



# HANOVER CONSERVANCY

*Protecting land & water in our community*

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## **November 2012**

**ALDO LEOPOLD**  
*on November...*

"The wind that makes music in November corn is in a hurry. The stalks hum, the loose husks whisk skyward in half-playful swirls, and the wind hurries on. In the marsh, long windy waves surge across the grassy sloughs, beat against the far willows. A tree tries to argue, bare limbs waving, but there is no detaining the wind. Out of the clouds I hear...the honk of geese. The flock emerges from the low clouds, a tattered banner of birds...the wind wrestling lovingly with each winnowing wing. When the flock is a blur in the far sky I hear the last honk, sounding taps for summer."

"November is, for many reasons, the month for the axe. I have read many definitions of what is a conservationist, and written not a few myself, but I suspect that the best one is

## **Touring the Trescott Lands**

On a gorgeous fall afternoon, 30 enthusiastic trekkers toured a fascinating part of Hanover hidden behind the fence surrounding the town's water supply, on a special members-only

excursion. Foresters John O'Brien and Jeffrey Smith explained the challenges of managing this critical land and showed us the historic site of the town poor farm, spectacular views of Mt. Ascutney, and rare old growth forest protected in one of several "legacy" sites on the property.



We hope to offer another tour in the future. For now, you can learn more about the [Trescott Water Company lands](#) and view a slide show [HERE](#).



## **Finding Hidden Hanover**

Our 2012 trip season is now complete - find reports and photos of our wanderings [HERE](#). We enjoyed the company of the 394 people who participated in our free education programs in 2012. Not just from Hanover - people came from 15 towns to join in the fun - from a hike over an historic stone bridge (R) to a "bike&hike" tour of

the Hanover Town Forest. Photographer Jim Block came along for that ride; here's a [link](#) to his photos.

Our roster of winter outdoor trips is now on the drawing board. Current Conservancy members will receive a colorful announcement in

written not with a pen, but with an axe. It is a matter of what a man thinks about while chopping, or while deciding what to chop. A conservationist is one who is humbly aware that with each stroke he is writing his signature on the face of his land. Signatures of course differ, whether written with axe or pen, and this is as it should be."

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

**Donate Now**

*We appreciate your support!*

December. If you're not yet a member and want our winter trip card, [sign up!](#)

## The McKinley Tract

Speaking of hidden Hanover - have you visited the McKinley Tract? If you've ever admired the beautifully forested junction of Wolfeboro and Goose Pond Roads, you've been there. The Hanover Conservancy holds a conservation easement on these 125 acres of high quality wildlife habitat now owned by the Town of Hanover. Here, the shoulder-high stump of a massive tree helped a hemlock get a good start in life. There are no formal trails on the property, but you can explore it on foot, including an old cellar hole. Bear, moose, deer, snowshoe hare and others call it home. [MORE](#)



## Listening to Local Issues

Conservation needs a local voice - this is why Hanover citizens founded the Hanover Conservancy over a half century ago. Advocacy for environmentally-responsible public policy is still part of our mission. We're participating both at public meetings and by providing information on the Conservation News area of our website. Here, you can learn more about a tough problem with a (partly) town-owned parcel on Moose Mountain, the [Dana Pasture Lot](#), and also about the new [residential zoning](#) update initiative.

## Mink Brook Neighbor on a Mission

We just heard from a neighbor of our [Mink Brook Nature Preserve](#). Watching our work to control invasive buckthorn, he decided to take matters literally into his own hands.



"I picked 10 bags of buckthorn [sprouts] this October and 10 in August. Each bag took about an hour. Each session, I was able to clear an area of about 15'x15'. Each bag weighed between 20 and 35 lbs. I counted one full bag - it had 822 individual buckthorn ranging in size from 1 inch to several feet. Multiply that times 20 bags and you are talking about 16,000 of those critters! It is very good exercise, and a chance to get up close and personal with the earth. Amazing how many other native species are trying to come in (ferns, partridgeberry, club moss, as well a tiny new maples, oaks and pine trees). It is rewarding to know that you are creating the space for these along with getting some quiet time and fresh air."

What a great friend. Next spring, we'll organize some more "pulling parties" to keep him company.

## Speaking of Friends: Find Us on Facebook!

Quick updates, fun photos, and links to good stuff. Visit [www.facebook.com/hanoverconservancy](http://www.facebook.com/hanoverconservancy) and become a friend.

