



December 2017

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Welcome!

Congratulations to the forty-two new grant recipients that were officially announced the first week in December! Governor Chris Sununu and other elected officials joined in the gala announcement event. You can read about the grant awards and find a list of the recipients here:

[2017 Grant Recipients](#). We'll tell you more about these projects in the 2018 *LCHIP Links* newsletters.



Governor Sununu addresses the 2017 grant recipients. Photo: Perry Smith

One of my favorite winter poems calls the solstice a time when "Promise awakens in the sleeping land." Fresh snow has just given New Hampshire's land an appearance of winter sleep. I hope the solstice, other winter holidays and your winter activities are full of promises that waken joy for you.

Dijit Taylor
LCHIP Executive Director

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LCHIP Spotlights

Collins Brook Headwaters, Frankestown

The Frankestown Land Trust and the Frankestown Conservation Commission have a long and fruitful history of collaboration.

With help from a \$60,000 LCHIP grant, the partnership recently conserved an additional 100 acres, adding to its long list of accomplishments. The newly conserved land contains headwater streams of Collins Brook, frontage on two remote ponds, wet meadow/shrub wetlands, and several vernal pools. It is considered some of the most prolific wildlife habitat in the Monadnock Region.



Fresh beaver activity along the shore of a remote pond in Collins Brook Headwaters.

South Church, Portsmouth



South Church, Portsmouth

Portsmouth's historic South Church has a more sure-footed path into the future thanks to a planning study recently concluded with the help of an \$8,000 LCHIP grant. The congregation is one of New Hampshire's oldest - gathered in 1623 - and it boasts one of the state's most monumental examples of Greek revival architecture, a sanctuary constructed in 1826 with massive granite walls and a classically detailed portico. Mounting maintenance concerns prompted the congregation to seek professional guidance in prioritizing likely upcoming projects, including repairs to its historic slate

roof.

LCHIP Road Trips

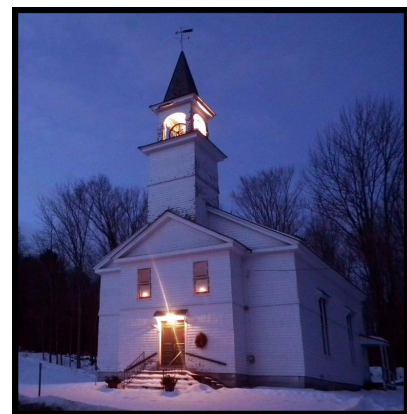
East Grafton Holiday Gathering

Saturday, December 16, 4:30 - 6 p.m.

East Grafton Union Church

80 Turnpike Road, Grafton

Many LCHIP assisted historic properties offer special events in December. One of these is the East Grafton Historical Society's Holiday Gathering, Social and Caroling event. The event will feature singer/musician [Skip Gorman](#) and a Sing-along led by the Pierson Sisters. Everyone is welcome, even if you have to check your map to find East Grafton!



*East Grafton Church
Photo: Grafton Historical*

New Hampshire First Day Hikes 2018

Start the New Year right with an invigorating and informative First Day Hike at a NH state park. The first First Day Hike was held in 1992 at the Blue Hills Reservation state park in Milton, Massachusetts. The event has become national. Last year 1,300 events were held, with more than 62,000 people all across the country walking more than 114,165 miles.



Join the fun at one of these short, easy New Hampshire state park hikes - most include guides and snacks! [Click here](#) or call (603) 271-3556 for more details. Or see if your local land trust or recreation department is offering a First Day Hike.

Share your adventures on social media using #FirstDayHikes!

- Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion State Historic Site, Portsmouth
- Silver Lake State Park, Hollis
- Wellington State Park, Bristol
- Milan Hill State Park, Milan
- Pisgah State Park, Winchester

2016 LCHIP Grant Recipients

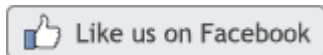
Albany - Pine Hill Community Forest - Bald Hill	Kensington - Bodwell Fields and Forest
Alstead - Chase's Mill	Laconia - Belknap Mill Planning Study
Ashland - Town Planning Study	Laconia - Colonial Theatre
Barrington - Barr Conservation Easement	Lebanon - Rogers House
Bath - Peters Family Farm Easement	Londonderry - Expanding the Musquash
Belmont - Library Planning Study	Meredith - Page Pond Community Forest
Candia - Tower Hill Pond	Moultonborough Falls Conservation Area
Center Harbor - Town House	Nashua - Sullivan Farm
Claremont - City Hall Planning Study	New Durham - WidowMaker Farm
Conway - Pine Hill Community Forest	Northumberland - Cape Horn Connectivity
Danbury - Deuink Conservation Easement	Portsmouth - John Paul Jones House
Derry - First Parish Church	Portsmouth - Penhallow House Planning Study
Exeter - Winter Street Cemetery	Portsmouth - South Church Planning Study
Francestown - Collins Brook Headwaters	Rochester - City Hall Annex
Gilmanton - Kelley Corner Schoolhouse #1	Salem - Salem Town Forest Expansion
Haverhill - Blackmount Farm	Statewide - Preservation Planning Block Grant

Jaffrey - Meetinghouse	Swanzy - Windyhurst Farm
Keene - Cheshire County Courthouse	Wakefield - Town Hall



The **NH Conservation License Plate (Moose Plate) Program** supports the protection of critical resources in our state. You can purchase a Moose Plate at any time - for your new car, for a car that's already registered, or even for a friend! Find out more at mooseplate.com. Income from the Moose Plate Program pays for much of LCHIP's administrative expenses. LCHIP thanks Moose Plate holders for their support!

*Headline Photo: East Grafton Church received an LCHIP grant in 2013.
Photo Credit: Grafton Historical Society*



Land & Community Heritage Investment Program
13 West Street, Suite 3, Concord, NH 03301
Phone: 603-224-4113 | FAX: 603-224-5112

