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1 message

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Conservation Commission Activities, Educational Opportunities and more!



NHACC now on YouTube

We are excited to announce the launch of our YouTube Channel featuring recordings from the past year. Did you miss our annual meeting & conference and you would like to see the keynote program? Check out the [NHACC YouTube](#) for a recording of the annual meeting and other programs. You can also view many of our lunch & learn trainings; *Learn About LiDAR, Technology and Stewardship*, and *Online Mapping Tools*. Stay tuned for more training videos and programs.



Education & Training Opportunities

NHACC Wetlands Training Programs

NH DES On-line GIS Mapping Tools
Wednesday, March 8, 2023
12 to 1:30 pm presented on Zoom
Stefanie Tetreault, NH DES

This session will provide an introduction to several NHDES online GIS mapping products. Wetlands Permit Planning Tools are available to commission members for desktop site review and screening. Participants will learn how to use online mapping tools to gather information and interpret data. Participants will be required to view several of the online tools prior to the class in order to become familiar with the options that are available online. This presentation will demonstrate the power and functionality of these tools, and familiarize viewers with the array of data available at their fingertips, in order to assess the potential natural resource impacts of proposed projects and/or identify local restoration or conservation priorities in municipalities.

[Register Here](#)

DES Rules and How the Permit Review Process Works

Friday, March 31, 2023

12 to 1:30 pm presented on Zoom

Sandy Crystall, PWS, and Mary Ann Tilton, NH DES

This session will provide a more in-depth look at the different types of wetlands permits and what information you should expect to see with each application. This training will help conservation commission members better understand their role in the review process and understand the different types of wetlands permits. Through examples and available data, participants will learn to identify the impact, classifications, and thresholds that determine the application and information required. NHDES staff will outline what information is helpful to permitting inspectors so commissions can note observations and ask relevant questions when they provide comments to DES.

[Register Here](#)

INTRODUCTION TO BIRD IDENTIFICATION, ECOLOGY & HABITATS 12 WEEK ONLINE & FIELD COURSE (APRIL 1 – JUNE 24)

This is an online and field-based course. Online lessons are designed to improve your ability to accurately identify common songbird (Passerines) and songbird-like (e.g., woodpeckers) bird species encountered throughout New Hampshire. Field trips to various forest, shrubland, field, wetland, and suburban habitats will teach you how to identify any bird species we encounter during each trip. Through a combination of online and field instruction, you will gain a better understanding of the habitats where you can expect to encounter each bird species and the specific things you can do on your land to attract and benefit birds. For more information and to review the course overview and schedule go to the [UNH Extension Website](#).

Support our local farms!
Small steps make a BIG difference in local biodiversity.

We can make small changes at our homes that have enormous, positive impacts on biodiversity within our communities and help our local farms continue to thrive. Join the Hollis Conservation Commission this winter (either in person or remotely) to learn how!

February 1, 7pm

"Diversify your lawn." Plan ahead for the spring! Simple steps you can take at home, outlined by Wild Seed Project, a Maine non-profit dedicated to native plant propagation.

February 21, 7pm

"How to identify & remove invasive species." Also answers the question, "Why bother?" Presented by Doug Cygan, State of NH Invasives expert.

April 27, 4:30pm – IN THE FIELD!

"How To Landscape Your Backyard for Wildlife." Hike & learn with experts from UNH Coop Extension, Wildlife Biologist Matt Tarr & Forester Mike Gagnon.

[Visit the Hollis Conservation Commission website for more information.](#)

Conservation Projects Awarded LCHIP Grants in 2023

The New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) is an independent state authority created to ensure the perpetual contribution of natural, cultural and historic resources to the economy, environment, and quality of life in New Hampshire. LCHIP does this by providing matching grants to New Hampshire municipalities and non-profits to conserve and preserve the state's heritage. As of December, 2022, LCHIP has awarded 564 grants, helping to conserve over 237,000 acres of land for food production, water quality, ecological values, timber management and recreation and has supported projects to study and rehabilitate 160 historic structures and sites. [For more info](#)

West Sawmill Town Forest Expansion, Atkinson

The Conservation Fund and the Town of Atkinson, working in partnership, have been awarded \$118,000 to help expand the West Sawmill Town Forest. This project supports remarkable wetland ecosystems and the adjacent Sawmill Swamp, and ensures access to a public trails.

Landry-Nippo Lake Conservation Easement, Barrington

Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire has been awarded \$350,000 to assist with the conservation of 162 acres in Barrington. This property includes a substantial stretch of undeveloped shoreline on Nippo Lake, the steep slopes of Mt. Misery, and important wetland and upland habitats and secures access to the lake and trails for the public to enjoy.

Bradford Bog Headwaters

Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust (ASLPT) has been awarded \$80,000 to assist in the purchase of 71 acres in Bradford just upstream of the Bradford Bog. The property includes extensive frontage on East Washington Road and is highly ranked in the state's Wildlife Action Plan for its importance to wildlife. ASLPT plans to construct a small trail network for the public to enjoy the property.

Clarkridge Farm Conservation Easement, Goffstown

A \$200,000 grant will help the Piscataquog Land Conservancy acquire a conservation easement on 71 acres along the General John Stark Scenic Byway in Goffstown. Known as Clarkridge Farm, the property consists of hayfields, mixed hardwood and pine forest, prime wetlands and open water. The easement will conserve prime agricultural and forest soils, protect prime wetlands and wildlife habitat, preserve a well-traveled scenic vista, and add to an extensive mosaic of

conservation land in the area.

Lithia Spring Project, Londonderry

The Town of Londonderry's Conservation Commission has been awarded \$300,000 to acquire the 54-acre Lithia Spring property. The land supports a diverse mix of wetland habitats along Nesenkeag Brook which are important habitat for osprey, heron, and migrating ducks. The property also includes the historic site of the Lithia Spring, where "medicinal" water was once extracted and sold nationwide. The town plans to have trails that will allow the public to enjoy both the historic and natural features of the property.

Little Big Forest, Stoddard

The Town of Stoddard's Conservation Commission has been awarded \$400,000 to assist in acquisition of the Little Big Forest along Highland Lake in Stoddard. The property includes 4000 feet of undeveloped shoreline on Highland Lake, and 40 acres of forest exhibiting old-growth characteristics. The newly created community forest will secure public access to the lake, and provide outdoor learning opportunities for students at the nearby elementary school.

Great Meadow Expansion Project, Tuftonboro

LCHIP has awarded \$31,600 to Moose Mountains Regional Greenways, which, in partnership with the Town of Tuftonboro, will acquire the 20-acre Lyon property in Tuftonboro, expanding 343 acres of conserved land in the Great Meadow wetland complex. The Town of Tuftonboro will install boardwalks and an observation deck for the public to enjoy this important wetland.



NH Coverts Project is accepting applications

The NH Coverts Project is accepting applications from volunteers interested in the 2023 NH Coverts Project volunteer training program. A covert (pronounced "cover" with a "t") is a thicket that provides shelter for wildlife. The NH Coverts Project is accepting applications from new volunteers interested in participating in the 2023 NH Coverts Project volunteer training program. This year's training will take place over the course of four weeks, with one virtual session to be held on the evening of May 4, and three in-person field workshops to be held in Antrim on May 12, Milton Mills on May 19, and Walpole on May 26. To apply for this year's NH Coverts Project training, download and complete the 2023 NH Coverts Project Application at nhcoverts.org. The deadline for applications is March 1, 2023. For more information, visit the project website at nhcoverts.org or contact Project Coordinator Haley Andreozzi at haley.andreozzi@unh.edu or 603-862-5327.

Grant Opportunities

Clif Family Foundation

The Clif Family Foundation supports nonprofit grassroots organizations that have the ability to engage local groups, positively impact their communities, and focus most of their resources on useful and positive actions. Grants are provided throughout the United States to support innovative groups working to strengthen our food system, enhance equitable community health outcomes, and safeguard our environment and natural resources. Priority is given to projects that address two or more of the Foundation's funding priorities, demonstrate strong community ties, and operate within viable and clearly defined plans for positive change. Applications are reviewed three times per year; the application deadlines are February 1, June 1, and October 1.

Davis Conservation Foundation

The Davis Conservation Foundation supports support protection of the environment and conservation of our natural resources. They fund programs devoted to the care, preservation, and protection of the environment, wildlife, open space, outdoor recreation, the sea, marine life and nature, at the discretion of the trustees. Projects related to wildlife, wildlife habitat, environmental protection and outdoor recreation are eligible. Projects that strengthen volunteer activity and outreach/community involvement in the above-noted areas are funded.

Fields Pond Foundation

The primary mission of the Fields Pond Foundation is to provide financial assistance to nature and land conservation organizations that are community-based and that serve to increase environmental awareness by involving local residents in conservation issues. The Foundation provides grants to nonprofit organizations and municipalities that request one of the following: project grants for trail making and other enhancement of public access to conservation lands, rivers, coastlines, and other natural resources; land acquisition for conservation; assistance in the establishment of stewardship endowments as a component of a land protection project; and support for related education programs and publications as components of a land protection project. Proposal outlines and formal applications may be submitted throughout the year. Detailed guidelines and forms are available on the [Foundation's website](#).

Visit our Website

NHACC.org

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