

—Slug:..... COMM-0863.put.plantapalooza
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Notes from editor (not for publication):



HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

####BEGIN HED####

1 Windham County Conservation District celebrates 80th
2 birthday with 'Plant Palooza'

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4 TEXT BODY:

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5 The Windham County Natural Resources Conservation
6 District marks its 80th birthday this spring and they are
7 celebrating with a plant-themed party.

8 This year, the Conservation District is expanding its
9 annual plant sale into an event celebrating native plants,
10 gardening, and conservation. The "Plant Palooza" event will take

11 place Saturday, May 2, from 9 a.m. to noon at Green Mountain
12 Orchards, 130 West Hill Rd.

13 Pre-order plant pick up will precede as it has in previous
14 plant sales. Those who have not placed plant pre-orders will be
15 able to buy plants during the event from a larger selection of
16 plants available for day-of purchases than offered in previous
17 years' sales.

18 The plants available for sale consist primarily of native
19 plant species and do not include any harmful introduced plant
20 varieties.

21 This year's customers are encouraged to stay after picking
22 up their plants to learn about native plants, gardening,
23 pollinators, local wildlife, and more from local environmental
24 and gardening organizations who will be tabling and sharing
25 their expertise throughout the morning.

26 Organizations attending include the UVM Extension
27 Master Gardeners, The Xerces Society, Bonnyvale Environmental
28 Education Center, and the Southeast Vermont Cooperative
29 Invasive Species Management Association. Visitors will also have
30 the opportunity to meet educational animals brought by the
31 Vermont Museum of Natural History.

32 Those interested in learning about gardening with native
33 plant species are encouraged to attend a talk at 9:30 a.m., titled
34 "Getting Started with Native Plants." The talk will be given by
35 Devon Snyder, an ecologist with a background in plant
36 community dynamics, ecological restoration, and land
37 management. Snyder owns and operates Sedge & Soil, a natural
38 garden design and consulting company that helps landowners,
39 gardeners, and stewards of all kinds understand and restore
40 native ecological function to their land.

41 The District will be celebrating 80 years of conservation
42 with a birthday cake and raffle prizes for event visitors. To find
43 more, visit bit.ly/863-plant. The district is also seeking volunteers
44 to help this event run smoothly. To learn more about
45 volunteering, visit windhamcountynrcd.org/volunteer-with-us.

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BIO/COATTAIL:

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LINKS:

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VIDEO:

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LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

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