



# CAPE ANN VERNAL POND TEAM

Dear Vernal Ponders,

Can you believe this is our 30th year and what a challenging year it has been. The difficulties the Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team has faced are similar to what other nonprofits have faced in terms of reduced programming, downsizing, and cost cutting measures. In an effort to cut expenses we have moved out of our office but we still have regular operating expenses and critter care. This year has been tough for nearly everyone. Most of our donations come from every day people like you who are struggling to make ends meet. Every donation counts and we're counting on you to help us if you can.

Now more than ever we need to protect vernal ponds. People are enjoying the outdoors and going into the woods around Cape Ann. We are venturing out to the precise areas where we are certifying pools. Those of us on Cape Ann are so fortunate to be surrounded by beautiful areas like Dogtown Common, Ravenswood Park, Halibut Point and many other natural places. As we develop a greater appreciation for these unique and beautiful ecosystems we also discover why there's all the more reason to save our habitat. Biodiversity is essential for the health of our planet.

***Your donation allows us to continue providing all the outstanding activities that are listed here.***

## ***Presentations***

We booked more presentations than ever before this year and they were all cancelled. What we were able to do in the midst of Covid-19, were two virtual presentations and one display. One was Snakes of New England and that was shared with Sawyer Free Library, Riverfest, and Reading Town Forest. The second was Snakes of New England and the World at the New England Wildlife Center (NEWC) in South Weymouth, MA, with the internationally known TV critter guy Jeff Corwin in his Nurture with Nature Program. Before the shutdown we provided a Vernal Pond Display for I ♥ Science at the Harvard Museum of Natural History.

## ***Field Trips***

This spring we did 11 Nighttime Vernal Pond Field Trips and one Daytime Vernal Pond Field Trip. We were all masked and socially distanced. These trips have been a way for our local membership to experience the incredible beauty and nature that thrives in vernal ponds.

## ***Habitat Preservation***

Over the years we've certified nearly 300 ponds and worked to protect rare species habitat. One way we preserve habitat is through vernal pond certification. This year we filed 15 applications with the MA Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program. The vernal pond certification reporting process entails collecting data in the field. Vernal pond surveys include photographs of the pond full of water in the spring, evidence of obligate species - usually wood frog or spotted salamander egg masses, and a description of the pool in terms of length, width, depth, and location - GPS coordinates. Field work and documentation is completed by our Team.

## ***Newsletter***

This year we sent our first ever virtual Newsletter. It's better, it's greener, and we saved a lot of paper. We want to keep you in the loop, but we don't have everyone's email address so... please send us yours at [cavpt@yahoo.com](mailto:cavpt@yahoo.com) if you want to read our awesome virtual Newsletter and receive activity notifications. By the way, the Newsletter is posted on our website at [capeannvernalpondteam.org](http://capeannvernalpondteam.org)

## ***Critter Care***

Even though we're not doing a lot of shows, we still have animals that require food, caging, and sometimes vet care. In early November Ludwik, our Bull snake, paid a visit to NEWC and is now recovering nicely from surgery on his kidney.

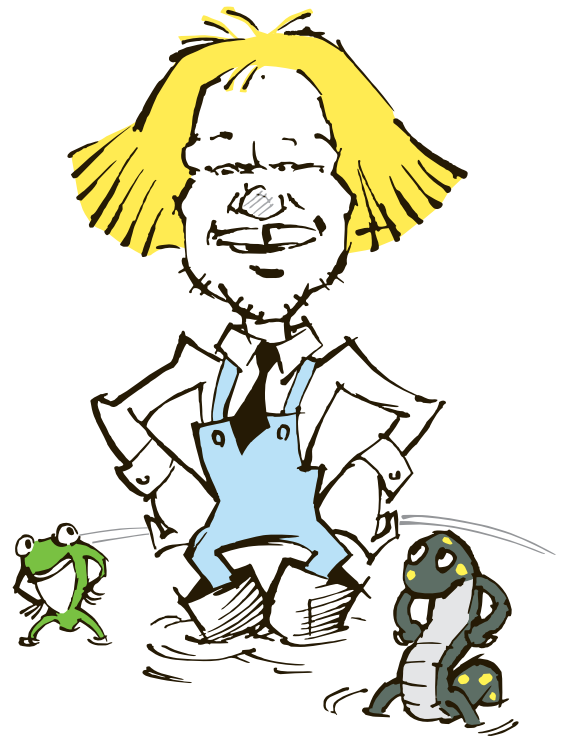


Illustration by Alex Eisenzopf

## Operating Expenses

Utilities, insurance, technology, bookkeeping, accounting, storage, office supplies... it's all necessary.

## Website

We really have a cool website. Since you haven't been able to see us live at events this year, take a walk down memory lane, visit our website and check out the photos from our past events at [capeannvernalpondteam.org](http://capeannvernalpondteam.org)

## Update on our Vision to build Nature Cape Ann

The plans are on hold until Covid-19 settles down or until somebody gives us a healthy donation.

**Please consider a donation to the Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team.**

We need financial support at this time since all of our paid activities have been cancelled. Thanks to all of you who have helped us in so many ways. Your generosity is what has made our programs so far-reaching and such a success. We miss our volunteers and all of the people we meet at our exhibits and presentations.

You can contribute to our Annual Appeal through our secure website [capeannvernalpondteam.org](http://capeannvernalpondteam.org) or by using the form below. If using the website, please log in and help us keep our database current by adding your email address with your name and mailing address so we can keep you posted on the Teams activities. For assistance contact us directly at [cavpt@yahoo.com](mailto:cavpt@yahoo.com).

**Your gift will be especially meaningful this year.**

Check to see if your employer has a matching donor program.

CAVPT is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. EIN 20-2678120

Your donation is tax deductible.

Thank you,

Rick and the entire Team



Rick Roth, Executive Director

Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team  
366 Main Street #2  
Gloucester, MA 01930



*This is quick  
Use a click  
To send your donation  
To our location*

**DONATE**



[capeannvernalpondteam.org](http://capeannvernalpondteam.org)

You can use our secure website to make your donation online. It's quick and easy!

Enclosed find my donation for:

☐ \$20

☐ \$50

☐ \$75

☐ \$100

☐ \$250

☐ other \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check enclosed (payable to Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team)

☐ Charge my credit card (Visa, MC, Discover, Amex)

CC# \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ CVV code \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
(required if paying by credit card)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
(requested if paying by credit card)

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
(name and address required if paying by credit card)

Email \_\_\_\_\_  
(for receipt and CAVPT updates only - never shared)

Thank you for supporting Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team ~ [www.capeannvernalpondteam.org](http://www.capeannvernalpondteam.org) ~ Contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by law