Craftsbury Conservation Commission Meeting Notes: July 21, 2025

Since there was not a quorum of the conservation commission members, these are simply meeting notes. No action or formal business was taken. Attending: Diane Morgan, Elinor Osborn, Farley Brown. Absent: Molly Sease, Ken Menard, Nancy Milholland.
Guest: Finn Horack (Sterling College Ecology and Land Management Intern)

Farley reported that a Trees for Streams project tour will be held 3:30 - 6pm on Thursday August 28th. Farley will share the press release when it is available. The tour includes the Trees for Streams planting on the town property near the town garage. This project evolved out of the Craftsbury Conservation Commission Upper Black River Stabilization Project in 2014.

Japanese Knotweed Demonstration Site report
Elinor explained the work that has been done at the site over the past month. This included weeding as well as the digging and hanging fabric in the trench by the road. The trench will be helpful in redirecting stormwater runoff.

The Sterling College interns have been very helpful and the Sterling Pre-College students spent the afternoon assisting. The U23 (College age students who stay at the COC for rowing and skiing) have been helping as well as the Green Racing Project (GRP).

The road crew added more fill on Town Highway 19 and also widened the road. The slope of the road is steeper now and less room to plant native seed. Some of the seed will be used around the base of the plants. Thursday work party at the knotweed site is now to move to 4pm.

Public Outreach at the Craftsbury Farmers Market
Nancy has an idea of Nature Journaling. She would make books with the kids and then have them write and/or draw

iNaturalist training - Finn will learn iNaturalist using the iNalturalist Getting Started and will coordinate with Nancy about having a iNaturalist training at the farmers market mid August.

Association of VT Conservation Commisions (AVCC)
Diane reported that AVCC will have a regional summit (10/11) and Diane is the contact for Craftsbury Conservation Commission. Alex Connizzo from AVCC would like to come to our next meeting in August to share more information about the regional summit.

Membership
There was a brief discussion on how we might find new members to fill the three openings and our need for someone with leadership skills to become the chair.

November meeting: Farley will present the history of local land use in forest in the NEK.