

## Northern Saw-whet Owl Adoption Form

### Adoption Options

Banded Owl— \_\_\_\_\_ at \$30 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Meet Your Owl — \_\_\_\_\_ at \$100 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Checks made payable to NBNC*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

For 'meet your owl' adoptions, please contact NBNC to arrange a banding night that you can visit to meet your owl and see its capture/release.

For gift adoptions, please provide the gift recipient information below:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



North Branch Nature Center  
713 Elm Street  
Montpelier, VT 05602



## Northern Saw-Whet Owl Banding Program



*Researching the migration of one of our most mysterious and seldom-seen birds.*

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(802) 229-6206  
[www.NorthBranchNatureCenter.org](http://www.NorthBranchNatureCenter.org)

## Why Band Saw-whet Owls?

The Northern Saw-whet Owl is a common yet seldom-seen species whose



secretive nature means that few will ever encounter one in the wild. They nest in forests across the northern U.S. and southern Canada, and migrate each fall to points as far south as Georgia and northern Florida. These highly nocturnal owls roost by day in dense conifers and hunt at night for mice and other small mammals.

Until recently, their fall migration was somewhat of a mystery. Where and when does migration take place? What migratory routes do owls use? How does this migration fluctuate over time? In 1994, a group of researchers formed Project OwlNet with the goal of answering these and other questions about the Northern Saw-whet Owl. In 2013, North Branch Nature Center joined this network of researchers to capture information from central Vermont, operating banding stations in Montpelier and Shelburne.

## What Have We Learned So Far?

In our first two seasons, we have already shed some light on how migrating owls utilize the Vermont landscape. We captured 161 owls including four birds that had already been banded at other stations. In addition, three birds that we banded were recovered in other locations. These 'foreign recaptures' help us track where owls are coming from and going to as they pass through the Green Mountain State.

## How Can I Get Involved?

**Observe** - NBNC invites the public to visit the banding station and observe owl banding in action. Visit our website for more information about when banding is taking place.



**Volunteer** - We welcome the help of volunteers for recording data, opening and closing nets, and general assistance at the banding station. Please get in touch if you would like to join the owl banding team.

**Contribute** - You can provide financial support by contributing through our 'adopt-an-owl' program to help NBNC pay for the equipment and staff time required to run our banding program.

## Adopt-an-Owl Program!

With your owl adoption, you will receive an official adoption certificate which includes a picture of your owl, its band number, date of capture/release, age, and gender. We'll also update you on any other encounters of your owl either at our banding sights or elsewhere along its migration.

Saw-whet Owl adoptions are a great way to support NBNC's citizen science programs, including owl research, while also forming a special connection with an individual bird. You can even meet your adopted owl right before its release! Adopted Owls also make a fun and unique gift for friends and family this upcoming holiday season.

