



CAPE ANN VERNAL POND TEAM

Dear Vernal Ponders,

WOW! This is our **33rd** year. 2023 has been *gangbusters!* Once a year we send this **Annual Appeal** asking for your financial support. Every donation counts and we're hoping you can help. Your donations allow us to fulfill our mission and protect our little PEACE of the world.

Those of us who live here on Cape Ann are fortunate to be surrounded by beautiful areas like Dogtown Common, Ravenswood Park, Halibut Point and many other natural places. As we develop a greater appreciation for these unique and beautiful ecosystems, we also discover why there's all the more reason to protect vernal ponds. Habitat and biodiversity are essential for the health of our planet.

You can be a big part of our future through this fundraising Campaign. **Annual Appeal** funds are used to keep us running in just about every imaginable way; from animal care, replacing worn out presentation and exhibit materials, bookkeeping, taxes, liability insurance, technology, website, vehicle operation, equipment, and so much more. We are grateful that you are on this mission with us to provide education and conservation to our community.

Our goal in the coming year is to extend our reach and get more vernal pond education into schools and community programs. To help with that, artist Kristine Hoffman (assisted by our Team) just completed our very own Massachusetts' version of "My First Field Guide to Vernal Ponds" coloring book for elementary age school kids. Your generous gift funds exciting projects like this.

As a part of this year's **Annual Appeal**, we have a big Ask... and that is if one or two of our wonderful supporters are willing to offer up a grand total of \$25,000 for our **Matching Donation Campaign** to promote and sustain the Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team. This Matching component of our **Annual Appeal** includes received or postmarked donations ending December 31st. Plus you'll secure recognition on our website Home page!

Please consider sponsoring a Match for the Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team **Matching Donation Campaign**... providing **DOUBLE the Impact!** Contact us at cavpt@yahoo.com if you're interested.

*Your donation to our **Annual Appeal** allows us to continue providing all the outstanding activities that are listed here*



Illustration by Alex Eisenzopf

Presentations and Exhibits

Your donation allows us to continue providing all the outstanding activities that are listed here, and so much more! This year we were feeling the early season energy and had an incredible year, with 55 programs. We're very excited about next year since we have several activities on our schedule already. We provide a lot of unpaid programs... in fact the bulk of them are unpaid events like Block Parties, School Fairs, Field Trips, Festivals, Rescues, Expo's and Certification Surveys. And, we're able to accomplish all of this because of our dedicated Team of volunteers, members, donors, grantors, organizations, and our greater community of participants.

Field Trips

This Spring we led 13 Nighttime Vernal Pond Field Trips. These trips require hours of scouting to look for receding ice, the first spermatophores and eggs of the season, listening for frog calls, and keeping a watchful eye on the weather reports to try and ensure a field trip with good action. Field trips are a way for our local membership to experience the incredible beauty and nature that thrives in vernal ponds.

Habitat Preservation

Throughout these 33 years we've certified over 320 vernal ponds and worked to protect wildlife habitat. The vernal pond certification reporting process entails collecting data in the field. It includes photographs of the pond full of water in the spring, evidence of obligate species - usually wood frog or spotted salamander egg masses, and a description of the pool in terms of length, width, depth and location - GPS coordinates. Field work and documentation is completed by our Team.

Newsletter

We hope you check out our Newsletter online. We want to keep you in the loop, but we don't have everyone's email address so... please send us yours at cavpt@yahoo.com if you want to read our awesome virtual Newsletter and receive activity notifications. By the way, the Newsletter is posted on our website at capeannvernalpondteam.org.

Critter Care

We did a whole slew of shows this year with our animals... and of course they require food, vet care and housing. Since you can't buy them pre-made, Rick spent a few weeks again this year building new large and medium sized custom cages with removable trays for ease of access and cleaning. The cages have thermostatically controlled gradient heat providing warm and cool places for the animals... *luxurious lodging*.

Operating Expenses

Utilities, liability insurance, technology, bookkeeping, accounting, vehicle expenses, mailings, office supplies... it's all necessary.

Website

Our website gets better and better. If you haven't been able to see us live at events this year, or even if you have, take a walk down memory lane by visiting our website and check out the photos from our past events at capeannvernalpondteam.org.

Vision to build Nature Cape Ann

The plans are on hold until we find a sponsor.

Please consider a donation to the Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team's Annual Appeal

We're very excited about 2024... and need your financial support! It was awesome to connect with everyone this year at our presentations and exhibits. Your participation and generosity is what has made our programs so successful and far-reaching.

Please contribute to our **Annual Appeal** through our secure website capeannvernalpondteam.org or by sending us a check. If using the website, please log in and help us keep our database current by adding your email and mailing address so we can keep you posted on the Team's activities. For assistance contact us directly at cavpt@yahoo.com.

CAVPT is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. EIN 20-2678120

Check to see if your employer has a matching donor program. Your donation is tax deductible.

Your gift means so much to us and the critters.

Thank you,
Rick and the Entire Team



Rick Roth, Executive Director
Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team



This is quick
Use a click
To send your donation
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capeannvernalpondteam.org

You can use our secure website to make your donation Online. It's quick and easy!

ANY AMOUNT IS APPRECIATED!

Please make checks payable to

Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team
366 Main St. #2
Gloucester, MA 01930

To make a donation with your
Credit Card please go to our website
...It's Secure

Thank you for supporting Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team
www.capeannvernalpondteam.org ~ Contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by law