



HANOVER CONSERVANCY

Protecting land & water in our community

July 2013

W. D. Wetherell on the Connecticut River

"To use the word *watershed* ... is to pay tribute to one of the great elemental forces in the world, and - the true magic in this difficult age - it's a force of linkage, togetherness, interconnection.

"The watershed we live in is one of the most beautiful on earth. Surely ours will be the generation that, at long last, will give it the care and devotion it so richly deserves - and, by doing so, link us all together in ways that even water, the magic thread of it, can't manage on its own."

- *Where The Great River Rises - An Atlas of the Connecticut River Watershed in Vermont and New Hampshire*

In the woods at Balch Hill Natural Area....



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We appreciate your support!

Big News at Balch Hill

This week we completed a major project to restore native wildlife habitat and release apple trees, recapturing scenic views and the historic agricultural landscape of Balch Hill. Our licensed forester, Ben Hudson, has worked closely with our Balch Hill Stewardship Committee with support from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Ben's photo shows Baker Tower with one of his frequent "supervisors."

The areas newly cleared of brush and invasive buckthorn have now been seeded to expand the meadow. We'll rebuild the old stone wall and hope that the blueberries expand to their former glory in the sun. Thanks to all the friends and neighbors who have also supported this work. [MORE](#)



At the King Sanctuary

It's a good time to enjoy the butterflies in the open fields of Hayes Farm Park beyond the Etna Library and also up in the [Nan and Allen King Bird Sanctuary](#). If you sit still long enough, you may be treated to a brilliant indigo bunting singing from the old apple tree above the bench. More is afoot with our memorial to the Kings - look for our announcement next month.

Hike Back in Time - South Esker

Two dozen would-be geologists explored the beautiful South Esker on June 16 with Dartmouth Earth Sciences Professor and Conservancy board member Carl Renshaw. Eskers form when streams flow under a melting glacier, dropping their load of gravel. This esker runs just east of the Connecticut River, from Pine Park and CRREL to the south edge of Mink Brook. Icy Lake Hitchcock followed in the glacier's wake, creating terraces before it drained away. The trail through the towering riverside forest leaves from the Pine Knoll Cemetery's main lane - look for the blue sign.



Membership Grows

We're happy to report that our membership now stands at the highest level in years and we've welcomed over 40 new families. Their support enables our free outdoor trips program and our work to conserve new lands while caring for our natural areas. Ten lucky members have taken home locally-produced gifts from our June 20 drawing.

Connecticut River's Eyes and Ears

It may be the largest river in New England, but it still could use a little baby-sitting. The Connecticut River Watershed Council is looking for volunteers to keep an eye on the river. The [Upper Valley Eyes and Ears Network](#) is a pilot program comprised of volunteers who are active on the water as fishers, boaters, canoeists, bird watchers, hikers and

more.

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