

Kathleen Lewis Member Spotlight



Kathleen (Kat) Lewis (she/her) graduated from University of Vermont in May 2019 with a degree in environmental science. She serves as an environmental technician with the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Watershed Management Division in the Monitoring, Assessment, and Planning Program (MAPP). Kat helps manage the LaRosa Partnership Program, a volunteer water quality monitoring partnership with organizations around the state. MAPP assists in providing funding to organizations that contribute to the continuous monitoring of Vermont waters. Once a week, Kat (and occasionally fellow ECOs) heads to the Vermont Agriculture and Environmental Lab (VAEL) to help pick benthic macroinvertebrates collected from the Biological Assessment Sampling Section (BASS) Ambient Biomonitoring Network (ABN) field season. The ABN monitors long-term trends in water quality that are illustrated in ambient aquatic fish and macroinvertebrate communities in streams around the state. Kat is also excited to start the spring runoff monitoring that the DEC conducts for acid sensitive lakes around Vermont. Her and her team will ski in to remote sites to take water samples at the outlets of many of these lakes. Kat serves to give back to the community that has aided in her ever-growing love for the environment, and to inspire others to feel the same way. When Kat is not serving with the DEC, she is a part-time ski instructor at Stowe for kids and enjoys the beauty of Vermont winters. Although she loves to be on the slopes, she also loves staying warm inside and cooking lots of comfort food.