

HMCA Activity Report for March 13, 2023 HPC Meeting

Below are the highlights of activities undertaken by HMCA for the period 3/7/22 - 3/13/23

Governance:

- Interim President: Amanda Whiting (March 1 - May 23, 2023)
- Vice President: Pieter van Loon (and liaison to the Marlboro Selectboard)
- Secretary & Treasurer: Nancy Anderson
- Current HMCA Board membership: Nancy Anderson, Amanda Whiting, Pieter van Loon, Eric Slayton, Carol Berner, Jack Widness, Francie Marbury, Kate Milliken

Activities:

- We are actively recruiting new board members, as well as formalizing our committees and their membership (Invasives, Events, Trails, Financial Advisory, and Education).
- Past Events
 - May 15, 2022 HMCA/SVAS Spring Bird Walk led by Cherrie Corey
 - May 20, 2022 Hogback Day with the Marlboro Elementary School
 - June 25, 2022 WRWA/HMCA Wildflower Walk led by Allison Turner
 - October 2, 2022 HMCA/SVAS Fall Migration Bird Walk led by Cherrie Corey
 - November 25, 2022 Black Friday Ski Trail Clean up Work Day
 - March 5, 2023 BEEC/HMCA Snowshoe led by Patti Smith
 - March 11, 2023 Hogback Habitat Hike led by Diana Todd
- We plan to increase the number of events this year, after scaling back during the last few years of the pandemic. We will begin inviting the public back to assist with trail work and invasive plant removal.
- Eric Slayton ran a very successful Spring and Fall Bird Banding Project in 2022 and will continue in Spring 2023.
- Two new volunteers with website experience will be working on updating and revamping our website: www.hogbackvt.org
- We are continuing to foster and explore collaboration with local organizations, including the Southern Vermont Natural History Museum, BEEC, the Marlboro Conservation Commission, and the Marlboro Elementary School.

- HMCA will sponsor MES Hogback Day again in late May. Carol Berner and Francie Marbury are working with the school to plan this. We are seeking volunteers to lead activities.
- In July 2022, one of our trail monitors reported illegal target shooting taking place in the conservation area. We were unable to identify the individual, but we have increased signage and notified neighbors to remind everyone that target shooting is not allowed.
- The next HMCA Board Meeting will be on Monday, April 17, 2023 at 7pm via Zoom.