

The Richmond Conservation Commission is hosting a **panel discussion** on the theme of balancing conservation and trail-based recreation. We invite you to participate!

The Richmond community values our ability to visit local woods and waters (on foot, bike, stroller, or snowmobile) and connect with the natural world. At the same time, we care deeply about the plants and animals who also call this place home. Conserving wild places, while still allowing for public access, requires balancing both complimentary and competing goals and interests. Our panel discussion will address these themes and more.

Below are the details:

**When: March 15th from 6:00-8:00**

**Where: Richmond Free Library**

Panelists: Meredith Naughton - researcher focused on recreation impacts on wildlife

Andrea Shortsleeve - Private Lands Habitat Biologist, VT Fish and Wildlife

Claire Polfus - Recreation Program Manager, VT Forests, Parks and Recreation

Hannah Epstein - Stewardship Coordinator at the Northeast Wilderness Trust

Panel discussion is moderated by Jim Shallow - Director of Strategic Conservation Initiatives at The Nature Conservancy and Richmond resident

Have questions for our panelists? Great! We are collecting questions before the event that will help frame our discussion. Please add all your questions by copying and pasting the link below and adding your questions to the document.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1mqlxLtSY-L htUysq5Gn6QGS66caQEgA4krINf-zr2s/edit?usp=sharing>

**We will accept questions until March 7th at 5pm.** Please note that there will be about 30 minutes for questions after the panelists have spoken.

We look forward to seeing you on March 15th!

And if you want to Zoom in, here are those details:

Topic: Conservation Commission Public Panel

Time: Mar 15, 2023 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Location: Richmond Free Library, Bridge St, Richmond VT and online

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82693025762?pwd=WkJUNXlmMm94WWlybGlIVU8zMkpmQT09>

**Meeting ID: 826 9302 5762**

**Passcode: 160474**

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kGfQ7a8ap>

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