

NORTHWEST VERMONT 2020-2021 AREA GUIDE

ALL WITHIN STROLLING DISTANCE

Visit the City of St. Albans, Vermont, where the neighborhoods are filled with historic homes and tree-lined streets. Most have porches where neighbors visit in real time, not in an online forum. Our homes can be purchased by real people making prevailing wages in the area.

The historic downtown is booming. A Hampton Inn is in its third year, with convenient next door garage parking. Art galleries, coffee shops, and restaurants are sprouting like mushrooms. Our newly renovated City Hall offers up a 300-person capacity performance space.

At the center of it all is five-acre Taylor Park, which annually displays a summer concert series, as well as holiday lighting that attracts record crowds.

To right: The picturesque fountain in Taylor Park was created circa 1891 and recently restored to its original majesty.

It only takes a few minutes to walk there from St. Albans City Hall.









The City welcomes everyone!
We love in-state and out-of-state
visitors and the vast majority of our
shops, salons, restaurants and cafes
are open for business!



You'll love it so much, you might just stay.

From pharmaceutical manufacturing to health care, state and federal government, and traditional manufacturing, we have the jobs. St. Albans and Franklin County are one of the fastest growing communities and counties in the state. We're also the youngest county in Vermont.

Recreational opportunities abound. The Hard'ack recreation area offers rope tow access to free skiing, as well as mountain biking, hiking, and Nordic skiing. And the award winning Recreation Department offers programming for young families, seniors, and everyone in between.

St. Albans is moving up! Over \$60 million has been invested over the past six years in public and private partnerships that create jobs, strengthen neighborhoods, and improve the quality of life here. No other place in Vermont offers this much opportunity.

— Dominic Cloud, City Manager





Take a little time to visit us!

"St. Albans has become Vermont's poster city for those communities that want to re-create themselves and realize their full potential. The City of St. Albans is a great destination for families, special events, dining, shopping, to gather or to just take a stroll in beautiful Taylor Park. I invite you to visit our city and welcome you to become a part of our community."

- Tim Smith, Mayor, St. Albans

We are looking forward to CCV, NMC and new retail spaces at the location, along with 63 new affordable and market rate housing units to be completed in fall 2020 and spring 2021.





An Amazing Story

In what's being called the City of St. Albans' "amazing story" the Community College of Vermont and Northwestern Medical Center will be partners in a 25,000 square-foot building to be built this year in the city's downtown, just across from City Hall. It's the "icing on the cake" in the on-going seven-year, \$60 millionplus revival project of the city's downtown. The CCV campus will house over 450 students, with an additional staff of almost 50 people. The hospital will occupy about 8,000 square feet of the building and will forge a partnership with CCV and the Vermont Technical College to develop an accelerated nursing program. This "last piece of the puzzle" for Main Street St. Albans will continue to generate the growth and excitement in a Vermont community now recognized as one of Vermont's most sought after places to visit.



"As president of the Community College of Vermont, I come to St. Albans often. It is incredibly powerful to see the physical and social transformation taking place here. I notice a renewed sense of pride and vitality, and I am proud that CCV is part of this effort. Joyce Judy, President of the Community College of Vermont (CCV)









SAINT ALBANS

MESSENGER

281 North Main Street St. Albans, VT 05478 (802) 524-9771 ext. 100 news@samessenger.com samessenger.com facebook.com/SaintAlbansMessenger

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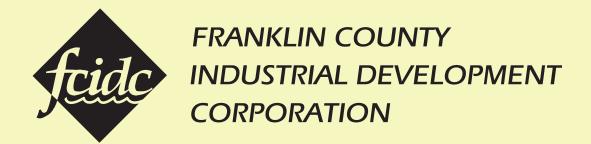
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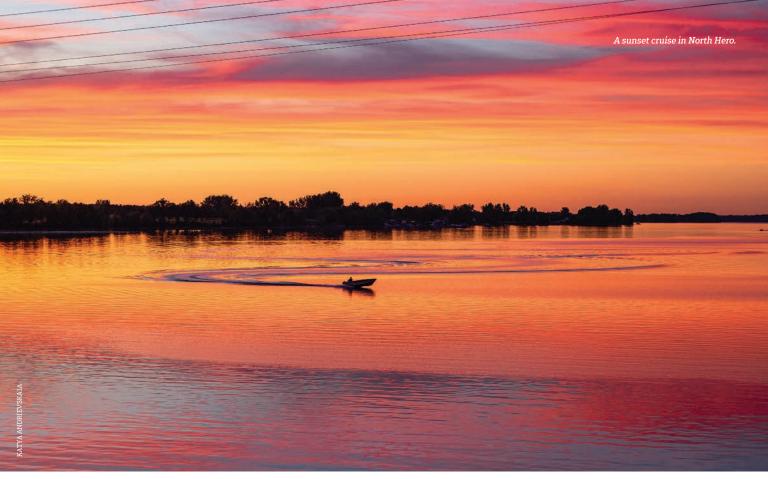
Franklin County
has the desire,
people and
infrastructure
needed to grow
your business



Be sure to pick up a copy of the Cross-Border Map and start exploring.

The map can be found at the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce and local attractions.

2 North Main Street, 4th Floor • P.O. Box 1099, St. Albans, VT 05478 FCIDC.com • Tim@FCIDC.com • (802) 524-2194



Welcome to

NORTHWEST VERMONT

Welcome to Northwestern Vermont. Here you will find breathtaking vistas, historic downtowns, delicious local foods and boundless opportunities for recreation.

We have nationally-designated Wild and Scenic rivers, perfect for canoeing or casting a line. Bike paths lace the countryside and draw visitors from across the nation, and internationally.

Lake Champlain, the sixth largest freshwater lake in the country, is perfect for an afternoon sail, a swim or simply relaxing on the shore while enjoying the beauty of a lake with mountains on both sides.

Perhaps it is that beauty which inspires our artists and musicians. Throughout the region, you'll find original arts and crafts, concerts and performances.

The list of things to do is endless.

After a day outside, relax at one of our top-notch restaurants or simply get a creemee, Vermont's own special version of soft ice cream, named for its creaminess. Be sure to visit one of our farmers' markets or pick-your-own berry farms and orchards to take some of our locally grown goodness home with you.

There are also shops filled with unique items you won't find on Amazon.

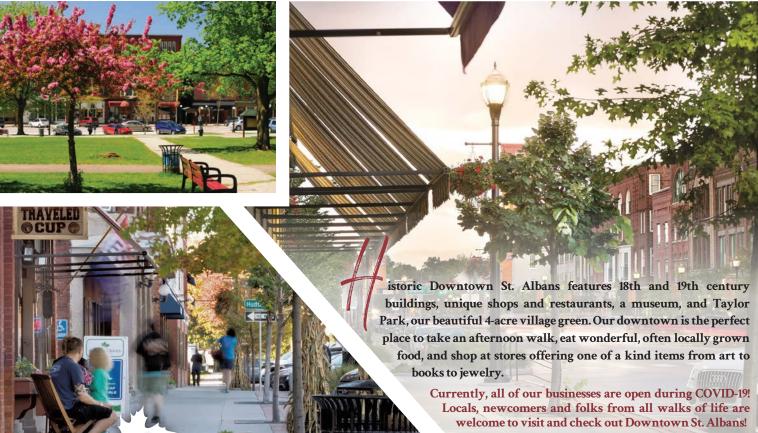
Downtown St. Albans is in the midst of a boom, with recent improvements building on its historic character to create a lovely, pedestrian-friendly downtown, perfect for an afternoon stroll.

Just to our north, you'll find southern Quebec, with its own unique culture, wineries and events. We encourage you to visit our northern neighbors while you're here.

We trust you will enjoy your stay, and, please, come back to see us again... and tell a friend.

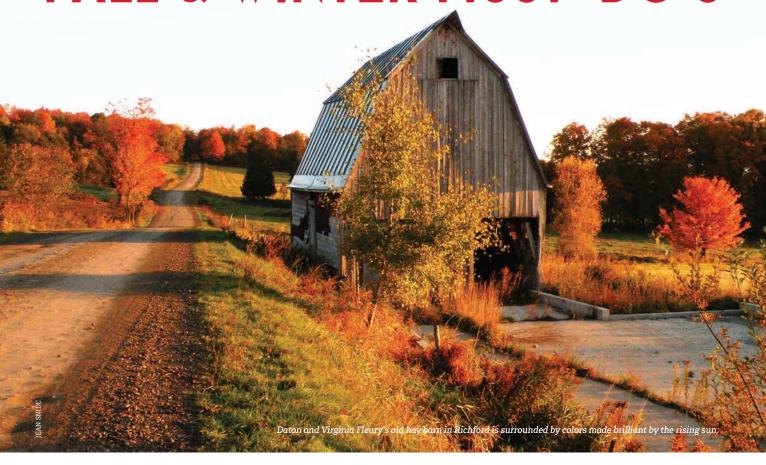
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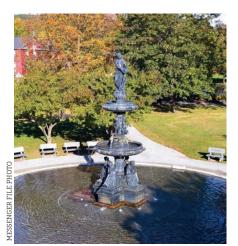
Northwest Vermont

FALL & WINTER MUST-DO'S





Both fall's colors and winter's veil of white make our historic downtowns even more attractive places to visit. Window shop beneath trees turning yellow, red and orange or sip from a hot cup of cider or coffee while



watching snowflakes flutter to the ground in our classic New England town greens.

Our unique mix of shops are also the best place to find gifts for those hard-to-please family members.

Enjoy the harvest

Nothing says fall like the crisp tang of a freshly picked apple or vegetables of all sizes, shapes and colors being transformed into delicious, good-for-you meals.

Find fresh vegetables at our many farmers' markets and farm stands. Stop in at an orchard and pick some of that fresh fruit for yourself.

For more about our farms and farm stands see pages 27-30.

Take in the scenery

Enjoying the view doesn't have to mean passively looking out a window. Some of our most spectacular vistas are best seen from a kayak, a bicycle or a golf course.



While golf may seem like a summer activity, many of our courses offer spectacular views during the fall months. Autumn's colors will turn a "good walk spoiled" into a "good walk made better."

Similarly, our scenic rivers become even more scenic in the fall months, when lined with brightly colored trees.

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FALL & WINTER MUST DO'S CONTINUED

If you'd like to see the scenes from on high, the Jay Peak tram will let you see all of Vermont and some of Canada.

One of the best ways to see the area is simply to drive our back roads, where you never know what you'll see when you turn the corner.



Play in the snow

From skiing to snowboarding to sledding, Northwest Vermont has some of the best locations for getting the thrill that comes from sliding down a snow-covered hill.

Jay Peak is one of the country's premier ski areas, with 78 trails ranging from gentle beginner slopes to the expert challenge of the backcountry.

St. Albans offers its own small slopes at the Hard'ack Recreation Area complete with a traditional rope pull to get you to the top of the hill. It's also a perfect place to snowboard or slide down a hill on a sled

For those who prefer to stick to flatter ground, opportunities to snowshoe, cross-country ski, skate and snowmobile abound.







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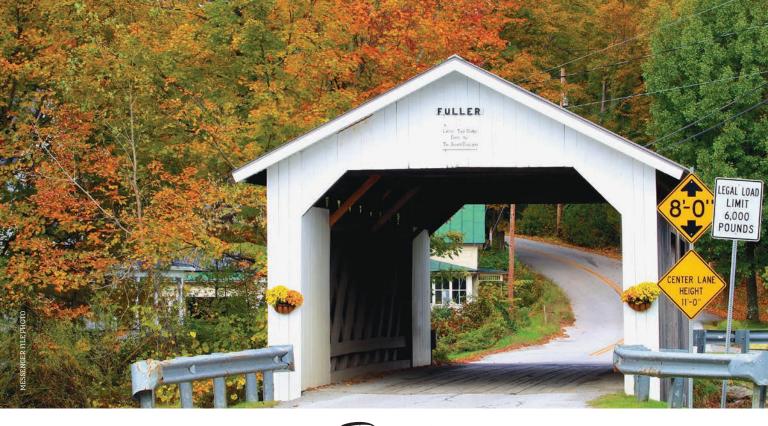
Whether you're a small business or a complex healthcare organization, KBS offers the financial acumen you need to maximize your profitability. We make it our business to understand the world you work in—and proactively guide you through tax season and beyond.



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Travel MONTGOMERY BRIDGES

here's a reason Montgomery officials advertise their home as "The covered bridge town."

Montgomery holds the national record for the most covered bridges in one community, peaking at 13 in the 1940s.

Sheldon and Savanard Jewett, brothers, build the remaining covered bridges.

The Jewetts ran a sawmill on West Hill, allowing them to control the milling of the wood, hemlock being their preference due to its strength and durability.

That was the purpose of covered bridges. An uncovered bridge had a limited lifespan. A covered bridge could last four times longer, or more.

The Jewetts started a bridge's construction



by placing its main bearing beams across the water and on to pier foundations at each end. Workers then placed the trusses and tied the top beams before securing the roof.

The Longley Bridge is Montgomery's eldest covered bridge, built in 1863.

Those with GPS systems can easily find Montgomery's bridges — the roads on which they fall share the same name.

For example, Longley Bridge is on Longley Bridge Road, the Hopkins Bridge, built in 1875, on Hopkins Road.

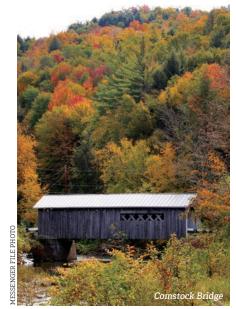
The Comstock and Hutchins bridges date back to 1883, respectively on Comstock Bridge and Hutchins Bridge roads.

The Fuller Bridge is the spring chicken of the lot, built in 1890. Drivers will find it on — you guessed it — Fuller Bridge Road.

The hardest to find may be the Creamery Bridge, also constructed in 1883. Finding it requires taking West Hill Road, not to be confused with Hill West Road, for 2.6 miles.

Then it's easy — turn on to Creamery Bridge Road.

If you visit, pay attention to parking. Several bridges are just off Vermont Route 118, which leads into Montgomery Center and sees steady, and often speedy, traffic.







Spend some time in or on the water

When it comes to enjoying freshwater recreation, Northwestern Vermont has everything you need—beaches, lakes for sailing and rivers for kayaking.

Lake Champlain is the best-known attraction, with locations throughout the region for sailing, swimming or just taking in the view. Beaches include the Alburgh Dunes State Park with its unique ecology and the family-friendly St. Albans Bay Park with picnic areas and a playground.

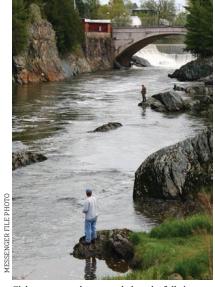
Both Lake Champlain and Lake Carmi have camping areas, with Lake Carmi State Park offering night hikes, campfires and opportunities for learning alongside all the fishing, swimming and boating you could wish for.

Prefer to kayak or canoe? Take a trip on the Trout and Missisquoi rivers, the only Vermont rivers designated Wild and Scenic by the National Parks Service. The Northern Forest Canoe Trail makes it easy, with planned trail crossings and boat launches.

See pages 23-25 for locations.



Lake Champlain is widely known as one of the best bass fishing locations in the country, attracting anglers from around the world. Vermont is home to more than 90 species of fish, with Lake Champlain, Lake Carmi and their tributaries offering a wide range of both cold and warm water species



Fishermen test the waters below the falls in Enosburg. This can be a trophy trout area.

including northern pike, perch, bullhead and walleye.

Fishing is a family activity here, with free fishing licenses for children under 15 and discounted licenses for teens 15-17.

Whether your prefer to fish from the shore, in a boat, or even in an ice shanty during the winter months, Northwestern Vermont has the perfect place to cast out your line.

See pages 23-24 for a full list of fishing spots.

Take a hike or maybe a ride

Hiking in Northwestern Vermont goes from a casual walk on a forest hill to the spectacular mountain views of Hazen's Notch. For those who like to combine their walks with wildlife, there is the Missisquoi Wildlife Refuge, along with paths through public areas such as the St. Albans Town Forest and the Hard'Ack recreation area.





Enjoying a summer treat.

For cyclists, Franklin County has the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail, which for much of its 26 miles winds alongside the Missisquoi River. There's also plenty of opportunities to bike alongside our lakes, through wildlife areas and forests, and to our historic downtowns. You can even cross the border from the U.S. to Canada on a bike in lovely Franklin, Vermont.

See pages 20-25 for the best places to walk, hike and bike.



JESSENGER FILE PHOTO

Eat a creemee

Other places have plain ol' soft serve ice cream, but here in Vermont, we have creemees. Why do we call them creemees? Because they're creamier.

Nowhere are they creamier than here, where many creemees are made with milk from the St. Albans Cooperative Creamery, which is also the leading supplier of milk to Ben and Jerry's. Don't leave without trying a maple creemee!

Creemee locations

ENOSBURG FALLS MONTGOMERY

Jolley Store 82 Main St.

Main Street Delight 153 Main St.

FAIRFAX

Nan's Mobil 1301 Main St.

GEORGIA

Georgia Farmhouse Restaurant 826 Ethan Allen Highway

GRAND ISLE

Kim's Snack Bar 116 U.S. Route 2

HIGHGATE Jolley Store 60 Gore Rd.

Montgomery Pizza 216 North Main St.

NORTH HERO

Hero's Welcome **General Store** 3537 U.S. Route 2

Papa Pete's 35 Bridge Rd.

RICHFORD

Pine Cone Snack Bar 1692 E Berkshire Rd.

ST. ALBANS

Hoss's Dogg House 195 Lake St.

Jolley Store 96 Federal St.

Pie In the Sky Highgate Commons Shopping Plaza The Bay Store 585 Lake Rd.

Toby's Treats 309 N Main St.

SHELDON

Papa Noel's Pizzeria 4232 VT Route 105

Sheldon Mini Mart 2824 VT Route 105

SOUTH HERO

Allenholm Orchard 150 South St.

Seb's Snack Bar 295 U.S. Route 2

SWANTON

Devyns Creemee Stand 258 Main St. West Swanton

Maple City Candy 6 Brooklyn St.







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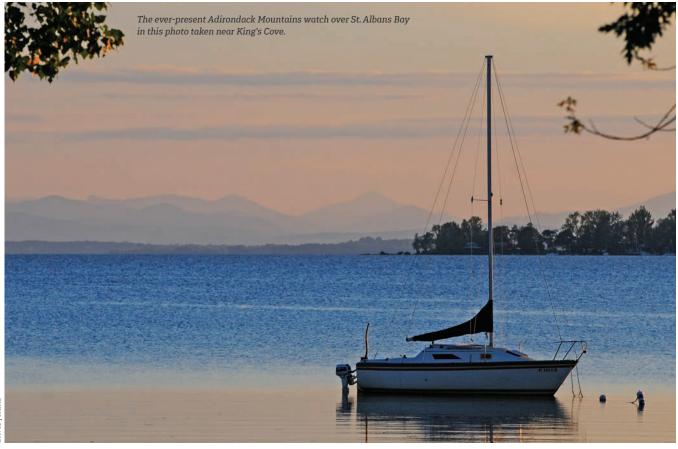
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AVID IUAIRE



Northwest Vermont

EXPLORE THE ARTS

he visual and performing arts are blossoming in Northwestern Vermont.

Downtown St. Albans is home to multiple galleries and gift shops filled with the works of local artists and craftspeople. The Champlain Islands have a thriving art scene. The work you'll find here ranges from traditional crafts such as spinning and soap making to modern sculptures that blend with Vermont's trademark vistas.

Galleries

Artist in Residence

10 South Main Street, St. Albans

Hours: Tues. - Sat. 10 - 5

A cooperative gallery featuring the work of over 40 Vermont artists and artisans

The Village Frame Shoppe

50 No. Main Street, St. Albans

Hours: Mon. - Fri. 10 - 5 Sat. 10 - 3

A wide range of Vermont painters display their work here. The gallery also offers custom printing and framing.



David Juaire showcases his work.

Did you know...

NCSS staff collaborates to provide services throughout the community of Franklin & Grand Isle Counties.



The Family Center

Located at 130 Fisher Pond Rd., houses services for children and families, prenatal to 21, as well as developmental services. We provided many of those services within the community:

The Parent Child Center

One part of our Family Center, consists of four core teams, operating 20 Primary Prevention Programs in Franklin and Grand Isle Counties.

In the past year **NCSS served 4,096 people** in our offices, in local schools, in the community, in their homes, in their places of work, and with the onset of COVID-19, via videoconferencing and phone to ensure everyones safety.

100% of Patient Centered Medical Homes

(Primary Care Physician Offices) are integrated with our health team providing support in Franklin and Grand Isle counties.

Partnerships with schools throughout Franklin and Grand Isle counties

which include services such as: therapy, consultation, substance abuse treatment, behavioral supports, specialized services for children diagnosed with autism.



Psychiatry

Of the 4,096 individuals served by NCSS last year, what percentage do you think received medication from one of our Psychiatrists or Nurse Practitioner?

Only 20%. While medication can be very effective for certain mental health conditions, most individuals do not require medication as part of their treatment plan.



The Developmental Services Division

offers Person Centered Care for individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities including:

Academy of Learning – provides independent living skills, enhances artistic expression, expands appreciation for a holistic approach to health and wellness, and acquiring new academic talents.

NORTHWESTERN COUNSELING

& SUPPORT SERVICES

we're here for you

Are you in crisis or do you need immediate assistance?

24 Hour Crisis Line
Call 802-524-6554 Ext. 1

107 Fisher Pond Road, St. Albans, VT 05478 www.ncssinc.org

ARTS CONTINUED

Grand Isle Art Works

259 U.S. Route 2, Grand Isle
Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 10 - 4
Fri. 10 - 9 Sat. - Sun. 10 - 4
The gallery features unique and eclectic fine arts and crafts.

Mountain Fiber Folk

188 Main Street, Montgomery Center Hours: Thurs. - Mon. 10 - 5 At Mountain Fiber Folk artisans spin wool into yarn and turn yarn into one-of-a-kind clothing and other items.

Courses & events

Island Arts

www.islandarts.org P.O. Box 108, North Hero, VT Tel: 802-372-8889

Island Arts fosters and promotes artistic creativity, stewardship of our environment and education, for the enrichment of all. We are a grass roots non-profit organization with an all volunteer board.



Island Arts painting class in progress at the Snow Farm Vineyard & Winery.



Did you know...

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NORTHWESTERN COUNSELING

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we're here for you since 1958

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Main Office

107 Fisher Pond Road St. Albans I 524-6554

Ted Mable Family Center

130 Fisher Pond Rd. St. Albans | 524-6554

Soar Learning Center 178 McGinn Dr.

178 McGinn Dr. St. Albans Bay | 527-7514

Applied Behavior Center

12 Houghton St. St. Albans | 393-6643

Academy of Learning

27 Lower Newton St. St. Albans | 782-8694

Mapleville Depot

20 Mapleville Depot St. Albans | 524-6554

learn more about our services at www.ncssinc.org





orthwest Vermont is filled with unique places to visit whether you want to try a new sport, see what life was like 500 million years ago or relax at the beach. Many offer activities to delight the whole family.

Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge

29 Tabor Road, Swanton, VT 05488 802-868-4781 missisquoi@fws.gov

Created to preserve lands used by migrating birds, the refuge's 6,729 acres are home to a wide variety of wildlife. Primarily wetlands, the refuge also has forested land and bog, attracting animals from ducks to moose

The refuge has 7.5 miles of trails to walk, waterways to kayak along, and places to fish.

Learn about wildlife at the refuge by touring the educational exhibits in the visitors center or use the Agents of Discovery (agentsofdiscovery. com) science app and game to complete challenges along the trails.

For printable guides to fishing, boating, and trails at the refuge, visit their website (fws.gov/refuge/Missisquoi).

Chazy Fossil Reef

Goodsell Ridge Preserve 69 Pine Street, Isle La Motte, VT 05453

Fisk Quarry Preserve 4039 West Shore Road, Isle La Motte, VT 05453

(802) 238-7040 ilmpt.org info@ilmpt.org

Almost 500 million years ago, an enormous, diverse tropical reef stretched from Tennessee to Quebec and Newfoundland, housing for the first time the vibrant array of life now typical of modern reefs.

The Isle La Motte Preservation Trust oversees two locations where fossils from the reef may be found.

At the 85-acre Goodsell Ridge Preserve, a web of trails spreads out from a welcome center housed in a restored dairy barn. Those trails wind through Isle La Motte, bringing visitors over outcroppings of





The restored dairy barn at the Goodsell Ridge Preserve houses a visitors center presenting the history of the preserve and its former reef.

limestone where, if one looks closely, they can make out the shells of millions-of-years-old mollusks and the remains of an old reef.

A "Walk Through Time" trail – one of only three of its kind in the world – stretches around the preserve, allowing attendees to get a sense of the 4.6 billion years it took to create the reef and, by the end, the Earth as it is today.

On the other side of the island, the retired Fisk Quarry Preserve that once provided stone for Montpelier's statehouse and Radio City Music Hall sits as preserved habitat. In the slabs of rock exposed by the quarry, a layer of stone reveals clusters of stromatoporoidea, the invertebrates that once built the 500-million-year-old reef. Filled by groundwater, the quarry also provides habitat for a less ancient group of animals. Birds and



Wildlife is waiting to be discovered along Jay State Forest nature trails.



Burton Island beaches are the perfect place to kick back and unwind.



Outcroppings of limestone throughout the Goodsell Ridge Preserve house remains of a half-a-billion-year-old reef.

bugs flutter throughout the quarry, with signs of beavers strewn throughout the preserve.

While both locations offer access year round, what is available may change. Visit the Isle La Motte Preservation Trust website (ilmpt.org) for information on what is open during each season.

Black Falls Disc Golf Course

2356 Black Falls Road, Montgomery 802-393-5316 blackfallsdisc@ hotmail.com

Looking for an activity that's one part mountain hike, one part wildlife walk, and one part sporting adventure? Consider visiting the Black Falls Disc Golf Course in Montgomery.

Players at Black Falls can choose between 18 and 36 holes, with each hole offering a choice of skill level. The silver tees and silver baskets are great for beginners, and the gold tee and gold basket placements will challenge more experienced players.



Players throw the disc along the fairway toward the basket until they land their discs in the basket.

The course is located near Jay State Forest and meanders through gorgeous woods, but markers for each hole are clear and will keep your adventure on track. The forest is so peaceful that you might come across a fawn or other woodland creatures casually passing through the fairway.

Be sure to wear boots that can withstand a bit of forest residue, as the course crosses creek beds along the way.

Up your disc golf experience by downloading a free course app, such as UDisc. You can find the Black Falls Disc Golf Course in the app. It allows you to keep score for each hole and shows you how each hole is laid out.

Black Falls is a private course, so you have to email or call ahead to make a reservation to play. There also is a course fee of \$10 and kids under 11 play free.

Burton Island State Park

2714 Hathaway Point Rd. St. Albans, VT 05481 (ferry from Kil Kare State Park)

Accessible only by boat, or a long swim, this 253-acre island offers beaches, a nature center, campsites, trails for walking and a marina.

Visitors to the park may dock at the



A Highgate resident enjoys the water off the shores of Burton



Boys put down their load after getting off the Burton Island ferry in Kill Kare Park.



A walk to the beach along one of Burton Island's tree-lined paths.

UNIQUE PLACES CONTINUED

arena or take a ferry from Kil Kare State Park. However, reservations are now required for the Island Runner ferry service.

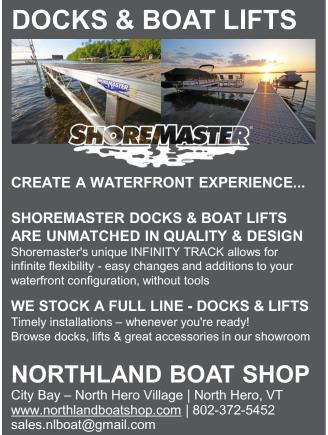
For those who want to camp, there are 14 campsites, 26 lean-to sites, and 3 cabins available, one of which allows pets.

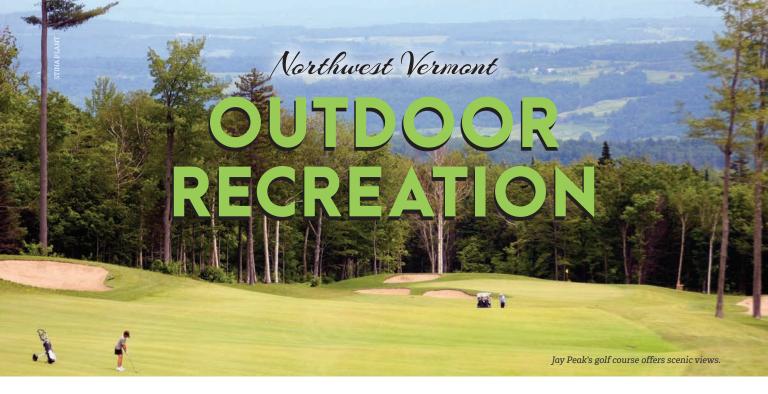
With its get-away-from-it-all feel, Burton is a relaxing place to just leave the rest of the world for a day or a weekend or even a few hours. One visitor described it as "the best place in the world." Because of COVID-19, visitors will not be able to rent fishing gear or kayaks at the park.



Mountain view from the Disc Golf hiking trail in Montgomery.







he best word to describe outdoor recreation in Northwestern Vermont is variety. From hikes with breathtaking views to swimming holes to snowmobile trails, we have something for every season and every interest.







Snowshoeing

🏂 Snowboarding

Cross-Country Skiing



Biking





Alburgh Dunes State Park





151 Coon Point Rd. Alburgh, VT, 05440 Phone: (802) 796-4170

Dillenbeck Bay Access Area



Route 2, Lake Champlain

Horicans Access Area



West Shore Rd. Lake Champlain

Kelly Bay Access Area

اچ 🛫

Route 2, Alburgh Lake Champlain

Korean War Veteran's Access Area



Route 2 at Bridge to New York Lake Champlain

Mud Creek Pond Access Area



Route 78. Mud Creek Pond

Enosburgh

Brownway River Trail



Missisquoi Street, **Enosburg Falls** Mile long path bordering Missisquoi River

Riverside Park



Duffy Hill Rd. **Enosburg Falls** Missisquoi River

Fairfield

Fairfield Pond Beach





Pond Road

Fairfield Swamp Access Area



Route 36. Fairfield Fairfield Swamp

Franklin

Lake Carmi State Park









Enosburg Falls, VT, 05450 Phone: (802) 933-8383

Lake Carmi Access Area



Georgia

Georgia Beach



4815 Georgia Shore Rd.

Mill River Fall Natural Area



Located at the junction of Mill River and Georgia Shore roads.

Grand Isle

Grand Isle State Park



Ed Weed Access Area



West Shore Rd. Lake Champlain

Vantines Access Area



Swimming

Canoeing

West Shore Road Lake Champlain

Highgate

Rock River Boat Access



Spring Street, Lake Champlain

Highgate Arena



243 Gore Rd., Highgate Center

Isle La Motte

Holcomb Bay Access Area



Access Road Lake Champlain

Stoney Point Access Area



West Shore Rd. Lake Champlain

Montgomery

Hazen's Notch



Welcome Center, 1423 Hazen's Notch Rd. There are 30 trails over 2,000 acres on Hazen's Notch, which is part of the Long Trail.

North Hero

Knight Point State Park





The park is accessible only by boat. Visitors may provide their own

transportation or use one of two private boat taxi services.

North Hero State Park





3803 Lakeview Drive North Hero, VT. 05474 Phone: (802) 372-8727

Kings Bay Access Area



Lakeview Drive, Lake Champlain

OUTDOOR RECREATION CONT.

North Hero Causeway Access Area



Bridge Rd. Lake Champlain

Stephenson Point Access Area



North End Road West Lake Champlain

Richford

Overlook Park

++

Overlooking the Missisquoi River, Overlook Park is a Northern Forest Canoe Trail access point.

Saint Albans

St. Albans Bay Park







Burton Island State Park





Accessible only by boat, a ferry makes trips to the island during the day from Kamp Kill Kare State Park.

Woods Island State Park





Accessible only by boat. Visitors must arrange their own transportation.

Kamp Kill Kare State Park





St. Albans Town Forest





Hard'Ack Recreation Area



Located at the top of Congress Street in St. Albans, Hard'Ack offers a wide range of summer and winter activities at no cost including hiking, mountain biking, cross country and downhill skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, sledding and an outdoor skating rink.

South Hero

Allen Point Access Area

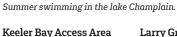


Allen Point Rd. Lake Champlain

John Guilmette Access Area



Featherbed Lane Lake Champlain





Route 2 Lake Champlain

Swanton

Swanton Beach



Located about a mile outside of the Village on Lake Street, Swanton Beach offers a picnic area, shale beach, and a public boat ramp into Lake Champlain.

Babbie Access Area





Route 7, Swanton Missisquoi River

Charcoal Creek Access Area



Route 78, Swanton Charcoal Creek

Larry Greene Access Area



Route 78, Swanton Lake Champlain

Tabor Point Access Area



Hog Island Rd. Swanton Lake Champlain

RAIL TRAILS

Lamoille Valley Rail Trail

www.lvrt.org When complete, the Lamoille Valley Rail Trail will be the longest trail in New England, extending 93 miles through 18 communities. A portion of the trail has been completed in Swanton, which will eventually connect to completed sections in Lamoille and Caledonia counties.

Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail

www.mvrailtrail.com This former railroad bed turned recreation trail extends from St. Albans to Richford, in many places winding alongside the Missisquoi River. The trail is free and open for walking, biking and snowmobiling.

MISSISOUOI WILDLIFE REFUGE

29 Tabor Rd. Swanton, VT 05488 (802) 868-4781 missisquoi@fws.gov Vermont RT. 78 to Tabor Rd. Turn onto Tabor & proceed south 1/4 mile to refuge HQ.

The 6,700-acre refuge is open from dawn to dusk vear round to hikers, bird watchers and nature lovers. The internationally recognized wetland is home to more than 200 species of bird including bald eagles, osprey and great blue herons. The refuge is free to visit, but visitors are asked to stop in at the office before venturing out on the trails.

NORTHERN **FOREST CANOE** TRAIL.

Stretching from New York to Maine, the Northern Forest Canoe Trail crosses the entirety of Northern Vermont from Lake Champlain to Lake Memphremagog. While it's certainly possible to cross the entire Vermont portion of the trail (be prepared to cross into Canada at two locations), there are also four shorter trips for those looking to spend 1-2 days on the water.

Richford to Enosburgh is a 16-mile trip beginning in Davis Park in Richford and ending at Lawyer's Landing in Enosburg Falls. The trip takes 1-2 days.



Looking for wildlife in the Missisquoi Wildlife Refuge.

Richford to East Berkshire is a five mile trip taking just half a day. Begin in Davis Park and end at Dave and Pam's Market in East Berkshire.

Missisquoi National Wildlife Refuge Loop is a 12-mile trip taking a full day to complete. Travel from Louie's Landing to Mac's Bend, or do the reverse.

Enosburg Falls to the Missisquoi Wildlife Refuge takes 2-3 days to complete.

Put in at Riverside Park in Enosburg Falls and exit at the Charcoal Creek or Larry Greene access points in the refuge.

GOLF COURSES

Alburgh Country Club South Alburgh Public, 18 Holes (802) 796-3586

Bakersfield Country Club Bakersfield Public, 18 Holes (802) 933-5100

Barcomb Hill Golf Course South Hero

Public, 9 Holes (802) 372-5938

Champlain Country Club Swanton

Public, 18 Holes (802) 527-1187

Enosburg Falls Country

Enosburg Falls Public, 18 Holes (802) 933-2296

Richford Country Club

Richford Public, 9 Holes (802) 848-3527

RESORTS

Tav Peak 830 Jay Peak Rd, Jay (802) 988-2611

The Tyler Place

175 Tyler Place Rd **Highgate Springs** (802) 868-4000

TAKE A STROLL

or those looking to get a taste of the natural world, Northwestern Vermont has a wide range of trails for walking, biking and snowshoeing, including these hidden gems that even natives may not know about. A full listing of outdoor recreation areas in the area is available on pages 23-24.



BROWNWAY RIVER TRAII.

The Brownway Trail in Enosburg Falls is the perfect one-mile walk for anyone wanting a short riverside immersion in trees and wildlife.

The trail itself is a rich one mile, a mowed path along the Missisquoi River cutting through a floodplain forest and past two restored wetlands — the latter inhabited by the likes of beaver, muskrat, turtles, ducks and songbirds.

Volunteers planted 7,000 trees on the property: silver and red maple, elm, cottonwood, and, in drier areas, planted white pine, red oak, cherry and birch, covering what was a common pasture shared by villagers for 100 years.

Be sure to look out for the "Ring Rock" in strolling the river — a large rock with a ring in it, to which villagers attached cables during spring logging drivers to hold back lumber before it floated on to mills downstream.

To visit the trail follow Missisquoi Street until it turns to dirt and there, across from the Missisquoi Cemetery, lies the beginning of a riverside walk to refresh the weariest soul.





ST. ALBANS TOWN FOREST

The St. Albans Town Forest offers more than 5 miles of trails for walking, mountain biking, and cross-country skiing.

The 162-acres forest is also a terrific place to visit for birders.

The forest trails are the result of a collaboration between a number of community groups, which have constructed the bridges from oak trees that had fallen elsewhere in the forest and easements built into the hills so bikers can easily handle their downhill treks through the forest.

For mountain bikers, the forest offers both beginner and intermediate trails.

In the winter, the forest offers dramatic views of Mount Mansfield and Frinch Hill for snowshoers and cross-country skiers.

The forest is at the end of Forest Drive, which is off French Hill Road.



SWANTON FIT AND HEALTHY PATH

Swanton offers walkers and bikers a chance for another short walk or ride.

The Richard Thompson Fit & Healthy Recreation Path connects the Ronald F. Kilburn Transportation Museum to the town's recreation areas.

Walking from the transportation museum allows a walker's route a uniquely grand start: crossing the Missisquoi River on a historic truss bridge. The path then goes into a peaceful, forested area, and a gently gradual ascent.

The walker crosses Grand Avenue, near the village's southern entrance, and continues through forested patches passing the Swanton School and ending near the industrial park and Vermont Precision Tools.

The path is open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. Dogs must be leashed and horses aren't allowed.

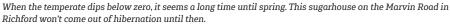






e sure to keep your camera at the ready when visiting Northwestern Vermont. From Lake Champlain and the Champlain Islands on the western edge to the Green Mountains further east, and the rivers which connect them, you never know when you'll turn a corner to find a breathtaking view.















Northwest Vermont

orthwest Vermont is farm country, and that means an abundance of locally raised food, from grass-fed beef to locally brewed beer to jam from homegrown berries. A visit to Northwest Vermont is one in which you will be well-fed. Visit a farmers' market or a sugarhouse, partake at a food festival, or just dine on dishes made from local meats, cheeses and vegetables at our restaurants.

Farmers' Markets

Bringing the best locally grown produce, foods and spirits to your table.

Bay Park Farmers Market

St. Albans Bay Park, St. Albans May 29 - September 18 Wednesdays: 4:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Champlain Islands Farmers' Markets

St. Joseph's Church, Rte. 2, Grand Isle May 18 – September 28 Saturdays: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

St. Rose of Lima Church, South Hero May 22 – September 18 Wednesdays: 3 - 6 p.m.

Montgomery Farmers Market Pratt Hall (Montgomery

Pratt Hall (Montgomery Historical Society) Saturdays: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Northwest Farmers Market

Taylor Park, St. Albans City May 18 – October 26 Saturdays: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. www.nwvtfarmersmarket.com

Richford Farmers' Market

North Main Street, Richford June – October Saturdays: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Wineries, breweries and Distilleries

14th Star Brewing Co.

133 N Main St #7, St Albans City Hours: Tues. to Thurs. 4 - 10 p.m., Fri. 3 - 10 p.m., Sat. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

14th Star Brewery is a veteranowned craft brewery with a mission to brew high quality craft beer while enriching the community. Find their brews in cans or on tap at craft beer venues — or visit our Taproom where we

feature exclusive releases and a rotating lineup of draft, canned, and bottled craft beer.

Boyden Valley Winery

64 Vermont Route 104, Cambridge, VT 05444

Phone: (802) 644.8151 www.boydenvalley.com

The Boyden family has been farming this 800-acre stretch since 1914. In 1996, they began growing grapes and added wine to the list of products made on their farm. Since then, Boyden Valley has made 20 award-winning wines and other products. Tastings are offered daily, along with cheese and chocolate boards, and tours of the winery. Those who are feeling adventurous can sign up for a wine and canoe trip.

Due North Vineyard

206 Skunks Misery Road, Franklin, VT 05457 (802) 285-2053 www.duenorthvineyard.com Overlooking scenic Lake Carmi in Franklin, Vt., Due North makes wines ranging from a dry white to a semi-sweet red. The owners can regularly be found at area events pouring glasses for guests and offering their wines for sale. Call ahead for tasting times.

East Shore Vineyard

20 East Shore Road, South Hero VT 05486

www.eastshorevineyard.com East Shore makes red, white and sparkling wines and invites visitors to stop by their tasting room.

Hells Gate Distillery

6293 Ethan Allen Highway, Georgia, VT www.hellsgatedistillery.com Named for the days before and during the War of 1812 when the region was a hub for smuggling

THE SECRET IS OUT

There is a reason St. Albans, the economic hub of Franklin County, continues to prosper: our schools. We could not be prouder of them and how they contribute to the Franklin County economy.



Our 2,700 student body – including Bellows Free Academy High School, Saint Albans Town Educational Center, St. Albans City School, Northwest Technical Center, and Fairfield Elementary – is highly regarded for its high quality and diverse academic, co-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities.

We stress the importance and the opportunity of a personal education, and one that offers extraordinary success. **Our 600-plus teachers** are committed to creating a safe, intellectually rigorous, and welcoming environment for our students. It's their connection with our students that makes our schools the standout institutions they are.

Our schools also reflect a commitment to leadership. Our 10-member school board was recognized as one of the state's best with its "Exceptional School Board Leadership Award" for 2017.

So, yes, the secret is out. Our schools reflect what is best about us, which is **our students, staff and leadership**. Together we make this part of Vermont an idyllic place to live, to raise a family and to work.



FOOD CONTINUED

into British-controlled Canada, Hells Gate makes brandy, liqueur and grappa with black currants and maple.

Maquam Shore Winery

993 Maquam Shore Road, Swanton, VT www.maquamwine.com

Maquam makes berry and other fruit wines, which are widely available in Franklin County restaurants and stores. Their wines are also sold online through their website.

Mill River Brewing BBQ and Smokehouse

10 Beauregard Drive, St. Albans (802)582-4182

www.millriverbrewing.com

A family owned and operated brewpub with a focus on local ingredients, indluding Vermont grown hops.

Snow Farm Vineyard and Winery

190 West Shore Rd., South Hero, VT (802) 372-WINE

www.snowfarm.com

Snow Farm vineyard grows over 30 varieties of grapes, harvesting them in September. Visitors are welcome to come and learn about winemaking.

Hall Home Place

4445 Main Street, Isle La Motte, VT 05463 (802) 928-3091

www.hallhomeplace.com

This family-run orchard and cidery has been in Hall family since the 1700s. The family makes hard and ice ciders, while also operating a cafe located next to an historic stone house at the farm.

Elm Brook Farm

250 Elm Brook Road, East Fairfield www.elmbrookfarm.com At Elm Brook, you'll find their specialty vodka and teas, as well as maple syrup.

Farms and Farmstands

111 South Street, South Hero, VT

Allenholm Farm

802-372-5566 www.allenholm.com At Allenholm, you can pick 17 different varieties of apples, starting in early August. They also offer a petting paddock and

Ann's Punkin' Patch

farm store.

2674 Browns Corner Road, Highgate Center (802) 868-4413

Blueberries, flowers and pumpkins are usually available in September - October.

Boston Post Dairy

2061 Sampsonville Road, Enosburg Falls, VT (802) 933-2749

www.bostonpostdairy.com

Operated by five sisters, Boston Post Dairy makes award-winning goat and cow's milk cheeses. But that isn't all you find at their combination dairy and store. Maple syrup and candies, truffles made onsite with their chevre, goat milk lotions, and more are available.

Carman Brook Farm

1275 Fortin Road, Swanton (802) 868-2347

www.cbmaplefarm.com

Owned by the Fortin family, Carman Brook produces maple syrup and candies, which are shipped around the country. Visitors are welcome to stop in at the farm, shop in their gift shop, and learn what they do.

Flack Family Farm

3971 Pumpkin Village Road, Enosburg Falls 802-933-7752 flackfamilyfarm@gmail.com www.flackfamilyfarm.com

Certified organic farm with kimchi and other fermented foods made on-site, grass fed beef, and classes on nutrition and cooking.

Franklin Orchard

251 Messier Road, Franklin (802) 285–6785

Green Wind Farm

1345 Northrop Road (Fairfield) Enosburg Falls (802) 933-4592.

Pick your own organic strawberries mid-June to mid-July.

Hackett's Orchard

86 South Street, South Hero (802) 372-4848 www.hackettsorchard.com In addition to apples, which you can pick yourself, the orchard grows berries, peaches, pears and plums.

Hartman's Farm Stand

7530 VT Route 105, Enosburg Falls (802) 933-8874

The farmstand offers a range of fresh vegetables as well as some prepared products such as maple syrup, pickles and jams.

Health Hero Farm

350 West Shore Road, South Hero, VT 05486 Open daily from May 1 to November 23. Sells certified organic beef, cheese, eggs and



Strawberries all picked and ready to take home.

vegetables.

Hudak Farmstand and Greenhouse

599 St. Albans Road, Swanton, VT 05488 The farmstand offers a wide range of fresh vegetables and fruit, along with butter, cider and other products from farms around the region.

Island Blueberries

63 Adams School Road, Grand Isle, VT 05458 (802) 372-5656

Pick your own blueberries from mid-July to the end of August.



FOOD CONT.

Northcourt Orchard

499 Kendall Road, Franklin, VT (800) 504-7420 www.northcourtorchard.com In addition to apples, Northcourt Orchard offers honey, cider, and maple syrup.

Nye's Berryland

1452 Plains Road, Georgia, VT 05468 (802) 524-4705 Pick your own raspberries and strawberries.

Pomykala Vegetable Farm

197 East Shore Road N, Grand Isle, VT 05458 (802) 372-5157

Email: info@pomykalafarm.com.

Products available include a variety of fresh fruits, vegetables, flowers and herbs from May through October. Pick your own strawberries are offered mid to late June. Home farm stand open May through October.

River Berry Farm

191 Goose Pond Road, Fairfax (802) 849-6853

This certified organic farm has a farmstand selling vegetables throughout the summer as well as plants. Visitors can also pick their own raspberries and strawberries.

Sadie's Apple Orchard

5775 Georgia Shore Road, Georgia, VT 05478 (802) 582-1138



Checking the syrup at Gagne Maple sugarhouse in Highgate.

In addition to apples, this farm also has multiple varieties of peaches.

Vaillancourt Orchard

651 Kendall Road Enosburg Falls, VT 05450 (802) 933-5120

West Swanton Orchards and Cider Mill

752 North River St. Swanton, VT 05488 (802) 868-9100 or 370-2320 Pick apples, take a farm tour, or browse the farm market where you will find berries and vegetables.



West Swanton Orchards feature local vegetabls, apples and a large selection of creamie flavors in summer.



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