

Citizen Science Resources

Citizen science is a great opportunity to engage local community members, answer questions about your conservation lands, and contribute valuable data to scientists and researchers in an effort to answer salient questions about our changing environment. Citizen science has become increasingly popular and as a result many resources have emerged to facilitate the involvement of local actors in environmental research. The following represent some of the offerings in our region.

Vital Signs • Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI)

<http://vitalsignsme.org/>

GMRI's Vital signs program is an excellent resource if you'd like to start your own citizen science project on your conservation land. This resource allows you to design your own citizen science mission and host the data on their website.

Maine Audubon

<http://maineaudubon.org/about/citizen-science/>

Maine Audubon is involved with a number of citizen science projects from The Maine Loon Project, to understanding where wildlife cross roads, to monitoring bats in our state.

Stewardship Network

<http://newengland.stewardshipnetwork.org/>

The Stewardship Network offers many resources for those interested in pursuing citizen science initiatives including the informative "Tips for Working with Citizen Science Volunteers" (Clyde 2015) as well as an archived seminar "Choosing and Using Citizen Science: Methods for Engaged Environmental Research". They have a list of current citizen science events in the region. Though the majority of initiatives are based in New Hampshire they have a comprehensive list that allows you to search by state.

LoVoTECS

<http://lovotecs.sr.unh.edu/>

If you are interested in learning more about water quality on your conservation land you may want to consider hosting a LoVoTECS sensor. LoVoTECS is a network of sensors that record permanent water quality data such as temperature, conductivity and stage. Hosting a sensor requires citizen science volunteers to maintain the sensors.

Citizen science apps:

- iMapInvasives
 - Invasive species reporting and tracking
- iNaturalist
 - Record observations of flora and fauna
- eBird
 - Track and record bird species
- CyanoTRACKER
 - Algae bloom tracking using your phone's camera and geolocation
- CreekCritters
 - Learn about water quality using presence/absence of macroinvertebrates as indicators

Additional resources

Maine Calling Program (7/15): Citizen Science

- <http://mpbn.net>

Citizen science search tool

- Scistarter.com/finder

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