

Update 2/22/25

Thank You
for Being on Our Team!!!

Import and Urgent Message to our Friends and Supporters...

Good afternoon Everyone,

We promised to update you on any progress with our financial appeal. We have some pretty spectacular news to share regarding a private donor who committed $10,000 towards funding our upcoming year. We are overjoyed!!!

This gets us 1/3 of the way there, but we still require $20,000 by the end of February. We're hoping this reduced amount is easier to manage for any remaining potential donors.

Thank you all for your kind words of support and love!

Please contact us at cavpt@yahoo.com if you can help.

Sincerely,
Rick, Colleen, Nick and Victoria
Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team Board

Email newsletter 2/20/25

As we look forward to the 2025 season, our popularity and reach continues to be at all time highs. This is one of the key factors that has helped drive our passion and relentless pursuit of the meaningful work we do — conservation and education. We just love interacting with the public, raising awareness about vernal pool ecology, and being a vital community resource for all things reptilian.

Your generosity and support over the years has been terrific, and is further exemplified by incredible volunteers who continue to show dedication and work hard at the Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team. Our grassroots funding has been exceptional and we can't thank our supportive community enough for always 'showing up' on that front. But our problem continues to be larger donations. Most grants don't cover personnel wages for those who run the operation. This year we haven't had much luck in the way of substantial donations, without which we can't run our operation.

We pay two individuals, and that pay is irregular. Rick runs the outward facing operation and Victoria runs everything behind the scenes. You get to see most of the outward operation and can imagine how much work it is for Rick to make these events come to life. As for Victoria, she manages everything else… the website, donor appeals including thank you's and gifts, banking, insurance, taxes, vendors invoicing and receivables, program bookings, venue reservations, grant writing, and all other various and sundry administrative duties. They both work much more than full time, while receiving very little pay. We did not raise some of the larger donations like we generally do at years end. Therefore, we can no longer continue without a substantial donation or two. Our Annual Appeal did not yield enough funding for us to continue, and this has forced us to make some difficult decisions.

Rick began building this nonprofit 35 years ago, and because of his dedication to the environment and education, it has turned into the wonderful organization it is today. For more than 30 years Rick worked as a Volunteer and wasn't paid by our nonprofit. In fact, he funded much of the Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team with his own money while

making his living as a carpenter. His dogged determination and willingness to give his time and energy freely has deeply touched so many of us and our children in unquantifiable ways. He has also left a legacy of protections across the North Shore, and Cape Ann especially, which have supported the diverse flora and fauna that we all enjoy. Rick's done so much for our little corner of the world — for all of us.

We have considered numerous options as far as requesting volunteers to help cover the basic tasks to continue our mission. But, the volume of work, training, expertise and time required is impossible to replace with volunteers. Therefore, we are making a final plea to raise $30,000 to finish the year out gracefully and we are hoping one or two of you can make that happen. Without which, we will be closing our nonprofit at the end of March. Again, we require a donation or two that equates to $30,000 in order for us to complete 2025. We would need to receive those donations, or a commitment to that funding, by February 28. We will issue an e-blast to update you all on the outcome of this, our final appeal.

Thank you all very much for your unwavering support and always showing up for us. We appreciate the love and overwhelming generosity you've shown for this organization over all these many years. You have helped save our little corner of the world for future generations!

Please contact us at cavpt@yahoo.com if you can help.

Sincerely,
Rick, Colleen, Nick and Victoria
Cape Ann Vernal Pond Team Board

Annual Appeal 2024

Donate

Venmo - @CapeAnnVernalPondTeam

We only have one earth, save it