Green Mountain College Natural Areas

The Poultney River and adjacent floodplains are valuable for education, research, social and personal space, recreation, and as functioning ecosystems. Faculty, students, and staff have taken initiative to maintain the values of these natural areas. In 1997, the college established the Poultney River Buffer Zone to protect the river and riparian habitat. In 2005, Forest Ecology students organized the first Garlic Mustard Pull, and in 2006, the college adopted it’s Invasive Species Policy and Natural Areas Policy that guide management and sustainable use today.

College Natural Areas are lands and wetlands on the main campus maintained mainly by natural ecological processes. The Poultney River Buffer Zone is a portion of College Natural Areas within 35 meters of the annual high-water mark of the river.

Please practice leave-no-trace ethics when visiting the Natural Areas:
- Leave what you find
- No camping in the Buffer Zone
- Travel on foot or bicycle
- Carry out what you take in
- Respect wildlife and habitat
- Travel on established paths
- Be considerate of other visitors
- Protect study areas and equipment

Want to get involved?
- **River Stewardship** – Help keep the river and its adjacent forest in pristine condition. Follow “leave-no-trace” practices. Help with river clean-up events. In Spring 2013, students established a gathering spot in the “north woods” on campus to reduce impacts along the river.
- **Invasive Species Management** – Help eradicate invasive species in order to allow native plants to flourish. Every year on Earth Day, students, community members, faculty and staff can participate in a garlic mustard pull in the Green Mountain Natural Areas. Additional invasive species removal events may be planned at other times throughout the year.
- **Plant Restoration** – Help at the Champlain Valley Native Plant Restoration Nursery, located behind Sage Hall. Planting events occur on campus and in the region.

Contacts
Natural Areas on the college website: http://greenmtn.edu/about/campus_lands/natural_areas.aspx

Faculty Contact: Landuse@greenmtn.edu or Jim Graves gravesj@greenmtn.edu

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Natural Areas off Campus
Green Mountain College lands also include its 85-acre Lewis Deane Nature Preserve on St. Catherine Mountain, 5 miles from main campus. For information, visit the Deane Preserve on the college website: http://www.greenmtn.edu/campus_lands/deane_preserve.aspx
Green Mountain College Campus: Natural Area

The 39-acre Green Mountain College Natural Area on main campus includes a riverside forest and adjacent buffer zone, and other floodplain areas including old fields and forests of different ages.

In addition, the 123-acre main campus includes 40 acres on Cerridwen Farm, and 44 acres of buildings, landscaped areas, and athletic fields.