



HANOVER CONSERVANCY

Protecting land & water in our community

August 2013

Aldo Leopold on "the Deer Swath"

"One hot afternoon in August I sat under the elm, idling, when I saw a deer pass across a small opening...a deer trail crosses our farm.

"There are four categories of outdoors men: deer hunters, duck hunters, bird hunters, and non-hunters...four diverse habits of the human eye. The deer hunter habitually watches the next bend; the duck hunter watches the skyline; the bird hunter watches the dog; the non-hunter does not watch.

"When the deer hunter sits down he sits where he can see ahead, and with his back to something. The duck hunter sits where he can see overhead, and behind something. The non-hunter sits where he is comfortable. None of these watches the dog. The bird hunter watches only the dog; the dog's nose is the bird hunter's eye.

"There are good outdoorsmen who do not conform to these categories...the ornithologist who hunts by ear...and the botanist who hunts by eye, but at much closer range; he is a marvel at finding plants, but seldom sees birds or mammals. There is the forester who sees only trees, and the insects and fungi that prey upon trees; he is oblivious to all else. And finally there is the sportsman who sees only game, and regards all else as of little interest or value.

"The biological jack-of-all-trades called ecologist tries to be and do all these things. Needless to say, he does not succeed."

- *A Sand County Almanac*

Moose Matters

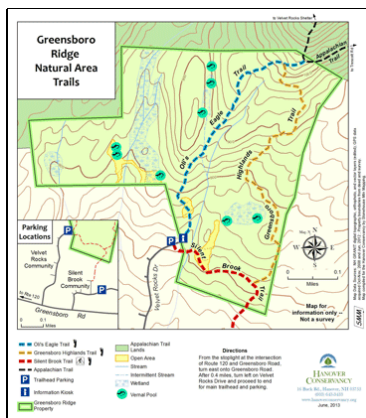
Disturbing news comes from NH Fish & Game. The moose population is plummeting - down 40% in the last 5 years - and biologists are attributing this trend to climate change.



Too-hot summers are causing stress in cow moose: at 79 degrees, they stop feeding

and lie down. Underweight moose bear fewer calves. Too-mild winters are also devastating moose with a spike in winter ticks. After the mild winter of 2010, the state believes all that year's calves and many adults died of severe tick infestations. Mild winter weather has also led to more deer; they can carry a brain worm fatal to moose.

What to do? Turn to cooler, high-elevation forests such as those on Moose Mountain, for sanctuary from the heat. HC is updating our land conservation strategy to consider these and other factors; we'll release our plans later this year. [MORE](#)



Just in Time for Summer Fun: New Maps & Guides

We're pleased to announce a new full color map and guide to our 113-acre Greensboro Ridge Natural Area. Along with a detailed trail map, the guide sheds light on its vernal pools, wildlife, geology, and more. Find it on line [here](#) and look for the free, printed version in the next few weeks, posted at the trailhead on Velvet Rocks Drive. We've also

updated the [trail map](#) for the Rinker-Steele Natural Area, which is protected by a Conservancy easement. The Hanover Conservation Commission's energetic Trails Committee has just released an updated town-wide trail map. Pick up your copy at the town hall for \$7.

Ticked Off? Save the Date!

The Hanover Conservation Commission is organizing a symposium on the topic of ticks - and their co-conspirators, deer and mice. The roundtable will include speakers from the Commission, UNH Cooperative Extension, NH Coverts, and the Hanover Conservancy. Join us at the Howe Library on the evening of Sept. 11. Details coming soon.

Safe Disposal for Unwanted Medications

Hanover has taken a state-of-the-art step to protect water quality. How? A new deposit box in the lobby of the public safety building at 46 Lyme Road offers a safe, anonymous way to get rid of unwanted drugs. You can bring prescription and over-the-counter medications, patches, vitamins, EpiPens, and medicines for pets - 24 hours/day. What's the water connection? These chemicals are not removed by wastewater

Along the trail at Greensboro Ridge Natural Area...



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treatment and so can enter groundwater (through septic systems) and through sewers to threaten the fish community in the Connecticut River. [MORE](#)



Fall Trips

Our fall calendar is filling up with fun trips for all, including a cellar hole history tour of the "Four Corners" on the Trescott Water Company lands, hawk watch, a forester-led tour of habitat improvements at Balch Hill, and more. Current Hanover Conservancy members will receive our colorful trip card in early September. If you're not yet on our list, there's still time to [sign up!](#)

Speaking of Cool...

The heat of summer is a great time to seek out a cool mountain stream. Have an hour or two to discover a hidden Hanover gem? We recommend the Tunis Brook Mill Lot on the northeast side of Moose Mountain. We've just posted a new trailhead sign on Goose Pond Road to make this special spot easier to find. [MORE](#)

