom.com/paddling
- MyGoNorth Paddling & Boating: https://mygonorth. com/things-to-do/paddling-boating



JOE'S POND – WEST DANVILLE, VT



Cycling Adventures Across Region

The Northeast Kingdom and North Country offer some of the most scenic and diverse cycling opportunities in New England. Whether you're looking for rugged mountain biking trails, scenic rail paths, or leisurely rides along lakes and forests, this region has something for every cyclist. Below are just a few of the many biking destinations available.

Kingdom Trails – East Burke, Vt.

One of the most renowned mountain biking networks in the country, Kingdom Trails in East Burke offers over 85 miles of singletrack and doubletrack trails for riders of all skill levels. The trail system winds through private land, offering breathtaking views of Vermont's pastoral landscapes. The network is open seasonally, with trails designed for mountain biking, fat biking, and adaptive cycling. More details at: www.kingdomtrails.org

Lamoille Valley Rail Trail – St. Johnsbury to Swanton, Vt.

Stretching 93 miles across northern Vermont, the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail (LVRT) is the longest rail trail in New England. This multi-use path follows the former Lamoille Valley Railroad route, connecting 18 towns from St. Johnsbury to Swanton. The trail features a compacted crushed stone surface, making it ideal for cyclists of all experience levels. Damage from flooding in July 2024 has impacted travel on the St. Johnsbury portion. More information at: https://railtrails. vermont.gov/trails/lamoille-valley-rail-trail/

Memphremagog Greenway – Newport, Vt.

The Memphremagog Greenway is a scenic biking route that begins at the Newport Waterfront Recreation Path, passing through Prouty Beach and crossing a picturesque bridge onto Bluffside Farm. This trail offers stunning views of Lake Memphremagog and is perfect for cyclists looking for a relaxed ride through Vermont's Northeast Kingdom. More details at: https://www.mstf.net/

Franconia Notch Recreation Path – Franconia, N.H.

The Franconia Notch Recreation Path runs 8.7 miles through Franconia Notch State Park, offering cyclists breathtaking views of Echo Lake, Cannon Mountain, and Flume Gorge. The paved path follows the scenic notch, making it a popular destination for road biking and family-friendly rides. More info at: https://www.traillink.com/ trail/franconia-notch-recreation-path/

Parker Mountain Trails – Littleton, N.H.

Located in Littleton, the Parker Mountain Trails (PRKR MTN) offer 24 miles of singletrack and doubletrack mountain biking trails. The network is built on privately owned land and features routes that range from beginner-friendly paths to advanced downhill trails. The summit of Parker Mountain provides stunning views of the Presidential Range. More details at: https://www. trailforks.com/region/prkr-mtn-16998/

More Cycling Opportunities

These destinations are just a sampling of the incredible biking opportunities available in the area. Riders looking for additional trails, guided tours, and cycling events can explore:

- https://northeastkingdom.com/biking/
- https://bikethenorthcountry.com/

Events

more.

Continued from Page 15 by Gershwin, Ravel, Hwang,

Wednesday, August 13

MWA Annual Meeting, 5 p.m., EastSide Restaurant, Newport. Program, "Exploring Bedrock, Glacial Geology of the Memphremagog Region."

Friday, August 15

Jeff Salisbury Band, 6 p.m., Remich Park, Littleton. Concerts in the Park.

Saturday, August 16

Pedalpalooza, third annual, noon, Welcome Center 25 Park St. Lancaster NH. 30 mile ride, ends at Groveton Covered Bri9dge, Northumberland NH, food trucks at the finish. Info, northerngatewaychamber.org

Sunday, August 17

Afro-Andean Funk, 5 p.m., Dog Mountain, Parks Rd., St. Johnsbury. "With a mission to unite musical cultures and bring visibility to the Quechua language, their music bridges cultural and geographic divides."

Danville Town Band/Ice Cream Social, 6-8 p.m. on the town green.

Circus Smirkus final summer 2025 show Under The Big Top, Greensboro.

Tuesday, August 19

Piano Recital, United Community Church, 1325 Main St., St. Johnsbury. Three Beethoven sonatas with Jorge Garcia Harraz.

Last Of The NH Rattlesnakes, 7 p.m., Alumni Hall, Haverhill Corner. How the rattlesnake, once plentiful in NH, have come to the brink of extinction. Interesting facts, stories. NH Humanities program.

Wed-Sun, August 20-24

Caledonia County Fair. Info, caledoniacountyfair.com.

Friday, August 22

Rubik's Muse, 6 p.m., Remich Park, Littleton NH. Concerts in the Park series.

Saturday, August 23

Movie Night On The Green, Danville, 7:30 p.m. Film, Wild Robot.

Sunday, August 24

Le Winston Band, 5 p.m., Dog Mountain, Parks Rd., St. "Montreal-based Johnsbury. ensemble that blends French-Canadian roots with Zydeco and Cajun music."

Thursday, August 28 Sarah Anne Fernandez: Don't Forget Me. Weathervane Theatre, Whitefield NH, "A powerful night of music & storytelling."

Thurs-Mon, Aug 28-Sept 1

Lancaster Fair, Rt. 3, Lancaster NH

Friday, August 29

Final Fridays, 4-9 p.m., downtown St. Johnsbury. Kickoff 2025 event. Railroad St. closes, summer fun takes over, street fair, gallery stroll, art, food, music, culture, 7 p.m. outdoor concert with Kommuna Lux (bring lawn chair for sitting, feet for dancing).

Train Wreck, 6 p.m., Remich Park, Littleton NH. Finale of 2025 Concerts in the Park \(\) series.

Sat-Sun, August 30-31

North Country Chamber Players, Dow Pavilion, Franconia. Program "Summer Romance Part II."

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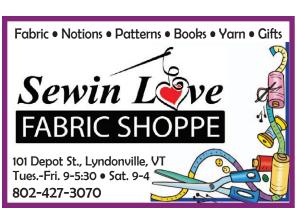
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Fairs & Field Days Offer Sights, Sounds & Flavors Of Summer Fun

Summer in the Northeast variety of carnival rides. Kingdom and North Country means county fairs, field days, and community celebrations filled with livestock shows, carnival rides, live entertainment, and delicious fair food. Whether you're looking for tractor pulls, demolition derbies, or family-friendly activities, these fairs offer something for every-

North Haverhill Fair July 23–27, 2025

The North Haverhill Fair is a five-day event in late July, featuring free concerts, horse and oxen pulling events, tractor pulls, and a demolition derby. Visitors can also enjoy 4-H animal shows, craft exhibits, and a

• Website: https://www.nohaverhillfair.com/

Danville Fair August 2, 2025

A one-day community fair held in early August, the Danville Fair features a grand parade, live music, food vendors, and family-friendly activities. Highlights include the Bear Crawl 5K, kids' fun zone, and local artisan booths.

• Website: https://www. danvillevtchamber.org/danville-fair/

Caledonia County Fair August 20–24, 2025

The Caledonia County Fair is Vermont's oldest agricultural fair, running for over 160 years.



The unmistakable sights and sounds of the Caledonia County Fair. (File photo by Paul Hayes)

Held in late August, it features acountyfair.com/ livestock events, a full carnival midway, live music, and motorized competitions like demolition derbies and 4x4 pulls.

Lancaster Fair August 28-Sept 1, 2025

Held over Labor Day weekend, the Lancaster Fair is the • Website: https://caledoni- largest fair in the Great North Woods, celebrating 153 years of anscountyfair.net/ tradition. It offers a large midway, 4-H exhibits, agricultural competitions, live music, and motorized events like pulling contests and demolition derbies.

• Website: https://lancaster-

Orleans County Fair September 4-7, 2025

Founded in 1867, the Orleans County Fair is a four-day event held in early September at Roaring Brook Park. It includes harness racing, horse pulls, agricultural exhibits, and a midway with unlimited rides. The fair also hosts truck pulls, rodeos, and live entertainment throughout the weekend.

• Website: http://www.orle-

Old Home Days & **Local Celebrations**

Beyond the major county fairs, many communities host Old Home Days and smalltown celebrations that bring neighbors together and honor local heritage. These events often feature parades, live music, historical reenactments, and family activities.

While Old Home Days are a long-standing tradition in New Hampshire and Vermont, specific town events vary each year. To find official Old Home Day celebrations, check local town websites, historical societies, and community event calendars for updated schedules.















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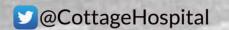
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