



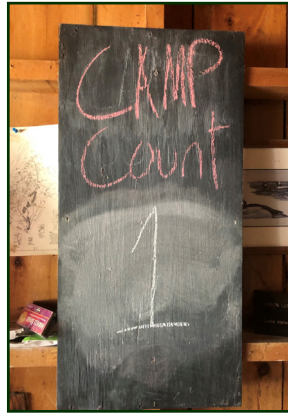
October 2020

# Green Mountain Conservation Camp

## A Year Like No Other

By Alison Thomas, Education Manager

2020 has been a great year to reflect and plan for many more amazing summers to come at GMCC! There is no doubt that closing the program for the summer was a heart-wrenching decision that had to happen despite an extraordinary number of hours dedicated to creating a safe and operational camp environment. Everyone was well-intentioned, dedicated, and thoughtful in the process of creating a protocol to operate under COVID-19, however in the end it was simply not feasible to keep staff and campers safe while providing a quality and fun GMCC experience. Upset aside, it's clearer than ever that learning while immersed in wild places where campers and staff can explore, connect, and enjoy is incredibly important to the health and happiness of all people at all times. Lucky for us, that's exactly what GMCC offers.



## Thank you to the 2020 Junior Counselors

By Hannah Phelps, Camp Coordinator

We could not let our final year junior counselors leave without a proper final fire! Once we were able to safely have small gatherings, we opened Buck Lake up for a weekend to (social distantly) celebrate the achievements of our last years. We know that this year has been especially challenging for these folks who also graduated high school, but we are so proud of all the things they have accomplished with GMCC! Thank you to all JCs for the years of hard work and dedication poured into camp. We say it often, but our program truly could not run without JCs! JCs are forever part of the GMCC family, and we can't wait to have you back for a visit!



The 2020 season did not pass without celebrating JCs who were graduating from the program.



## Camp Updates

*Despite no campers, it was still a busy summer!*

### Edward F. Kehoe Updates

During the winter the Old Dining Hall and the Recreation Hall were lifted about six feet up, rot damage was repaired, the floors leveled, and lowered down on new support structures. Throughout the spring and summer months Corey Hart, the Facility Manager at Kehoe, worked to keep the grounds maintained and completed numerous projects that typically are accomplished during the volunteer work weekends, such as hazardous tree removal, raking, and painting.



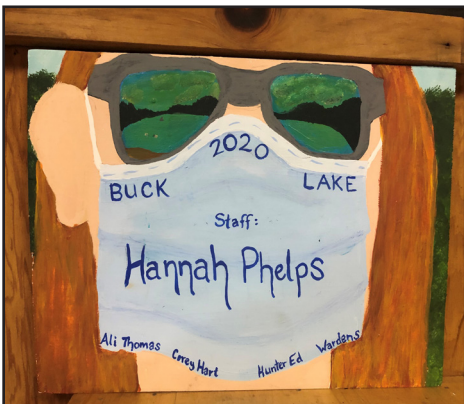
The Old Dining Hall building that houses the GMCC administrative staff office, storage, and a classroom space is now level and sturdy.



A lot of hazardous trees were dropped, cut, and stacked for many future campfires.

### Buck Lake Updates

2020 is the first year in three that GMCC has had a Camp Coordinator, Hannah Phelps - former camper, Junior Counselor, and GMCC staffer. She has been busy at both Buck Lake and Kehoe this summer working on facility improvements and curriculum updates.



Every year staff make a sign. Thanks to Hannah Phelps' good humor and creative vibes, this year is no different.



A task that started in haste to convert the archery shed into a separate quarantine unit became a long-term project resulting in a new medical shed.



### Working at GMCC

Are you interested in wildlife conservation, working outdoors, and educating youth? Jumpstart your career in conservation while gaining valuable experience.

Positions include:

- Camp Director
- Assistant Director
- Natural Resources Instructor
- Natural Resources Instructor - Medical Coordinator

Positions are posted in early January.

For details and to apply: [vtfishandwildlife.com/about-us/employment](http://vtfishandwildlife.com/about-us/employment)

Interviews begin in February, and positions are filled on an ongoing basis.

Questions, contact:

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# Green Mountain Conservation Camp Endowment Fund

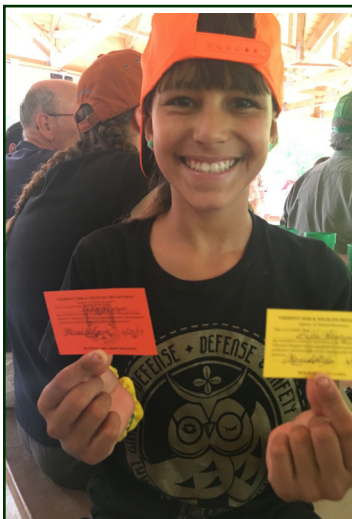
## *Securing camps for future generations.*

The Green Mountain Conservation Camp Endowment Fund is a 501 C 3 non-profit that secures funds for existing GMCC programs, provides maintenance and equipment to the camp facilities, and expands educational opportunities.

The fund helps acquire new canoes, lifejackets, aquatic ecology nets, orienteering equipment, and more.

It's purchases like this that make the fund so important.

The Green Mountain Conservation Camp Endowment Fund Needs Your Support.



A Buck Lake camper proudly shows her hunter education cards.



Songs, dances, stories, and jokes are all a part of campfire connections.

Consider strengthening the fund with your donation.

With your help, we can provide many more generations with the invaluable education offered at Green Mountain Conservation Camps.

Donate today by visiting [vtfishandwildlife/donate.com](http://vtfishandwildlife/donate.com)

# Attention Educators!

## Wildlife Management & Outdoor Education Techniques for Educators One-Week Field Course

Since 1986, the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department has offered a course that allows educators to go to summer camp, receive professional development, and participate in hands-on learning opportunities about wildlife management. Participants receive 3 graduate-level credits from Castleton University, and earn up to 60 hours of continuing education credits!

This is a one-week course held in mid-July for formal and non-formal educators of all disciplines and grade levels. Educators interested in integrating environmental topics into their curriculum and programs can learn about Vermont's wildlife and fisheries from professional biologists, foresters and educators through hands-on activities.

Contact Ali Thomas, [Alison.Thomas@vermont.gov](mailto:Alison.Thomas@vermont.gov) for more information.

For more information: [vtfishandwildlife.com](http://vtfishandwildlife.com) > [Learn More](#) > [Conservation Education](#)



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