

## HANOVER CONSERVANCY

Protecting land & water in our community

### February 2013

ALDO LEOPOLD on rivers...

"The song of a river ordinarily means the tune that waters play on rock, root, and rapid. This song of the waters is audible to every ear, but there is other music in these hills, by no means audible to all. To hear even a few notes of it you must first live here for a long time, and you must know the speech of hills and rivers.

The life of every river sings its own song...."

A Sand County Almanac



We appreciate your support!

# Get Out This Winter !

Last weekend we toured Dartmouth's Morton Farm trails, discovering this beautiful view of Mt. Ascutney. Come along for more fun:

Feb. 2: Lord's Hill

Feb. 9: Snowshoe Hike

to D.O.C. Cabin

Feb. 16: Tunis Brook Wildlife & Alcott Smith

March 2: Trescott Water Company Lands - Snowshoe hike to see ancient pines and observe the working woods in winter. This trip limited to Hanover Conservancy members - space limited - please contact us to register.

Details for all trips <u>here</u>. Unless otherwise noted, all trips are free and open to the public; no registration is required. Snowshoes are available to borrow. Please, leave pets at home.

#### Ted Levin on Rachel Carson - Feb. 28

Silent Spring appeared on bookshelves 50 years ago and changed the nation. Join us at the Howe Library on Thursday, February 28 at 7pm to hear naturalist Ted Levin share his thoughts about its impact and that of its author, an extraordinary woman who helped launch the modern environmental movement.

#### **Mink Brook Buffer Project Seeks Funds**

Our friends at the Connecticut River Watershed Council, working with landowners Tim Bent and Betsy Storrs, are seeking funds to help plant a riparian (stream-side) buffer of trees and shrubs along an exposed section of Mink Brook in Etna. Buffers improve stream health by shading and cooling the water for trout and by capturing sediment. Better buffers in Etna mean better water for fish downstream in our Mink Brook Nature Preserve, too. Learn more here.

#### **Changes for Wilder Dam?**

The long-term federal operating license for Wilder Dam is coming up for renewal, opening the gates to opportunities to change how the Connecticut River dam and its 45-mile-long impoundment are operated by TransCanada. Any citizen or organization may submit comments online to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's <a href="Months:eComments">eComments</a> system. The deadline for comments at this stage (study requests, project scoping, and the pre-application document) is March 1. Refer to "Wilder Project No. P-1892."

#### **Hungry Bear Cubs**

Lyme's Ben Kilham, who has advised us on the bears at our Mink Brook Nature Preserve, was featured recently by WMUR. This winter Ben is raising 27 orphaned cubs, compared to his usual 3-5... and they're keeping each other awake and hungry! Read more.



#### **Balch Hill News**

Visit the summit to see our progress in restoring the views of Mt. Ascutney and downtown Hanover (for starters). We're putting our new Balch Hill Fund to work, and thank the many friends and neighbors who've pitched in. As our volunteers burn brush, we remind that fires at Balch Hill

are conducted only by the Conservancy.

#### **Year-End Appeal**

Thanks to all who made a <u>year-end gift</u>. Nearly 170 friends gave \$20,138 toward our goal of \$26,000, and 30 more contributed a total of \$3,507 to our new Balch Hill Fund. Your gifts help us ensure Hanover 's future as a wonderful place to live, work, play, and raise a family. We are now able to accept gifts of stock.