



February Nature Program Series

Tin Mountain Conservation Center, 1245 Bald Hill Road, Albany, NH 03818

Sense of Place Community Forum:

Building Partnerships & Maintaining Trails

Wednesday, February 5, 6-7:30pm

Tuckerman Brewing Company, Conway

How do recreation groups and land managers work together to maintain and create trails? Granite Backcountry Alliance has made headlines with their active approach to working with land managers to expand local backcountry skiing opportunities. Join this forum to discuss how landowners, land managers, and recreation user groups can work together to maintain and improve the network of trails in and around the Mount Washington Valley.

Patterns in the Snow: a Tracking Exploration

Classroom session: Thursday, February 6, 7pm

Field session: Saturday, February 8, 9-11am

Nature Learning Center, Albany

Have you ever wondered what animals move through your yard when you're not looking? Have you ever looked at the tracks in your yard and wondered who made them and what they were doing? Snow provides us a yearly opportunity to learn more about our animal neighbors. The track patterns left behind will be our window into figuring out: Who left those tracks? What were they doing? Were they in a hurry? Join local certified tracker Joe LaRue for a Thursday class and Saturday field session to explore these snowy riddles.

February EcoForum: Trout Stream Restoration

Thursday, February 13, 12-1pm

Nature Learning Center, Albany

Streams and riparian areas are dynamic, and change dramatically over decades and centuries. Research in the last thirty years has shed light on the interconnected nature of streams and riparian areas, documenting that riparian zones are indeed an integral part of stream ecosystems. Much of that research has demonstrated the importance of wood in streams to fish habitat and nutrient cycling, and

emerging information on the role of light on the productivity of stream ecosystems. Come learn about research from New Hampshire and beyond on fish habitat and instream wood, and what we may expect in our streams in the coming decades as forests age. As well as several stream restoration projects that use our knowledge of stream and riparian processes to help stream ecosystems become healthy again.

New Hampshire's Declining Bird Population

Thursday, February 13, 7pm

Nature Learning Center, Albany

In September a study was published in the journal *Science* that highlighted an alarming decline in bird populations throughout North America. Similar studies in Europe have found the same. The report indicates a net population decline of 29% (about three billion birds) in North America since 1970. Yes that's billion, with a "b." Iain MacLeod, Executive Director of Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, took a closer look at long term bird data in New Hampshire's north country and found similar declines. Join Iain for an evening of exploring and explaining these trends and what they mean for the future of New Hampshire's avian and greater wildlife populations.

Winter Tracks Family Snowshoe

Saturday, February 15, 10am-12pm

Nature Learning Center, Albany

Who's been here? Was it a fox, a bobcat, or even a fisher? Learn the four basic track patterns and enjoy the morning outside with your family during Tin Mountain's *Winter Tracks Family Snowshoe* program. Families of all ages are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Winter Camp

February 18-21, 9-3pm

Nature Learning Center, Albany

View TMCC's website for individual camp details.

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March Nature Program Series

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Mountain Safety & Rescue: Beyond the 10 Essentials **Wednesday, March 4, 6-7:30pm**

Tuckerman Brewing Company, Conway

What happens when you do it all right and things still go wrong? Join this forum to hear stories from the front lines of accidents and adventures. We'll discuss the common and uncommon hazards people face outdoors in the White Mountains. Snow Rangers, Mountain Rescue Service, Conway Fire Department, and NH Fish and Game will be on hand to share stories and answer questions.

Tanzania: Birds, Big Game and Maasai Culture **Thursday, March 5, 7pm**

Nature Learning Center, Albany

TMCC member and volunteer Charlie Nims will share his birding safari adventure through the Northern Circuit of Tanzania including Tarangire NP, Ngorongoro Crater and the Serengeti, finishing with a quick trip to Zanzibar. Although the focus will be on birds, there will be lots of big game, some insight into the Maasai culture and a feel for the varied habitats.

Coastal Birds Field Program

Saturday, March 7, 7:30am

Meet at Nature Learning Center, Albany

We're heading to the coast of Maine in search of harlequins, scoters, eiders, long-tailed ducks, and mergansers. Join us for an excursion to several great birding spots in southern Maine to look for various ducks and shorebirds. Make sure to bring warm layers, water, and a lunch. Bring your own binoculars or borrow ours.

March EcoForum: Warmer Windows

Thursday, March 12, 12-1pm

Nature Learning Center, Albany

Is your heat going right out the window along with your money? For many of us here in the Mount Washington Valley, that is exactly what we are doing. The Tin Mountain Energy Team is hoping to put a stop to that. Come learn about an exciting project coming to the valley this fall where area residents can come together to build window inserts *and* community.

Snowshoe Hike

Saturday, March 14, 8am-noon

Meet at Grants Parking Lot, Glen

Strap on your snowshoes and join Tin Mountain as we enjoy rugged views and search for signs of wildlife in the snow. This moderate hike will take full advantage of March's deep snow and warmer temperatures. Bring your own snowshoes or borrow ours. Reservations requested: call 603-447-6991.

Spring Ephemerals

Wednesday, March 18, 6pm

White Mountain Community Colleges Library, Berlin

Join Executive Director Lori Jean Kinsey for pictorial journey of early spring wildflowers. From hepatica to Dutchman's breeches she will look at what makes each flower unique from its pollinators to its habitat.

Ancient Trees of North America

Thursday, March 19, 7pm

Nature Learning Center, Albany

Take a photographic journey across North America to see the oldest trees starting in the White Mountains of California where we will learn about 5,000-year old Bristlecone Pines. Our journey will take us to see other trees including Whitebark and Foxtail Pines, Redwoods and Sequoias that live for 2,000-years or more. We will finish in New Hampshire where we will learn that we have the oldest broad-leaved tree in North America, the Black Gum, and an ancient Eastern Red Cedar growing on a cliff. We will describe how scientist age trees and why dendrochronology is so important in understanding climate change.

First Season Benefit Dinner & Auction

Saturday, March 28, 5-9pm

Ada Wadsworth Arena, Fryeburg Academy

Join Tin Mountain for an evening of dinner, music, and hundreds exciting items donated by local businesses and craftspeople. Call 447-6991 for more information

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