



# VHT Pathfinder

**30+ YEARS AND GROWING**

Victor Hiking Trails  
Spring 2023

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2023 Hike Schedule	2
Past Hikes	3
Educational Hikes	4
Upcoming Special Events	5
Victor Farmington Library	6
Volunteers for Special Projects	7
Interesting Info	8
Past Hikes continued	9
Emerald Ash Borer	10
Membership Form	12

## National Trails Day® in Victor

Put Saturday, June 3rd on your calendar. VHT will be hosting an all day event to celebrate trails in Victor. Here are our tentative plans:

8:30 AM– Come join us for a FREE continental breakfast at the Victor Parks and Recreation facility, 7891 Lehigh Crossing Road, Victor, NY

9:00 AM– Welcome and introductions.

9:15 AM– Start first hikes; one slow and short; one long and fast

9:15 AM– Start first guided bike ride

10:30 AM– Return to headquarters for FREE snacks and drinks

10:45 AM– Start second hikes; one short and slow; one long and fast

10:45 AM– Start second guided bike ride

Noon– Return to headquarters for FREE pizza and drinks

1:00 PM– Start last hike that will be longer and just as fast

1:00 PM– Start last guided bike ride

3:00 PM– All return to headquarters

Everyone who participates in any three events will be awarded a one-year membership to VHT.



**VHT 2023 Officers:**

Dave Wright– Chairman  
 Jeff Hennick– Vice Chairman  
 Lisa Roberts– Secretary  
 Ruth Rugaber– Treasurer  
 Scott Reinhart– Trailmaster  
 Chauncy Young– Trail Boss  
 Larry Fisher– Membership  
 Jeff Miller – Education  
 Paul Knerr— Volunteer  
 Coordinator  
**Open — Social Media  
 Coordinator**  
 Jeff Hennick— Webmaster  
 Larry Fisher—Parks Liaison

**VHT Pathfinder**

Volume 28, Issue 1  
 Spring 2023  
*The Victor Hiking Trails  
 Pathfinder* is published  
 quarterly for the members  
 of Victor Hiking Trails, Inc.  
 We encourage  
 submissions of letters,  
 editorial items and  
 advertising pertaining to  
 trails, Victor and the  
 environment.  
 Ask about our rates.  
 To submit articles for the  
*VHT Pathfinder*, please  
 contact:

Dave Wright, Editor  
 Victor Hiking Trails, Inc.  
 85 East Main Street  
 Victor, NY 14564

Chair@VictorHikingTrails.org

www.victorhikingtrails.org

Also on Facebook,  
 Instagram  
 and Meetup  
 © 2023

Victor Hiking Trails, Inc.

**VHT MONTHLY HIKES****2023 Hikes**

**Mar 26—Antique Wireless Association Museum, Rt 5&20**  
 Apr 8– Mertensia Park and Auburn Trail  
**Apr 30—Lazy Acre Alpacas, West Bloomfield**  
 May 13– Gateway Trail, Manchester  
**May 21—MaryFrances Bluebird Haven**  
 Jun 3– National Trails Day, 8:30 AM at VP&R  
 Jun 10– ADK Outdoor Expo, 10 AM at Mendon Ponds Park  
**Jun 25– CEK Mees Observatory, 8-10 PM**  
 Jul 8– Ontario Pathways Bike Ride  
**Jul 30– Geology, East Bethany, NY**  
 Aug 12– Blueberry JAMBoree, Walworth, NY  
**Aug 27– Cemeteries of Canandaigua**  
 Sept 2– Ring of Fire, Middlesex, NY. 5:30 PM at Town Hall  
 Sept 9– Village hike  
**Sept 30– The Bird House, Monroe Ave**

**Green are Educational walks and meet at 2:00 PM**

Note: Please check the message line at 585-234-8226 for details and last minute updates. Also, if you join <https://www.meetup.com/Victor-Hiking-Trails-Meetup>, you will get notifications of hikes and other events, reminders if you are signed up for a hike, and last minute changes.

All hikes meet at Victor Town Hall rear parking lot, 85 East Main Street, at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. Most hikes are relatively easy and take 2-3 hours. Always bring a snack and something to drink. Dress for the weather. We rarely cancel due to inclement weather.

As noted in our schedule there are several educational hikes planned for 2023. These are usually on a Sunday afternoon, starting at 2:00 PM.

We usually carpool from Victor Town Hall to the trailhead. Expect to share the cost of gas with the driver. If you have any questions regarding any of the hikes, or if you have suggestions for places to hike, please leave a message at the VHT Message Line, 585-234-8226.

Again this year we have scheduled several hikes in Victor or the surrounding communities. We are also leading shorter and easier hikes to encourage families and younger hikers to join us. Based on the success of past years we will again be adding an educational element to some of the hikes.

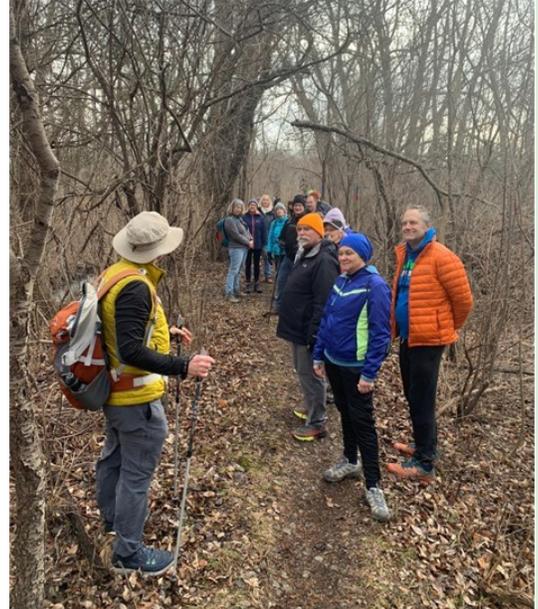
Additional hikes with the Victor PTSA and the Victor Farmington Library will be scheduled throughout the year.

We only hike as fast as the slowest hikers, so don't worry about not keeping up. If we need to split into more than one group, that is not a problem. **Come enjoy the fun.**

**NOTE:** There are several hiking Meetup groups in our area that schedule hikes in Victor. If you like to hike, join those Meetup groups as well.

## Past Hikes

**Jan 1– First Day of the Year Hike–** 17 enthusiasts attended the 2023 First Day hike. They covered 6.6 miles on the Auburn and Trolley Trails. A few then went to the Thirsty Turtle for refreshments.



**Jan 14– Mendon Ponds Park–** Thirteen hikers started at the Hundred Acre Pond parking lot and hiked 4.3 miles on the West Esker, around Devil's Bathtub and back to the start. There were a few challenging areas, but everyone succeeded.



*(Continued on page 9)*

## Educational Hikes

**Jan 29— Northeast Iron & Tin—** Our host, Mike Houser, is an accomplished blacksmith and tinsmith. With an education in the arts and experience working with renowned artist Albert Paley, Mike showed us his eclectic workshop



and extensive collection of old tools. Mike entertained the group with stories of his commissioned works and studies at the John C. Cambell School in the hills of Brasstown, NC.

**Feb 26—Muller Field Station—** 15 folks came to the Finger Lakes Community College Muller Field Station, which provides a field-based education for academic programs, laboratory experiences, community outreach, and the opportunity to participate in or observe local research projects. The group was led on the trail by two guides who are well versed in the flora and fauna of the area. The meeting room is adorned with many samples of the wildlife that are found in the area. After the tour a group went to the American Hotel in Lima for dinner.



## Upcoming Special Events

### Earth Day Trail Cleanup– Saturday, April 22nd at 9:00 AM

Meet at the parking lot by the TJ Max Store, Cobblestone Court Drive, across from Eastview Mall. Bags, throw away gloves and tools will be supplied. Groups of two or more will be assigned to go to locations that traditionally have litter and trash along the trails. The more volunteers we have, the more trails we can clean up.

Sign up on our VHT Meetup site or just show up.



### Family Arbor Day Tree Planting at Boughton Park– Sunday, April 23rd at 9:00 AM

This is a family event, but if the kids and grandkids can't make it, come anyway. More hands means more trees get planted. Celebrate Earth Day by planting 10 seedlings in the park. Meet at the Boughton Road parking lot. Bring work gloves and shovels if you have them. Dress for the weather. Park trails are often muddy in the spring. Register one family member on the VHT Meetup site. Limited to 10 families.



### Victor Village Tree Board Tree Planting– Saturday, April 29th at 10:30 AM

Meet at 15 Rawson Road to help plant 17 large bare root trees. Bring your work gloves and shovels if you have them. VanBortel Subaru is donating the trees and some of the employees will be there to help plant the trees. Boy Scouts from Troop 60 and Victor Village Tree Board members will also be helping. VHT would like to have 6 to 10 volunteers to also help. You can sign up on the VHT Meetup site.



## Victor Farmington Library Hikers

A group of walkers are showing up at the library every Wednesday morning at 9:00 AM to enjoy a slow walk either in the village or at one of several town parks. The distance varies from 2 to 4 miles and takes from 1 to 2 hours. Those that have time enjoy coffee and social discussions at a local café. The number of participants varies from a half dozen to a couple dozen. You can sign up on the Victor Hiking Trails Meetup page, the library website or just show up at the library at 9:00 AM. Give it a try if you are available.



## Volunteers Needed for Special Projects

A small group of volunteers met on March 3rd to discuss special projects that are needed in the town parks and on the trails. Some of the projects that they discussed are:

**Replace the tree identification signs in Fishers Park and the Domine Woods.** Over time the original signs have faded and become unsightly. New signs will be purchased and installed.

**Improve the Lehigh Crossing Park Pond area.** Some ideas are to place logs in the pond for the turtles to rest on and absorb the heat from the sun, plant native species around the pond and control the height of the pond with a dam in the downstream creek.

**Improve trail signs.** Some of the wooden signs have been fading. A router will be used to carve in the trail names and road crossing names for a more permanent solution.

**Create trail maps for the parks.** These would be posted on kiosks at Fishers Park, Lehigh Crossing Park, Monkey Run, MaryFrances Bluebird Haven and other multi-trail areas.

**Show all VHT trails on Google Maps and All Trails apps.** This will require some investigation on what is required to implement the process to be an interactive, living document.

**Install a Purple Martin bird house.** A house was donated to VHT and we have a pole. A good location needs to be determined and then the house can be installed.

**Remove invasive plants from Fishers Park.** Phragmite and Japanese knotweed have been identified as taking over the park. Working with the town parks department a process will be determined and implemented.

**Create a scenic viewing area.** One spot identified is on the Auburn Trail near Railroad Mills Road, overlooking the Irondequoit Creek and valley. A visit to the area to determine the best location and what is required will be the first step. Other locations along the trails, such as the Seneca Trail, may be identified.

If you have an interest in any of these projects, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Paul Kneer at [Volunteer@VictorHikingTrails.com](mailto:Volunteer@VictorHikingTrails.com). Tell him what project you would like to help with and when you are available, weekday, evenings or weekends.

Regular trail maintenance will be starting soon on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 PM and on Friday mornings from 8:00 to 10:00 AM. Watch the VHT Meetup page for locations. Emergency maintenance for trail clearing will also be posted as needed.



## Why were there railroad ties on the Auburn Trail?

That was the most asked question during the end of December, January and the beginning of February. If you were on the Auburn Trail over in Fishers between Fishers Road and Railroad Mills Road during that time you would have seen that the trail was closed.

RG&E, the actual owner of that section of the trail, notified VHT and the town that they needed to replace some utility poles along the trail. They needed to bring in their big equipment to accomplish the task, so they wanted to protect the treadway, hence the railroad ties.

What was originally thought to be a 4-week job turned into a 2-month job. But now the trail is back to its old self again, open for walking, jogging, biking and dog walking. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

## Have you seen the new bridge decking?

If you have been over to Fishers Park at the Main Street Fishers Road entrance lately, you might have noticed that the trail was temporarily closed. The Victor parks department determined that it was time to replace the wooden deck that sits on the bridge. This unique bridge was designed to float up and swing to the side during a 100-year flood that would cause Irondequoit Creek to flood and go over its banks. To keep the bridge from washing away and to not have to build the bridge higher, a pontoon design bridge was built. Check it out the next time you visit the park.

## YouTube Videos

The Victor Hiking Trails YouTube video library continues to grow. There are currently 42 videos covering all of the Victor trails and parks, some nearby trails and parks, how-to care for and use of trail maintenance equipment, recent trail improvements and hiking equipment. If you have suggestions for additional videos or ideas on how to improve the videos, send them to [Chair@VictorHikingTrails.com](mailto:Chair@VictorHikingTrails.com). Please subscribe to the channel and post your comments on the videos. You can easily find our videos on the home page of our website, Look for the icon



## Facebook and Instagram

VHT is also active on the top social media platforms to communicate everything about Victor Trails. They are also easy to find when you are on the VHT website. Look to the far left of the screen for these icons.



*Continued from page 3*

**Past Hikes continued**

**Feb 11– Harriet Hollister Spencer State Recreation Area**

This was not the winter for snow, but you can always count on Harriet Hollister Park to have some snow. That was the case this year as well. Seven hikers did a 4-mile loop hike on the packed snow with overcast clouds and cold temps.



**Mar 11– Fishers Park and Domine Trails**

Seven brave souls came out on a wintery March morning to hike in the fresh snow. They covered 5.5 miles in 2.5 hours.



### Emerald Ash Borer

This insect is still killing all of the ash trees in our area. The result is many trees are going to be falling as witnessed during our recent ice and snow storms. This will keep VHT and the Victor Parks department very busy. But we need your help to notify us when you see a tree down on or near a trail. The best way to notify us is by sending an email to TrailBoss@VictorHikingTrails.com. Tell us what trail it is on and where it is located. Latitude and longitude location is best, but nearest



road crossing is good also. A picture of the tree will help us determine what equipment will be needed.

**Mary Beth Inchalik**

Private Tutor

(Flexible services are available for pandemic circumstances.)

**Cell (661) 210-7850**

New York State Certified Teacher - 25+ years experience

Multi-Content Areas Ages 3 - Adult

**marybethinch@yahoo.com**

REFERENCES AND RESUME PROVIDED UPON REQUEST

*Boutique-Style Assisted Living  
in a Home-Like Environment*  
**VICTOR VIEWS**  
ASSISTED LIVING

1440 State Route 444, Victor, NY • 315-576-5082



**CANANDAIGUA  
SAILBOARD**

11 Lakeshore Drive  
Canandaigua, New York 14424  
shop@canandaiguasailboard.com

**WYSL** VOICE OF LIBERTY

**20,000 watt**  
**AM 1040 - FM 92.1 - FM 95.5 West**  
**Proud Supporter of Victor Hiking Trails**



**Chauncy Young, CFP®, LMT**  
Managing Member

**Sage Financial, LLC**



660 Old Dutch Road  
PO Box 426  
Fishers, NY 14453-0426

Phone: 585-742-1068  
Cell: 585-455-1932  
Email: cy.sagefinancial@gmail.com

Visit our sponsors and tell them you saw their advertisement in the VHT Pathfinder.

**Saxby Implement**  
 180 Mendon Victor Road  
 Mendon, New York 14506  
 585-624-2938

**Kubota. Cub Cadet.**  
[www.SaxbyImplement.com](http://www.SaxbyImplement.com)

**FERRIS**



**Canandaigua  
 National  
 Bank & Trust**

*The Most Trusted, Reliable Cleaning Service in Town!*



**(585)924-2060**  
[www.timewisecleaning.com](http://www.timewisecleaning.com)

*Pure NYS Maple Syrup & Wildflower Honey*

**KETTLE RIDGE**  
 - FARM -  
 LOCAL TREES. LOCAL BEES.

*515 Log Cabin Road, Fishers NY*  
*Call 585-683-7506 or visit [KettleRidgeFarm.com](http://KettleRidgeFarm.com)*

**The Key to RENTALS**  
 Property Management



**Paul M. Rowan**  
 Licensed Real Estate Broker

**585-283-7087**  
[Paul.Rowan@TheKeytoRentals.com](mailto:Paul.Rowan@TheKeytoRentals.com)  
 10 E. Main St., Suite 207, Victor, NY 14564  
[TheKeytoRentals.com](http://TheKeytoRentals.com)



**Massage & Energy Balancing**

**Chauncy C. Young, LMT**

660 Old Dutch Rd  
 PO Box 426  
 Fishers, NY 14453-0426

Phone: 585-742-1068  
 Cell: 585-455-1932  
 E-mail: [cyoung.lmt@gmail.com](mailto:cyoung.lmt@gmail.com)




**NEON WAVE**

237 High Street Ext. Suite 4  
 Victor, New York 14564  
[shop@thisisneonwave.com](mailto:shop@thisisneonwave.com)

**VICTOR PARKS AND RECREATION  
 RECREATION OFFICE  
 7891 LEHIGH CROSSING  
 VICTOR, NY 14564**



**TOWN OF VICTOR**  
 NEW YORK

PH: (585) 742-0140  
 Fx: (585) 742-0142  
[WWW.VICTORNY.ORG](http://WWW.VICTORNY.ORG)

Visit our sponsors and tell them you saw their

Victor Hiking Trails  
85 East Main Street  
Victor, NY 14564



**30+ YEARS AND GROWING**

All VHT newsletters are now available on our website.  
View it and download it in full color.

Annual membership is for 12 months, beginning when you first join. Please send your renewal check or donation promptly so we can continue to create new and improved shared-use trails.

*Making Connections in Victor*

Check out our website at  
[www.victorhikingtrails.org](http://www.victorhikingtrails.org)

Join us on Facebook!

And Meetup!

Post your photos on Instagram

See VHT videos on YouTube



VHT Map Link

*Yes, I want to join / renew* *membership in VHT!*

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** ( ) - - \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail** \_\_\_\_\_

Please note that we need your e-mail address to notify you when the latest edition of our newsletter is available on our website.

I can help with: Trail Acquisition \_\_\_\_\_ Trail Maintenance \_\_\_\_\_ Trail hikes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Newsletter \_\_\_\_\_ Fund Raising \_\_\_\_\_ Special Events \_\_\_\_\_ History / Education \_\_\_\_\_

Amount submitted \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ \$20 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 \_\_\_\_\_ other \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sustaining Monthly Donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Corporate membership at \$100 per year allows all employees to be members.

Victor Hiking Trails, Inc. is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization.

Make check payable to: VICTOR HIKING TRAILS, INC.  
 And mail to: 85 EAST MAIN STREET  
 VICTOR, NY 14564