

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>

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Conservation Easements and Making the New Tax Incentive Work for You: A Workshop for Landowners
Smyth Public Library, Candia
January 31, 2007, 7:00pm-9:00pm

DEERFIELD N.H., January 3, 2007 – Join Bear-Paw Regional Greenways, the Candia Conservation Commission, and the UNH Cooperative Extension for an evening of information about conservation easements and the new tax incentives available to donors of them. Generous landowners who donate voluntary conservation easements to land trusts like Bear-Paw Regional Greenways are inspired by many things: they love the Bear-Paw region, they feel connected to their land, and they wish to leave a legacy for future generations. This inspiration is at the heart of Bear-Paw's work to permanently protect valuable natural resources. But for almost all of donors, donating a conservation easement is a major financial decision, and the federal income tax deduction that comes with a donation helps make easements possible for landowners in the community.

Congress recently passed a new law that enhances the tax benefits of protecting private land for many landowners. The legislation improves the tax incentive for conservation easements by allowing conservation easement donors to:

- Deduct up to 50% of their adjusted gross income in any year (up from 30%);
- Continue to take deductions for as long as 15 years (up from 5 years) after the initial deduction; and
- Deduct up to 100% of their adjusted gross income if the majority of that income came from farming, ranching or forestry.

Come to this workshop to learn more about the options available to you. The Candia Conservation Commission will also show a video of NH landowners explaining why they recently granted conservation easements on their properties. Please register at info@bear-paw.org or 463-9400 so there will be enough material for everyone.

Bear-Paw Regional Greenways is a non-profit land trust led by resident volunteers who are concerned about the loss of natural areas throughout the organization's seven town service area of Candia, Deerfield, Epsom, Northwood, Nottingham, Raymond, and Strafford. Bear-Paw exists to safeguard native wildlife and plant habitat, water resources, working farms and forests, scenic vistas, and recreational opportunities. The organization is committed to ensuring that the region's most important natural features continue to be available for future generations and is working to promote voluntary land protection through outreach, education, and project assistance. 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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