

## Lincoln Conservation Report for 2019

This year's "X Out Xotics" invasive plant pulling day (to control wild chervil and poison parsnip) was very enjoyable—the weather was neither too hot nor rainy. We had a delicious lunch provided by the Lincoln Store, and prizes were awarded. One great addition to our roadside invasive control program is that a number of folks have volunteered to "adopt a highway" and keep watch over sections of roadside throughout the growing season. This is very helpful because poison parsnip continues to sprout over a number of weeks— even if you pull all the poison parsnip you find on a given day, more may appear in the same spot a few weeks later. We will be in touch with you all when the wild chervil begins to flower next June! Alan Borys did further work with a weed whacker and brush hog, and some landowners are taking care of patches on their own property.

Thanks to all of you who are helping to maintain our native plant diversity by controlling wild chervil and poison parsnip! As they say, it takes a village.

This year the LCC also took part in an initiative to reclassify two streams in our town and Ripton: Alder Brook and Blue Bank Brook. The Ripton Conservation Commission has been working hard with the State to upgrade these two streams from B(2) to A(1), which is the highest level of protection afforded by the Vermont Water Quality Standards. The Lincoln Selectboard supports this initiative.

In the coming year(s) you may be hearing from the LCC about the emerald ash borer. This exotic beetle has been destroying ash trees all over the Midwest and is now present in our area. We are quite concerned about this threat to our beautiful and useful ash trees, and hope to come up with the stop-gap measures by which to save some of the trees for the future. Stay tuned.

The LCC has \$\$\$ in its coffers. Thanks to everyone for your continuing support!