Welcome!

Full summer has finally arrived with all the joys of sunny weather and lazier days. Hooray!

Also arriving recently at LCHIP are this year’s fifty-seven proposals for grant funding. There are proposals for projects in each of the ten counties of the state. The thirteen natural resource projects total just over 3,700 acres and include six farms. The forty-four historical resource proposals range in date from 1759 to 1928. They include churches, chapels and meetinghouses, city and town halls, court houses, museums, libraries, two school buildings, an industrial building and four planning studies. We’ll be organizing site visits to as many of the applicant sites as feasible over the coming weeks.

Dijit Taylor
LCHIP Executive Director

Site visits give LCHIP staff and review panelists an opportunity to speak with applicants about their project.
Partnerships key to successful project completion

The newly-created Birch Ridge Community Forest rises over Merrymeeting Lake in New Durham. Its 2,000 acres offer views of Mount Molly and Mount Bet across the winding snowmobile corridor 22, filters clean water to Merrymeeting Lake and Coldrain Pond and provides habitat for wide-ranging species such as moose, bear, deer, and bobcat. Hikers, cross-country skiers, hunters, and birders can explore 13 miles of trails, or enjoy a visit to Coldrain pond, where in the spring common loons can be seen feeding.

A 2018 LCHIP grant helped the Southeast Land Trust of New Hampshire (SELT) and its partners, Moose Mountains Regional Greenways and the Merrymeeting Lake Association, raise the nearly three-million dollars needed to complete this important project.

Distinctive Sunburst Fan Returns to Peterborough

The Peterborough Unitarian Universalist Church finished rebuilding one of the most distinctive and visible features of this early nineteenth century, Federal-style building: a seventeen-foot, wood-louvered arched fan. After nearly two centuries in place, it had started to deteriorate and was taken down, brought to a shop, and disassembled. A few of the vanes were replaced, but most were able to be repaired. Now reassembled, painted, and reinstalled, it is ready for its third century.

Historic Windows and Doors Repaired in Time for Summer

Wakefield Town Hall and Opera House

The 1895 Wakefield Town Hall and Opera House recently wrapped up a project to repair its wooden windows. The sashes were taken offsite, stripped, repaired, and repainted, before being reinstalled.

Three front doors were also repaired and refinished.
The ground floor is used for Town Offices while the second floor hosts community events, such as public hearings, elections, and music and dance performances.

Photo to right: Wakefield Town Hall and Opera House

Players' Ring Theatre

In Portsmouth, the Players' Ring Theatre completed a rehabilitation project on the 1833 Portsmouth Marine Railway building, which the Theatre rents from the City of Portsmouth. After repairs to the historic windows, doors and masonry, the building is poised to contribute to Portsmouth's lively cultural scene for years to come.

The Portsmouth Marine Railway building and two warehouses are the only surviving buildings of Portsmouth’s 18th and early 19th century working waterfront in the Prescott Park area.

2018 LCHIP Grant Recipients

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Concord - Kimball Jenkins Mansion Roof and Upper Trim

Croydon, Grantham, Newport - W.F. Rugar Wildlife Management Area

Deerfield - Town Forest Expansion

Durham - Lamprey River Preserve Expansion

Durham - Lubberland Creek Preserve Expansion

Epsom - Town Forest Expansion

Exeter - Ladd-Gilman House Moisture Control

Farmington - Farmington First Congregational Church Rehabilitation

Farmington - Scruton’s Dairy Agricultural Easement

Fitzwilliam - Town Hall Planning Study

Francestown - Abbottville Farm Agricultural Easement

Gorham - Community Forest Expansion

Orford - Brackett Brook Farm Conservation Easement

Plymouth - Old Webster Courthouse Rehabilitation

Portsmouth - Portsmouth Women’s City Club Sprinkler System

Rindge - Ingalls Memorial Library Masonry

Rochester - Rochester Opera House Seat Restoration

Statewide - Preservation Planning Grant

Sugar Hill - St. Matthew’s Chapel Foundation

Swanzey - Whitcomb Hall Second Floor Rehabilitation

Tilton - Tilton Mansion Planning Study

Tuftonboro - Great Meadow Conservation Area

Wolfeboro - Wolfeboro Freight Shed Rehabilitation

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: LCHIP Historic Resources Specialist George Born tries his hand at controlling water passage during a 2018 site visit to Chase’s Mill in Alstead.