

Vermont is beautiful; the sprawling forests and mountain ranges throughout the entire state make it unique. Other states used to be like this but they weren't conserved and were turned into all cities and towns. That is not necessarily a bad thing, but Vermont has made it this far so why stop now?

Vermont's environment is very important to the state's image. Vermont is called the Green Mountain State. The name was thought up by French explorer Samuel de Champlain because he loved all the green mountains when he came here. The state flower is a red clover. The red clover symbolizes the state's farming roots because the cattle preferred to munch on red clover for their meal. Vermont's state animal is a Morgan horse. Finally, the state bird is a Hermit Thrush. It is believed that this is because the Hermit Thrush has been sighted in all of Vermont's fourteen counties. All of these help to make Vermont's image one that people think of being outside and enjoying nature.

Vermont is the Green Mountain State and if the mountains were gone and shopping malls were put in, there would be no green mountains. I used to live in California and my uncle worked on a large ranch. Because of the drought, pollution, and fires they had to close down and it was really sad. And you want to know why there was pollution and forest fires? SHOPPING MALLS THAT TOOK OVER THE LANDSCAPE. THATS WHY!! All the flat dry land made the weather change and caused more harm.

Our main source of tourism is the landscapes and outdoor activities, such as skiing, hiking, swimming, forests, mountains, and beautiful fall foliage. At my old school in Montpelier we would go to the StateHouse and hand out poetry books to the leaf peepers. Usually at least 100 people would come! One year there wasn't as much foliage and there was less tourism so the economy was worse than usual.

My favorite thing about Vermont is the wildlife and animals. We go for walks in the forest at my cousin's house and look for animal fur and tracks. But if there was much more pollution the animals wouldn't be able to survive. Whenever I see trash I try to pick it up and save the animals.

Because of all the people who help protect Vermont's environment, like my grandmother who is on the conservation committee, Vermont's landscape and

environment are still unique and tourism is plentiful. If we do not work to sustain our environment, Vermont will not be unique or as beautiful and there would be less tourism.

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