## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### Public Visioning Workshop and Open House for TOWN FOREST

##### TOWN, Vermont – Fill in date you send the press release out

The Town/City of FILL IN will be hosting a Public Visioning Workshop and Open House to collect public input on the future of the FILL IN Town Forest. FILL IN TOWN is working through a community planning process supported by the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program that addresses issues and opportunities in the use and stewardship of our town forest. The town invites the public to share thoughts and ideas as the process kicks off to help explore the range of recreational uses you’d like to see in our town forest and to develop an action-based town forest recreation plan that is in line with our community values. Hope to see you there!

##### What: Town Forest Public Visioning Workshop and Open House

##### Where: FILL IN

##### When: FILL IN

### About the Program:

The Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Program is a joint initiative of the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation (FPR) and UVM Extension (Extension). In 2017 the Urban & Community Forestry Program received a grant from the US Forest Service to engage ten pilot communities in a robust planning process to develop action-based town forest recreation plans. Urban & Community Forestry worked with FPR’s Recreation Program, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, Extension’s Tourism and Marketing, and over 40 organizations and stakeholders to help shape the process and deliverables. The multi-agency working group hired SE Group, a consultant specializing in community planning, to assist in this effort and the innovative and robust planning model included public visioning sessions, needs assessments, and a final plan document that provides actionable strategies to assist communities in taking the next steps. In 2018 comprehensive action-oriented town forest stewardship and recreation plans were developed for these ten pilot communities. Based on the outcomes of these diverse forests and communities, a town forest recreation planning toolkit was released to support sustainable, forest-based recreation in town forests statewide. It is this toolkit and process that the FILL IN TOWN is currently working through.

### About TOWN’s Forest:

TOWN BLURB

Contact: Town Contacts