

News from Bear-Paw Regional Greenways
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BEAR-PAW ANNOUNCES ANNUAL MEETING FOR FEBRUARY 14th

DEERFIELD N.H., February 9, 2009 – Bear-Paw Regional Greenways invites their members, friends, and the public to its Annual Meeting scheduled for February 14th, 2009. Bear-Paw will be celebrating the completion of eight conservation easements conserving over 1,147 acres in 2008. It now holds easements protecting 27 properties and 2,310 acres. In 2009, Bear-Paw expects to conserve over 500 additional acres!

The meeting will be held at Coe-Brown Academy on Route 4 in Northwood and registration begins at 8:30 AM. After a brief business meeting and the presentation of awards, Dr. John Litvaitis, UNH Professor of Wildlife Ecology, will discuss his research on the effects of roads on wildlife and habitat connectivity. Dr. Litvaitis' current research interests examine the effects of contemporary land uses on wildlife populations, especially species that are hampered by habitat fragmentation, the influences of historic land uses on present-day wildlife populations and their habitats, understanding and limiting the effects of invasive shrubs on forest wildlife, and identifying factors that contribute to wildlife-vehicle collisions.

After the presentation and a lunch that will be provided, participants are invited to take a snowshoe trek or hike to Stonehouse Pond in Barrington. 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 info@Bear-Paw.org, www.bear-paw.org, or 463-9400 by February 7th to reserve your place. This event is open to the public and a modest donation is requested to offset the cost of the event (\$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for non-members).

Bear-Paw Regional Greenways now holds easements protecting 27 properties and 2,310 acres and it has assisted on other projects protecting another 3,265 acres in the region. Bear-Paw 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. Established by resident volunteers, Bear-Paw works to conserve open space in Candia, Deerfield, Epsom, Northwood, Nottingham, Raymond, and Strafford through outreach, education, and land protection project assistance. Our Goal is to safeguard our irreplaceable water resources, important wildlife habitat and travel routes, and productive forests and farms. We envision a region of scenic beauty and rural character where diversity and quality of life are sustained. For 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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