

Town of Greensboro, Vermont

Appropriation Request Application — Fiscal Year 2027

(for submission to the Greensboro Selectboard / Budget Committee)

Submission deadline: Thursday, December 1, 2025

Authority under Vermont State statute:

The authority for making appropriations for social service agencies is in 24 VSA § 2691 as follows:

At a meeting duly warned for that purpose, a town or incorporated village may appropriate such sums of money as it deems necessary for the support of social service programs and facilities within that town for its residents. Social service programs, for which a town or incorporated village may appropriate sums of money, include, but are not limited to: transportation, nutrition, medical, childcare, and other rehabilitative services for persons with low incomes, senior citizens, children, disabled persons, drug and alcohol abusers, and persons requiring employment to eliminate their need for public assistance. The authority herein granted is not in derogation of other local powers to allocate funds.

Section A: Organization / Applicant Information

1. Name of Organization/Agency: Greensboro Conservation Commission
2. Mailing Address: PO Box 119 Greensboro, VT 05841
3. Physical Address (if different): 82 Craftsbury Road Greensboro, VT 05841
4. Contact Person / Authorized Representative: Jane Hoffman
5. Title / Role: Treasurer
6. Telephone: 802 533 9097
7. Email: jehoffman@earthlink.net
8. Website (if any): Town website / GCC page

Section B: Request Summary

9. Amount of Appropriation Requested: \$ 3,000

10. Purpose / Program(s) for which funds will be used:

Support of Gec programs and projects

11. Is this a new request or a renewal / continuation? New Renewal / Continuation

NOTE: New requests must be accompanied by a petition signed by 5% of Greensboro registered voters. Contact the Town Clerk for more details.

12. If renewal / continuation, amount received in FY 2026 (or most recent year):

\$ 3,000

13. If requesting an increase, please explain reason(s) for the increase. Note that only in unusual circumstances will requests for increases be granted.:

N/A

Section C: Service Area & Beneficiaries

14. Geographic area served (town, region, etc.): Greensboro / Hardwick / Craftsbury

15. Approximate number of individuals served in the last full year: all residents

16. Of those, how many were Greensboro residents? a majority

17. Types of services provided (check all that apply):

Social services (food, counseling, transportation, etc.)

Youth / children's programs

Senior / elder services

Cultural / arts / historic

Environmental / conservation

Other: _____

18. Describe how Greensboro residents benefit from your services:

See attached Annual Report

Section E: Financial Information & Budget

19. Total operating budget of your organization (last full fiscal year): \$ 3,000

26. Do any funding sources require a municipal match or other local commitment?

Yes No

If Yes, explain:

Section F: Reporting, Oversight & Accountability

28. If your organization has received municipal appropriations from Greensboro before, provide a report or summary of how those funds were used (attach as appendix).

29. Person(s) responsible for oversight and compliance within your organization:

Name: Chris Steel / Title: chair

Contact: ~~alldat~~ Chrissteel4@gmail.com

Section G: Certification & Signature

I hereby certify that the information in this application is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge. If funds are granted, I agree to use them for the stated purpose(s) and to provide the required reports and oversight to the Town of Greensboro.

Signature: Jane Hoffman
Name (printed): Jane Hoffman
Title / Role: Treasurer
Date: 11/20/25

Section H: Attachments (please indicate those included)

(Only for requests of \$500 or more)

Audited financial statements (most recent year) or if no audit was conducted, financial statements prepared by the organization

Organizational annual report or summary

Letters of support or endorsements, if helpful

Greensboro Conservation Commission Members

Emily Cayer, *Advisor*
JoAnn Hanowski, *Member - (2027)*
Jane Hoffman, *Treasurer - (2027)*
Erika Karp, *Member - (2027)*
Liza Keisler, *Member - (2028)*
Will Marlier, *Member - (2026)*
Emma Palumbo, *Clerk - (2029)*
Chris Steel, *Chair - (2027)*
Petr Watkinson, *Member - (2026)*
Betsy Youngman, *Member - (2029)*

Greensboro Conservation Commission Annual Report

The Greensboro Conservation Commission (GCC) is a statutory body whose members are appointed by the Selectboard to provide leadership on issues relating to protection of our community's natural resources. State law authorizes a maximum membership of nine - there are no current vacancies. Meetings are posted and open to the public.

Since the GCC's revival in 2004, it has been involved in a wide range of projects that have strengthened Greensboro's biodiversity, improved public understanding of wildlife, increased access to the outdoors, and conserved natural resources in perpetuity. It has contributed to five separate conservation easements, aided in repairs and improvements to the Barr Hill access road, financed a *Place-based Landscape Analysis & Community Engagement* study of Greensboro Bend, commissioned and published maps of seven public walking trails, and held several educational events on local wildlife at the *Highland Center for the Arts*.

In the past year, the GCC has both cultivated existing programs and pursued new and exciting initiatives. The commission has continued to invest in the management of invasive species. Two established knotweed sites have been subjected to the ongoing management of a small but dedicated team of volunteers, and results can already be seen. Additionally, the commission has worked to educate itself and others about a variety of responsible management options in order to produce the very best possible results for native Greensboro species. The GCC coordinated another educational program at the HCA in August, where the state's moose biologist, Josh Blouin, discussed the majestic creature, its biology, and behavior. This program concluded with an exclusive viewing of wildlife camera footage gathered through the Neighborwood Watch initiative, which has grown exponentially this calendar year. The Neighborwood Watch connects landowners with the technology and expertise necessary to maintain wildlife cameras on their property, and upload the footage to a database that is maintained to offer insight into the local wildlife's population and movement trends. The GCC also provided more guided bird walks in collaboration with the *Greensboro Free Library*, and plans to do so again in the spring of 2026.

Additionally, the GCC has launched an anticoagulant rodenticide awareness campaign. With a variety of public outreach methods and events, our members have provided educational opportunities for community members on this issue of this particular type of rodenticide, which causes severe harm to non-target species like owls, bobcats, and fisher. The commission has drafted a resolution on this topic, which it intends to present at the 2026 Town Meeting for a vote. The GCC has organized and funded the installation and maintenance of a beautiful pollinator garden filled with native flower species at the Greensboro Bend Rail Trail Access. While this fledgling piece of pollinator habitat requires some active maintenance until it really gets off and running, the hope is to eventually have a self-seeding perpetual garden. GCC members have also been valuable partners in pursuing updates to both the town's Natural Resource Inventory and the Town Plan, and were the catalyst for an unprecedented regional gathering of Conservation Commissions in Hardwick. Furthermore, the GCC has worked to support the Greensboro road crew by encouraging volunteers to provide monitoring and maintenance of their nearby culverts. If you're interested in joining the Adopt-A-Culvert initiative, you can sign up here [<https://greensborovt.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Adopt-a-culvert-Greensboro.pdf>].

In this coming year, the GCC plans to use the Greensboro Conservation Fund (GCF) to further many projects across town. The spring will bring the planting of additional native plugs at the pollinator garden in the Bend. The summer will bring another educational wildlife event at the *Highland Center for the Arts*, this time focused on wild felines like bobcat, lynx, and catamounts. The invasive plant project will continue with additional educational opportunities for community members and landowners, and expanded management operations on sites across town. The wildlife crossing program will continue to collect data and expand throughout the year. Additionally, the GCC will be exploring ways to improve our public engagement and produce a more robust and active volunteer force for future and ongoing conservation projects.

Town Meeting 2025 appropriated \$3,000.00 for the Greensboro Conservation Fund. So that the GCC can continue providing the same quality of care in our work, we ask the town to please approve the same level of funding (\$3,000.00) for FY 2026.