

**MOVE FORWARD TOGETHER VERMONT VISION**

# FOSTER HEALTHY AND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES THROUGH OUTDOOR RECREATION

**PURPOSE**

Support partnerships, projects, and programs at the local, regional and statewide scale that protect Vermont’s healthy, functioning environment, establish and maintain high-quality and inviting outdoor recreation spaces, and cultivate communities that are diverse in the people they engage and the opportunities they support.

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

**Collaborative**

**Inclusive**

**Data-Driven**

**COMMON OBJECTIVES**

**Equity**

We will collectively expand opportunities and reduce barriers so that all people feel welcome in Vermont’s outdoors.

**Climate Resilience**

We will collectively strengthen the sustainability, flexibility, and resilience of our communities so that we can weather the impacts of climate change.

**THEMES**

**Stewardship**

**PROTECT MAINTAIN CONSERVE**

*We will ensure that we protect the health of our environment and cultivate and preserve high quality outdoor recreation experiences.*

**Wellness**

**LEARN CREATE CONNECT**

*We will create and steward places and connections that welcome all people and allow them to heal, learn, grow, and live their lives fully.*

**Economic Development**

**CULTIVATE INVEST BUILD**

*We will support communities to be proactive in using outdoor recreation to create a sustainable, vibrant, future.*

**FIVE YEAR PRIORITY ACTIONS**

Invest in stewarding and upgrading existing recreational infrastructure

Strengthen guidance and education about climate resilient strategies that help communities interact with their rivers and water bodies

Cultivate and promote a stewardship ethic among Vermonters and visitors

Identify and support regional outdoor recreation planning and partnerships.

Create and promote a suite of technical assistance resources to strengthen the skills and expertise of non-profits, municipalities and businesses who manage recreation

Reinforce and sustain public recreation on private lands

Create and enhance in-community outdoor recreation opportunities that directly connect to where people live, learn, and work

Develop recreational opportunities and conserve open spaces that strategically fill gaps in experiences and distribution across the state

Create safe, welcoming, and environmentally sustainable entry spaces into the outdoors

Centralize, improve, and make more accessible informational resources about outdoor recreation opportunities and events

Support programs that reduce the costs of outdoor recreation

Strengthen connections between people working in health and wellness, people working in education, and people working in outdoor recreation

Strengthen community awareness about improved health and wellness outcomes through outdoor recreation

Develop information and resources to demonstrate how outdoor recreation resources and vibrant local economies are connected

Strengthen the capacity of municipalities to engage in Vermont’s outdoor recreation economy

Strengthen workforce opportunities in Vermont’s outdoor sector

Foster resilience and flexibility in outdoor recreation communities, organizations, and businesses to withstand major weather events and a variable climate

Invest in organizations and businesses led by marginalized communities

Support innovation in Vermont’s outdoor sector by supporting entrepreneurship, providing resources to businesses, and seeking solutions to challenges