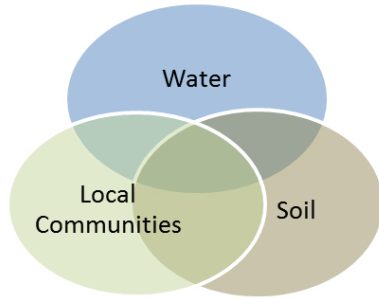


Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District develops programs for landowners and the general public within the District that encourage the best practices for conservation of healthy soil and clean water. The District brings together the efforts of citizens and organizations that share the common goals of conserving, protecting, and enhancing the natural and cultural resources of our watersheds.



The District's place-based educational offerings have been cultivated over the past two decades to become a strong resource to local schools and communities. Every year hundreds of students participate in our programs, and the District is committed to continue building on this solid foundation to provide ongoing opportunities.

The District's Educational programming currently includes Watershed Alliance South, LEAP, the Poultney Nature Trail, the Ecosystems Exposition, Science Summer Camp, support for Trout in the Classroom, and programming at the Champlain Valley Native Plant Restoration Nursery.

Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District
PO Box 209, Poultney, Vermont 05764

Hilary Solomon, District Manager



South Lake Education Center is located in the Visitor Center at the Old Stonebridge Inn, Poultney, Vermont

Poultney Mettowee
Natural Resource
Conservation District



South Lake Education Center Programs

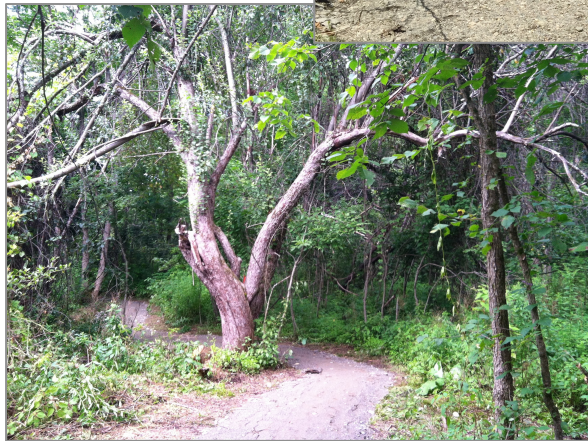


PO Box 209, Poultney, Vermont 05764
802-287-8339; pmnrkd@gmail.com
Hilary Solomon, District Manager

The Ecosystem Exposition is one the tools the District uses to provide environmental education opportunities to local students. For the past 20 years, The PMNRCD has invited fifth and sixth grade classes in the District to the annual event. These student groups engage in a series of learning experiences focused on local natural resources and led by area natural resource conservationists.

South Lake Water and Art Summer Camp

During the Water Science and Art Summer Camp at the South Lake Education Center, campers learn about aquatic wildlife, watershed science, and employ their creative powers to turn science into art. This program is made possible through the Lake Champlain Basin Program and the Poultney Department of Recreation.



The Poultney Educational Trail lies behind the South Lake Education Center at the Stonebridge. This handicap accessible trail, which includes an open classroom, is available to the public as well as area teachers and students. Written resources offered at the Stonebridge provide tools for enhanced understanding of the area.

- Ecosystem Exposition and the Poultney Educational Trail have been made possible through the **Hills and Hollows Fund** and Vermont Community Foundation.



Lake Education and Action Program (LEAP)



LEAP creates a mutual opportunity for student interns and lakeshore property owners to learn from each other through dialogue and project implementation. The intern team is trained by LCSG and District personnel to provide local lakeshore property owners information about current lake water quality issues and to implement projects to address these same water quality concerns.

Watershed Alliance South

PMNRCD partners with Lake Champlain Sea Grant and UVM Watershed Alliance program to provide hands-on, place-based, watershed science curriculum in local schools.



- LEAP and Watershed Alliance are sponsored by **Lake Champlain Sea Grant**, a marine and great lakes initiative coordinated through National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).



Champlain Valley Native Plant Restoration Nursery



The Champlain Valley Native Plant Restoration Nursery (CVNPRN) is a partnership between the PMNRCD, The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) Southern Lake Champlain Valley Program and Green Mountain College (GMC). The nursery provides opportunities for the community in education and outreach, workshops, internships, and research opportunities. Being housed at GMC, the nursery provides career development opportunities for students interested in fields such as ecological restoration, seed collection, propagation of native plants, small business management, and community outreach and support.



Photo by Chuck Helfer

Through support from the Lake Champlain Basin Program, PMNRCD uses the nursery to provide education and outreach to local elementary, high school, and college students; town planning and governing bodies, and the general public about the value of using native plants in landscaping and bioengineering to improve the water quality in our local streams and their receiving body, Lake Champlain.

