



HANOVER CONSERVANCY

Protecting land & water in our community

June 2013

Mary Holland
on June...

"June is a month full of possibilities. A walk in any habitat has the potential to reveal many forms of life. the sounds and signs of courting animals are everywhere: frogs calling, turtles performing water ballet, birds singing, mammals leaving signs, insects 'dancing.'

"Food is beginning to be plentiful for the first time in months, with the fruit of early flowering shrubs and trees such as dogwoods and black cherries ripening, herbaceous wetland plants providing nutrient-filled leaves and tubers, and fields full of flowers offering nectar and pollen to lure pollinators.

"Hatches and births are constant, from beavers and moose to stoneflies and silk moths; the air and land are filled with new life."

Naturally Curious

**In bloom at
Greensboro Ridge
Natural Area....**

Work Underway at Balch Hill & Mink Brook

It's more than a little spring cleaning - our crews are busy in the Balch Hill Natural Area and Mink Brook Nature Preserve. On Upper Valley Trails Day (Sat., June 1), we'll be working on our beautiful bridge at [Mink Brook](#), repairing storm damage. Helpers can meet at the Brook Road gate at 12:30pm.



Up at [Balch Hill](#), we'll start a new round of clearing around apple trees and stone walls, extending the meadow, and removing invasives and other brush. This is part of our effort to restore this historic hilltop agricultural landscape, once part of the Balch (later Garipay) Farm, and its inspiring views. Thanks to all the friends and neighbors who have supported this work, along with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Members New & Renewing

We've heard from over 100 renewing members in the last few weeks and welcomed nearly 40 new families to Conservancy membership. Their support enables our free outdoor trips program and our work to conserve new lands and care for our natural areas. If you haven't yet [sent yours in](#), don't miss your chance at a dozen locally-produced gifts at our June 20 drawing. More about the drawing [HERE](#).

Geology of South Esker

[Sunday, June 16, 9-10:30am](#) - Hike back in time to when a mile-thick glacier moved over Hanover, followed by an icy lake. Today, beautiful trails along the Connecticut River take us past the esker left behind. Join us for a family-friendly trip through a towering riverside forest, led by Dartmouth Earth Sciences Professor and Conservancy board member Carl Renshaw. Meet at trailhead in Pine Knoll Cemetery off S. Main St., Hanover. More [HERE](#), including notes on our recent adventures.

Buckthorn - One Bad Actor

Not fans of buckthorn to begin with, we've recently learned that this invasive tree has more to condemn it. Research has linked buckthorn to declines in amphibians and altered mammal populations. The plant releases emodin, a chemical toxic to frog embryos, into the amphibian breeding pond environment,





Fringed polygala

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disrupting their development and preventing hatching. The study also found that carnivores seem to be attracted to buckthorn-infested areas, perhaps because they can prey more easily on native bird eggs and nestlings when nests are built in buckthorn and honeysuckle compared to nests built in native shrubs or trees. Read [MORE](#) to be inspired to check your property for buckthorn!

Wish List

Boy, do we wish we had a **digital projector!** We're happy to take one off your hands, or will gladly accept a donation to help us purchase one. Please [get in touch](#) if you have a lead!

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