

## Emily Anderson Member Spotlight



Emily Anderson (she/her) is serving with [Vermont Center for Ecostudies](#) as their Citizen Science Outreach Naturalist. Emily graduated from University of Maine in 2016 with a B.S. in Ecology and Environmental Sciences. While there, her primary focus was in ecological research on a variety of topics including paleoecology, dendrochronology, forest ecology and bat biology. Prior to ECO, she pursued opportunities in sustainability and shark research as well as held positions with the Department of Energy and Smithsonian Environmental Research Center. Returning to Vermont in 2018, she worked with the Vermont Institute of Natural Science as well as completed her master's degree in Environmental Law & Policy at Vermont Law School. Emily has now found herself serving with ECO and serving her community in totally new ways. Her daily service often involves writing blog posts, articles and outreach materials for platforms such as [Field Notes](#) or the [VCE blog](#) as well as for communication with volunteers and for programming purposes. Emily is also busy helping VCE's newest project, the [Vermont Lady Beetle Atlas](#), up and off the ground. She created the project's website and is drafting a protocol for volunteers to follow when surveying, and is helping to plan the [Backyard Lady Beetle Blitz](#) (5/15-5/18). One of the biggest ways Emily has adapted her service was by the addition of iNaturalist webinars she now leads to engage teachers, parents, and community members looking for ways to get involved and get outdoors.

"I serve because I think supporting our local communities and their connection to the land around them is essential for creating environment-conscious changes and fostering human health and happiness. In a time when individual voices often feel unheard, service feels like the loudest way to speak out."