

Pollinator Rain Garden



During the COVID-19 pandemic in June 2020, Mrs. Ruth Beecher's 5th and 6th graders culminated their study of stormwater education by planting this garden. One at a time, while wearing masks (or in one case, while on a Zoom call) students each chose a perennial and carefully planted it here.



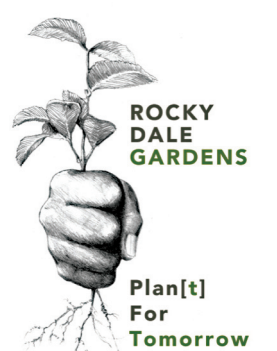
With funds from the Tari Shattuck Education Foundation, the students selected native Vermont perennials from Rocky Dale Gardens. Native plants were chosen as they attract pollinators, such as birds, bees, and butterflies and help keep the cycle of life flowing.



Tari Shattuck
Education Foundation



Robinson
Elementary School



ROCKY
DALE
GARDENS

Plan[t]
For
Tomorrow



Sea Grant
Lake Champlain



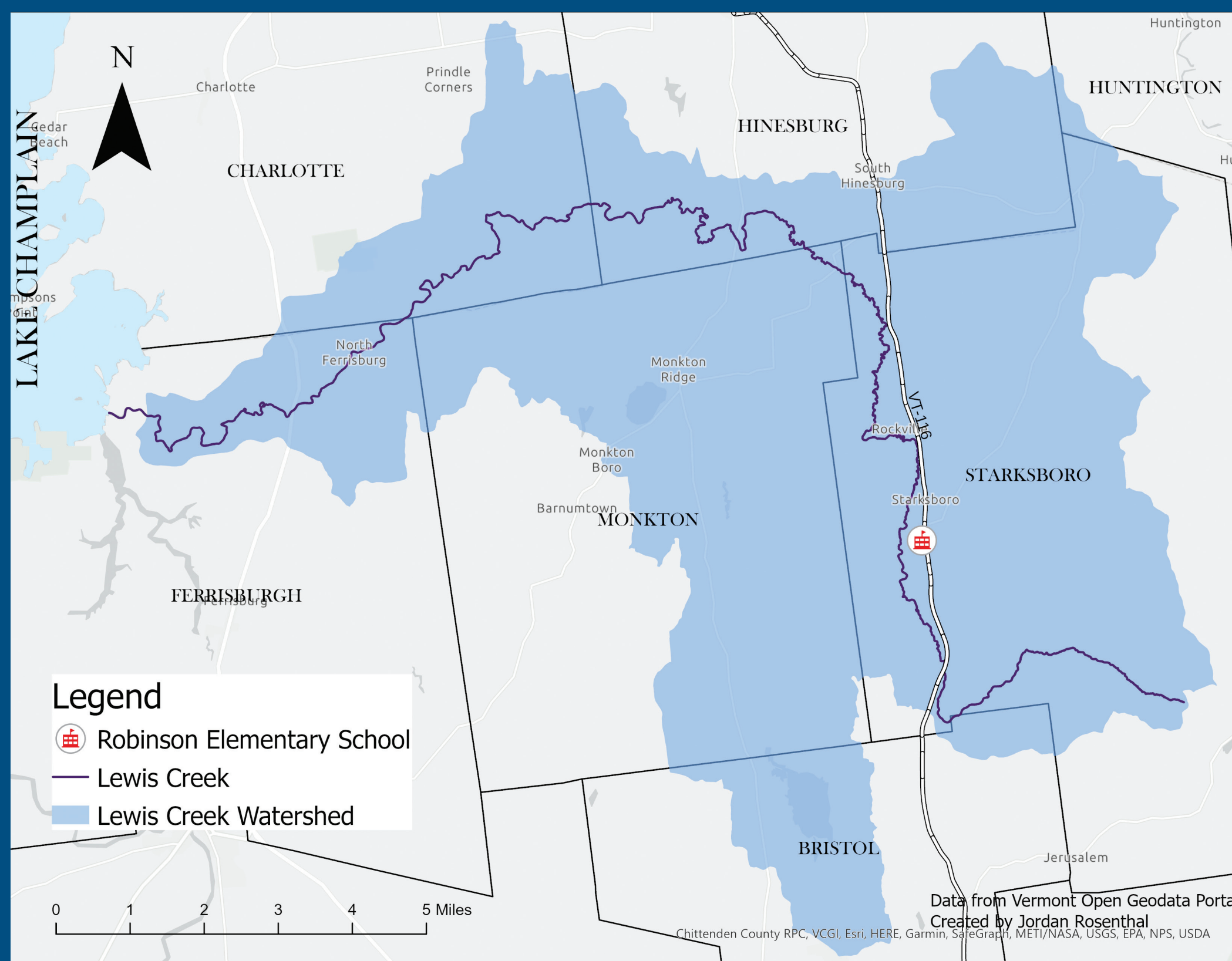
THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT
EXTENSION

Stormwater runoff (from rain, snowmelt, hail) picks up garbage, gas and oil leaked from vehicles, dog feces, nutrients, and other pollutants from the land and then makes its way down to the storm drain located near Route 116. Stormwater and the pollutants enter that drain then flow under Parsonage Road to Lewis Creek and can end up in Lake Champlain.

These pollutants – specifically the nutrients – contribute to blue-green algae blooms (cyanobacteria) which are bad for the lake, for the fish and other aquatic life, for our dogs, and for us.

Luckily, we can all play a part to help reduce stormwater runoff and keep our water bodies clean. This garden will help to absorb some of the stormwater runoff that comes off the school roof, concrete steps, and nearby pavement BEFORE it goes to the storm drain.

We hope you enjoy this garden!



The pinpoint identifies the location of Robinson Elementary School within the Lewis Creek watershed, the large area shown in blue. The area of land that drains to a waterbody is called its watershed. The Lewis Creek watershed drains land not only in Starksboro, but in Bristol, Monkton, Ferrisburgh, Charlotte, Hinesburg, and a tiny piece of Huntington too! The Lewis Creek watershed drains to Lake Champlain.