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LCHIP Announces Largest Group of Grant Recipients Since 2003

Thirty-one New Hampshire communities will benefit from grants announced by the New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program's (LCHIP) board of directors today.

This is the largest group of conservation and preservation projects selected to receive matching state grants from LCHIP in any year since 2003.

Among the projects receiving support are an historic meetinghouse saved by Epsom townspeople from demolition, a landmark farm that stretches along the Androscoggin River in Shelburne, a covered bridge in Ossipee, and more than 1,000 acres of forest and wetlands in Hooksett, which are vital to the protection of the water supply in the greater Manchester area.

"LCHIP received a major boost from the Legislature this year in the form of a six million dollar appropriation," says LCHIP board chair Craig Welch. "The board is working hard to invest these funds in as many deserving projects as possible."

Community groups and non-profit organizations submit project descriptions and proposals to the LCHIP board for consideration. They have to demonstrate local support for each project, how their share of matching funding will be raised and why the project is an outstanding natural, historic or cultural resource worthy of protection.

"The selection process for these funds is very rigorous and highly competitive," Welch says. "This year, we had more than \$12 million in funding requests from an outstanding group of projects. Clearly there is a great demand and enthusiasm for preserving what's special about our state, and we're thankful to the legislature for their commitment to the program."

Projects receiving support, and contact people for them, are listed by community below.

Acworth - Acworth Meetinghouse, Kathi Brandt, Meetinghouse Restoration Committee, 835-2567
Alstead - Alstead Historical Society Museum, David Moody, Alstead Historical Society, 835-7900
Alton - East Alton Meetinghouse, Sandra Hammond, E. Alton Meetinghouse Society, 569-3745
Belmont - Province Road Meetinghouse, Wallace Rhodes, Belmont Historical Society, 267-6272
Canaan - Canaan Meetinghouse, James Miller, Meetinghouse Committee, 523-4809
Chesterfield - California Brook Phase II, Richard Ober, Monadnock Conservancy, 357-0600
Clarksville - Connecticut River Forest, John Harrigan, 237-5501 (w) 237-4445 (h); Paul Doscher, SPNHF, 224-9945
Cornish - Fitch Farm, Peg Merrens, Upper Valley Land Trust, 643-6626 x112
Danville - Webster Stagecoach Stop & Store, Carol Baird, Danville Heritage Commission, 642-3309
Epsom - Epsom Meetinghouse, Penny Graham, Meetinghouse Committee, 496-0542
Errol - Moolidgewock Brook, Roger Krussman, Trust for Public Lands, 802-223-1373 x13
Gilford - Ramblin' Vewe Farm, Whitney Beales, NE Forestry Foundation, 978-952-6856x109
Greenfield - Crotched Mountain, Michael Redmond, Crotched Mt Foundation, 547-3311 x404
Haverhill - Pearson Hall History Museum, John Page, Haverhill Historical Society, 989-5978

Hinsdale - Ebenezer Hinsdale Farm, John Smith, Hinsdale Historical Society, 336-1600
Hooksett - Clay Pond Headwaters, Dan Kern, Bear-Paw Regional Greenways, 463-9400
Hooksett - Massabesic Watershed, Roger Krussman, Trust for Public Lands, 802-223-1373 x13
Keene - Stone Arched Bridge, Philip Faulkner, Keene Heritage Commission, 357-2728
Lancaster - Lancaster Opera House & Town Hall, Becky Newton, Town of Lancaster, 788-3391
Lempster - Ashuelot River Headwaters, Tammy Gueser, Lempster Conservation Commission, 863-6543; Brian Hotz, SPNHF, 224-9945
Meredith - Page Brook Forest, Roger Krussman, Trust for Public Lands, 802-223-1373 x13
Milton - Salmon Falls River Headwaters, Cinny Wyatt, Moose Mt. Regional Greenways 473-2535; Leo Lessard, Milton Board of Selectmen 742-1741 (w); Mike Speltz, SPNHF, 224-9945 x364
Newbury - Center Meetinghouse, Daniel Wolf, Trustees & Friends of Meetinghouse, 526-6997
Newington - Old Meetinghouse, Gail Pare, Newington Historic District Commission, 436-6415
Newport - Pier Bridge, Jacqueline Cote, Newport Historical Society, 863-3105
Ossipee - Whittier Covered Bridge, Robert Gillette, WC Bridge Advisory Committee, 539-4181
Ossipee, Freedom, Madison - Pine Barrens, Mark Zankel, The Nature Conservancy, 224-5853
Portsmouth - Moffatt-Ladd Coach House, Barbara Ward, Moffatt-Ladd House, 430-7968
Portsmouth - Portsmouth Music Hall, Elena Maltese, Special Projects Manager, 433-3100
Portsmouth - Temple Israel, Robert Chaikin, Centennial Campaign Coordinator, 436-5301
Shelburne - Androscoggin Valley Conservation Initiative, Nancy Bell, The Conservation Fund, 802-492-3368
Temple - Temple Town Hall, Connie Kieley, Friends of Temple Town Hall, 878-1220
Webster - Schoodac Brook, Beth McGuinn, Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust, 526-6555

For more information, visit www.lchip.org.

The Land and Community Heritage Investment Program is an independent state authority that provides matching grants to New Hampshire communities and non-profits in an effort to protect the state's most important natural, cultural and historic resources. Its mission is to ensure the perpetual contribution of these resources to the state's economy, its environment and the quality of life in New Hampshire.