



Barbara Richter <barbara@nhacc.org>

NHACC May 2026 Enews

1 message

NHACC <barbara@nhacc.org>
Reply-To: NHACC <barbara@nhacc.org>
To: barbara@nhacc.org

Thu, May 14, 2026 at 9:26 AM

Conservation Commission Activities, Training Opportunities and more!



Welcome Spring Ephemerals

Photo by Judith Lindsey

Spring is a magical time to explore woodlands and forests floor to look for spring ephemerals. To take advantage of the direct sunlight before the deciduous trees leaf out these woodland spring flowers bloom early and produce seeds. These spring flowers have evolved to live and reproduce on the forest floor during the short time period when sunlight reaches the forest floor. They are the first plants to emerge from the soil and capture the sunlight. It is a joyful sight to find these wildflowers peaking up from leaf litter to welcome spring.

CCs in the News

Chesterfield Conservation Commission

Watershed Day, May 23, 2026 10:00 AM Chesterfield Town Hall

The Chesterfield Conservation Commission is taking a new approach to helping residents understand the town's natural resources by shifting from static lists and inventories to a more intuitive, watershed-based view of how land, water, wildlife, and development interact. As Commissioner Bruce Jacobs put it, the town's 2023 Natural Resources Inventory was solid, but "It was hard to get people in the community real excited about it." The Commission needed a way to help residents see connections, not just categories. [Read More.](#)

Rindge Conservation Commission

Wildlife Corridors in Your Backyard, May 28, 6:30 to 8 pm Cathedral of the Pines, Rindge
Join the Rindge Conservation Commission for a presentation and discussion on how local residents can help protect and connect wildlife habitat. The program will introduce New Hampshire's Wildlife Action Plan – the state's blueprint for conserving wildlife and habitats – and how it applies directly to Rindge. Participants will learn how the plan identifies species of greatest conservation need, prioritizes critical habitats, and outlines strategies for conservation. The session will also highlight local conservation efforts, including the importance of wildlife corridors in Rindge and the importance of the Matabeseck Wildlife Corridor for maintaining local wildlife populations. [Read More.](#)

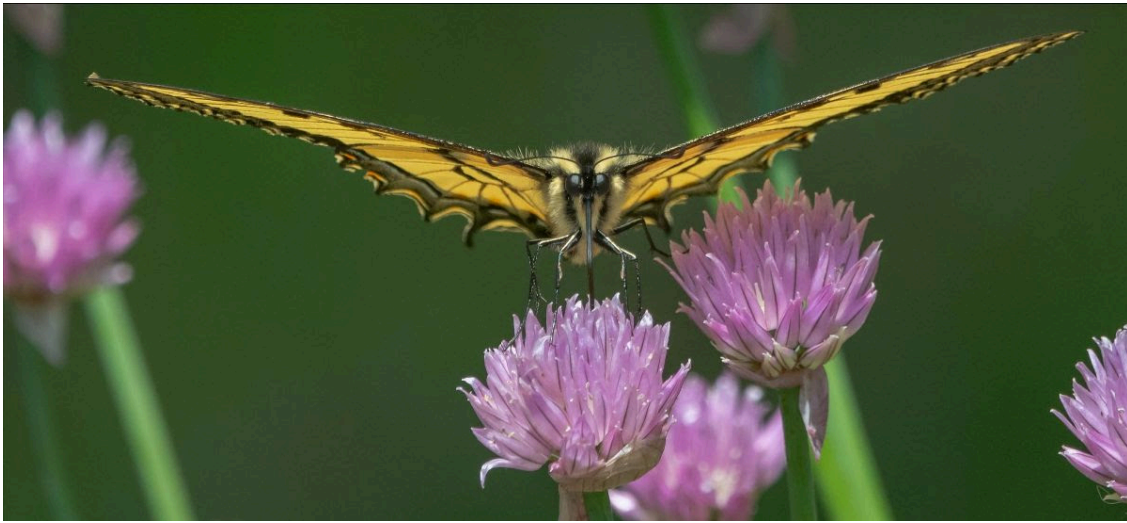
Milton Conservation Commission

Jones Brook/Payne Easement Celebration May 30, 10:00 AM 12:00 PM

Celebrate the Grand Opening of the Jones Brook/Payne Conservation Easement with MMRG and the Milton Conservation Commission! We'll kick off the morning with a brief welcome and acknowledgment of this newly protected 23-acre property in Milton—home to high-value freshwater wetlands, forested habitat, and the confluence of Jones Brook and the Branch River. Conserved in 2025 and now permanently protected, the Jones Brook/Payne property connects to more than 4,000 acres of nearby conserved lands and supports native brook trout, diverse wildlife, and excellent opportunities for passive recreation. Please pre-register at <https://mmrgnh.org/events>

Greenfield Conservation Commission

The Greenfield Conservation Commission hosted a program on birdscaping presented by Gail Coffey, a University of New Hampshire Master Gardener at the Stephenson Memorial Library the first week of May. The program focused on creating landscapes that attract birds and pollinators. Coffey discussed the benefits of planting native perennials, shrubs and trees to provide sustainable habitat while enhancing residential landscapes. [Read more.](#)



NHACC Spring Lunch & Learn Series

Pollinators Are Essential

Wednesday, May 20, at 12 noon on Zoom

Presenter: Catherine Coverdale, Xerces Society

Join the Xerces Society to learn more about what is threatening our pollinators and why they are vital to our agriculture and environment. Find out more about who our pollinators are, what are the threats they face, and what we can do to help restore their habitats.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Pollinator Pathways NH

Wednesday, June 24, at 12 noon on Zoom

Presenter: Evy Nathan, Pollinator Pathways New Hampshire

Through community partnerships, educational outreach, hands-on events, and local engagement, Pollinator Pathways has been empowering individuals, neighborhoods, and organizations in Southern NH to create sustainable, connected habitats for pollinators. From seed swaps and seedling sales to workshops, school programs and conservation partnerships, they're building a movement to protect the pollinators that sustain our ecosystems. Learn what you can do in your town – and in your back yard.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Education & Training Opportunities

GIS Tools for Wetland Identification

Wednesday, May 27, 2026

12 to 1:30 pm presented on Zoom

Kickstart Your Journey with GIS Tools for Wetlands Identification.

Online tools can help identify wetlands when you are not able to access the property. This program will cover the features of the **[Land Resources Management Permit Planning Tool \(LRMPPT\)](#)** to assist in wetlands identification. Participants will learn how to effectively use online

tools prior to a site visit to review water resources.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Wetlands Identification Field Study

Saturday, June 6 from 9 am to 12 noon

Bow High School, [55 Falcon Way, Bow NH](#)

Presenters: Mary Ann Tilton, NH DES; Kara Villone, NH DES; Sandy Crystall, PWS

This field trip to a local wetland will help participants understand "what makes a wetland," and how the various characteristics of wetlands contribute to the functions and values they provide. We'll talk about wetland delineation and assessment and how this information can help you and your Conservation Commission provide comments on wetland permit applications. This session will include field stations featuring wetlands vegetation indicators, soils and hydrology, and functions including flood storage, water quality and wildlife habitat.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Sharpen your Trails Skills with NHACC and AMC

Friday, June 19, from 10 am to 4 pm

at the AMC Camp Dodge, Gorham, NH

Join the Appalachian Mountain Club Trail staff in this hands-on workshop to learn more about trail design, erosion control, and how to address over-use. This workshop is a hands-on analysis, interpretation, and prescription workshop for trail workers and land managers. Most of the time will be in the field. Participants should carry a day pack with food and water and wear sturdy shoes. Professional, entry-level, and volunteer trail builders/maintainers are all welcome to participate.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Conservation Easement Monitoring for Volunteers

June 12, 2026 | 10:00am - 4:00pm, In-Person

Sanborn Mills Farm, [7097 Sanborn Rd Loudon, NH 03307](#)

Are you a volunteer responsible for monitoring conservation easements for your town or local land trust? Join Emma Tutein and Sara Callaghan from UNH Extension to learn the ins and outs, and best practices for performing annual monitoring of easements. We'll spend time indoors learning before heading outside to put your new skills to work in the field exploring parts of the conservation easement at Sanborn Mills Farm. [UNH website here](#).



MOTH NIGHT

AT HUBBARD BROOK

Friday, May 29th
Stop by between 8pm and 10pm
Moth sheets will be up!

Parking at Pleasant View Farm
at 25 Dobson Hill Rd

Moth observation and talk with Dartmouth Professor of
Biology Matt Ayres at 8:30pm

You should bring:

- 📷 camera/phone camera
- 👟 hiking/mud boots
- 🦟 mosquito repellent, long pants/shirt
- 🧐 your curiosity

Questions?

Email Raisa at
rkochmaruk@hubbardbrookfoundation.org
or call or text at 484-951-6559

Donations to support science are welcome.



Are you looking for an outreach opportunity for your commission to present to your community?

NH Network's Plastics Working Group is offering a presentation for your organization, by zoom or in person:

Plastics -- what you should know, what you can do

Learn more about the health, economic, and environmental impacts of the plastics we use and consume.

This presentation addresses the prolific plastic problem, the harmful effects for our health, the environment, and municipal budgets -- and what we can do in our homes and in our communities to address these concerns. The presentation lasts about 30 minutes and will be sure to stimulate discussion, and hopefully further action. Contact: susan7richman@gmail.com

Grant Opportunities

2026 DWGTF Source Water Protection Grant Round is Open

Pre-applications due **May 28, 2026**.

Source Water Protection grants are available to cover up to 50% of total project cost and are capped at \$500,000 per project. One pre-application must be submitted for each project. Projects must permanently protect the property either by a conservation easement or deed restrictions that meet minimum requirements or in-fee with grant conditions recorded with the registry of deeds. Potential applicants should view the online [Source Water Protection Mapper](#) to determine if their project contains eligible land. [For more information](#).

NHACC Membership Benefits

NHACC now has a **listserv** (email distribution list) to distribute timely information to the conservation community. The electronic listserv provides an efficient way for conservation commissions to reach out to others to seek advice, to ask questions, and share information. Check out our listserv **NHACC Exchange** and ask your questions to other commissioners who may have answers. [Sign up here](#) to join the NHACC Exchange.

NHACC sends out a **monthly Enews** with information on grants, training opportunities and updates from conservation commissions here in NH. If you know someone who would like to sign up for our Enews send them [this link](#).

NHACC Handbooks are still available at discounted rate of \$20 for NHACC members. This handbook serves as an introduction for new members to the powers, responsibilities and possibilities of conservation commissions and as a reference for more experienced commissioners. To order a Municipal Conservation Commission Handbook, please email Linda at: admin@NHACC.org.

Visit the [NHACC website](#) for guidance documents and educational material. We expanded and enhanced our members resource library section to provide easy access to the most critical information that commissions need. This resource library is packed with information both created and curated by NHACC.

Remember, the benefits of membership also include:

- Discounted rate at our Annual Conference to be on November 1;
- Representation in the state legislature and on state-wide commissions;
- Online Lunch & Learn programs free to our members;
- Access to technical assistance and guidance;
- Access to our updated website;
- Educational opportunities focused on wetland permit review;

- Networking opportunities including roundtables, hikes, and potlucks;
- Up-to-date publications from our E-news and Legislative Updates.

Visit our Website

NHACC.org

Our mailing address is:

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