

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Eva Gumprecht  
tel: 802 223-1772  
e-mail: eva@evagumprecht.com

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Ninth Annual Adamant Blackfly Festival, Adamant Co-op, 11-5 on Saturday, May 21, 2011  
More fun than thought humanly possible!

Forget about fiddleheads, peepers, or maple sugaring. Blackflies are the real harbinger of spring in central Vermont.

And excitement is building as the residents of Adamant, Vt, a rural village north of the state capital of Montpelier, prepare to host the 9th Annual Adamant Blackfly Festival. The festival will be held at the Adamant Co-op from 11am to 5pm on Sat. May 21, 2011.

The festival is free, and fun for all ages.

The festival has two purposes: to benefit the Adamant Co-op, which is the oldest food co-op in Vermont, and to have some serious fun celebrating the bug we love to hate.

Event schedule:

9:00 Pre-madness meanderings, as local naturalist Richard Czaplinski leads a walk along the shores of Sodom Pond - the source of the blackflies.

11:00 - General mayhem begins.

- Children's activities (11:00-2:00): Nettie the clown, blackfly balloons, insect-making, frisbee golf.
- Test your knowledge of the insect world with Blackfly Jeopardy.
- Grill opens: jumbo hot dogs, chicken sausage, salmon burgers, black bean cakes and vegetarian chili, delectable salads and baked goods.

12:00 - Blackfly fashion show. Last minute additions of all ages and styles welcome. (Antennae optional.)

12:30 - Live music: Carol Hausner with Mark Greenburg: traditional, contemporary and original bluegrass, country, and folk

1:00 - Live music: Colin McCaffrey: Singer Songwriter, traditional folk and American forms

1:30 - Live music: Jim Picone with Carol Hasuner: Banjo/ Bluegrass

2:00 - Get out your best marching shoes and dust off your kazoo for the Blackfly Parade, featuring eclectic costumes, a Klezmer band, red Ferrari, synchronized bug zappers, local tractors, and livestock floats with four-legged fertilizers. Past parades have been described as "campy," "a whole lot of fun," and "the Macy's Day Parade of the Insect World."

2:45 - Pie contest awards prizes in Taste, Presentation, and Creativity. Judges include a local celebrity, political wonk and chef from the New England Culinary Institute - and new this year, a teen-ager! Enter as a solo cook, or create your confection as a family!

3:15 - Live music: Pitz and Shrimp: Didgeridoo, Guitar, Voices and Percussion offering a variety of musical landscapes.

3:45 - Live music: The Fly Swatters with Susan Reed and Friends: Quebecois

4:15 - One Way Out: Classic Rock and Blues (Charlie Watson, Ardie Toulis, Damien Middleton, Mike Wheaton) Come and Dance!

5:00 - Grill closes, festival closes. Blackflies all die.

The co-op will sell blackfly memorabilia including mugs, t-shirts, tattoos, bug bafflers (screened hooded shirts that make it possible to be outside during blackfly season), bug salve, and great food by local chefs.

To see a video of the festival: [http://7d.blogs.com/stuckinvt/2007/05/black\\_fly\\_festi.html](http://7d.blogs.com/stuckinvt/2007/05/black_fly_festi.html)

For more information, including details on the 40 species of blackfly in Vermont, visit <http://www.blackflyfestival.org/> or contact Eva Gumprecht at 802 223-1772.

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