
◆ The Watershed News ◆

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A Quarterly Publication for the Ossipee Watershed Published by the Green Mountain Conservation Group

Natural Resource Based Planning will be feature of GMCG's 7th Watershed Weekend

On Saturday, July 23, the Green Mountain Conservation Group will sponsor the 7th Watershed Weekend at Camp Calumet on Ossipee Lake in Freedom from 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. The theme this year will be Natural Resource Based Planning.

Keynote speakers, Sarah James, co-author of "The Natural Step for Communities" and Steve Whitman, Senior Environmental Planner for Jeffrey H. Taylor & Associates will discuss local and international sustainable development. Sarah has worked with municipalities for more than twenty-five years in the areas of urban and town planning, growth management, and community development. She specializes in participatory approaches to city and town planning and integration of sustainability principles in community planning. Steve has worked in the planning field at the local, regional and state level in New Hampshire most recently working with the local Ossipee Watershed towns to implement natural resource based planning projects. "Natural resource based planning starts with an understanding of what we value. What is it about the community and the region that you love, and what would you miss if it were gone," notes Whitman.

Watershed Weekend commences at 10 a.m. with a presentation, *Green Design: Health, Environment, Economics* by Patrick Miller from the Jordan Institute. Bruce Clendenning, Northern Forest Conservation Advocate with the

Appalachian Mountain Club will next speak about the concept of Green Infrastructure planning and benefits to communities.

At 1 p.m., David Carroll, author of *Year of the Turtle*, and recipient of the 2001 John Burroughs naturalist award, will speak on turtles and wetland habitat. David will also be available throughout the day to sign copies of his many books.

Jeff Lougee, Stewardship Ecologist with The Nature Conservancy, will speak about rare species and biodiversity features in his presentation, *Conservation Planning for the Pine River Forest Matrix* planning tool.

Throughout the day, representatives from environmental groups and state agencies will be present to staff individual information booths, lead hikes through the Pine Barrens and narrate tours on Ossipee Lake. There will also be a morning "Bug Walk" at 11 a.m. led by UNH Cooperative Extension educator, Bob Craycraft to learn how macroinvertebrates are water quality indicators.

A highlight of the day will be a forum on Environmental Planning & Natural Resource Protection from 4:45-5:30. A panel discussion by presenters will invite audience participation and be moderated by Susan Slack, esq.

The event is open to the public. Lunch will be available at Calumet for a small a la carte fee. For more information please call GMCG at 539-1859 or visit www.gmcg.org.

Foresters lead Sunday hike to Trout Pond Town Forest

Watershed Weekend continues on Sunday July 24, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with an interpretive hike through the newly established Community Forest in Freedom, New Hampshire. The hike will commence at the Pequawket Trailhead. Dan Stepanauskas, forester and owner of Northern Forest Resources will lead a tour of the newly created town forest. Dan, who manages the Eaton Town Forest, will point out forestry practices that have happened on this property in the past and suggest practices that can be used in the future to ensure a sustainable forest for the town.

Invited leaders include representatives of the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED) and the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP)—organizations that were responsible for securing both federal and state funding for the Trout Pond Town Forest. DRED and LCHIP also hold conservation easements on the property.

Forester Barry Keith, members of the Freedom Conservation Commission and others from the stewardship committee who worked closely with Freedom municipal officials to draft a forestry plan, will also be available and will explain goals and guidelines for this newly created Town Forest.

Come celebrate and meet the three partners, The Friends of Trout Pond, Green Mountain Conservation Group and the Trust for Public Land who worked together for four years to create the Freedom Town Forest.

Participants should meet at the parking lot at Pequawket Trail located along Ossipee Lake Road in Freedom at 10 a.m. Come with your walking shoes, comfortable clothing, lunch and water, and your favorite bug spray. Bring your binoculars!

To register please call GMCG at 539-1859.

The Watershed News

The Watershed News is a quarterly publication of the Green Mountain Conservation Group, a non-profit, 501 (c) 3, charitable organization established in 1997 and dedicated to the preservation of the natural resources in the Ossipee Watershed. The towns of Effingham, Freedom, Madison, Ossipee, Sandwich and Tamworth make up the boundaries of the Ossipee Watershed. This watershed includes one of the largest and deepest stratified drift aquifers in New Hampshire. It covers 47 square miles and receives drainage from a 330 square mile area. It is a critically important resource for existing and future community water supplies.

GMCG's purpose is twofold:

1. To provide an organizational structure for a coalition of citizens and local officials interested in identifying sensitive areas within the Watershed in need of protection;
2. To offer public educational events about conservation issues and possible solutions regarding the preservation of unique natural resources.

Through research, education, advocacy and land conservation we strive to promote an awareness and appreciation of our watershed's natural resources and encourage a commitment to protect them.

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Special Places

Freedom has a Community Forest!

Editor's Note: Special Places is a regular feature of the Watershed News, highlighting an historical or cultural resource within the Ossipee Watershed. GMCG continues to endorse the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP,) a public-private partnership committed to conservation of New Hampshire's natural, cultural and historical resources. For more information, on LCHIP call 224-4113, or email www.lchip.org.

It's finally official. Freedom has it's very own Community Forest. In June, the Friends of Trout Pond (FTP), Green Mountain Conservation Group (GMCG), Trust for Public Land (TPL), and the State of New Hampshire, announced the creation of the 2,660-acre Community Forest in Freedom and Madison, New Hampshire. These groups have been working together for nearly four years to permanently protect this area known locally as the Trout Pond property. The property, now permanently protected with a Forest Legacy conservation easement, will be managed for sustainable timber resources, low impact recreation, and a variety of wildlife habitat protection.

TPL Project Manager Rodger Krussman said, "The community has worked extremely hard over the past 3 years to ensure that future generations have a place to enjoy and experience the abundant wildlife, scenic beauty, variety of recreational opportunities, and economic benefits that will be the result of their efforts" he said. "We could not have achieved our goal without Senator Gregg and the entire NH Congressional delegation's strong commitment to conservation in New Hampshire," continued Krussman, referring to a \$1.2 million grant secured for the project from the USDA Forest Legacy Program.

In addition to the federal Forest Legacy grant, New Hampshire's Land & Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) contributed \$250,000 to the project, and will hold an executory interest in the property. The LCHIP award was among the final grants made from the funds available under the LCHIP appropriation in February 2004. A coalition of conservation and sporting organizations in New Hampshire has urged renewal of LCHIP funding. Governor Lynch has been supportive of the program and as we go to press, the budget for this funding is under consideration by the Legislature.

The permanent conservation agreement that is now in place will forever protect the extensive forested habitat and drinking water, as well as the public access for low impact recreational uses. The land will be enjoyed for hiking, hunting, cross country skiing, horseback riding, and mountain biking for years to come, as well as fishing and boating on scenic Trout Pond itself. These uses will be permanently available for residents and visitors to the area.

To complete the purchase, the Town of Freedom appropriated \$100,000 at their March Town Meeting, and a local fundraising campaign raised over \$500,000 from several sources, including private individuals and generous grants from several foundations. The partnership will continue to raise money for the creation of a Stewardship Fund. Those wishing to make a tax deductible donation to the Trout Pond project can send contributions to the Friends of Trout Pond at P.O. Box 259, Freedom, NH 03836 or call Chuck DePew at (603) 539-6303.

New Hampshire birders find mountain melodies

BY THERESA SWANICK &
JENNIFER HOCKING WILEY

Bicknell's Thrush breeds exclusively in the high-elevation forests of New York, northern New England, and in the spruce-fir highlands of Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. In response to the growing threats from recreational development, cell tower construction, windfarm development, acid rain, and climate change on mountain forests of the Northeast, particular conservation concern is being paid to the Bicknell's Thrush. Its specialized habitat requirements, limited breeding range, and small population size, has the species listed as the top conservation priority among neotropical migratory songbirds in the Northeast.

The Vermont Institute of Natural Science (VINS) launched Mountain Birdwatch in the spring of 2000 in order to establish a long-term monitoring program for Bicknell's Thrush and other mountain forest birds. From the Catskills to Mount Katahdin, trained volunteers conduct two early June dawn surveys along foot trails that pass through some of the region's most awe-inspiring forests. Results are used to measure population trends, monitor changes in bird distribution, identify conservation opportunities, evaluate proposed development, and project effects of climate change on mountain songbirds.

Jack Waldron of Concord, New Hampshire has been a trail adopter for 8 years on the Jewel Trail along Mount Clay's western slope. He expanded his interest in this natural area when he was recruited by VINS having read an article about the program in the Wonalancet Outdoor Club Newsletter. "I had not had

particular bird expertise or training and as such was a perfect candidate since the program emphasizes citizen science," he said.

Jack received a tape with the 5 focal species' calls as well as other similar birds' calls. His training consisted of incrementally learning the calls by listening, comparing and testing himself and then re-testing for 100% accuracy.

The 5 focal species are the Bicknell's Thrush, the Swainson's Thrush, the White-throated Sparrow, the Winter Wren and the Blackpoll Warbler. The Bicknell's Thrush is watched in tandem with both birds of similar habitat and birds of similar migration to assist in evaluation of particular impacts. Jack explains, "If there is a change noted for the primary bird and another similar migratory bird, that may rule out a problem with habitat and lean more toward a global climactic issue."

The bird watching and listening takes place between June 1st and June 21st and in the early hours of 4:30 A.M. to 5:30 A.M. This is the peak singing time of day and it is the peak breeding time of year. Jack has noted that there were more songs from 4:30-5 a.m. than from 5-5:30 a.m.

Five locations are preset and 10 minutes is spent at each site listening and taking notes. The spots are far enough apart to ensure one is hearing different birds (250 meters.) The number of each bird heard and seen is recorded as is the time they are heard. If after all five stops a Bicknell's Thrush is not heard, then the birder reverses course and attempts to call the bird with a tape recorded call. Jack noted that he is fortunate and has found Bicknell's Thrush each year. But he further said

that the Jewell Trail offers prime Bicknell habitat. Any changes for the Bicknell would be detected in other locations before they would be detected up there.

This year, Jennifer Hocking Wiley of Madison had the opportunity to participate. She remarked, "the thrill of walking up the trail in the dark, in utter quiet and then all of a sudden at 4:22 a.m.—just at morning "twilight" we heard a Bicknell Thrush burst forth with his first song...the first sound in the forest....followed in succession by the Swainson's Thrush, the White-throated Sparrow, the Winter Wren and the Blackpoll Warbler....as though they woke up in that order...Magical!" Jennifer hopes her story will tempt others to seek training or to accompany someone who is trained—get involved. VINS always needs more volunteers. Jack too encourages others to become involved. "It's fun, connects you to the birds and to the environment!"

Watchers keep in touch with each other via the internet. A yahoo group has been established for questions and sharing and the watch reports are submitted directly online. To review the reports or for more information visit: http://www.vinsweb.org/cbd/mtn_watch.html or contact Dan Lambert at dlambert@vinsweb.org.

Theresa Swanick and Jennifer Wiley are both GMCG members. Recently Jennifer had the opportunity to participate in this early morning bird song study. If you have interesting bird information or other wildlife information that you would like to share with GMCG members, please feel free to contact us with your stories.

Conservation Conversations

Editor's Note: Conservation Conversations is intended to provide a forum for the Conservation Commissions in the six towns of the Ossipee Watershed to share news of their activities and an opportunity to find creative solutions regarding watershed issues.

Think Locally; Act Watershed.

Effingham

The conservation commission is the recipient of a Moose Plate Grant (\$19,500) for a two year project on Wetland inventory, mapping, classification and Wetland exemplary natural communities and rare plant species survey. The former will help update the Master Plan. The latter will be conducted by The Nature Conservancy. The commission is preparing an appropriate letter and consent form to be distributed to residents to ask for permission to carry out wetland assessment on their lots.

The commission has created KELF—Keep Effingham Litter Free and is planning to cleanup roadside litter on selected streets Wednesday mornings. To learn more, please attend meetings the first Monday of the month at 6:30 at the Town Office in Effingham.

Freedom

The Freedom Conservation Commission has been assembling a Forest Stewardship Advisory Board for the Freedom Town Forest and has recently submitted names to the selectmen. The commission is designing a mission for this committee and creating a list of tasks. Most immediately this Board will be responsible for administering the \$15,000 Moose Plate Grant secured by the Friends of Trout Pond and the commission for the

construction of interpretive nature trails and informative kiosks on the Trout Pond land. The Advisory Board will also oversee the forestry and stewardship plan on the newly formed town forest. The conservation commission has been meeting bi-monthly to help create a direction for this newly formed advisory board.

The commission met with Steve Whitman in May. Discussion included enhancing zoning regulations to include natural resource based planning; asking for educational workshops on planning for septic systems based on soil types; and suggesting ways to encourage native landscaping.

Madison

The conservation commission has been busy planning the annual Old Home Week walk on Tuesday August 9th along the Chain of Ponds property with Jeff Lougee from The Nature Conservancy. Using GIS, the commission has been documenting town trails and hopes to work with volunteers to create hiking maps for residents and visitors.

Working with Town Forester, Robin Rancourt, forestry operations and trail marking have begun on the new Wold Conservation Easement. Forestry goals this year include, permanently documenting information about town easements, town forest land and other important town conservation land.

Thanks to GMCG funding and foresight, Madison has had the valuable opportunity to obtain expert advice regarding potential rural zoning changes from Steve Whitman.

Ossipee

UNH Cooperative Extension Carroll County Forester, Peter Pohl gave a presentation to the commission on "Dollars and Sense of Saving Special Places." The presentation focused on open spaces such as natural areas, forests, farms, fields, and water and convincingly demonstrating that open space saves tax dollars. Pohl explained the effects of growth, the benefits of open space and the economics of land use. Conservation Easements and Current Use are important instruments in conserving land and in keeping taxes low. Currently, 47% of Ossipee is taxed as Current Use.

Sandwich

With the support of a \$1000 grant from White Sylvania Trust of Sandwich and a \$1500 grant from Sterling Grumman Fund as coordinated by the NH Association of Conservation Commissions, the Sandwich Conservation Commission is sanctioning a study of invasive aquatic plants of the open water bodies of Sandwich. This survey will include boat and snorkel surveys of Bear Pond and Miles Pond in Bearcamp River watershed, Red Hill, Dinsmore, and Little Ponds in the Winnepesaukee watershed, and Barville, Kusumpe, and Intervale Ponds in the Squam Lakes watershed.

Most of the 'super-snorkel' time will be conducted in the Sandwich portion of Squam Lake, in Squaw Cove. Whereas there are scattered reports of milfoil in Bear Pond, no other water body has been surveyed. This is an opportunity for Sandwich to establish baseline inventory of potential problem species such as milfoil in order to better manage public water bodies.

Tamworth update

For two years, GMCG and other conservation organizations have been following a proposal to build a race track on the north slope of Mt. Whittier in Tamworth. The following is a recent update:

On May 5th, the NH Senate voted 14-10 to defeated HB 90, the bill that would have repealed Club Motorsports Inc.'s exemption from Tamworth's Race Track Ordinance. This means that Tamworth will not be able to regulate hours of operation, require emergency services, insurance, bonding for CMI development, or require best management practices for fuel handling.

On October 12, the NH Water Council will hear an appeal of CMI's 401 Water Quality Certificate. The issue is CMI's plans

for handling of hazardous racing fuels containing MtBE, and the possible contamination of the Ossipee Aquifer.

On Dec 19-20, in Rockingham Superior Court there will be a trial of Focus: Tamworth's lawsuit to determine if CMI must apply for a permit under Tamworth's Wetlands Ordinance. In August 2004 CMI withdrew its application for the town permit 2 days before the scheduled hearing. CMI now claims that the State DES permit preempts local ordinances.

The Army Corps has not yet ruled on the CMI's Section 404 Individual Permit. They are still studying the noise issue. CMI will have to comply with Tamworth's Noise Ordinance, which regulates noise from "private driving instruction and exhibition facilities." See <http://www.focustamworth.org/> for more details.

Watershed Water Quality Monitoring

Notes from Upstream

GMCG hires a Program Director to oversee the WQM program

For the past year, Jennifer Smith has been a familiar smiling face across the Ossipee Watershed. Whether you have known her in the wee morning hours as she has helped calibrate water sampling equipment or you have seen her at evening conservation commission meetings in each of the six watershed towns, Jen has had a strong presence with the Green Mountain Conservation Group in her work as Water Quality Program Coordinator. GMCG wishes her all the best as she heads “out west” to pursue a career in wild life biology.

Just two weeks after her graduation from St. Michael’s college in Vermont last June with a degree in biology, Jen launched into the position of GMCG Water Quality Program Coordinator. Within a few weeks, she had trained over 25 volunteers and coordinated the 2004 water sampling season. Not only was she responsible for all the volunteers and scheduling the sampling sites and times, but Jen was also responsible for working closely with University of New Hampshire to help create a final report and presentation.

Jennifer was also responsible for meeting with town municipal boards to explain water quality monitoring (WQM) data; taking over the Watershed Coalition and finally setting up the 2005 WQM season of sampling. Jen was also known by residents in Freedom to be the first person in the office – often there by 6 a.m.

Spring traditionally marks the “changing of the guards” for the GMCG Water Quality Monitoring program. This year marks yet another addition—the creation of a fulltime Program Director. With funding from New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services and the John F. and Dorothy H.

McCabe Environmental Fund of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, GMCG has hired Tara Schroeder to fill this position. Tara will not only oversee the entire water quality program, but she will also be responsible for all of GMCG’s programs, including monthly educational events, the quarterly newsletter and Watershed Weekend.

Tara has a Master of Science in Environmental Education from Lesley University and a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies and Anthropology with a biology minor from Bowdoin College. Most recently Tara was the Group Outreach Coordinator for the Appalachian Mountain Club in Pinkham Notch and is currently a Junior Varsity Softball Coach at Fryeburg Academy. In the late 1990s she was Assistant Director for Cody Camps on Ossipee Lake and is thus very familiar with the Ossipee Watershed. She was also a teacher for Nature’s Classroom where she taught environmental science to students from fifth to eighth grade.

GMCG bids a fond farewell and best wishes to Jennifer Smith for all her hard work and sends a hearty welcome to the new Program Director, Tara Schroeder.

To assist GMCG with the summer water sampling program, Anna Troyansky was recently hired as the 2005 Water Quality Monitoring Intern. Anna grew up in Lubbock, Texas and is currently a senior at Bowdoin College studying Environmental Studies and French. She has just returned from a year abroad in Paris, France where she taught local school children and studied French culture and literature. If you would like to learn more about GMCG’s WQM program please visit our website at www.gmcg.org or call 539-1859.

Notes from Downstream

“Borders? I’ve never seen one, but I heard that they exist in some people’s minds.” Thor Heyerdhal

BY LYNN PARKER, SRCC

The fifth testing season of the Saco River Corridor Commission’s (SRCC) water quality monitoring program began in April. Thirty volunteers continue to rise early in the morning every other week to monitor pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature, and turbidity at 27 sites along the Saco, Ossipee, and Little Ossipee Rivers in Maine. In addition, they collect samples for *Escherichia coli*, total Kjeldahl nitrogen, alkalinity (new this season), total phosphorus, and orthophosphate at various sites.

The program has seen a few changes this year with the resignation of water quality program coordinator, Jeff Stern. Jeff’s departure was unexpected, but dedicated water quality volunteers came to the rescue as the season began. Several volunteers responded to the program’s needs by taking over much of the responsibilities. Recently, SRCC hired one of the volunteers who has been with the program since its inception in 2000 to help us out with monitoring activities. SRCC is grateful for the wonderful group of committed volunteers who share an understanding of the importance of this WQM program for the

entire residents across the watershed.

SRCC continues with the publication of a quarterly newsletter entitled *Courses of Change*. The response to this publication has been favorable. If you would like to receive a copy of this newsletter please feel free to contact us to be added to the mailing list. In addition, the website is currently undergoing some renovations. Over the summer months, be sure to visit www.srcc-maine.org. The water quality section is taking on a whole new look!

If anyone has any questions regarding the Commission, our regulatory mission, or our water quality monitoring program, feel free to stop in or contact us. We are located on the second floor of the Little River Building in beautiful, downtown Cornish, Maine or phone 207-625-8123.

Lynn Parker is assistant to the director at the Saco River Corridor Commission (SRCC) in Cornish, Maine. SRCC is made up of 20 towns from Fryeburg to Saco, Maine. GMCG has been partnering with SRCC since 2001.

Forest Economics and Forest Ecology

BY DANIEL A. STEPANAUSKAS

Forest management, conservation principles and sound economics have a great deal in common when timber is harvested using methods that imitate nature. The forestry profession was started in Germany in the mid-nineteenth century. These early foresters learned from the forest, as there was no other source for this knowledge. In their study of forest dynamics it became clear that forest stands reached an age when net growth began to slow and eventually stop, and the rate of decay and mortality outpaced growth. The stage at which to consider harvesting a tree became quite clear. Thinnings are beneficial in order to maintain a healthy rate of growth. Premature thinning will lead to poor quality forest stands, for the trees will continue to grow limbs low on the stem of the tree due to the added light which will prevent natural pruning. A properly scheduled thinning will lead to stands with tall clear stems of very high economic value as the limbs will have been shaded out by the neighboring trees. The highest quality stands that many foresters observe were never thinned, but took much longer to reach maturity. Time is a human constraint that cannot be ignored on much of our forestlands.

A vibrant stand of forest will provide a return of 4-6% annualized gains, without including the appreciation of log values (which has been very rapid of late), but is subject to fits and starts. In total, your forest provides a very respectable rate of return, with

minimal risk, but timing is critical. A thinning, or the oft-used term of ‘selective harvest’, should always harvest the poorest quality trees first. While a forest is a natural system, a garden analogy works to illustrate that we do not weed out the tomato plants and leave the weeds to grow, just as you do not want only one tomato plant every ten feet. You also cannot grow the species of tree that is best suited to your soil type without said species tree seeds present during the year of harvest. A poorly timed harvest on a dry sandy soil which regenerates into hardwood vs. softwood species will leave the land virtually unproductive for decades, as the soil is simply unable to produce quality hardwood timber.

Following the original tenets of forestry will provide the highest return from your forest. Smaller skidders do less damage to trees and soils and can leave many more trees per acre post harvest than can today’s huge skidders. Sustainable harvests can leave defective log butts and slash in the forest providing for the bases of the food chain, organic matter, fungus, and insects. The soil is the source of all terrestrial life. It is the responsibility of current generations to not degrade the future.

Daniel A. Stepanauskas is a consulting forester from Silver Lake and owner of Northern Forest Resources.

2005 Watershed Weekend Raffle

Green Mountain Conservation Group is holding a raffle to help fund water quality monitoring and educational programs in the Ossipee Watershed. The raffle will be held on July 23rd at the 7th annual Watershed Weekend event at Camp Calumet in Freedom. Great prizes have been generously donated by: *The Other Store in Tamworth, Canoe King, All Sports Auto Racks, Eastern Mountain Sports, International Mountain Equipment, Natural Selection, The Arts Council of Tamworth, Barnstormers Theater, Swift River Herb Farm, Pizza Barn, The Hairitage House, Symmetree Yoga, Wayside Farm, Saco Bound, Silver Lake Hardware, Bearcamp Gardens and other local businesses!* Enter to win by mailing in your ticket today!

Put a check in the appropriate box for your donation and GMCG will put that amount of raffle tickets in our drawing. Send form along with check made payable to: Green Mountain Conservation Group, Po Box 95 Effingham, NH 03882.

Name: _____	_____ 1 Ticket \$3.00
Address: _____	_____ 5 Tickets \$10.00
_____	_____ 10 Tickets \$15.00
Phone: _____	_____ 20 Tickets \$20.00
Email: _____	

Summer Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6 MYSTERIOUS ISLANDS, VANISHING PEAT MATS. The Ossipee Lake Alliance and the Calumet Nature Series will co-sponsor an evening lecture with Barre Hellquist on his 45 years of research of Ossipee Lake where he has documented rocks that float, islands that move and a lake drawdown so steep that he walked the channel to Broad Bay. *Camp Calumet Conference Center, Freedom, 7:30 p.m.*

SATURDAY, JULY 9 MT. SHAW HIKE. The Dan Hole Pond Watershed Trust will host a hike to Mt. Shaw. This is the highest peak in the Ossipee range (2,990 ft) and affords great views of Lake Winnepesaukee and the White Mountains. This is a moderate hike of 8 miles round trip via Thunderbird and Gorilla Trails. To register please call **Alix or Bob Pratt** at (603) 539-2073 or email alixandbob@earthlink.net.

SATURDAY, JULY 23 WATERSHED WEEKEND: NATURAL RESOURCE PLANNING. The event will include lectures and panel discussions on Natural Resource Based Planning; guided hikes in the Ossipee Pine Barrens; narrated pontoon boat trips on Ossipee Lake; display booths and educational presentations focused on environmental planning. GMCG will also be hosting an informal workshop for Municipal Officials on how to incorporate natural resource based planning into the master plans and ordinances. Key note speakers will include environmental planners Sarah James and Steve Whitman. Other speakers will include; Patrick Miller, the Jordan Institute; David Carroll, noted artist, writer and turtle biologist; Bruce Clendenning, policy director, Appalachian Mountain Club; and Jeff Lougee, forest ecologist, The Nature Conservancy. Highlight of the event will be a moderated panel discussion with the audience on regional planning in the Ossipee Watershed. (see story page 1) *Camp Calumet, Freedom, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.*

SUNDAY, JULY 24 WATERSHED WEEKEND: NATURAL RESOURCE PLANNING. The weekend will continue on Sunday with a guided tour of the Freedom Town Forest at Trout Pond. (see story page 1.) *Meet at Pequawket Trail on Ossipee Lake Rd. Freedom, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.*

SUNDAY, JULY 31 OLD HOME WEEK: ORIENTEERING AT TROUT POND Ned Hatfield and the Freedom Conservation Commission will lead an afternoon hike and workshop on basic orienteering. *Meet Pequawket Trail, Freedom, 1 p.m.*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 12 MAMA BEAR; NEW HAMPSHIRE'S BLACK BEARS. The Green Mountain Conservation Group will host an evening lecture with New Hampshire's Black Bear expert, Ben Kilham. Ben is originally from Tamworth and now lives and works in Lyme, NH. He has been rehabilitating black bears for over ten years. In his slide presentation he will explain his process of acting as a surrogate "mother" to the cubs. Ben's work has been featured in the National Geographic as well as on the Discovery and Animal Planet channels. Books and tapes of Ben's work will be for sale. *Tamworth Town House, Tamworth 7:30-9 p.m.*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 26 AIR QUALITY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE. Georgia Murray, air quality and watershed scientist for the Appalachian Mountain Club, (AMC) will offer a presentation on air quality in the Northeast. Georgia is in charge of the AMC's air quality program begun in the early 1980's to monitor ozone, acid rain, and fine particulates. *Effingham Historical Society, Route 153, Center Effingham, NH 7-9 p.m.*

WEDNESDAYS, JULY 6-AUGUST 24 CAMP CALUMET'S WEDNESDAY NIGHT NATURE SERIES Presentations by local naturalists every Wednesday night at 7:30 p.m. Topics include: tales of Ossipee Lake, invasive water plants, ecology of the North Woods, the Ossipee Pine Barrens, the Yankee Lumberjack, ancient peoples of Ossipee Lake, watershed ecology, and wildlife rehabilitation. For more information, contact 539-4773.

THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH— Effingham Writers Night. Poets, writers, readers and listeners are invited to attend a Writer's Night at the Effingham Public Library on the **third Thursday of the month**. The Effingham Public Library is located at 30 Townhouse Road in Effingham. For more information, contact: Marilyn O'Kelly at 539-1537 or Effinghamlibrary@hotmail.com

Your Membership Will Make a Difference. Please Renew Today!

(Please make checks payable to Green Mountain Conservation Group P.O. Box 95, Effingham, NH 03882)

Raindrop___\$10	Puddle___\$15	Vernal Pool___\$25	Stream___\$50	River___\$75
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The Watershed News

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Deadline for Autumn
Newsletter is September 21.

it is good to live
this life
in this place
on this earth
where day on day
of soaking rain
unfolds to filtered mountain glimpse
through leafed out layer
upon layer
of summer green
that filled the winter passageways

and airy silken pockets,
stand
a naked reminder
of the surprise
of beauty
and the gift
waiting for witness
in each and every day.

Katie Remmetter

EVERY PERSON CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND EACH PERSON SHOULD TRY.

Save the Date!

**Watershed Weekend 2005
July 23 & 24**

Natural Resource Planning

Freedom, NH

