



# Vermont State Parks

## 2023 VENTURE VERMONT OUTDOOR CHALLENGE



Adventurer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Join the Challenge

Check the box next to an activity you have completed. Write answers in blanks as requested.

Make sure you (or someone else) take a photo of you completing each task.

When you reach **250 points**, you win a VIP medal that gives you free day entry into Vermont State Parks for the rest of the 2023 season and the entire 2024 season!

*\*All activities and photos must be taken between April 15, 2023 & October 15, 2023\**

#### Three Main Rules

1. *One submission per person. This means a completed scorecard and photos of the person completing all tasks.*
2. *No double dipping. Each activity requires a unique photo.*
3. **HAVE A BLAST!**

Entries must be received by October 15, 2023

#### HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ENTRIES

1. Upload your scorecard & clearly named photos to an online album (our preference is Google Drive) and send us the link via email at:

[parks@vermont.gov](mailto:parks@vermont.gov)

*\*For more details head to the 'How To Submit Your Entries' page after the last page of the scorecard!*

-OR-

2. Mail your completed scorecard and labelled photos (high resolution, digital on USB drive preferred - CD/DVDs not accepted), and other supporting materials to:

**Venture Vermont Outdoor Challenge  
Vermont State Parks  
1 National Life Drive, Davis 2  
Montpelier, VT 05620-3801**

### Get Moving



Please complete at least three of these tasks

- \_\_\_ 1. Climb a glacial erratic in a State Park (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 2. Go tubing down a river (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 3. Hike from one State Park to another (10 pts)  
Which ones? \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 4. Go on a walk with your dog (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 5. Participate in a local walk or 5K (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 6. Jump rope (5 pts)  
\_\_\_ BONUS: Learn a jump roping trick (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 7. Go on an owl prowl. What owls did you see or hear?  
If no owls, what else did you discover? (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 8. Hike to a summit of a hill or mountain (5 pts)  
Which one? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 9. Climb a fire tower (5 pts)  
Which one? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 10. Take a human powered boat out on a lake or pond. (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 11. Hike to a waterfall (5 pts)  
Which one? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 12. Design and make an obstacle course- include jumping, crawling & rolling obstacles (5 pts)

**Total Points:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Investigate



Please complete at least two of these tasks

- \_\_\_ 13. Grab a flashlight and follow the call of a spring peeper or toad. Take a picture! (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 14. Sign up for iNaturalist and use it to identify 3 species you didn't know (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 15. Find and photograph these 3 leaf types: toothed, lobed and compound (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 16. Locate an active beaver dam. Sit and watch. Journal the beaver's actions (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 17. Find & identify 3 species of dragonfly (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 18. Find a spider web outside and look closely. There are several types of webs, what type is this one? (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 19. Go outside after a rainstorm and see what animals appear? Attach a list. (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 20. Identify these 3 types of rocks: igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 21. Make a fact sheet of your favorite mammal. Include an illustration and at least 5 facts! (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 22. Identify & photograph 3 different species of waterfowl (5 pts)

**Total Points:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Make a Difference



Please complete at least two of these tasks

- \_\_\_ 23. Clean up trash from one of your favorite places. Take a before and after picture. (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 24. Hang your laundry outdoors instead of using a dryer (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 25. Visit a local farm & take a selfie with the farmer and an animal (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 26. Build a system that continuously collects rainwater to water your garden (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 27. Donate to your local food bank (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 28. Make a waste free lunch (5 pts)  
\_\_\_ BONUS: Replace a disposable item in your home with a reusable item (paper towels, straws) (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 29. Do at least 2 hours of volunteering (10 pts)  
Where? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 30. Support a local music artist by attending an outdoor concert! (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 31. Build a "bee bath" for your garden (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 32. Make signs and post them at turtle crossings to let people know to slow down (10 pts)

**Total Points:** \_\_\_\_\_



## Outdoor Skills



Please complete at least three of these tasks

- \_\_\_ 33. Learn 3 new canoe strokes (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 34. Go on an overnight backpacking trip with everything you need in the backpack (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 35. Build a fire using only one match (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 36. Make a "Bear Aware" poster with an illustration & five facts (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 37. Learn a new natural technique for warding off bugs that uses no insect repellent (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 38. Put together an outdoor first aid kit (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 39. Learn how to read a map. What do all the lines mean? (10 pts)  
\_\_\_ BONUS: Use the map to navigate to a destination (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 40. Learn to tie 3 new knots such as a bowline, fisherman's knot, etc (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 41. Create a poster showing 5 tips in case you get lost in the woods (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 42. Find & identify the tracks of 3 different animals (5 pts)

**Total Points:** \_\_\_\_\_

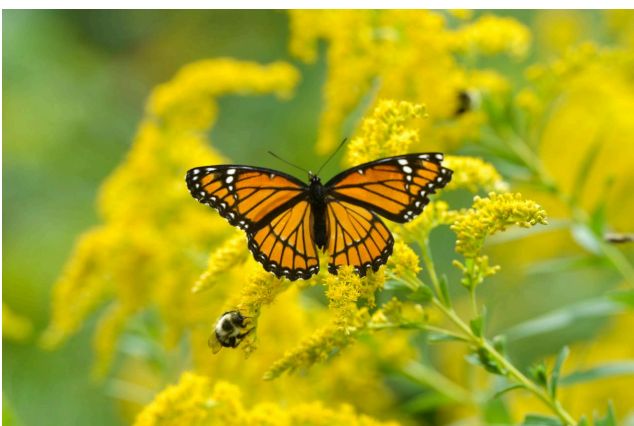
## Create



Please complete at least two of these tasks

- \_\_\_ 43. Try making wind chimes using natural materials  
What sounds do they make? (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 44. Make up a riddle inspired by nature (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 45. Find and decorate your own hiking stick (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 46. Make a campfire meal using local veggies! (5 pts)  
\_\_\_ BONUS: Include a veggie that you have never tried before! (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 47. Create a terrarium (5 pts)  
\_\_\_ BONUS: Identify & include 3 different moss species (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 48. Make your own homemade fire starters (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 49. Create a musical instrument using only natural materials and play it! (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 50. Write a Haiku or nature poetry based on things you experience in the park (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 51. Learn how to mimic an animal call, without the use of a device (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 52. Make a weaving using natural materials like yarn, paper, twigs, vines, or grasses (5 pts)  
\_\_\_ BONUS: Make an entire woven basket (5 pts)

**Total Points:** \_\_\_\_\_



## Just for Fun



### Please complete at least three of these tasks

- \_\_\_ 53. Turn wildflowers into jewelry (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 54. Take a picture of one of Vermont's biggest trees (10 pts)  
<https://fpr.vermont.gov/forest/vermonts-forests/vermont-big-trees>
- \_\_\_ 55. Write a thank you note to a park staff member! (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 56. Find out when a meteor shower will occur and watch it in a dark place (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 57. Juggle 3 pinecones at once (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 58. Enjoy a sunset from your campsite and send us a picture! (5pts)
- \_\_\_ 59. Read a book outside (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 60. Grow a flower garden specifically for pollinators & butterflies (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 61. Sit in a quiet area and observe nature. Write or draw your observations (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 62. Take a picture using or wearing your favorite State Park merchandise (5 pts)

**Total Points:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Explore Our Parks



### Please complete at least three of these activities.

- \_\_\_ 63. Visit a State Park you've never been to (10 pts)  
Park: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 64. Explore one of Vermont's Undeveloped parks! (Remember to tread lightly & leave no trace!) (10 pts)  
Park: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 65. Introduce yourself to a Park Volunteer! (5 pts)  
Who/Where: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 66. Build a sand sculpture of your favorite animal at one of the State Park beaches! (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 67. Bring a friend to camp at one of the parks who has never camped before! (5 pts)
- \_\_\_ 68. Visit 3 State Parks in the same day (5 pts)  
A \_\_\_\_\_  
B \_\_\_\_\_  
C \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 69. Attend a state park interpretive program (10 pts)
- \_\_\_ 70. Become a Junior Ranger (5 pts)

**Total Points:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Bonus Activities



Visit the Vermont State Parks Facebook page for special bonus activities.

Bonus Activity	# of Points
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

- \_\_\_ Submit your labelled, high-resolution photos (at least 3000 X 2400-pixel count) via digital an online album or folder (15 pts)
- \_\_\_ Upload and tag yourself in a photo on the Vermont State Parks' Facebook page (10 pts)

### Where should we send your prize?

**Name:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing address:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Email address:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Phone number:**

\_\_\_\_\_

Send your completed scorecard, photos, and other supporting documents to:

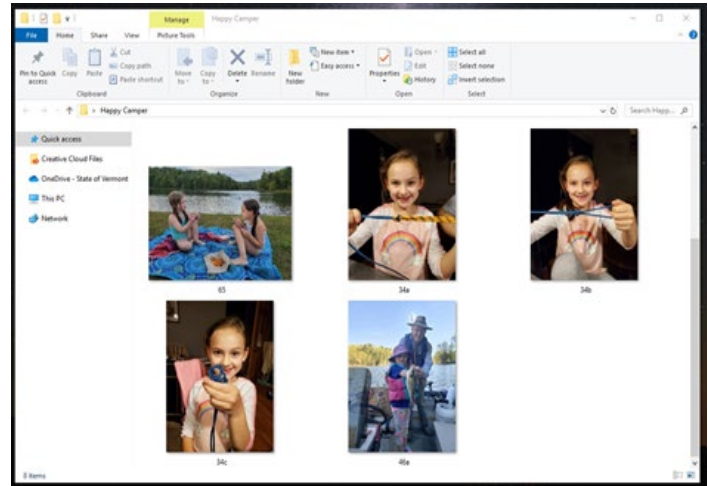
**Venture Vermont Outdoor Challenge  
Vermont State Parks  
1 National Life Drive, Davis 2  
Montpelier, VT 05620-3801**

## HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ENTRIES

Entries must be received by  
October 15, 2023

Complete the scorecard in one of two ways:

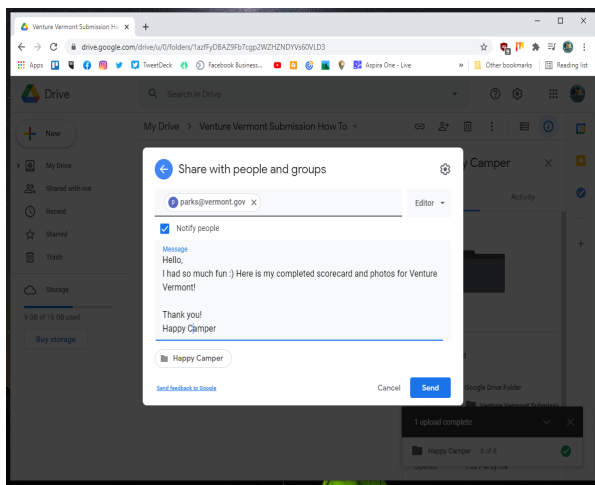
- **Digitally** filling out the scorecard. When you enter information, make sure to “Save” or “Print” with ‘Adobe PDF’ as the printer otherwise we will receive a blank version of the scorecard, OR....
- **Manually** filling out a printed copy then send it to us with materials electronically or via mail.



*In this example, the participant's name is 'Happy Camper'. The photo of 'Have a picnic in a VT state park' was renamed '65'. The photos of 'Learn to tie 3 new knots' were renamed '34a', '34b', and '34c'.*

Upload images to a folder with the participant's name.

'Rename' files with the number of the activity shown.



Once you have earned at least 250 points, double check there is an image submitted for each activity featuring the person on the scorecard. If we can't see the participant doing the challenge, no points are earned! If the activity calls for a list or drawing, attach that in place of a photo.

Upload the folder to your online file storage platform (Google Drive or Dropbox preferred).

Share a link to parks@vermont.gov and make sure permissions allow us to view and download your folder.

**OR** Mail your completed scorecard and labelled photos (high resolution, digital on USB drive preferred – CD/DVDs not accepted), and other supporting materials to:

**Venture Vermont Outdoor Challenge**  
**Vermont State Parks**  
**1 National Life Drive, Davis 2**  
**Montpelier, VT 05620-3801**

You're all done! Once we confirm your submission has reached the 250-point minimum, we will mail your Venture Vermont VIP Coin.



# Vermont State Parks

## 2023 VENTURE VERMONT OUTDOOR CHALLENGE



### Can we use your photos?

Thanks for participating in Venture Vermont! We would like to share your experience to inspire others. Please fill out this release form and return with your score card. If you do not wish to share your photos with others, you do not have to complete the form.

- (a) To use, re-use, publish and re-publish the same in whole or part, individually or in conjunction with other photographs, artwork, and poetry, or any medium and for any purpose whatsoever, including (but not by way of limitation) illustration, promotion, and advertising and trade, and
- (b) To use my name in conjunction therewith if the State of Vermont so chooses.

I hereby release and discharge the State of Vermont from any and all claims and demands arising out of or in connection with the use of the photographs, artwork, poetry and any other submission, including any and all claims for libel.

I am over the age of eighteen. I have read the foregoing and fully understand the contents thereof. (If you are under 18, see below for signature of parent or guardian).

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Witness Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

If under 18 years of age, please have parents read and sign below.

I am the parent or guardian of the minor named above and have the legal authority to execute the above release. I approve the terms of this release.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Witness Signature: \_\_\_\_\_