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NHACC April 2025 Enews

1 message

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Conservation Commission Activities, Legislative Updates and more!



Celebrate Earth Day

Conservation Commissions across the state will be celebrating Earth Day this week. As everyone who is committed to protecting our environment knows, every day is Earth Day and we need to protect our planet all year. To support our members, NHACC helps conservation commissions take on environmental challenges in their community and protect local natural resources every day. This April, many commissions have organized events

to promote Earth Day and celebrate the importance of our natural environment with their communities. [Earthday.org](https://earthday.org) offers resources and support to make the most of Earth Day.

CCs in the News

Hampton Conservation Commission Hosts Earth Month

Hampton, NH hosted a variety of events and programs to offer the community fun, educational, and engaging opportunities to celebrate Earth Day. Earth Month is designed celebrate Earth Day all month long while facilitating the growth of eco-empathy among residents and visitors. Learn more on [Earth Month Hub](#)

Monadnock Conservation Commissions Host Earth Day Festival

Come to the Earth Day Festival on Saturday, April 26th, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Cathedral of the Pines, [10 Hale Hill Road, Rindge, NH 03461](#). A day filled with music, food, discussions, and activities for all ages! Thank you to the Conservation Commissions of Jaffrey, Rindge, Dublin, Troy, Marlborough, and Fitzwilliam for putting on this event! [Learn more](#)

Promote Your Event on the NHACC Exchange

Would you like to spread the word about a commission event or program? NHACC has created a listserv (email distribution list) called *NHACC Exchange* to allow the conservation community to share timely information. We invite you to ask questions about emerging issues and events your commission is interested in sharing with others. The electronic email list provides an efficient way for conservation commissions to reach out to others to seek advice, to ask questions, and share events. To subscribe to NHACC Exchange, please [sign up HERE](#).

Our Power, Our Planet Webinar Series

Celebrate Earth Day; Our Power, Our Planet Webinar Series

The International theme of Earth Day this year is ***Our Power, Our Planet***. To celebrate Earth Day, NHACC is working with a Planning Committee of fellow Conservation Commissioners to develop a series of events to engage more people and build up excitement for the final celebration on April 22, 2025. NHACC will present a webinar series this spring to help commissions learn more about the theme ***Our Power, Our Planet***, and how renewable energy helps protect our planet and our local, fragile natural resources.

The Intersection Between Climate, Clean Energy and Community

Thursday, April 24, 2025, 12 noon

Sandra Jones, Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative

This webinar will examine how NH towns and environmental organizations are finding ways to address climate change by taking action to expand their renewable energy programs and projects. Panelists from Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative and Lakes Region Conservation Trust, will describe the NH Solar Shares Program and how they created a partnership between land conservation and renewable energy, while making solar energy more accessible to families in need of support. Participants will learn they can locate solar array systems in appropriate locations to help support renewable energy while continuing to preserve fragile and environmentally important natural resources. [REGISTER HERE.](#)

Training & Education Opportunities

AMC Offers Trail Skills College

Join the Appalachian Mountain Club and White Mountain National Forest at Trail Skills College at the at Camp Dodge Trails Training Center from May. 15–18, 2025 at the Camp Dodge Center. This collaborative event is for the everyone in the trails community–volunteer and professional trail stewards with all levels of experience. Whether you are just starting out and looking for ways to get involved, or a professional looking to further your skills and build your network, this event offers opportunities for everyone, and all are welcome! [Register HERE.](#)

NH Drinking Water Source Protection Conference The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) will be holding the 2025 Drinking Water Source Water Protection Conference on Thursday, June 12th (in-person) at the Edward Cross Training Complex (National Guard facility) located at [722 Riverwood Drive](#) in Pembroke, NH. The conference will focus on how to ensure the long-term protection of drinking water resources, one of NH's most important natural resources and highest priority for public water systems according to the American Water Works Association. REGISTER for the event at the [American Ground Water Trust website.](#)

NH Timber Owners Association Offers Training Programs

Would you like to learn more about the fundamentals of forestry and NH timber harvest law? The NH TOA offers classes year round on everything from safely in the woods to harvesting firewood. Take a look at their website for a list of classes and training [NH TOA website.](#)

Grants

State Funding for Conservation

NHDES Source Water Protection Program Funds

The Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund (DWGTF) has allocated \$2 million for this year's grant round and NHDES is currently accepting pre-application for Source Water Protection. Grants are available to cover up to 50% of total project costs and are capped at \$500,000 per project. To be eligible for consideration, a project must permanently protect an area containing "high-priority water supply lands", defined as land that falls within either: a wellhead protection area, hydrological area of concern, or a high-yield stratified drift aquifer classified as GA2. Eligible lands can be viewed in the [Source Water Protection Eligible Lands Mapper](#). Pre-applications are due May 21, 2025; and if eligible, applicants are invited to submit a funding application. Full funding applications are due June 25, 2025. To learn about the DWGTF SWP program, please visit <https://www.dwgtf.des.nh.gov/funding-programs/source-water-protection-grant-program>. For additional information or questions, please contact Laura Weit-Marcum, SWP Coordinator at Laura.M.Weit-Marcum@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2862.

NH Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP)

The New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program is an independent state authority that makes matching grants to NH communities and non-profits to conserve and preserve New Hampshire's most important natural, cultural and historic resources. Through this investment program, every \$1 in resources brings back more than four times local, private, federal funds, and helps to secure NH's greatest business advantage: The quality of life and traditional values of our state. [Learn more.](#)

NH DES Aquatic Resource Mitigation (ARM) fund

The Aquatic Resource Mitigation Program aims to sustain the functions and values of aquatic resources in New Hampshire through protection, enhancement and restoration of wetlands and streams, to compensate for the aquatic resources lost from development and other impacts. When wetland functions and values will be lost due to development, funds may be placed into the ARM fund. Fees collected by ARM are pooled within the same major watershed and then distributed as competitive grants so that the money collected is going back to the areas affected by the project. For more information go to the [DES website](#).

Mooseplate Grants

The State Conservation Committee's Conservation Grant Program supports and promotes programs and partnerships that protect, restore and enhance the state's valuable natural resources. The Conservation Grant Program's six focus areas include restoring water quality, creating or restoring wildlife habitat, soil conservation, best management practices for agriculture, stormwater or forestry, conservation planning, and land conservation projects. For more information go to the [NH Dept. of Agriculture website](#).

Visit our Website

NHACC.org

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