



HANOVER CONSERVANCY

Protecting land & water in our community

land and water in our community

August 2012

ALDO LEOPOLD
on August...

"Some paintings become famous because, being durable, they are viewed by successive generations. I know a painting so evanescent that it is seldom viewed at all, except by some wandering deer. It is the river who wields the brush. Like other artists, my river is temperamental; there is no predicting when the mood to paint will come upon him, or how long it will last. But in mid-summer, when the great white fleets cruise the sky for day after flawless day, it is worth strolling down to the sandbars to see whether he has been at work.

"The work begins with a broad ribbon of silt brushed thinly on the sand of the receding shore. As this dries slowly in the sun, goldfinches bathe in its pools, and deer, herons, kill-deers, raccoons, and turtles cover it with a lacework of tracks. When I see the silt ribbon turning green, this is the sign that the river is in a painting mood.

"Give the river three more weeks of solitude, then visit the bar on some bright morning just after the sun has melted the day-break

Eagle Scout Takes Aim at Invasives



Etna Eagle Scout and Hanover Conservancy member Fletcher Passow recently orchestrated a remarkable project to remove invasive plants at Hayes Farm Park.

Fletcher had two aims: to remove plants threatening the King Bird Sanctuary and to raise awareness in the Upper Valley about invasive species, a critical conservation issue. He mustered an impressive crew of 39 volunteers, ages 7 to 70, who spent over 200 hours clearing one fifth acre of dense barberry (shown above), glossy buckthorn, common buckthorn, multiflora rose, and honeysuckle. They used weed wrenches, loppers (including the Conservancy's equipment), shovels, mattocks, rock bars, and a Jeep to take out mature plants (5-25 feet tall!), roots and all.

The crew learned to identify and remove five invasive species. One man came specifically to learn how to deal with multiflora rose so he could lead a similar project on Hanover's Rinker-Steele Natural Area. Others wanted to learn how to remove invaders from their own yards. Each received a guide to identifying and removing these "least wanted plants of the Upper Valley." We congratulate Fletcher on his initiative and thank him for great work!

Grassland Birds - Going, Going, Gone?

Did you know that 20% of NH's quickly vanishing grasslands are in Grafton County? Bobolinks, meadowlarks, killdeer, and 70 other kinds of creatures use these open areas for food, cover, or breeding. Ideal bobolink habitat is a lush hayfield larger than five acres that is mowed once/year in September. Mowing edges once every 2-3 years brings a mix of wildflowers attracting insects to feed birds and migrating butterflies. For more on how to establish or manage your grassland, click [here](#) or call the Grafton County office of UNH Cooperative Extension (787-6944).



Membership Is Up!

We're delighted to report that membership in the Hanover Conservancy

fog. The artist has now laid down his colors and sprayed them with dew. The sod, greener than ever, is spangled with blue mimulus, pink dragon-head, and the milk-white blooms of Sagittaria. If you have come quietly and humbly, as you should to any spot that can be beautiful only once, you may surprise a fox-red deer, standing knee-high in the garden of his delight.

"Do not return for a second view, for there is none. Either falling water has dried it out, or rising water has scoured the bar to its original austerity of clean sand. But in your mind you may hang up your picture, and hope that in some other summer the mood to paint may come upon the river."

A Sand County Almanac
[More on Aldo Leopold](#)

Donate Now

We appreciate your support!

is up 28% over last year, and thank those who have recently joined or renewed. Membership dues make up an essential part of our income each year, and help pay for those operational basics: rent, utilities, office supplies, postage, newsletters, website, and our program of free outdoor trips, to name a few.

You, our members, are the bedrock that enables the Conservancy to initiate conservation projects and then partner with the Town of Hanover and others to see them through. We're working hard on two exciting land projects right now, and hope to share news soon.

Fall Trips To Be Announced

Our roster of fall outdoor trips is now on the drawing board. Current Conservancy members will receive a colorful announcement soon. Here's a sample of what's in store:

- Special tour of the Trescott Water Company lands (space limited)
- Hawk Watch at Balch Hill
- Historic Corey Road
- Secrets of Greensboro Ridge
- Multi-modal Tunis Tour

If you're not yet a member and want to receive our schedule of fall trips, [sign up now](#).

Find us on Facebook!

Quick updates, fun photos, and links to good stuff. Visit www.facebook.com/hanoverconservancy and become a friend.



16 Buck Road | Hanover, NH 03755 | (603) 643-3433 | info@hanoverconservancy.org
www.hanoverconservancy.org