

Saving Special Places 2015

Session 2 Workshops

1:00 – 2:15

2 A: How to Approach Landowners About Conserving Their Land

This workshop will give you strategies for connecting with the owner of land your group wants to conserve. We'll discuss what info to collect before making contact, where to find that info, the objective and form of your first communication, who should make the contact, and how to use your group's resources effectively for ensuring success.

Tom Howe | *Society for the Protection of NH Forests* | <http://www.forestsociety.org>

2 B: Agricultural Easement Drafting Issues and Pitfalls Round Table

Join us for a discussion around farm-friendly easements intended to deepen our collective understanding of challenges around easement terms & conditions. We will look at the state's Agricultural Preservation Restriction easement and at easement provisions required under the new federal Agricultural Lands Easement program (<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/nh/programs/easements/>). We will explore issues around subdivision, agricultural infrastructure, building envelopes, housing, conservation plans, and stewardship. Bring your thoughts and questions!

Cris Coffin | *American Farmland Trust* | <http://farmland.org/>

Lorraine Merrill | *NH Commissioner of Agriculture* | <http://agriculture.nh.gov/>

Jeremy Lougee | *Southeast Land Trust* | <http://seltnh.org/>

2 C: Integrating New Climate Science into Land Protection

How do you factor climate change into your conservation decisions? This session will walk through various approaches to selecting climate resilient sites and work through real world examples of applying this data for conservation planning and parcel evaluation. These tools can help you communicate about the relevance of your project or service area and assist with resource evaluation, fundraising and communication. Come prepared to discuss how climate change is impacting your work and what you need to do to prepare.

Abigail Weinberg | *Open Space Institute* | <http://www.osiny.org/>

2 D: State and Federal Funding Round Table

Join us for a round table discussion and update from representatives from many of the state and federal funding programs for land conservation. Come learn about the funds currently available through these programs and how to apply for them.

Brian Hotz | *Society for the Protection of New Hampshire* | <http://www.forestsociety.org/>

Lori Sommer | *NH DES Aquatic Resources Mitigation* | <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands/>

Dea Brickner-Wood | *State Conservation Committee* | <http://www.nh.gov/scc/>

Dijit Taylor | *LCHIP* | <https://lchip.org/>

Sue Knight | *Natural Resources Conservation Service* | <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>

2 E: Using Citizen Science to Connect People and Land

How can you increase community engagement with your conserved lands? Ask the public to collect wildlife data as part of a citizen science project! Good citizen science strengthens community connections to the land, while providing data that inform habitat management and land protection. We'll discuss what makes for a good citizen science project, and highlight several initiatives, including NH Wildlife Sightings, eBird, the Phenology Network, and the Peterborough Vernal Pool Project.

Emily Preston | *NH Fish and Game* | <http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/>

Brett Amy Thelen | *Harris Center for Conservation Education* | <http://www.harriscenter.org/>

2 F: Discretionary Approvals, Amendments and Private Benefit

Easement holders exercise discretion regularly to approve an activity or to analyze a violation and determine a cure. IRS involvement raises concern about private benefit and inurement and adds difficulty. This roundtable discussion will address these issues and help provide an analytical framework. Topics to include an introduction to private benefit, easement drafting issues, and land trust policies. Participants should bring their experience and join the conversation.

Tom Masland | *Ransmeier and Spellman* | <http://ranspell.com/>

2 G: Wetland Buffers: To Cut Or Not To Cut

Wetlands provide innumerable services to society, and are regulated by federal and state government to protect the valuable functions they perform. Yet in spite of the intricate connection between wetland functionality and their upland buffers, very few regulations exist beyond the 'edge of wet.' Of particular concern is timber management. When is it appropriate to cut in wetland buffers and when is it best to keep the buffer in a natural state? This workshop will present the pros and cons.

Phil Auger | *Southeast Land Trust and Bear-Paw Regional Greenways* |

<http://seltnh.org/> and <http://www.bear-paw.org/>

Rick van de Poll | *Ecosystem Management Consultants* | <http://www.rickvandepoll.com/>

2 H: Stewardship Strategies for Historic Buildings in Special Places

This session will offer practical strategies for addressing historic buildings and landscapes in conservation projects. Presenters representing conservation and preservation interests will offer the pros and cons of different solutions, advice about project development, management, funding and stewardship, and encourage questions and discussion on obstacles or opportunities in this area. Will share case studies and provide take-away information.

Jennifer Goodman | *NH Preservation Alliance* | <http://www.nhpreservation.org/>

Andy Deegan | *Ausbon Sargent Land Trust* | <http://ausbonsargent.org/>

Beth McGuinn | *Five Rivers Conservation Trust* | <http://5rct.org/>

2 I: Open Space and People with Disabilities

Making our "Special Places" available to persons with disabilities brings families and communities together. This seminar explores ways to help everyone enjoy conserved areas and recreate together on trails, at beaches, and in campgrounds.

Ray Lyons | *Attorney* | [raylyons@raylyons.com/](mailto:raylyons@raylyons.com)

Johanna Lyons | *DRED – Division of Parks and Recreation* | <http://www.nhstateparks.org/>