

News from Bear-Paw Regional Greenways
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* * *REPEAT ANNOUNCEMENT * * *

CHRIS SCHADLER TO SPEAK AT BEAR-PAW REGIONAL GREENWAYS' ANNUAL MEETING ON
FEBRUARY 9TH, 2008

DEERFIELD N.H., January 20, 2008 – Bear-Paw Regional Greenways invites their members, friends, and the public to its Annual Meeting scheduled for February 9th, 2008. Bear-Paw will be celebrating the completion of three conservation easements, almost 115 acres, and it now holds easements protecting 19 properties and 1,163 acres. It has also assisted on other projects protecting another 3,347 acres in its region. In 2008, Bear-Paw expects to conserve over 1,000 additional acres!

The meeting will be held at Coe-Brown Academy on Route 4 in Northwood and registration begins at 9:00 AM. After a brief business meeting and the presentation of awards, Chris Schadler, a knowledgeable authority on wolf and coyote, will give a talk on the role of wild canids in New England. She'll explore questions like whether "we" really want wilderness in New England or would a "White Mountain Park" and a "civilized" landscape suffice? Do animals like the wolf, lynx or wolverine have a place in our woods? Will coyotes become wolves? Would humans accept them as such, if that happens? After 100 years of wolf extirpation efforts, why did we bother to save it? And why do we love wolves and protect them, reintroduce them and campaign for them and not at the same time protect the coyote?

These questions keep Chris traipsing through the woods, looking for sign of the eastern coyote, trying to understand how it uses the landscape, searches for mates, interacts with humans and how management policies affect its population dynamics, dispersal patterns, food choices and interactions with returning wolves from Canada. Her time spent in the North Woods searching for wolf sign has also yielded interesting stories but elusive results.

After 28 years of research, field work and lecturing on wild canids (wolves and coyotes), what strikes Chris is the dichotomy between what people say they want from nature and what people appear to need from it. As wolves return to the North Woods, slipping between pack territories of the large (and getting larger) eastern coyote, questions of re-wilding the woods and reintroductions collide with ATV parks and 2nd home developments. By the time Chris left her teaching position at UNH, over 10,000 students had become aware of the need to conserve woods and water, to understand human population momentum and the dangers of consumerism and to appreciate the complexity of climate change. Having won many teaching awards she is now recognized across New England as a passionate and inspiring lecturer and a knowledgeable authority on wolf and coyote.

After the presentation and a lunch that will be provided, participants are invited to take a snowshoe trek or hike at the McClary Hill Farm (www.McClaryHillFarm.com) in Epsom. This will be a moderately strenuous walk. Snowshoes may be needed and proper dress is required. The Annual Meeting will also feature the raffle of many donated items. Bear-Paw welcomes donations from artists, writers, and craftspeople for this fundraising effort.

Pre-registration is requested so that Bear-Paw can plan appropriately so please register at www.bear-paw.org, info@Bear-Paw.org or 463-9400 by February 4th to reserve your place. This event is open to the public and this year a \$10.00 donation is requested to offset the cost of the event.

Bear-Paw Regional Greenways is a non-profit land trust with a mission to permanently conserve a network of lands that protects our region's water, wildlife habitat, forests, and farmland. Bear-Paw is committed to ensuring that the region's most important natural features continue to be available for future generations and works to promote voluntary land protection through outreach, education, and project assistance. The organization is led by resident volunteers who are concerned about the loss of natural areas our seven-town service area (Candia, Deerfield, Epsom, Northwood, Nottingham, Raymond, and Strafford). For further information about how to become a member, land protection options for landowners or volunteering with the land trust, please contact Daniel Kern at Bear-Paw Regional Greenways, Post Office Box 19, Deerfield, NH 03037, 603 463-9400, or info@bear-paw.org. You can also visit their website at www.bear-paw.org.

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