VERMONT CONSERVATION PLAN | **REGIONAL LISTENING SESSIONS**
JULY 23-24 & 29-30, 2025

CONSERVATION PROJECT SUCCESS STORIES

Maidstone Bends/Tanguay Farm in Brunswick

This success story enhances wildlife connectivity, is home to threatened species, restores degraded riparian areas, and enhances water quality in a watershed. This VHCB & TNC conservation project also restores previous agricultural land to floodplain forest and wetland over a 20-year period, improving flood resiliency.

Identified by TNC as one of the **most important sites for floodplain conservation in the Upper Connecticut River** because it experiences a natural flood regime that slows flood flows and deposits silt and other pollutants on the land, maintaining water quality and reducing flooding downstream. Within the Maidstone Bends, the **194.8-acre** Tanguay Farm runs nearly two miles along the Connecticut River in Brunswick.

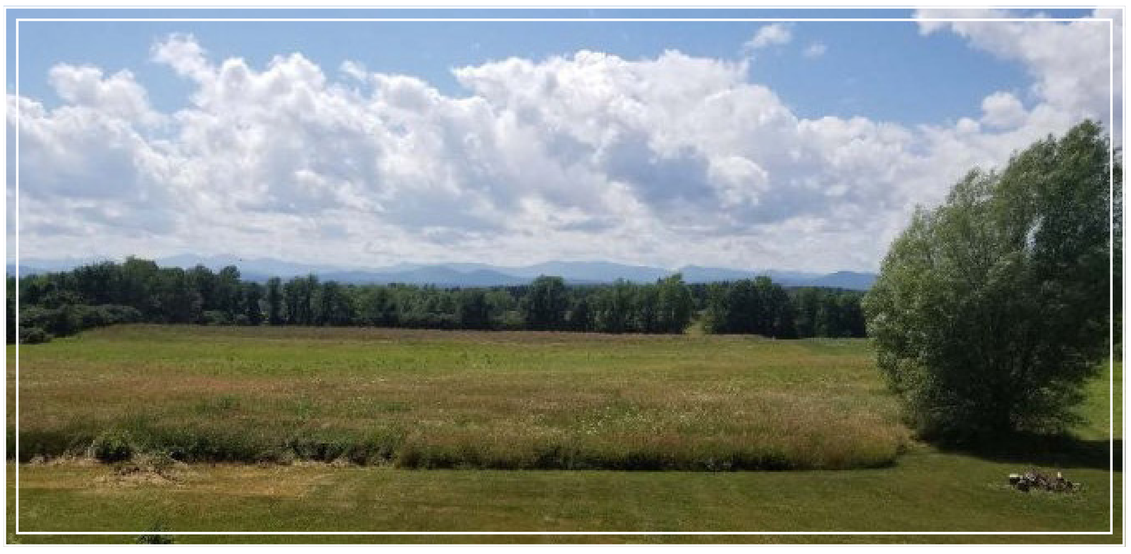
With the goal of **restoring the degraded riparian areas**, which will protect and enhance water quality in the Upper Connecticut River watershed, the Tanguays partnered with TNC to retire a large portion of the farm.

The property is a **critical area for wildlife connectivity** between Vermont and New Hampshire and is **home to three threatened species**: Great St. John's wort, an S2 state-threatened species found on the banks of the river; Wright's Spikerush (Eleocharis diandra) on the sandy shoreline along the river; and the dwarf wedge mussel, a federally endangered freshwater mussel.

A **20-acre upland hay field will remain in agriculture**, with the bulk of the acreage now conserved and will be restored to floodplain forest and wetlands over a 20-year period using a natural reseeding restoration technique. The restoration of the property's floodplain forest aligns with the Vermont Climate Action Plan and joins an existing block of over 2,500 acres of conserved forestland and farmland along the Connecticut River between Maidstone and Lancaster. As a result, this stretch of the river will see enhanced water quality, habitat connectivity, and flood resiliency.

Clemmons Family Farm

This is a great success story of a **multi-generational black family** that has worked on a farm and preserved their farm and historical buildings on their property for the community. This story also highlights how Black farmers are underrepresented in Vermont. This project was supported by Vermont Land Trust and TPL. The property has been preserved as a Black arts and cultural center for the Vermont community and country.



6
Historical Buildings on the Property

128
Acres of Farmlands, Forestrs, and Ponds

1 of 17
African-American Owned Farms in Vermont

1 of 22
Official Landmarks on Vermont's African American Heritage Trail

1962
Purchase Date