



Public Presentations

The Landscape Change program frequently speaks at public venues. These talks typically discuss the history, the functionality and the ways in which the public can get involved with the program. Forums at which the Landscape Change Program has presented include but are not limited to; local middle school classrooms, UVM's "Mastering the MAZE", Weybridge Farmer's Club and the Vermont History Expo. Each of these venues has a slightly different agenda and details of the talks will be outlined below.

Local Classrooms: When talking about the Landscape Change program to a group of students in a classroom setting it is useful to keep the presentation about the program short. Then spend a fair amount of time doing hands-on website exploration with each student exploring the site for themselves. Limited direction here will keep the students on task while still allowing them to explore their interests on the site. Typically a teacher asks that the Landscape Change Programs come to their classroom to excite their students about the program and give them some background that will prepare the students for the assignment that the teacher is going to assign in the future.

Mastering the MAZE: Mastering the Maze is an annual event that is focused around practical training to help UVM staff sharpen their thinking and learn new skills. The Landscape Change Program's presentation for this event focused on the history of the program, the functions of the site and how to get involved. We encouraged the presentation participants to look to their family's photo albums and add photographs to the site.

Weybridge Farmer's Club: The Weybridge Farmer's Club has a monthly potluck dinner in which members assemble to socialize and discuss club events. Typically the club invites a speaker to provide entertainment during the dinner portion of the evening. The Landscape Change Program spoke to the club on the history of the program and asked for input on images within the archive from Weybridge. We were using Weybridge as a test case to see how best to get participation in the program from a town or a select group of people.

Vermont History Expo: At the Vermont History Expo, a collection of



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150+ local historical societies, museums, and heritage organizations meet annually to create a fresh picture of Vermont history with exhibits, music, family activities, music, food, presentations, performances, and more. The Landscape Change Program had a booth in which we set up 6 laptop computers and wirelessly connected them to a portable server which hosted the entire Landscape Change Program website. By using a Mac mini as a server, the laptops were able to access the entire site, wirelessly without Internet access. Expo goers were encouraged to explore the Landscape Change Program website. Interns and LCP staff was on hand to aid in website use and help to direct people to various parts of the website.