



Program Schedule

Brookfield, Vermont ~ June 2019 Away Meeting
New England Botanical Club
14-16 June 2019

Thank you for considering this weekend long 'Away Meeting' of the New England Botanical Club. The 3-day schedule of events includes multiple field trip options, workshops, and featured speaker presentation. The schedule is presented below. **Registration deadline is 7 June 2019.**

REGISTER here via GoogleForms: : <https://forms.gle/JtCNHKULNFNkKrZo8>

Friday 6/14/2019

Arrive: 5:00 PM onwards at the [Vermont Grange Center](#)
Address: 308 West Street, Brookfield, Vermont 05036

Potluck Dinner (6:30-7:30) Bring your favorite dish to share! BYOB

NEBC Brain Storming (7:30-)

What do we do that you enjoy and what would you like to see more of in the club and the greater botanical community? Any and all ideas are welcome!

Saturday 6/15/2019

Breakfast (7:30 to 8:30 AM)

Lunch Prep. (8:15 to 9:00 AM)

Field Trips and Workshop (9:00 AM to 4:30 PM)

Join in for a full day workshop or field trip to local areas of botanical interest. All field trips and the workshop will meet at the Vermont Grange Center at 9:00 AM.

Saturday Workshop: 'Galls, leaf mines, and other signs of herbivorous insects' with [Charley Eiseman](#)

As botanists, we have all noticed and wondered about signs of arthropod activity on plants. This workshop will introduce participants to the various insect and arachnid groups that alter plants by feeding on them externally (chewing or sucking); mining or boring into leaves or stems; folding, rolling, or tying leaves; or inducing galls. Many herbivorous insects are sufficiently specialized that they can be identified to species by noting the plant and examining the type of damage, without ever seeing the animal itself. The bulk of the workshop will be field-based, but it will begin with a slideshow to orient participants to the categories of plant damage and the insect groups responsible for them, and there will be time at the end to examine collected material under dissecting scopes (with more or less time devoted to these indoor activities depending on weather and participants' preferences).

Field Trip Information

All trips are rain or shine. We strongly recommend carpooling to field trip parking areas. Please expect ticks and poison ivy and be prepared for all weather conditions (appropriate footwear and clothing, rain gear, bug repellent, sunblock, etc.). Trips have the potential to pass through wet habitats. Bring your own water.

Saturday Field Trip 1: Berlin Pond and [Ainsworth State Park](#) with Art Gilman

Start off the day with a visit the seldom-botanized area surrounding Berlin Pond along an old road for easy walking. Afterwards we'll head over to Williamstown Gulf with areas of nutrient enrichment and some uncommon plants in Ainsworth State Park. Parking will be limited at Williamstown Gulf and so carpooling will be a necessity.

Difficulty - Moderate

Saturday Field Trip 2: [Chickering Bog Natural Area](#) and Calais Town Forest with Brett Engstrom

Take a walk along the trails and boardwalks at The Nature Conservancy's Chickering Bog (more appropriately an intermediate fen) followed by an afternoon at nearby Calais Town Forest at Bliss Pond. Explore a small northern white cedar swamp, some enriched northern hardwood forest, and mixed conifer-northern hardwood forest.

Difficulty – Easy to Moderate

Dinner (~5:30 to 6:30)

Featured Speaker Presentation (6:45 PM):

"Vermont's Contribution to New England's Rare Flora" by [Bob Popp](#), VT Fish & Wildlife Department Botanist

Bob's talk will focus on the rare plants in the Champlain Valley that just make it into New England, many of which occur nowhere else in the region.

Plant ID Room: (– 9:00 PM):

Bring in specimens of plants that you're having difficulty identifying. The room will be informally furnished with books and dissecting microscopes for use in a 'come as you please' fashion. This will be a great way to take advantage of the vast familiarity of our members with the regional flora to improve your own identification skills!

Sunday 6/16/2019

Breakfast (7:00 to 8:00 AM)

Lunch Prep (7:30 to 8:30 AM)

Field Trips and Workshop (8:30 AM to 1:00 PM)

We have 2-half day field trips and a field workshop planned to finish up the weekend. All will meet at the Vermont Grange Center for 8:30 AM. Please come prepared for the elements as the trips will occur rain or shine.

Sunday Workshop: 'Carex Field Workshop' with [Lisa Standley](#)

This workshop will focus on the wonderful diversity of *Carex* in forest understory communities. Bring your favorite field guide(s): *Field Guide to Carex of New England*, *Sedges of Maine*, *Flora NovaeAngliae*, *Sedges of the Northern Forest - A Photographic Guide*, etc. and hand lens, and prepare to move slowly as we focus on field identification and keying.

Field Trip Information

All trips are rain or shine. We strongly recommend carpooling to field trip parking areas. Please expect ticks and poison ivy and be prepared for all weather conditions (appropriate footwear and clothing, rain gear, bug repellent, sunblock, etc.). Trips have the potential to pass through wet habitats. Bring your own water.

Sunday Field Trip 1: White River Ledges Natural Area with Matthew Peters

Visit the Nature Conservancy's White River Ledges Natural Area and explore rich upland woods and calcareous riverside seeps with a number of interesting plants present throughout.

Difficulty – Moderate: some elevation gain and uneven footing along the ledges.

Sunday Field Trip 2: Roxbury State Forest with John Burns

Join in for a morning botanizing the Cram Hill Block of the state park. We anticipate visiting some northern hardwood forests with pockets of enrichment and possibly some calcareous talus slopes.

Difficulty – Easy-Moderate: some elevation gain and bushwhacking

Lodging Details

Lodging is available on Friday and Saturday nights on site at the Vermont Grange Center. The majority of cots are located in shared bunkhouses with a limited number of shared rooms in the Winter Building and Nurses Cabin. Showers, bathrooms, and a commercial freezer/refrigerator are available on site. Tenting is available as an alternative to staying in the bunkhouses.

Please note that attendees must provide their own bedding/sleeping bags/pillows

Food Options

Meals will include two breakfasts (Sat/Sun), two bagged lunches (Sat/Sun), and a spaghetti dinner Saturday night. **Gluten free and vegetarian alternatives will be provided.** Please indicate any dietary restrictions and food allergies on your registration form and we will do our best to accommodate everyone. Alcohol will not be provided, however, attendees are welcome to BYOB.

Breakfast (Saturday and Sunday) will consist of eggs, bacon, bagels, oatmeal, fruit, and granola

Lunch (Saturday and Sunday) will be a 'build your own sandwich' with a variety of sandwich meats, breads, cheese, PB&J, condiments, fruit, and granola bars.

Dinner (Saturday night only) Spaghetti dinner, with garlic bread, meatballs (optional), and salad.

Registration deadline is 7 June 2019.

REGISTER here via GoogleForms: <https://forms.gle/JtCNHKULNFNkKrZo8>
PAY here via PayPal: <http://www.rhodora.org/meetings/upcomingmeetings.html>

Please direct questions to Matt at mpcharpentier93@gmail.com