

◆ The Watershed News ◆

Volume XXII Issue I

Winter 2019

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

Black bear expert Ben Kilham will speak at 21st annual meeting

Saturday, March 2, Green Mountain Conservation Group will host its annual celebration and meeting with world-renowned bear expert, Ben Kilham. The annual meeting will take place at Camp Cody in Freedom, New Hampshire from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. The evening will be a celebration of natural resource conservation in the Ossipee Watershed, honoring all of the volunteers, partner organizations, community members, towns, and individuals that have contributed to conserving our shared resources over the past twenty-one years.

The evening will begin at 4:30 p.m. with a business meeting open to the public. Registration, social hour and refreshments will follow at 5:00 p.m. Dinner will be from 5:30-6:30 p.m. featuring a chef-prepared meal with vegetarian and gluten free options. Awards and dessert will follow dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the featured presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m. A raffle will be held throughout the evening, with winners announced at the end of the night. This event will sell out so please purchase your tickets in advance.

GMCG is honored to announce the keynote speaker this year will be black bear biologist Ben Kilham. Ben has previously been an honored guest at GMCG events; however, the past few years have boasted some exciting new accomplishments in his work as a researcher and licensed wildlife rehabilitator. Ben's organization, the Kilham Bear Center, recently received 501(c)(3) non-profit status. His center is currently caring for 61 cubs—a dramatic increase from past years. We look forward to hearing



Image courtesy of kilhambearcenter.org

from Ben about his experiences from this year's increase in cubs and how humans can better coexist with bears.

Ben has been integral to black bear research efforts and is highly regarded worldwide. Ben received his PhD. in Environmental Sciences from Drexel University and additionally has studied at the University of New Hampshire, Colorado School of Trades, and Dartmouth College. Ben has also been working as a key member of Global Cause Foundation science team, a Virginia-based non-profit that supports the Chinese panda research project. He has been assisting the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding in China since 2008 by providing his expertise to reintroduce rare giant pandas to the wild. Ben's method of walking with the cubs is an "integral part of the project's panda reintroduction approach". This groundbreaking work has also been documented in "Pandas," an IMAX Original 3D film released in April of 2018.

Ben has been working with bears for 25 years, and runs the Kilham Bear Center with his wife, Deb, and sister, Phoebe. However with 61 cubs already, it is safe to say that they have their hands full! Ben has shared in

previous reports that it costs approximately \$2,500 annually for each bear's food and keeping these orphaned bears alive. Any donations to the Kilham Bear Center are greatly appreciated. Bear cubs need proper food, veterinary care, and protection from the cold, and many of the cubs this year were undernourished. For more information on how you can help, visit kilhambearcenter.org. For more information on Ben Kilham's personal story, visit www.benkilham.com.

Come meet fellow watershed neighbors and learn how you can help conserve the natural resources of the Ossipee Watershed when you join Green Mountain Conservation Group. The meeting is open to the public, but reservation space for the celebration is limited. To order your tickets please visit www.gmcg.org or call the office at 539-1859 by 2/21/2019.



Image courtesy of kilhambearcenter.org

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 Eaton, 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. GMCG also partners across the Maine border into Parsonsfield and beyond. Water does not have any political boundaries.

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.

Board of Directors

Blair Folts, President
 Larry Wogman, Chairman
 Vacant, Vice Chairman
 Nancy Wogman, Treasurer
 Aysia Morency, Secretary

Town Representatives

Eaton, Kristine Foster-Carbone
 Effingham, Susan Slack
 Freedom, Alice Custard
 Madison, Jay Buckley
 Ossipee, Emilie Talpin
 Sandwich, Mark Longley
 Tamworth, Kit Morgan
 Maine, Peter Zack

Staff

Executive Director, Blair Folts
 Education: Tara Schroeder
 Outreach: Moselle Spiller
 Water: Jill Emerson

AmeriCorps Volunteers 2019

Victoria Green
 Haley Parent

Happy New Year from Executive Director

By Blair Folts
 Executive Director

We shall not cease from exploration, and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time." T.S. Eliot

I sit in my new office looking out over the vernal pool and bobcat tracks. Behind me, I hear the Ossipee River full from fall rains flowing across 350 square miles and drainage from the White Mountains all the way to the sea where I know that over 300,000 people take their drinking water directly from this drainage and the Saco River. Green Mountain Conservation Group has come a long way since November 1997 when Bill Piekut came to our third board meeting with the paper bag full of quarters—\$150 worth so we could apply for our 501 (c)3.

I have been humbled by so many people's hard work, loyal support, and dedication to research, education, advocacy and land conservation over the 22 years I have led GMCG.

With the start of 2019 I have been even more awestruck by the amazing staff running the programs from our new office at the Patricia and Charles Watts Conservation Center. This is further enhanced by the pleasure of also having two excellent AmeriCorps volunteers who are now living in our old office, Huntress House.

Throughout the fall, I often have been at the office on Sundays and have been rewarded by random visitors who stop to see the vernal pool, Blue Heron Trail, river front or just peak in the windows of our Center. They have come from all over, and all ages and have been

excited to learn about GMCG's mission of Healthy Waters, Healthy Communities. And with all of this, I know and trust that our mission is reaching people and we have entered into a new world of REAL. I am so grateful to have been a part of this movement that called me forward to it.

And I also know that on this great new note, this is the perfect time for me to "pass the torch" to a new executive director and I am excited to work with the GMCG Board and newly formed task force to seek such a person. We have a lot of work ahead of us as the Board and structure need to evolve to also meet the new place of the organization. But as I have always trusted and seen, with community support and our loyal supporters, donors, partners and members, this too will go well.

People have asked me if I am "retiring" which makes me laugh, until I realize that many people may not know that prior to founding GMCG I was a fulltime artist. Often I was involved with Environmental Installations including one in 1991 at the Currier Museum on the impacts of Acid Rain on the Forest —*If we don't act now ten years from now it will be too late.* In those early months of 1998 when I was considering taking the project on of creating a small non-profit, I often felt myself on the edge of some body of water beckoning me to "come in the water is warm." Advocacy phone calls to NH DES and others back then were often made from my studio while I was painting and I remember thinking "if I go 'in' I will be pulled in and I will be pulled away from my art." But my heart knew I had to go "in."

For many years I was able to sustain both passions. Now that GMCG has expanded into a leader in conservation in this region, I feel that the Art Muse is "calling me home again."

With deep gratitude and a warm heart, I look happily forward to passing the torch to a new Executive Director. We will be starting our search in March and I will be leaving GMCG in the Fall of 2019. As always, I ask you for your continued support, advice and help as we move into this new era. Wishing you all a peaceful and mindful New Year.



Blair Folts with a piece to be exhibited; she used a torch to cut out "trees" from a steel shed.

GLOBE STAFF PHOTO/MARK WELLS

Students present art, poetry & science to community

The Volunteer Biological Assessment Program (VBAP) community presentation was held December 5th at the Blue Heron House. Thirty students from Freedom, Ossipee, Effingham and Sacoe Valley schools volunteered to create and share a variety of projects at the event which drew a crowd of ninety people.

Students shared their results from collecting macroinvertebrates in local rivers and streams earlier this fall. The students described how macroinvertebrates can be used as bioindicators to assess a waterbody's health, taking the audience through the steps they took to collect, sort and



Students from schools in New Hampshire and Maine share what they learned to the community this December.

after sampling with various water quality meters.

Students showed their creative side as well, with Freedom Elementary School creating an interactive model of macroinvertebrates in their riparian habitat. Sacoe Valley Middle School students created a sculpture of a caddisfly out of garbage to bring awareness to water pollution, currently on

display at Kingswood High School in Wolfeboro for Less Plastic Day initiatives. Ossipee Central School students even recited the poem "Mayflies" by Paul Fleishman. At least half of the students said they plan to become future scientists!

identify macroinvertebrates, and calculate a water quality score, all the while following the same protocol that students have been following for the past thirteen years. The students, ranging from fifth to eighth grade, also shared physical and chemical results

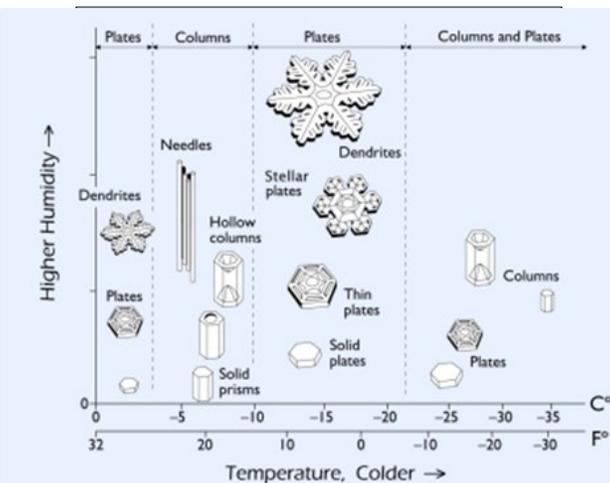
Here We Go, Let it Snow, H₂O!

It's a simple question with a complicated answer: are snowflakes unique? In order to answer that, let's start with basic snowflake structure. A snowflake's shape appears as a hexagon with branches poking out from the corners. This is because water molecules have a slight polarity to them, broadly meaning that one end of the molecule has a slight positive charge, while the other end has a slight negative charge. Water molecules will align themselves in a way that maximizes the most attraction forces, which in this case is a hexagon. As a snowflake is a 3D structure, the classic hexagon shape is actually created from many layers of smaller hexagons shapes held together by hydrogen bonds, and when excessively repeated they make the larger hexagon shape we see. It's all very meta.

Looking at the snowflake picture, we can see branches form from each corner of the hexagon. We typically think of snowflakes as being symmetrical, and while some of them can be, most of them are not. Branches are formed



Classic hexagon shape of a snowflake.
Photo Credit: KG Libbrech



Type of snowflakes based on temperature and humidity.
Photo Credit: KG Libbrech

independently of each other and are greatly influenced by temperature and humidity changes the crystal experiences as it falls towards the ground. Even the most minute of changes of temperature and humidity will impact the snowflake's development. The figure above shows what type of snowflake structure you can expect to see based on the temperature and humidity the snowflake experiences in the atmosphere on its descent towards the ground.

If you can think about a single snowflake spatially, no two parts of the ice crystal would follow the exact same path to the ground. The branches will have similarities to each other and look remarkably alike since they experience similar atmospheric conditions. If you look at the picture of the

single snowflake again, upon first scan it looks pretty symmetrical all the way around. But if you look a little closer, you'll notice that the branch on the right is much shorter than the branch directly across from it on the left. When you look at a snowflake long enough you'll start to see more areas of asymmetry. There is no set blueprint of what the branches will ultimately look like - it is purely dependent on atmospheric conditions!

Snowflakes fall into one of roughly 35 very broad shape categories like "column crystals" or "plane crystals", which are further broken down into 121 slightly-less-though-still-broad subcategories (Who sat down and categorized all these?). So many snowflakes, in broad terms anyway, will look alike. But if you think of it this way - it's very unlikely that two individual snowflakes followed the same exact path to the ground at the exact same time and so would not have experienced the exact same humidity and temperature changes. Ergo, I think we can argue that snowflakes generally are unique, though it is possible that two identical ones could be naturally occurring. So the next time you see snow falling, be on the lookout for any identical flakes!

By Jill Emerson, Water Quality Coordinator & winter curmudgeon

What are Best Management Practices?

BY MOSELLE SPILLER

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are engineered structural pollution control devices or procedural practices that lessen detrimental human impact on the natural environment. In relation to our local watershed, implementing BMPs are a vital step in reducing storm water runoff that loads phosphorus and nitrogen into our fresh water bodies, resulting in algae and bacteria blooms.

For greatest impact, BMPs may be applied to shoreline properties and roads near lakes and tributaries. Common BMPs include rain gardens and rain barrels, or vegetated buffers including native plant species. Swales and terraces are designs that divert and absorb storm water runoff. Diversion trenches and retaining wells are additional strategies. Well-designed structural BMPs can be beautiful and improve the aesthetics of a property while also being functional.

Impervious surfaces from development exacerbate storm water runoff. A key sign a property or road could benefit from BMPs is erosion markings formed on the ground from water runoff pathways. Does the runoff trail lead to a body of water? If so, then that site is potentially loading phosphorus to fresh water. Another sign BMPs are needed is exposed

tree roots on shoreline areas where erosion has washed away the top layer of soil. Compromised trees benefit from root stabilization and vegetated buffers to absorb runoff before it meets the tree base. There are endless creative ways property owners can improve the impact their home and lifestyle have on the health of our lakes and rivers. BMPs also include reasonable homeowner responsibilities such as proper septic maintenance and safe disposal of toxic materials like motor oil, paint and harsh chemicals.

In accordance with the Watershed Management Plan, GMCG is currently preparing for a 2-year project potentially funded by a DES Watershed Assistance Grant that will enable GMCG to assist property owners on Ossipee Lake and its bays with BMP design and construction. The two-year project aims to construct BMPs on various shorefront properties and host educational workshops to demonstrate how everyone can make a difference.

Want to be involved in GMCG's BMP Steering Committee or learn more about BMPs?! Contact GMCG Outreach Coordinator Moselle Spiller at outreach@gmccg.org

IN MEMORIAM



STEPHANIE BARNES

Environmental advocate
 Lover of all nature
 World traveler
 Athlete
 Former resident of Effingham, member of Effingham Conservation Commission, creator of the Phillips Brook Preserve.

Stephanie passed away on September 26, 2018 in her beloved home state of Vermont.

GMCG sends a heartfelt farewell to a woman who passionately cared about the Earth. Her spirit lives on with all who knew her.

A CONSERVATION PIECE

In quiet woods I do find peace,
 A subtle loosening of the leash
 That tethers me to fleeting life.
 That selfsame lash with age brings strife.

I own these woods by man made law
 That seems to me a fatal flaw.
 I gave these woods to bird and bear,
 To squirrel and vole and snow shoe hare.

I walk these woods no longer mine
 Through stately beech and oak and pine.
 Mankind brings little peace to me;
 I find it with the stately tree.

Stephanie Barnes
 February 12, 2012

GMCG Welcomes AmeriCorps Volunteers

Moselle Spiller: Where are you from?

Haley Parent: Loudon, NH.

Victoria Green: Ormond Beach, FL

M: What did you study in college?

H: Major in Environmental Policy and a Minor in Law.

V: Earth and Ocean Sciences

M: What inspired you to serve in the conservation field?

H: Growing up in NH I had access to many beautiful protected resources. As I grew older and learned more about environmental sciences I was inspired to go into conservation.

V: I've always been inspired by beautiful places. Knowing these places are endangered is my call to action.

M: How do you find living in backwoods Effingham?

H: It's been really good so far. Victoria and I are enjoying some of the little things in life (like installing a new mailbox post for Huntress house) and all the volunteers and neighbors have been very welcoming. It's has been warming to see all the people involved in GMCG and how receptive they are to us being here.

V: It's pretty neat. This is the most snow I've ever experienced. I really enjoy seeing so many stars at night and can't wait to see a moose. I'm impressed by the variety of bird life here; some birds I recognize from Florida like the downy woodpecker and blue jay.

M: What are you looking forward to during

you 10 months at GMCG?

H: Learning skills in a variety of areas such as education, land trust, and water quality. The variety that GMCG offers us is an amazing opportunity to explore the many aspects of conservation.

V: Meeting and working with volunteers on the River program, really can't wait for VLAP and being on a boat doing science!

M: What are you plans after AmeriCorps?

H: My hope in the next 10 months is to get experience at GMCG that will lead to something unexpected. I hope this experience will inform my next path.

V: If I survive a New England winter, I will continue a career path in conservation.



AmeriCorps members Victoria & Haley cut the GMCG Christmas Tree.

Conservation Conversations

Editors Note: *Conservation Commissions across the Ossipee Watershed care about natural resources. Please read to keep updated on their happenings.*

Effingham

ECC was awarded an outstanding achievement award for the northern section of NH from the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC) in October 2018. This was the first year NHACC created the award for all conservation commissions in the State. Based on the criteria NHACC used to judge, Effingham was chosen for its land conservation, contribution to GMCG, mutual milfoil co-operation with Freedom and Town activities such as the annual roadside trash clean-up and Town elementary school Earth Day poster contest. The ECC encourages all CC's to apply next year for this award for their Town.

Eaton

The Eaton Town Forester, Daniel Stepanauskas, is nearing completion of an updated Forestry Management Plan for all of the Town Lands.

Freedom

FCC updated the Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) chapter for inclusion in the Master Plan revision. The state of NH mandates that Master Plans are updated every ten years.

Resolved a perched beach application originally submitted to the FCC in 1988. The perch beach application was approved by DES and will be monitored for compliance for the next three years. Drafted a solar ordinance (Planning Board) which will be presented to community for approval at the annual town meeting in March. Worked with concerned citizen who volunteered to purchase materials for a new foot bridge in the town forest. Members of the Freedom CC and Forest Advisory Committee will assist building the bridge. Construction of the foot bridge is considered trail maintenance. Town Forester is completing the updated Stewardship Plan for the town forest. The annual town forest Easement Inspection was conducted by state personnel. Two minor boundary concerns were noted and will be corrected in the spring.

Ossipee

OCC is proceeding with installation of

site signage at several of the largest parcels held in easement, beginning with Window On the Ossipees on Route 16.

OCC is creating a Trailhead parking area on the Historic Beech River Mill Site on Annie Nichols Road. This will be the first Trailhead parking area, providing access to existing or future trails on certain conservation parcels.

Tamworth

At the November TCC meeting Jill Emerson gave an update on GMCG's water quality monitoring program. Jill reported streams monitored in Tamworth are well within the guidelines for clean water based on results obtained thus far.

TCC and Tin Mountain are exploring the possibility of sponsoring a week-long summer camp in Tamworth for children ages 11 to 13. The campers would explore some of Tamworth's natural attractions. The Wonalancet Out Door Club and the Commission will be sponsoring a presentation by Sue Morse entitled "Living with Bears," on February 15, 2019 at 5 pm in the Brett School. The Tamworth CC assisted the Alt family in placing a conservation easement on a 6.5-acre parcel of forested land which abuts other properties which the family had previously placed under easement.

Notes from Downstream

On Monday, Nov 19th, GMCG hosted a luncheon in the Community Room of the Blue Heron House in Effingham to get to know the new Executive Director of the Saco River Corridor Commission, Dalyn Houser. Present at the friendly meeting was the GMCG staff; Executive Director Blair Folts, Water Quality Coordinator Jill Emerson, Outreach Coordinator Moselle Spiller, Education Coordinator Tara Schroeder, and AmeriCorps volunteers Haley Parent, and Victoria Green.

This was the first time GMCG staff had met in person with Dalyn, who has taken on the demanding role of Executive Director at the SRCC following in the footsteps of Dennis Finn. The Commission administers the Saco River Corridor Act, which was established by the Legislature in



GMCG staff & Dalyn Houser meet for lunch.

monitoring and data collection for our shared water quality program across two states but in one watershed.

Dayln, who is originally from Georgia, became interested in the environment and enamored with the nature of the northeast after attending Smith College. She currently lives in Maine and is dedicated to the protection of natural resources. Dalyn is fully engaged in the many complicated and

challenging issues regulatory organizations face, and is determined to do so with a smile.

The SRCC is committed to protecting public health and safety and the quality of life for the state of Maine. Learn more about their work at www.srcc-maine.org. GMCG looks forward to continued partnership with our downstream neighbors.

1973. Through the Act, the Commission helps oversee land use development within 500 to 1,000 feet of the Saco, Ossipee, Little Ossipee Rivers, the Little Ossipee Flowage, and Balch Lake.

Since 2002, GMCG and SRCC have shared a QAPP or Quality Assurance Project Plan, which is a written document required by the EPA to ensure proper procedures for

Wildlife in the public trust

BY RICK VAN DE POLL

Teddy Roosevelt once wrote, “(T)he movement for the conservation of wildlife and the larger movement for the conservation of all our natural resources are essentially democratic in spirit, purpose, and method.”¹ He wrote this in the face of a rising tide of private interests that sought to take control of certain natural resources, notably wildlife. He insisted that wildlife belongs to all people and that conservation was in the public interest.

Beginning in the 1840’s, the Supreme Court has sided with this sentiment when it comes to managing wildlife as a natural resource. In *Martin v. Waddell* (1842), the issue of who owns the fish in a particular body of water was put to the test. The majority opinion wrote, when comparing common law in the United States to its origins in Europe, “(T)he policy of England since the Magna Carta – for the last six hundred years – has been carefully preserved to secure the common right of the piscary for the benefit of the public.”²

The high court reaffirmed this position on public waters in *Illinois Central Railroad v. Illinois*, when it found that “each state in its sovereign capacity holds permanent title to all submerged lands within its borders and holds these lands in public trust.”³ According to the *Wex Legal Dictionary*, the public trust is based on the principle that “certain natural and cultural resources are preserved for public use, and that the government owns and must protect and maintain these resources for the public’s use.”⁴

So how does this relate to wildlife? In short, wildlife belongs in the public trust and as citizens, we have an equal right and more importantly, an equal responsibility to hold our government agencies accountable for managing our wildlife fairly. In the words of one recent article on ‘Just Preservation’ of wildlife, “anything less than fairly balancing the well-being of humans and non-humans, now and into the future, would be anthropocentric and unjust.”⁵

This concept of just treatment of wildlife is not new. Aldo Leopold wrote about a proper land ethic in the 1940’s, wherein all of nature is treated according to what is ethically right: “A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise.”⁶

More recently, this has been the subject of a nationwide review of proper wildlife

management, as well as an assessment of those agencies whose job it is to institute what has been called the “North American Model of Wildlife Management.” In 2016, a Blue Ribbon Panel of scientists and wildlife managers concluded that “Every citizen has a stake in and benefits from healthy fish and wildlife, but most have little contact with or understanding of the state agency responsible for their stewardship. To remain relevant, state fish and wildlife agencies will need to transform their structures, operations and cultures to meet the changing expectations of their customers. If state fish and wildlife agencies fail to adapt, their ability to manage fish and wildlife will be hindered and their public and political support compromised.”⁷

This role of proper wildlife management has been under great scrutiny in New Hampshire during the past year. In fact, a special Study Commission was created by the legislature in January to assess the “efficiency and effectiveness of the NH Fish & Game Department.” In the face of budget concerns and an inability to fill essential positions in the department, this Commission reviewed the charge and fiscal capacity of the agency. What it found was an increasing need to obtain new revenue sources so that it could do its job. Depending on the willingness of the legislature to entertain the two dozen or so new funding ideas publicized in the final report, Fish & Game will likely come back to the state’s citizens for a hand-out, and a big one at that.⁸ The last request was for \$2.5 million. The next will likely be higher.

If for no other reason, the residents of the state need to pay closer attention to where their tax dollars are being spent to support a wildlife management agency they place their trust in. As was stated in the landmark *Martin v. Waddell* case, “All of Nature is in trust for all of people.”⁹ In an era of increasing use of natural resources and pressure on our wildlife species, I believe this is more important than ever before.

Dr. Rick Van de Poll is an active GMCG supporter and presenter, serves on the Steering Committee of the NH Wildlife Coalition (<http://nhwildlife.org>), and was a member of the NH Fish & Game Study Commission.



Above: “ghost moose” showing the signs of winter tick, an increasingly prevalent problem with global warming that the NH Fish & Game Department is trying to manage.



Above: gray squirrels have had a bountiful year, thanks to a productive mast season in 2017; but what about the apparent absence of predators in some parts of the state? Has this contributed to what has been called “squirrel-ageddon?”

¹Batcheller, Gordon R., M. Carol Bamberg, Laura Bles, Thomas Decker, Steven Dyke, David Guynn, Michael McEnroe, Michael O’Brien, John F. Organ, Shawn J. Riley, and Gary Roehm. 2010. *The Public Trust Doctrine: Implications for Wildlife Management and Conservation in the United States and Canada*. The Wildlife Society Technical Review 10-01. September. Foreward.

²U.S. Supreme Court. *Martin v. Waddell*, 41 U.S. 16 Pet. 367 367 (1842). *Martin v. Waddell*. 41 U.S. (16 Pet.) 367

³U.S. Supreme Court. *Illinois Central Railroad Company v. Illinois*. Nos. 419, 608-809. Argued October 12-14, 1892. Decided December 5, 1892. 146 U.S. 387

⁴https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/public_trust_doctrine

⁵A. Treves, F.J. Santiago-Aviles, and W.S. Lynn. 2019. Just preservation. *Biological Conservation* 229 (2019) 134-141.

⁶Leopold, Aldo. 1949. *A Sand County Almanac*. Oxford University Press: Oxford, England.

⁷http://www.nhwildlifecoalition.org/Blue_Ribbon_Panel_Report2.pdf

⁸New Hampshire Fish & Game Commission to Study the Efficiency and Effectiveness of the NH Fish & Game Department’s Operations, SB 48 Chapter 5:2 Laws of 2018. Final Report. 9Ibid

Save the Date! 2019 Winter Calendar

*All events take place at 236 Huntress Bridge Road Effingham, NH unless otherwise noted.
For info call 539-1859 or email info@gmcg.org*

Saturday, January 19: Winter Potluck featuring History of Logging in the White Mountains with Dick Fortin & musical guest Jeff Warren 4:00-7:00p.m. \$10pp suggested donation. Open to the public. Family friendly! Bring a favorite dish or beverage to share. Dick Fortin will take guests back in time to experience what it felt like to be a 19th century lumberjack, his tools, and his life in a woods camp. Jeff Warner will enhance this presentation by sharing traditional American and English folk songs from the logging camps during that same time period. RSVP appreciated so we can plan the potluck.

Saturday, January 26: GET WET! Volunteer Training 10:30am-12:30p.m. GMCG presents the Groundwater Education through Well Water Evaluation and Testing (GET WET!) program. At this training, participants will learn how they can volunteer to help bring this important drinking water protection program to local schools and libraries. Participants can bring in a sample of their home well water and test it for six parameters, including: chloride, conductivity, hardness, nitrates/nitrites, pH, and iron. Learn about common contaminants, health concerns and where to go for more information. Please register in advance by contacting education@gmcg.org or (603) 539-1859.

Wednesday, January 30: Ossipee Aquifer Advisory Committee Meeting 5:30-6:30p.m. Are you interested in protecting your drinking water? You are invited to learn about this group whose mission it is to raise public awareness and assist communities with regional aquifer protection. Help guide educational programs and water research, as well as work with local municipalities, agencies, boards and commissions to protect the Ossipee Aquifer.

Saturday, February 2: Animal Tracking with Naturalist Barbara Bald 10:30-12:30p.m. Fun for all ages! Naturalist Barbara Bald taught science to sixth-grade students in Gilford for 22 years, has worked with Green Mountain Conservation Group conducting macroinvertebrate sampling, and helps facilitate the Sense of Place program for second graders in schools in Maine. She studied tracking with Paul Rezendes and his senior trackers, with members of the Appalachian Mountain Club and staff of the White Pines program in Maine. Bald has been tracking animals for 16 years, but with so much to learn about the land and the creatures that live in it, she still considers herself an intermediate tracker. Participants will be spending some time observing casts of tracks, pelts, quills and more before heading out into the forest to explore. Dress warmly and come prepared to trek through the woods.

Wednesday, February 27: Education Committee Meeting Blue Heron House 6:00-7:00p.m. New members welcome! The Committee helps to guide GMCG's educational programs and meets quarterly throughout the year. Help plan fun and informative programs for 2019 and discuss new program and project ideas. Please RSVP to Tara at: education@gmcg.org if you would like to be a part of this exciting work!

Saturday, March 2: GMCG Annual Meeting NH Black Bears with Ben Kilham (March 3 snow date) 4:00-8:00p.m. GMCG's annual celebration and meeting featuring world-renowned bear expert, Ben Kilham. The annual meeting will take place at Camp Cody in Freedom, New Hampshire. The evening will be a celebration of natural resource conservation in the Ossipee Watershed, honoring all of the volunteers, partner organizations, community members, towns, and individuals that have contributed to conserving our shared resources over the past twenty-one years. The meeting is open to the public, but reservation space for the celebration is limited. *To order your tickets please visit www.gmcg.org or call the office at 539-1859 by Thursday, February 21.*

PLEASE! Renew your membership today! Every drop counts! Thank you!



*(Please make checks payable to Green Mountain Conservation Group Box 95, Effingham, NH 03882)
You may also donate online at www.gmcg.org/we-need-your-help/*

Vernal Pool__\$25 Stream__\$50 River__\$75 Pond__\$100 Bay__\$250 Lake__\$500 Aquifer__\$1000 Other__

NAME_____

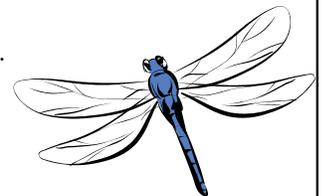
ADDRESS_____

PHONE_____ EMAIL_____

Are you interested in being a GMCG Volunteer? YES

GMCG is a non-profit 501 (C)3 tax-exempt organization funded by grants, memberships, and donations.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!
GMCG's Federal Tax Identification Number is: 02-0498020





Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Effingham, NH
Permit No. 10

P.O. Box 95
236 Huntress Bridge Road
Effingham, NH 03882
(603) 539-1859
www.gmcg.org

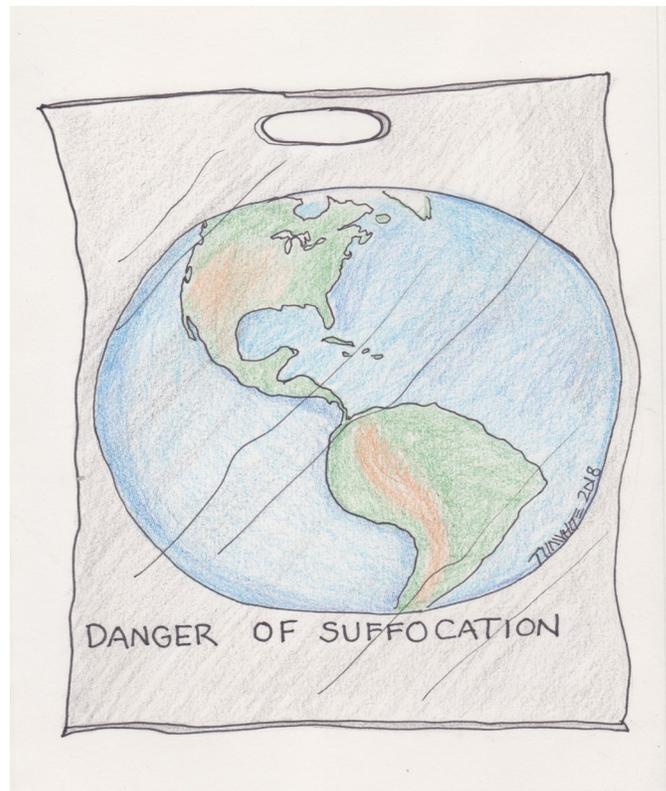
The Watershed News

Save the date!

**Annual Meeting
Ben Kilham
Saturday March 2,
(Snow Date March 3)
at
Camp Cody**

**SPRING Newsletter items due
February 13**

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



Sign up for event updates with *Watershed Happenings* and stay in the flow! Sign-up at www.gmcg.org