#### Catamount Radio Issues List

**Catamount Radio (WDVT, WJEN, WJJR, WSYB, WZRT)** serves our city of license (Rutland/Killington) and beyond to the surrounding areas by gearing our programming to meet the areas of concern to our community members through our issues list.

Our radio stations' staff meets regularly to discuss these issues of importance and based upon recommendations from community leaders, and news topics, both local and regional. We arrive at our issues list and focus our *public service and public affairs* in that direction.

We integrate guests (usually local experts) into our regular programming. Our issues, although addressed in pre-recorded PSA's, are also presented in a more informal fashion with "live" in-studio interviews with representatives from the police department, schools, hospitals and various community leaders.

The stations also broadcast numerous free announcements from non-profit community organizations who request such time to promote their causes.

We also execute a number of "on-location" broadcasts if the event warrants such activity. Catamount Radio believes that *public service is more than lip service.* We know we can encourage more people by example, rather than just more talk.

**BUSINESS CLIMATE** 

ECONOMIC CLIMATE

RECREATION

# WJEN 2Q 2023

# Our Town Second Quarter 2023

#### Saturday 4-8-2023 - @ 6am Duration: 30 minutes

## Spot a Tick? And be careful...use the Vermont Department of Health (Tick Tracker)

Use the interactive Tick Tracker to share information about where and what kind of ticks you have found. Report on any ticks you come across — the more reports posted, the better the information for all! **Joining against the possibility of tick infestations.** Do your own personal research and verify... be careful and smart with social media.

#### **Foraging:**

Wild edibles are just beginning to emerge. You need to know what you are doing. Fiddleheads, Dandelion Greens, Cowslips and wild you name it. Some edibles have poisonous twins and they can make you sick. Learn about them from people who have experience, know how to prepare them. It can be quite a nice experience. **spoonuniversity.com** 

Set up for Trout-this is just me. MAXIMA camouflage (its dark) leader 4 or 6 pound test. Main line 6 pound test. I use a very small barrel swivel between the main line and the leader. Now at the business end I like a 1/16<sup>th</sup> or 1/32<sup>nd</sup> oz jig **tungsten** because lead is a no-no now days. Colors and shapes are up to you.

High water more weight? Not necessarily. You can fish where the current is fast and powerful a rod tip away but the current will sweep your offering downstream and perhaps hang it up. Learn how to read the stream or brook, it's fun. There are:

Seams, Slicks, Glides, Quiet Pools, Tail-outs, Plunge-pools, Undercut banks, Riffles and other spots that you need to consider.

The biggest trout that I ever caught and released in the Castelton River I caught about a foot from where my boot was on the bank. Gently lowered the bait which was an emerald shiner at the time right in front of me, just like I was ice-fishing. I had a 6-foot spinning outfit. The fish came out from under the bank and we were off to the races.

Keep a dairy and you will be surprised what you might forget and learn about a successful technique.

#### **Bullhead Fishing**

These fish are much more picky and sophisticated than you might think. The next time you catch one hold it in your hand and look it over. This is a very interesting fish. First a word of caution, the bull head has an array of barbs than can inflict a painful puncture. One barb is under the dorsal fin and one each under the gill-fins.

Learn how to hold them and you will be ok. Two sensing fleshy whiskers if you will on either side of their mouth help this little cat fish find its way in the dark and smell its way along. This is a delicious food fish, very meaty, very tasty. They can be field dressed or filleted. Till next time get outdoors in Vermont and enjoy

## Saturday 4-15-2023 - @ 6am Duration: 30 minutes

#### All in all: a Great week ahead for being Outdoors in Vermont.

By the way, Vermont's Black Bear population is waking up from their long winter's nap. They are in need of nutrition, especially Mom who has been nursing cubs in the den. Bears are beginning to venture forth and we have talked about it here on the show with Warden Serra and others from Fish and Wildlife, for over 2-years now. Bird feeders need to be retired till later. Trash Cans deed to be contained and not left in the open, Compost gear needs to be secure from critters.

This is a good start. We don't want to get preachy. And so we move on.

Spring is a busy time for all outdoor enthusiasts here in this beautiful, beautiful state and in our neighboring states. Fresh air is everywhere

The Vermont Trout Season is on. The Vermont Wild Turkey Season is just around the corner. Bullhead are being caught, Crappies (Calicos) are also about to stack in

some of their favorite spots. Perch are also looking for some of their favorite spawning structure and weeds:

<u>Youth</u> Weekend and Novice Weekend	 One bearded turkey, statewide
Spring	Two bearded turkeys, statewide

#### Ticks:

# Tracking Ticks in Vermont healthvermont.gov

The Vermont Tick Tracker is a crowd-sourced tool that allows anyone to contribute to our understanding of ticks in Vermont. Ticks have become quite abundant in many parts of Vermont. Fourteen different tick species have been identified in Vermont, but only <u>five are known</u> to carry pathogens — such as bacteria, viruses, and parasites — that cause disease in humans. Climate change and other ecological changes may affect the distribution and abundance of these ticks. The Tick Tracker allows Vermonters to better understand and share how these changes may be occurring.

# Saturday 4-22-2023 - @ 6am Duration: 30 minutes

Have you been fishing, hiking, biking, skiing, boarding, scouting anything outdoors venues? Some plans outdoors for the week-end. Yard work. The garden and when to get it in. Some people are even opening their camps early or working on those properties. Some people are planning their spring and summer trips early. Get this! Go outdoors as a family. Care and Share. Take video and stills you won't forget it.

I have always been comfortable in, on and surrounded by water. I own three kayaks and a canoe and have actually worn out two other canoes. Love boats and

am only sorry that I never learned how to sail. I enjoy being on sail-boats. My wife is a former (Blue Water Sailor).

Fishing from a kayak is very cool you can maneuver them close to shore or anchor them off. The web is loaded with kayak sites and video. But I still respect the heck out of the people who own a flat bottom pram and want to catch bull head and pan fish. Some people own boats that decked out with the latest in technology, some troll for salmon and trout and some seek out bass and compete in contests.

A quick caveat, we as humans seem to function best with a body temperature of around 97-98 degrees F. Cold water emersion can change that dynamic quickly.

Understand the gasp-reflex, dress for cold water emersion and the very least wear a Coast-Guard Approved life vest, PFCD. Give yourself a chance if you happen to go in the drink. A pond, a stream and a lake or the ocean.

Even on dry land make sure you have safety gear in your kit. Plenty of info on the web. If your know Search and Rescue People....they will talk to you and share with you how to keep your family and you safe.

Panic make things worse. Fright, Flight, Fight. Making the best of a bad situation.

# Saturday 4-29-2023 - @ 6am Duration: 30 minutes

The fish may be seen moving up the falls on warmer days beginning in mid-late April up until early May, according to the F&W department.

The best opportunities to see the jumping fish last for only a few days when water flow and temperature conditions are just right, according to fisheries biologists for the Department.

"Many people may not realize we have opportunities to watch fish in Vermont just like there are for birds and mammals," Watch and be amazed. Vermont's annual trout fishing season began on April 8. However, the section of the Willoughby River from the downstream edge of the Orleans-Brownington Road Bridge to the top of the natural falls just upstream is closed to all fishing from April 8 to May 31. Do your fishing with a phone or camera only in the designated area and enjoy!

Turkey Season is just around the corner. Two jakes were in my neighbor's back yard here in the city. City slicker turkeys OMG.

Bears are out and about in a neighborhood near you.

The LCI Derby Guide Magazine is out and its Free-lots of information. You can pick one up at Field Sports right on 7 south of town.

Turkey Season is right around the corner.

Remember for Turkey 2023-

Scout, scout, scout and minimum calling, if any, **pattern your shot-gun**. Know your bird and where they are roosting, foraging and dusting. **Be tick smart.** See Greg and Vermont Field Sports in Middlebury for all your calls, cammo, ammo, shot-guns and binoculars, he can add some better sights and a host of other Turkey gear.

Fishing for bullhead.... Fishing for trout.... perch and pan fish.

Fishing from your kayak..... Walleye seem to be making a come. For some Crappie are kings and require a certain knowledge base learn and get ready for some amazing dining.

Want a great gift Idea!

Binoculars are just a great gift anytime. Here's why. It brings all outdoors closer and closer makes it a better experience

# Saturday 5-6-2023 - @ 6am Duration: 30 minutes

The Vermont Wild Turkey population is thriving. Now the flock is one of the best in the entire country and people are coming from all over the country to hunt in our beautiful state. We talked with Greg about gear and the safety factors that go along with hunting this majestic and wily bird.

We also discussed the gear you need to have a successful outing for trout fishing this spring and that is underway as well.

## Saturday 5-20-2023 - @ 6am Duration: 30 minutes

#### Talk about Walleyes:

The season is on and they tasty. I always called them fresh water Haddock.

Let's take a look at some of what is being done to preserve this excellent sport and food fish. Ed Weed Fish Culture Station in Grand Isle is the point project.

Private, Public Partnerships have helped restoration as well. Lamprey control has helped tremendously.

#### Turkey` Season 2023. A better than average season so far.

I was out scouting early in the spring. It was active. Greg Bog reports numerous big birds checked in at Vermont Field Sports in Middlebury. The youth hunt gets bigger every year as more and more kids take up the sport and some of the are very good callers and hunters. Ticks...Permethrin and DEET. Tuck in and be tick smart. Remember even if you are in a tick hot zone just taking a hike...be tick smart.

Permethrin Repellent for Gear - Tick-Proof Your Clothes & Gear

Fishing Tournaments on Lake Champlain and perhaps a lake or pond near you:

# Saturday 5-27-2023 - @ 6am Duration: 30 minutes

**Around 80 volunteers** from GE Aerospace's Veterans Network helped clean up West Street Cemetery in Rutland recently. Volunteers cleaned and reset gravestones, cleared brush and trimmed trees throughout the day. We salute them.

#### **Parades and Ceremonies**

FAIR HAVEN — A mural honoring veterans will be unveiled Saturday, ahead of a helicopter landing on the town green.

According to a release from Benjamin Howard, of the Vermont Veterans Tribute Task Force, the mural, created by local artist Kathryn Palmer-Weigers, will be unveiled at 10:30 a.m. Saturday. A LifeNet helicopter will land on the town green at 11:30 a.m.

The building the mural will be on is owned by Kevin Durkee, a Marine veteran.

#### West Rutland Memorial Day Parade

Monday, May 29, 2023 at 10:00am Noonan's Parking lot, North on Clarendon Avenue <u>West Rutland, VT 05777</u> <u>Website</u>

**Rutland Post 31 always with special events and ceremonies on this special week-end.** Cemetery decoration and clean up in city cemeteries. Special in-house and outdoor ceremonies at their club rooms. One of the oldest American Legion Posts in the country.

**Big parades in Middlebury and in Vergennes on the same day Monday 29<sup>th</sup> 2023.** Weather looks good.

Vermont Veterans Cemetery-

#### Vermont honors its veterans at memorial cemetery

The Vermont Veterans Memorial Cemetery (VVMC) in Randolph Center performs more burials a year than any other cemetery in the state.

It is a beautiful location, 487 Furnace Rd. that honors the service of veterans by providing them perpetual recognition. The cemetery isn't just for veterans, though, as veterans' spouses and some dependents are also eligible for burial.

You can get an application online at tinyurl.com/VtVetsCemeteryApp. Please call us at (802) 828-3379 for more detailed information.

The VVMC has a large capacity for future interments. There are 110 acres at the VVMC. The 12-acre expansion funded by the National Cemetery Administration at the VVMC, includes a new 1,230-square-foot Public Information Center, a new 2,652-square-foot maintenance facility, new burial plots to include 410 pre-placed crypts for in-ground casket burials, 390 in-ground cremains plots, and 840 columbarium niches, for a total of 1,640 additional burial plots. This new expansion will allow year-round operations at the VVMC. More on their web page.

You can join the Memorial Weekend conversation here on Outdoors in Vermont at 773-9792 and make a contribution this morning.

Turkey Season 2023 is winding down.

The LCI Derby 2023 is ramping up.

Trout fishing has been pretty good.

Hiking is on. The State Parks are open. RVing in on in earnest.

Wild flowers are beginning to bloom.

Kudos to wildlife photo-journalist Steve Costello for his articles in the Herald and on line. The one on rattlesnakes recently was an especially well crafted piece. Bravo Steve! Beautiful-work!

# Saturday 6-10-2023 - @ 6am Duration: 30 minutes

We checked out the VOGA-Vermont Outdoor Guides Association website for events as we transition out of spring and into full blown summer events. Let's face it; it's a great time to enjoy all of **Outdoors in Vermont.** 

# Some of my favorite local summer events and I'll be that they are some of yours as well.

We covered spring bass fishing, Trout, Walleye a look at Turkey tallies and the forecast for deer later in the fall.

# Saturday 6-17-2023 - @ 6am Duration: 30 minutes

Have you been fishing, hiking, foraging, kayaking, sailing, and biking? We would like to hear about your individual adventure outdoors. I even like to talk about planting the garden or what you do to make your yard look nice in the neighborhood.

## Walleye fishing here in the State of Vermont.

First of all as you know, I often quote the writings of the late Harold F. Blaisdel and the wisdom laden comments of his late son Mike. Great guys, and real Vermonters. Both father and son were avid walleye fishermen and would ply the waters of Lake Champlain and other places in pursuit of the tasty fish.

Right now the State of Vermont has done a good job mitigating some of the sea lamprey predation on Walleye with lampricide application in the Vermont rivers where they breed. New York DEC has been a strong partner in this effort.

Bears are still doing their thing with night time foraging in Rutland. A recent cell phone pic of a burly bruin convinces me that really not much is being done to end the visits and some people are actually deliberately feed bears in the City of Rutland. We were also joined by Anthropologist Mark Boglioli and we discuss hunting culture in general and the long-stand traditions of Vermont's Hunting Culture.

# Saturday 6-24-2023 - @ 6am Duration: 30 minutes

We looked at the connection between ticks-mice and humans.

Lyme disease is very serious business and it's amazing how such a tiny little bug can cause so much trouble. We also took an in-depth look at the LCI Fathers Day Fishing Derby and a category by category look at the winning fish. This gave us a general look at the health of this remarkable Lake Champlain fishery. Largemouth bass populations in the lake appear at least from derby results, to be healthy and stable. We also discussed the up-coming muggy weather expected in our area and what we can do to stay safe and a bit more comfortable