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1 message

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Conservation Commission Activities, Grant Opportunities, Updates and more!



Conservation Commissions and Community Solar

Beth McGuinn,
Solar Project Developer for Revision Energy

Climate change impacts our environment every day with stronger storms, droughts, insect infestations, changes in ski and maple seasons and so much more. Conservation and renewable energy are equal parts of the solution and commissions are well positioned to have positive impacts on both.



Most of us are familiar with rooftop or ground mounted solar for families or businesses. I am proud that I have been able to cover electrical use for my home and my hybrid plug in vehicle with solar power for the past 12 years. But what about families, municipalities and businesses who can't generate their own energy due to shade, roof condition or size, or because they lease or rent. How do they get local renewable energy? [READ MORE.](#)

Enter the NHACC Photo Contest to win \$250

Do you love to take photos while you are out enjoying nature?

If you like to capture nature’s beauty, please share your amazing photos with NHACC as part of our Water, Wetlands, and Wildlife in the Natural World photo contest. We are primarily looking for photographs that inspire the preservation of our natural environment.

Winners in each category will receive \$250, and Honorable Mentions will receive \$50. You are encouraged to take photographs on conserved lands in or near your town, but they also may be made in other places such as your own backyard. A complete list of rules can be found on the [NHACC website](#).

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. 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.

How to Enter:

We will be using an on-line platform called ArtCall to host entries into the contest. Go the NHACC website to [submit a photo](#). 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!

CCs in the News

The **Kingston Conservation Commission’s** (KCC) Trails Subcommittee (TC) has been busy building bridges, creating trailheads and kiosks, and rerouting trails. Last year the TC opened a cartop boat launch on Country Pond. Though most of this 360 acre pond is situated in Kingston, it had been previously inaccessible to Kingston citizens except via private property.

In 2022 a new management plan was written for one of their new Town Forests and a timber harvest conducted. The TC also put together a Trails Brochure, which is available at the Kingston Town Hall and on the town website. In 2022 Kingston added 30 acres of conserved land to our oldest Town Forest, and this year they have plans to add two additional conservation parcels to the town.





Lee Conservation Commission Established Trails Committee

At the beginning of 2020, the Lee Conservation Commission noticed two things concerning trails on Town land: people were using trails on Town property a lot more and the trails needed better maintenance. The Commission hosted a workshop with the help of the UNH Cooperative Extension that got people interested in trail maintenance. In October of 2020, the Commission created a Trails Committee as a subcommittee of the Commission with the charge of maintaining the Town trails. In January of 2021, the Commission recruited 14 people to join the Trails Committee, many of whom had attended the trails maintenance workshop.

[READ More](#)

Good Forestry in the Granite State Update is Underway

A steering committee has formed to create the third edition of *Good Forestry in the Granite State: Recommended Voluntary Forest Management Practices in New Hampshire (GFGS)*. The second edition was published in 2010 (the first in 1997). The committee consists of volunteer stakeholders and subject matter experts representing diverse interests. NHACC representative on the Steering committee is Geoff Jones, Forester and chair of the Stoddard Conservation Commission. Committee members are asked to consider how *GFGS* can be revised to meet today's emerging issues. The steering committee plans to send out a public outreach survey in July to seek input from stakeholders. In the meantime, if you have questions for the committee, please contact Geoff Jones via email at: geoffreytjones@gmail.com.

Grant Opportunities

NH DES Watershed Assistance Grants

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) solicits projects to address nonpoint source (NPS) pollution through the implementation of watershed-based plans in priority watersheds. Projects must comprehensively address NPS problems, and must have a quantitative way to assess progress and determine success. The watershed-based plan must have a clear water quality goal and include the nine, minimum elements (a) through (i) required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). NHDES' Watershed Assistance Section has released the 2024 Watershed Assistance Grants' Pre-proposal request for proposals (RFP) to support local initiatives to restore impaired waters or protect high quality waters. Pre-proposals are due by 4:00 PM, September 15, 2023. [Go to the DES website for information.](#)

The New England Grassroots Environment Fund

The Grassroots Fund has a mission to energize and nurture long-term civic engagement in local initiatives that create and maintain healthy, just, safe and environmentally sustainable communities throughout the six New England states. With a focus on those who have often been marginalized, Grassroots Fund empowers individuals, groups and organizations working across a broad range of environmental and social justice issues. By helping them identify, select and access the specific tools, resources and connections they need to challenge existing systems, they are able to develop lasting solutions to the complex problems affecting the places they live and the health of the people who live there. [Learn more.](#)

Training & Education Opportunities

The Appalachian Trail Club is excited to share trail training opportunities at Camp Dodge Trails Center.

The season is in full swing here at the Camp Dodge Trails Center, our crews have started their projects and others are finishing up their training weeks. I wanted to once again thank everyone who attended this year's Trail Skills College a few weeks ago, it was amazing to have so many trail enthusiasts together. With the buzz for more skill sharing and training still in the air, I wanted to let you know that the registrations for all of our other trail training opportunities are now live and all can be found at these links below:

- [One-Day Axe Training \(July 7\)](#)
- [Chainsaw A or B Bucking and Limbing Training \(August 2-3\)](#)
- [Alpine Stewardship Workshop \(August 4-5\)](#)
- [\(Re\)Considering Trail Access \(August 9-10\)](#)
- [Chainsaw Felling Training \(August 23-24\)](#)
- [One-Day Axe Training \(September 8\)](#)
- [3-Day Rigging for Trailwork Training \(September 15-17\)](#)
- [Chainsaw A or B Bucking and Limbing Training \(October 3-4\)](#)

Dues

Thank you to the 184 commissions that have paid 2023 Dues! We really appreciate your continued support for the work of NHACC and we look forward to working with our members throughout the year. If your commission is unsure of your membership status, please email NHACC at admin@NHACC.org.

Visit our Website
NHACC.org

Our mailing address is:
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