



# Vermont Coverts Woodlands for Wildlife

Dan Kilborn grew up on a small dairy farm in Derby Vermont and points to that origin from which he developed his passion for the outdoors. He went on to graduate from UVM with a degree in forestry and a minor in wildlife. After working in Northern NH as a consulting forester, he joined the Vermont Land Trust in 2007.

Dan's appreciation for the connection between people and our natural resources has been a consistent theme throughout his career. Whether out in the woods helping landowners understand the nuances of forest ecology, planning for emerald ash borer, guiding stewardship options, or his leadership in the founding stages of Land Ethic Vermont, Dan's warm personality and professional expertise have had a huge positive impact on Vermont's forests and wildlife.

As Steve Hagenbuch, Conservation Biologist with Audubon Vermont and Coverts Cooperator puts it: "Over the years I have had the great pleasure to collaborate with Dan on bringing the concepts of managing forests with birds in mind to both VT Land Trust owned properties as well as those in private ownership on which VLT holds easements. Dan is extremely thoughtful and brings a holistic view of the forest to his work. He is very personable and humble, two traits that allow him to be successful in relating to others."

Jared Nunery, Orleans County Forester, adds, "When I think of Dan, the word catalyst comes to mind, as Dan's greatest impact comes in the conversations he begins and guides forward. Dan is an incredibly humble individual, and often acts as the facilitator of discussions that go on to mature into many of the most influential natural resource programming in Vermont. I truly think only Dan knows just how many landowners he has helped, and how many countless acres of forestland he has helped steward, and I honestly believe that northern Vermont would be a very different place if it were not for the tremendous impact Dan has had on our forests over the last decade and a half."

Coverts Council member and VLT Regional Stewardship Manager Donna Foster shares, "Dan's innate kindness naturally leads to sharing and learning together. Throughout his work with landowners, colleagues, and partners, his natural curiosity poses thoughtful questions and cooperatively contemplates their answers. Dan embraces a Land Ethic in his daily work life: he cares about the people we serve, their land, and their relationship to it."

In recognition of his steadfast commitment to Vermont's forests and wildlife we hereby present

**Dan Kilborn**

The James Bruce Engel Award for promoting Coverts values in the public arena