



Working for a healthy,
accessible lake since 1963

Photo by Lisa Cicchetti

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Lake Champlain Committee
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Join LCC at Georgia Elementary & Middle School this Thursday as student leaders give a tour showing how the school's gravel wetland is slowing the stormwater flow!

When: Thursday, June 4, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Where: Georgia Elementary & Middle School (GEMS) - 4416 Rt. 7, Georgia, VT 05478
(Front lawn area facing Rt. 7 near the welcome sign, parking in school parking lot)

What:

The space in front of GEMS is no ordinary lawn—there is a gravel wetland at work underground, filtering stormwater runoff and improving water quality. On Thursday, students in the Cultivating Pathways leadership group at GEMS will share what they've learned about the gravel wetland, give a tour of the native planting they helped design and install, and offer a sneak peak at the design for the new interpretive sign they helped create.

This project is a collaboration between the Lake Champlain Committee (LCC) and the student group at GEMS with the goal to learn about, teach about, and enhance the gravel wetland that was constructed on their campus last summer through Vermont Green Schools.

We learned about stormwater, native plants and landscaping, and how gravel wetlands work. Students studied effective communication strategies and put this learning into action to teach lessons to younger students in the school. We are excited to share the culmination of our work from the school year with the unveiling of the native plant landscaping design and the interpretive sign we designed with local partners.

Thank you to partners involved in this project: The Lake Champlain Sea Grant, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, Shelburne Farms, Maddocks Landscaping, Greenleaf Designs, and the amazing educators and personnel at GEMS who helped make this

happen, including Karen Lehning, Scott Thompson, Eric Hadd, Jeff Hamel, and the third and fourth grade educator team.

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Formed in 1963, LCC is a bi-state nonprofit organization solely dedicated to protecting Lake Champlain's health and accessibility. LCC uses science-based advocacy, education, and collaborative action to protect and restore water quality, safeguard natural habitats, foster stewardship, and ensure recreational access.



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