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NHACC July 2026 Enews

1 message

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Conservation Commission Activities, Legislative Updates and more!



Healthy Enviroment = Healthy People



Nature provides so many health benefits.

It is important to take time to get outside and enjoy nature for our health and well-being. Having access to natural areas improves public health by reducing stress, increases the opportunity for exercise, and improves air quality for residents. Investments in natural infrastructure directly benefit community

members through water filtration and clean water, pollutant removal for cleaner air, and results in the reduction of stress. Based on the number of acres of forest developed each year from 1990 to 2010, New Hampshire loses nearly 5,000 acres of forests, farms, and natural lands each year, so it is critical to continue our efforts to protect these special spaces. More from [Harvard School of Public Health](#)

Fall Lunch & Learn

Natural Burial & Conservation Grounds: What Conservation Commissioners Need to Know

Wednesday, September 16, at 12 noon on Zoom

If you've got an ear to the ground, you probably know there is growing public interest in finding final resting places in natural burial grounds that nurture the environment while protecting land. As municipal cemeteries trustees and independent nonprofits search for land suitable for natural burial in your communities, conservation commissions may be asked to participate in the search and, ultimately, in the protection of the land involved. Join us for an introductory workshop/lunch-and-learn to see what goes into creating natural burial opportunities, what responsibilities characterize the web of relationships involved, and what conservation commissions need to know to be ready for the question.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Annual Meeting & Conference

Save the Date: Saturday, November 7, 2026

Don't miss NHACC's 55th Annual Meeting and Conference. We will be offering 24 breakout sessions and field trips after the annual meeting highlighting wildlife habitat, land management, 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 in November.

Training & Education Opportunities

Check Out Calendars to Learn About Education Opportunities

If you would like to learn more about the natural environment this summer, take advantage of the many opportunities hosted by non-profit organizations serving

New Hampshire. It is a great time to get outside and enjoy our beautiful lands.

- [The Appalachian Mountain Club](#)
- [NH Audubon](#)
- [NH Environmental Educators](#)
- [NH Timber Owners Association](#)
- [Society for the Protection of NH Forest](#)
- [Nature Groupie](#)
- [UNH Extension](#)

CCs in the News

Derry Conservation Commission Host Bioblitz

Recently, the [Derry NH Conservation](#), NH Association of Conservation Commissions, and [Moosewood Ecological](#) hosted a BioBlitz at the Broadview Farm Conservation Area. This species scavenger hunt aimed to capture a snapshot of local biodiversity. By the halfway mark, participants successfully identified over 200 different species of plants, insects, and wildlife! Thank you to everyone who helped explore and document our local environment! [Check out the video.](#)

Meredith Conservation Commission Hosted Landowner Forum

The Meredith Conservation Commission and the Lakes Region Conservation Trust hosted an informal open forum discussion about how landowners can best realize their goals for their land. Landowners learned how to protect their property while allowing for timber harvest, or for recreation or agriculture, or just to ensure the land will remain in its current state forever. [Read more here.](#)

Durham Conservation Commission Support Dam Removal

The Durham Conservation Commission voted to remove the 1913 Mill Pond Dam to restore the Oyster River's natural flow, eliminate structural hazards, and improve fish migration and water quality. Following a 74% voter approval in 2022 town meeting, the project is now underway. [Read more here.](#)

Grant Opportunities

Moose Plate Grant Applications Are Due in September

The New Hampshire State Conservation Committee (SCC) announces the opening of the fiscal year 2027 Conservation Moose Plate Grants. Grant application information and program requirements are available on the SCC website:

[Conservation Grant Program](#) .

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 11, 2026. Awards will be announced in December 2026, and funding will be available to successful applicants in July 2027. Eligible applicants include municipalities, County Conservation Districts, qualified nonprofit organizations engaged in conservation programs, public and private schools, County Cooperative Extension natural

resource programs, and scout groups. For SCC grant program inquiries, contact Rachel Stevens, Administrator, rachel.a.stevens@agr.nh.gov.

2026 Local Source Water Protection Grant Applications Now Available!

NHDES 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,
- Controlling access to sources.

The grant award for any one project cannot be more than \$25,000 (or \$30,000 for projects that address climate change). However, applicants can submit applications for multiple projects in the same grant year. Local match funds are not required but are considered during application scoring. For more information, go to the [NH DES Website](#).

NH Fish and Game Small Grants Program

Fish and Game's Small Grants Program can help you restore and maintain important wildlife habitats on your property. NH Fish and Game's Small Grants Program help landowners who own a minimum of 25 contiguous acres to restore or enhance habitat for wildlife. Funding of up to \$4,000 per year (no more than \$10,000 over a ten-year period) is available for the creation and/or maintenance of wildlife habitat within the property. For more information, go to [NH F&G website](#).

Visit our Website
NHACC.org

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