



Winning 2005 Vermont Poster Design
Andy Page, Blue Mountain Union School, Grade 12

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact

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It's Greener Here! Thanks to *Green Up Vermont* and Merchants Bank!

SOUTH BURLINGTON, VT –Thomas S. Leavitt, Senior Vice President of Retail Banking for Merchants Bank announced Merchants Bank's sponsorship of and staff participation in the 35th Annual *Green Up Vermont* Campaign. This is the 2nd year of sponsorship and staff participation for Merchants Bank.

SCHEDULE: There is a press conference, along with two *Green Up Day* celebrations in Burlington.

- Press conference for *Green Up Day* will be held Monday, May 2nd at 11am on Burlington's City Hall steps. Heather Cruickshank, Branch President for the Merchants Bank College Street, Burlington branch will be present to deliver a short speech, along with a host of speakers, including Mayor Peter Clavelle.
- Friday, May 6th, 9:00am and will start at the College Street location of Merchants Bank moving into the Burlington business district.
- Saturday, May 7th, 9:30am to 1:30pm, will start at Barnes Elementary School on North Street and spreading toward the neighborhoods in Burlington's Old North End. There will be children's activities, music and food afterwards.

Merchants Bank employees from the Merchants Bank College Street Burlington branch will participate in various *Green Team* activities. Volunteers help to clean by picking up garbage, removing graffiti and more. Merchants Bank will serve as the distribution center on Friday at 9:00am. Snacks and drinks will be made available to the volunteers.

Vermont was the first state to designate a day to clean up the entire state. Started in 1970 by Governor Deane C. Davis, the unique 34-year tradition continues with thousands of Vermonters taking care of Vermont.

Green Up Vermont is the not-for-profit organization responsible for keeping the "Green Up" tradition growing for Vermont. The success of Vermont's "Green Up" depends on two essential ingredients. One is the combined efforts of individuals and civic groups who volunteer to make it all possible; and two, the financial support given by the public and private sectors throughout Vermont.

Look for the roving *Green Guy* mascot, who will be making his rounds throughout the event!

For *Green Up* t-shirts, bookmarks or stickers, contact the *Green Up Vermont* office, at PO 1191, Montpelier, 05601-1191; or email to greenup@greenupvermont. To learn more about volunteering or how you can make a tax-deductible financial contribution, please visit www.greenupvermont.org or call the *Green Up Vermont* office at 802-229-4586 or 1-800-974-3259.

The continuing mission of Merchants Bank is to provide Vermonters with a true community bank. It fulfills this commitment through a branch-based system that includes 35 bank offices throughout Vermont, employees dedicated to quality customer service and the LYNX family of products: Free Checking for Life[®], MoneyLYNX[®] Money Market Account, TimeLYNX[®] Certificate of Deposit, HomeLYNX[®] Home Equity Line of Credit, ReallYNX[®] Residential Mortgages, CommerceLYNX[®] Business Banking Services, eLYNX[®] Online Banking and PhoneLYNXSM Automated Phone Banking. For more information about Merchants Bank visit the website at www.mbvt.com. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.