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NHACC July 2023 Enews

1 message

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Conservation Commission Activities, Legislative Updates and more!



Summer is a great time for outreach and education

As an advisory body, a commission must rely on research, education, community engagement, and various methods of persuasion to accomplish its goals. Public education is a primary ingredient and may involve explaining environmental issues and concerns directly to citizens. Building a strong network of volunteers and local officials who can promote ecological awareness in their communities is an important step in protecting our natural resources. Adults and children enjoy learning about nature. Commissions can offer many interesting topics to promote environmental awareness. Host a hike in your local town forest or coordinate a tree planting event. Start promoting the event early in different media outlets and you may be surprised how many people attend!



Annual Meeting & Conference

Save the Date: Saturday, November 4, 2023

Don't miss NHACC's 53rd Annual Meeting and Conference. Our keynote speaker is David Carroll, Artist, Naturalist and Writer. We will be offering 24 breakout sessions after the annual meeting highlighting conservation commission projects, our foundations classes and much more. The full workshop schedule will be up on

the new NHACC website in August. We look forward to seeing everyone the first Saturday of November.

Training & Education Opportunities

Educational panel discussion: A Natural Approach to Forest Management

When: July 20th, 5- 7pm, light refreshments will be served

Where: Mayer Room, Howe Library, [13 South Street, Hanover NH 03755](#)

Hosted by the Hanover Conservation Commission & Biodiversity Subcommittee

Join the Hanover Conservation Commission for a panel discussion with a dynamic and diverse group of practitioners and scientists to discuss the rising awareness of how important growing our local forests is to the future health of the Upper Valley, particularly in the face of climate change. Discussion will cover the value of creating reserves, old growth, wild forests and how to create them in your community and on your lands. This is a great opportunity to tap into a lot of knowledge and experience. There will also be time for the public to ask questions at the end of the discussion.

Discussion Panel Members: William Moomaw, Professor Emeritus of Environmental Policy, Tufts University John Roe, Forest Ecologist, Carbon Markets expert Robert Linck, Conservation Director, New England Wilderness Trust Eric Jones, private landowner, 1500 acres of wild, protected lands in New Hampshire Daniel Stepanouskas, Consulting Forester in New Hampshire for 35 years

Contact: donovana1@aol.com

Web Link: <https://www.hanovernh.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=177>

Register here for zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUqcu2qqT8vH9LUbPADjiGVj6mNvFGHRm06>

CCs in the News

The Bennington Conservation Commission Hosts Talk on Saturday

The Bennington Conservation is sponsoring a talk by Dale Russell, "Trains of the Contoocook Valley," Saturday, July 15. Dale Russell is a train historian from Greenfield. He's been collecting photos of old railroads and railroad stations, mostly in NH, for about 17 years. Dale will provide a brief history of railroads in NH and will have a slide show of some of his photos and maps of railroads in southern NH. See the full [article here](#).

The Rindge Conservation Commission Offers Hike and Paddle

Enjoy National Outdoor Month with Rindge Conservation Commission on Sunday, July 23, 1:30 p.m. at Converse Meadow in Rindge. Participants can choose either to explore trails through hemlock and hardwood groves with views of open wetlands, or to paddle through ponds by canoe or kayak. The Converse Meadow Hike and Paddle is part of the commission's Annual Hike and Paddle Series that highlights the beautiful trails, forests, and wetlands. Each outing is led by experienced Conservation Commission or Corps members with specific knowledge of the history and natural features present on the conservation land. For more info [read article here](#).

The Hanover Conservation Commission Accepts Donated Land

The Hanover Conservation Commission has voted to accept a conservation area on the eastern side of Moose Mountain. The Baum Foundation, founded by Hanover residents Jim and Carol Baum, are donating three parcels of conservation area totaling 238 acres to the town Conservation Commission, along with \$50,000 to cover maintenance costs. The conservation area comprises three parcels of land and improvements that include a parking lot, more than 3 miles of hiking trails and a cabin that was donated to the Dartmouth Outing Club in 2008. Read the full [article here](#).

Grant Opportunities

Moose Plate Grant Applications Are Due in September

The New Hampshire State Conservation Committee (SCC) announces the availability of the 2023 Conservation “Moose Plate” grant application. Grant funds are available for projects that support and promote programs and partnerships that protect, restore, and enhance the state’s valuable natural resources. Grant applications are due on September 15, 2023. Awards will be announced in December 2023, and funding will be available to successful applicants in July 2024. Eligible applicants include municipalities, County Conservation Districts, qualified nonprofit organizations engaged in conservation programs, schools, County Cooperative Extension natural resource programs, and scout groups. For SCC grant program inquiries, contact Dea Brickner-Wood, Administrator, nh-conservationcommittee@nh.gov. The Conservation Grant Application and Instructions may be downloaded from the [SCC website](#).

The Merrimack Conservation Partnership Grants now available

The Merrimack Conservation Partnership is a regional conservation alliance formed to protect the southern portion of the greater Merrimack River watershed in New Hampshire and Massachusetts through accelerated land and water protection, advocacy, restoration, outreach and education. The program underwrites transaction costs—appraisals, surveys, title research, staff time, etc.—on conservation transactions that protect land identified as a priority in the Merrimack Valley Regional Conservation Plan (2014). The MCP has \$75,000 to re-grant in 2023 for this grant program.

The partnership also offers Environmental Science, Education and Outreach Grants, providing funding for environmental science, education and outreach activities related directly to the Merrimack River or its watershed. Funds can be used for activities such as youth or public environmental educational activities, development of outreach and educational materials, river clean ups, water quality testing and monitoring activities, and other related activities. The MCP has \$15,000 to re-grant in 2023 for this grant program.

[For more information and to apply.](#)

2024 Local Source Water Protection Grant Applications Now Available!

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services provides small grants to water suppliers, municipalities and other local organizations for the purpose of protecting drinking water sources. Protection projects funded through this program have included delineation of wellhead protection areas, inventorying potential contamination sources, development of local protection ordinances, groundwater reclassification, shoreline surveys, drinking water education and outreach activities, and controlling access to sources. The application packet is now available online to provide sufficient lead time for applicants to work with stakeholders in determining what protections are necessary to address potential contamination threats, coordinate with working partners, and determine a budget. Applications are due November 1, 2023. Go to the [DES website](#) for more info.

Enter the NHACC Photo Contest for a chance to win \$250

NHACC has launched a state-wide amateur photo contest to celebrate The Natural World of NH. NHACC wants to encourage the public to get outdoors and explore conservation land. There's an added incentive of cash prizes; \$250 for winners, and \$50 for honorable mentions.

Help NHACC Spread the Word

We encourage our member commissions to spread the word and invite community members to participate in the contest. Local Conservation Commissions are challenged to encourage their residents to submit photos, and be the town with the most entries. **Please share this poster** announcement in your community. The NH town with the most submissions will receive a free ticket to the NHACC conference to invite anyone they wish, plus have the ability to use the visual content in their own social media and on town websites. A complete list of rules can be found on the **NHACC website**.

How to Enter:

We will be using an on-line platform called ArtCall **<https://2023-nhacc-photo-contest.artcall.org/users/login>** to host entries into the contest. The entry form will be open between June 1 and September 8. Contestants will be able to edit or change their entry any time before midnight on September 8. Start taking pictures now!

Visit our Website

[NHACC.org](https://www.nhacc.org)

Our mailing address is:

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