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Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:44 PM
To: Coriell, Scott
Subject: Gov. Shumlin Reminds Vermonters of Ability to Donate to Vermont Causes on State Tax Return

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gov. Shumlin Reminds Vermonters of Ability to Donate to Vermont Causes on State Tax Return

MONTPELIER – Joined by representatives of the Green Up Vermont Board of Directors, Town Coordinators for Green Up Day and Legislative leaders, Gov. Peter Shumlin today reminded taxpayers who want to support Green Up Day that they now have a simple way to help. New this year, the Vermont State tax return adds Green Up Vermont to its voluntary options for taxpayers to donate a dollar or more to charitable organizations. Also included are the Vermont Veterans Fund, the Vermont Nongame Wildlife Fund, and the Children's Trust Fund.

Vermont's Green Up Day, launched in 1970 by Governor Deane Davis continues as an annual campaign to pick up along highways and trails, in neighborhoods and parking lots – the trash emerging as eyesores after Vermont's spring thaw.

"There are many great Vermont organizations and causes that Vermonters can donate to when filing their taxes," Gov. Shumlin said. "I'm pleased that Green Up Vermont has been added to that list. For those who are able, I hope you'll consider donating to one of these great causes."

"Under all that snow lies lots of litter," says volunteer Jo Anne Wazny of Berkshire. "We can now support Green Up Vermont by donating on Line 29 on our income tax form. If you've ever bemoaned the piles of plastic packaging, cups and cans appearing along roadsides in spring or participated in Green Up Day and been amazed at the amount of litter, you know this is a worthy cause that pays us back many times over."

"Green Up is such an important tradition – celebrating 45 years this year! – that brings together families, neighbors and communities to make a difference," said Rep. Janet Ancel of Calais, lead sponsor of the bill to add Green Up Vermont to the tax form. "Making a voluntary contribution on the state income tax form does not add to state spending." "A donation is deductible on next year's tax return as a charitable contribution," according to Green Up Vermont's president, Melinda Vieux.

Donations can also be made directly at any time securely online at www.greenupvermont.org or by sending a check to Green Up Vermont, P.O. Box 1191, Montpelier, VT 05601 - 1191. Donations are tax deductible whether made directly or through the state income tax return.

More information about plans, preparations and team formation can be found online at the Green Up Vermont website www.greenupvermont.org or contact the nonprofit's Montpelier office at 229-4586.

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