

News from Bear-Paw Regional Greenways
63 Nottingham Road
Post Office Box 19
Deerfield, New Hampshire 03037
(www.bear-paw.org)



CONTACT:

Daniel Kern, Executive Director
Phone: (603) 463-9400 / Fax: (603) 230-2447
Email: info@bear-paw.org
For information, please visit <http://www.bear-paw.org>

* * * ANNOUNCEMENT * * *

BEAR-PAW FIELDTRIPS, WORKSHOPS, AND EVENTS PLANNED FOR SPRING-SUMMER 2009

DEERFIELD N.H., April 3, 2009 – Bear-Paw Regional Greenways is hosting the following events for the spring and summer. All programs are free and open to the public. Please pre-register at info@bear-paw.org, www.bear-paw.org, or 603-463-9400 unless noted otherwise.

“Earth Day” Riverwalk Fieldtrip
April 25 • 1pm-3
Kimball Family Forest, Nottingham

Bear-Paw and the Nottingham Conservation Commission are hosting a fieldtrip to learn more about the important role of riparian and wetland habitats and why we need to protect them. Mark West, Bear-Paw Board member and biologist, will lead an exploration of the habitat found along the North River in Nottingham on a property recently protected by a conservation easement. Kids are welcome!

Conservation Options Workshop
April 27 • 7pm-9
Epsom Public Library, Epsom

Bear-Paw, the Epsom Conservation Commission, and the UNH Cooperative Extension are offering an informative land conservation workshop to landowners and their families. For all those who have been thinking about doing something to protect their land, this will be an opportunity to get expert advice from Phil Auger and Jed Callen, an attorney who specializes in land conservation and estate planning issues. Please pre-register with Deb at 603-679-5616 or 800-248-6672 so that we can provide enough materials for everyone.

Spring Migration Bird Walk
May 2 • 7am-9
Isinglass River Conservation Reserve, Strafford

Bear-Paw and the Strafford Conservation Commission are hosting a beginner’s bird walk on a newly acquired town forest property. Davis Finch and Scott Young have volunteered to lead the early morning walk to identify birds by both sight and song at the beginning of the spring migration.

Shiitake Mushroom Culture Workshop
May 9 • 12pm-2
Coffeetown Road, Deerfield

Bear-Paw member Tom Cumings will demonstrate the care and culture of growing mushrooms. Workshop participants will also be able to inoculate logs with the shiitake mushroom spore to take home and grow on their own. Please pre-register so Tom can prepare materials for all.

Biothon!

June 6 • 7am-2pm

Freese Town Forest, Deerfield

Bear-Paw invites its members and friends to participate in its fifth annual Biothon – a species identification treasure hunt to discover and promote the biodiversity of the lands Bear-Paw works to protect. Two to three teams of skilled naturalists will compete to identify as many plant and animal species as possible on the Freese Town Forest in Deerfield – recently purchased by the Town and protected by a Bear-Paw easement.

The 175-acre Freese Town Forest will be the site of this year's Biothon. The property is open to the public and includes a wide variety of wildlife habitat including Appalachian-oak-pine and hemlock-hardwood-pine forest, marshes, swamps, a pond, and a section of Hartford Brook. It is part of an 8,000- acre unfragmented forest ecosystem that is a Bear-Paw conservation priority.

We are asking our friends to pledge any amount to the Biothon to support Bear-Paw's land conservation program. A pledge form will be available on our website. All of the contributors to the Biothon are invited on a tour of the Freese Town Forest at 9:30am on the day of the event. Please pre-register (and pledge) for directions! Bruce Lindwall, a faculty member with the Audubon Expedition Institute and Deerfield resident, has volunteered to lead a small plant identification fieldtrip the same morning that will be available on a first pledge, first served basis!

Pond Ecology for Kids

August 15 • 9am-11

Hill Pond, Strafford

Bear-Paw invites area families to an exploration of plant and animal life found along the shores of Hill Pond on the recently conserved Strafford School District property. Bring your kids and be prepared to get wet!

Hawkwatch

September 12 • 9am-12

Location: To Be Announced

Bear-Paw is hosting another hawk watch and Scott Young will be on hand to offer help with bird identification. Depending on conditions, we may travel to Blue Job in Strafford, Fort Mountain in Epsom, or South Mountain in Pawtuckaway.

Bear-Paw Regional Greenways now holds easements protecting 27 properties and 2,310 acres and it has assisted on other projects protecting more than 3,266 additional 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. Bear-Paw's goal is to safeguard the region's irreplaceable water resources, important wildlife habitat and travel routes, and productive forests and farms. Its members 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.