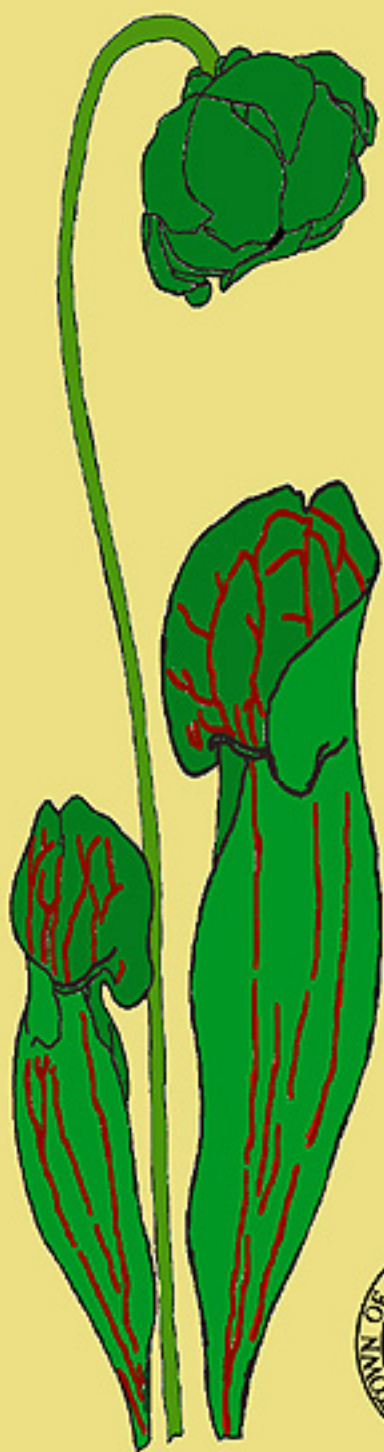


# ASCUTNEY MOUNTAIN AUDUBON SOCIETY

## NORTH SPRINGFIELD BOG



### The North Springfield Bog

The North Springfield Bog is a boreal kettle bog, formed over 10,000 years ago at the end of the last ice age when the continental glacier covering this region receded. Bogs have no inlet or outlet, and the only source of water is from precipitation. The low permeability of the gravel in this area holds the water in the depression forming the Bog.

Bogs are characterized by acidic water and floating mats of vegetation. Many unique and interesting acid-tolerant plants can be found in Bogs, including cranberries, sphagnum moss, and pitcher plants. The North Springfield Bog is known for having some of the finest examples of bog plants in Vermont.

### Pitcher Plants

Pitcher plants are normally found in nutrient-poor environments like this bog. They derive their nutrients not from the bog but from insects that fall into their pitchers, to be dissolved and absorbed by the plant.

The pitcher plant is a flowering plant. If you are visiting the bog in the spring or summer, you will see a reddish flower about a foot high above the pitcher plant. In the late summer, the pollinated flower forms a seed capsule as shown in the drawing on the left.



**Please enjoy the Bog and all its many wonders!  
We ask only that you do not pick or disturb any  
of the fragile plants in this miniature ecosystem.**

