During this week's Community Conversations session with Provost Helble, Lisa Adams, associate professor of epidemiology and co-chair of the COVID-19 Task Force, noted that coronavirus curves in NH and VT have been successfully flattened, as the number of new cases is relatively steady and no longer rising each day or week. That's great news, and shows that with everyone's cooperation following social distancing, hand washing, and wearing face coverings we can keep infection rates low. Provost Helble announced, too, that the College will extend its employment commitment to all faculty/staff through July 31 in order to provide ample time for decisions to be made about fall term. Many Campus Services employees will continue to work from home for the foreseeable future.

Spring at the Second College Grant
An update from Kevin Evans, College Forester

Spring came late to the Second College Grant with snow remaining in the woods until the third week of May. Woodcock and grouse surveys were interesting with deep snow on the roads, getting the ATV stuck, and little noise this year from peepers. By now the leaves have popped, and we have seen lots of wildlife and flowers. Early spring work for the Woodlands staff includes clearing roads of blowdowns, fixing washouts, and cleaning culverts of winter debris. We have also been busy maintaining our wildlife cameras and acoustic recorders for bird monitoring. Soon we will start preparing for summer harvest and road projects.

We hope to get research started soon with students coming from Dartmouth, the University of New Hampshire and University of Vermont. Projects include adaptation of the forest to climate change, assisted migration of species due to climate change, how small mammals effect regeneration, and decomposition of the forest floor. We're working with the College to make sure appropriate health-related protocols are in place for any research work at the Grant.

Congratulations and best wishes to Campus Services employees who are retiring during this period of campus disruption (mid-March through June).

- Robin Osgood, Custodian, Residential Operations – retired Mar. 20 after 33 years
- Doug Holler, Director, Dartmouth Skiway – retired Apr. 30 after 18 years
- Laura Black, Senior Electrical Engineer, Engineering – retiring June 30 after 15 years
- Elizabeth Fontaine, Work Process Administrator, Work Control – retiring June 26 after 18 years
- Farrell Corrow, Custodian, Residential Operations – retired May 29 after 18 years
- Debra Devins, Carpenter B, Building Repair Shop– retiring June 30 after 20 years

We wish you all the best in your new adventures and hope you stay in touch.

So Cute!

Thanks to Jason Lambert who sent along this photo, saying, "this little guy wandered into the grounds shop on Thursday afternoon."

A small pool on Alder Brook

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