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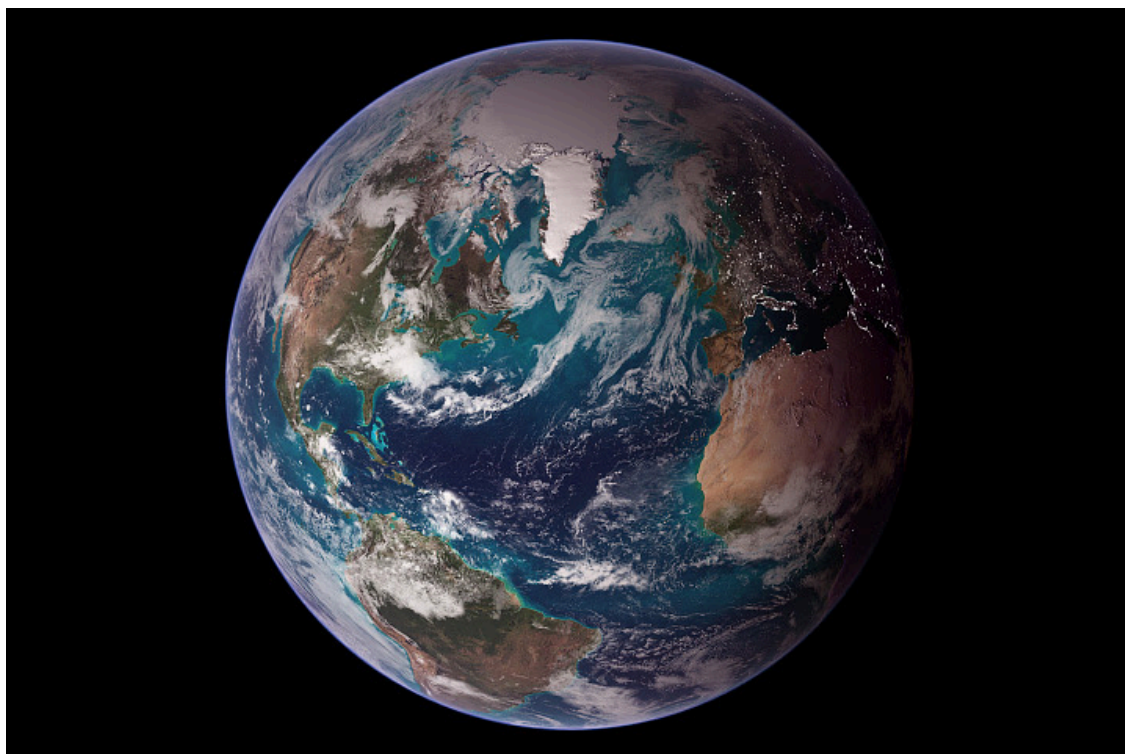
NHACC April 2026 Enews

1 message

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Tue, Apr 14, 2026 at 6:07 PM

Conservation Commission Activities, Legislative Updates and more!



Celebrate Earth Day with Collective Action

Michael Cohen, MA, CAGS, Amherst, NH

As everyone who is committed to protecting our environment knows, every day is Earth Day. Protecting our planet, our state and our communities' natural

environments, is a year-round task. The NH Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC) and its member commissions work every day to protect and conserve land and natural resources and to promote the use of the outdoors for recreation, building community, and economic health.

NHACC helps town conservation commissions take on environmental challenges in their community and to protect local natural resources important to environmental and human health. This year, on April 22, many commissions have organized community events to promote 2026 Earth Day and celebrate the importance of our environment. [READ FULL ARTICLE HERE](#).

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

Chester Conservation Commission Celebrates at Watson Pond

Join the Conservation Commission on Earth Day, Tuesday, April 22nd, 2024, at Watson Pond from 10am – 12pm for a Nature Walk. Explore and enjoy Watson Pond's biodiversity with commission members! [Learn more](#)

Monadnock Conservation Commissions Host Earth Day Festival

Saturday, April 25 from 10 am to 4 pm

Cathedral of the Pines, [10 Hale Hill Road, Rindge, NH 03461](#)

The keynote Speaker is Duncan Watson, author of Everyone's Trash, One Man Vs. 1.6 Billion Pounds. Duncan Watson recently retired as assistant director of Public Works in Keene and has won awards as a champion of recycling and smart waste management. Join this day filled with music, food, discussions, and activities for all ages! Thank you to the Jaffrey, Rindge, Dublin, Troy, Marlborough, Sharon and Fitzwilliam Conservation Commissions for putting on this event! [Learn more](#)



2025 State Wildlife Action Plan: Conserving New Hampshire's Wildlife and Habitats

June 3rd from 4:00-5:15pm

Join Extension Wildlife Conservation State Specialist Haley Andreozzi and Community Conservation State Specialist Emma Tutein for a webinar introducing the **2025 New Hampshire State Wildlife Action Plan**. This session will provide an overview of the plan – New Hampshire's blueprint for conserving wildlife and their habitats – and share key updates from the recent revision process. Participants will learn how the plan identifies species of greatest conservation need, prioritizes habitats, and outlines strategies for conservation across the state. We'll also explore how landowners, community leaders, and conservation staff and volunteers can use the plan to take an active role in wildlife and habitat conservation. If you're new to the plan or looking to put it into practice, this webinar will help you better understand and apply this important conservation resource.

*This program is being offered as part of the **Taking Action for Wildlife** program – a partnership between UNH Cooperative Extension, NH Fish & Game, and the NH Association of Conservation Commissions – supporting communities, conservation organizations, and landowners in working together to conserve New Hampshire's wildlife and habitats. **LEARN MORE.***

2026 SPRING WETLANDS TRAINING

GIS Tools for Wetland Identification

Friday, 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 to gather vital wetland benefits information for the permit review process. **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. Be prepared for wet ground and whatever wacky temperatures may come our way that day!

[REGISTER HERE](#)

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](#)**.

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 14–17 at the Camp Dodge Center. **This year's 4-day event is filled with a variety of trainings, workshops, and evening programs that any trail or outdoor enthusiast would love.** This collaborative event is for the entire 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](#)**.

Spiritual Dimensions of the Climate Crisis

Tuesday, April 21, 5:30–6:30pm, Hybrid: Mayer Room, Howe Library and Zoom
Rev. Dr Andi Lloyd, former professor of biology at Middlebury College and currently co-pastor of the Church of Christ at Dartmouth College, will explore the spiritual dimensions of the climate crisis. Free to attend, please **[Register HERE](#)**.

Grants

State Funding for Conservation

NHDES Source Water Protection Program Funds

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) is hosting a webinar on **April 20, 2026** at 10 am. The webinar will focus on the Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund (DWGTF) **[Source Water Protection](#)** program, which provides grants to municipalities, public water systems, land trusts and others to permanently protect water supply lands. Projects must permanently protect “high-priority water supply lands” via in-fee purchase or conservation

easement. Eligible lands are "high-priority water supply lands" or lands likely to benefit a future water supply source and can be viewed in the [Land Trust Eligibility Viewer](#). The 2026 grant round will open in **April 2026**. Pre-applications must be submitted by **May 28, 2026** and full funding applications must be submitted to NHDES by **August 27, 2026**. [Register HERE](#).

NH Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP)

New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program's 25th grant round is now open! The LCHIP 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. LCHIP grants are funded by a \$25 fee assessed when deeds, mortgages, and plans are recorded at the state's ten registries of deeds. LCHIP grant recipients are required to match each LCHIP dollar with a minimum of one additional dollar. Since 2001, LCHIP has awarded 646 grants, totaling over \$68 million to nearly 350 communities and nonprofits across 210 NH communities. As of July 2025, the Program's investment has helped to conserve more than 247,000 acres of land and rehabilitate 192 historic structures. [LEARN MORE](#) – click on "Grant Programs" for more information.

NH DES Aquatic Resource Mitigation (ARM) fund

The updated [Aquatic Resource Mitigation \(ARM\) Fund calculator](#) is now available. In accordance with RSA 482-A:30 through 30-b, the In-Lieu Fee (ILF) mitigation calculator has been updated to reflect current interest rates and local land values. When mitigation is required to offset unavoidable impacts to jurisdictional aquatic resource areas, permit applicants may opt to make an ILF payment into the ARM Fund to compensate for these losses. The calculator approximates total cost of wetlands construction, stream and river construction, or such other mitigation actions required to offset functional loss. An administrative assessment fee of 20% of the total cost is added for the administration and operation of the ARM Fund Program. Please visit the [ARM Fund Program webpage](#) for information.

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 [MOOSEPLATE WEBSITE](#).

Visit our Website

[NHACC.org](https://www.nhacc.org)

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