

- j. Eliminate or control exotic and invasive plant and animal species that inhibit ecological diversity and integrity.
- k. Abide by existing laws to protect rare, threatened and endangered plant and animal species.
- l. Organize a volunteer tree planting and maintenance program (Tree Board)
- m. Establish a comprehensive integrated pest management program for park grounds, including selection of plant species, preventive maintenance, early detection of problems, natural control methods and minimized use of pesticides.
- n. Incorporate environmental impact considerations in the design process of facilities and parks.
- o. Work with commercial or private land owners in an effort to acquire or otherwise ensure the use of these lands for open space.
- p. Use locally sourced materials and product to reduce petroleum use from transportation and support local economies.

V. To educate staff and residents of the community about environmentally sensitive lifestyles:

- a. Require contractors and vendors to comply with this environmental policy.
- b. Promote leisure activities that minimize environmental impact and energy use.
- c. Maintain a public relations program to inform the community of our efforts, as well as provide community leadership.
- d. Include environmental lifestyle information in materials distributed to the public.
- e. Continue to train staff on proper handling, use, storage and disposal of hazardous materials.
- f. Make use of electronic mail resources such as phone or computer message systems in place of paper memos.
- g. Provide appropriate recreational access to and enhance public awareness of such restored and protected natural sites.
- h. Involve department staff and Town Boards/Commissions in an environmental education program which explains the commitment of the Town to the environment, provides information about environmentally-conscious lifestyles and workplace choices and habits, and stresses the need for staff and volunteer input and involvement.
- i. Develop and present public programs which enhance the public's relationship with the natural world and teach environmentally responsible lifestyles.
- j. Use VT Green up Day as a vehicle to educate the public about the environment.
- k. Interpret the natural resources specific to the community via programs, presentations, signage or brochures.
- l. Work with other interested community agencies and organizations to develop and enhance a strong environmental ethic.
- m. Encourage staff to recycle paper, cans, and shut down computers at night.