

From Seed to Streambank



The mission of the Intervale Conservation Nursery (ICN) is to grow native trees and shrubs from local sources for conservation projects in Vermont. There are many steps used in the process of collecting, propagating, and harvesting plants for use along rivers and streams in the state:

Collection - Throughout the year, seeds and cuttings from various species are collected by staff locally for the ICN.

Nursery Management - The Intervale staff takes great care in raising strong healthy trees and shrubs to help stabilize streambanks, enhance water quality in rivers and streams, and provide ideal habitat for Vermont's wildlife.

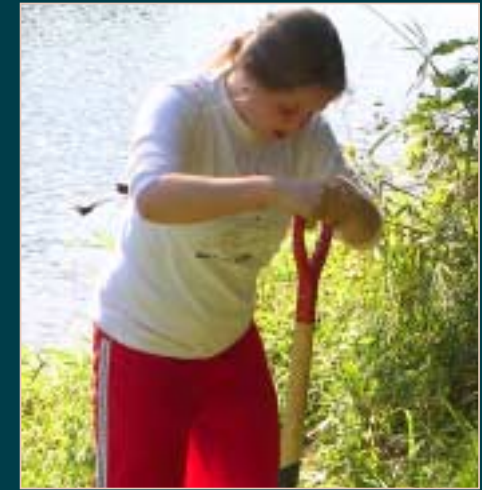
Restoring Streams and Rivers - The plants grown in this nursery supply many planting projects throughout the Lake Champlain Basin in Vermont. Organizations, local watershed groups, schools, and volunteers contribute to reforesting areas along our rivers and streams.



Growing trees for watershed conservation projects begins with collecting seeds or cuttings from local watersheds. This black willow collected in the Intervale will be propagated in a greenhouse in the late winter.



Nursery management requires growing seeds and cuttings in a controlled nursery environment. A regimen of watering, fertilizing, and transplanting once they reach a certain size keeps them growing strong and healthy before they are shipped for conservation projects throughout Vermont.



The ultimate destinations for the trees and shrubs grown at the Intervale are the banks of rivers and streams in Vermont. These plants will become parts of healthy forests that prevent soil erosion, protect water quality, and provide excellent fish and wildlife habitat.

(Photographs courtesy of the Intervale Foundation.)



The Intervale Foundation
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