



JERRY MONKMAN - ECOPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

Tiger Hill Community Forest and the Northwest River in Sebago, ME

## 8,000 acres protected since 1987

In 2012, LELET'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF ESTABLISHED A goal of doubling the amount of land protected by the Trust from 4,000 to 8,000 acres—a strategic goal set in response to a concerning development trend near some of the region's most sensitive natural areas. With the protection of over 1,700 more acres of land in 2019 alone, LELET has achieved that goal set 8 years ago.

In May, the Crooked River Preserve in Harrison was expanded by 35 acres, protecting a trout stream and adding to the forest buffer that maintains water quality in the Crooked River, Sebago Lake's largest tributary. Just a few months later, many years of fundraising and a shared vision to protect an important cultural site in South Bridgton culminated in the conservation of nearly 250 acres of undeveloped forestland surrounding the historic

Narramissic Farmstead. Finally, on the eve of the new year in December, 1,400 acres of pine and hardwood forests, wetlands and fens, and hilltop outcroppings were protected forever in Sebago.

This land, the Tiger Hill Community Forest, connects with existing conservation land to create a connected tapestry of nearly 2,000 acres of permanently protected land along the Northwest River, Sebago Lake's second largest tributary.

None of this would have been possible without countless contributions of time, money, and resources from LELET's members. As we look ahead to the next eight years and beyond, we will continue to rely on your support to protect more land for you and countless generations to come. While we may have grown since 1987, one thing hasn't changed: our members' passion for leaving a legacy of environmental stewardship here in Maine's Lake Region.

For that, we say *thank you*.

The Board and Staff of Loon Echo Land Trust

While we may have grown since 1987, one thing hasn't changed: our members' passion for leaving a legacy of environmental stewardship here in Maine's Lake Region.



LOON ECHO  
LAND TRUST

## NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### REFLECTIONS

2019 WAS A QUITE A YEAR, BOTH FOR LOON ECHO, AND FOR me personally. Here are some statistics (see if you can tell which ones are related to land conservation and which ones aren't...):

- 1 house purchased
- 1,712 acres of land protected
- 1 cat adopted
- 50,000 visitors to Loon Echo preserves
- \$600,000 raised to protect land
- 4 new snow tires
- 130 individual volunteers

Last January, I had the immense pleasure of stepping into a new role at Loon Echo as the Executive Director. Over the next 12 months, I met many of you—out on the trail, at our annual meeting, out-and-about in the community, during the 19th Loon Echo Trek, and at events to celebrate the successful protection of Peabody-Fitch Woods.

Throughout the year, I learned about the myriad reasons why Loon Echo members support our mission to protect land for current and future generations. Some of you support Loon Echo in remembrance of a loved one, some to maintain views that fulfill them; others support Loon Echo because they spend countless hours each year hiking, skiing, hunting or snowmobiling on protected properties. There are many members who haven't been to our region in years but support Loon Echo's work from

afar in honor of precious memories of summer campfires or autumn hunts. People who support Loon Echo live right up the road from our Depot Street office, across the lake from Raymond Community Forest or Pleasant Mountain, and some live thousands of miles away.

I've learned though, that one thing you all have in common is a deep love for the Lake Region of Maine. That love inspires all of you to give your time, money, and other resources to Loon Echo because you trust the organization to do what you may not be able to do alone: protect the special places that have given so much to so many

I want to thank each of you for your generosity of resources and spirit in 2019. Because of your membership with Loon Echo, there are 1,713 more acres of land protected forever, clean water for people to drink, habitats for wild communities, and special places that you can share with the next generation. As we look ahead to the rest of 2020, with more land protection projects in the works, a new summer intern to welcome to the crew, and four fewer snow tires to buy, we are motivated to do the work that you ask us to do.

Here's to another great year of conservation and more opportunities to meet you, the individuals who inspire and sustain Loon Echo's mission.



Matt Markot, LEIT Executive Director



LEIGH MACMILLAN HAYES

### WELCOMING HADLEY COURAUD: SEBAGO CLEAN WATERS CONSERVATION COORDINATOR

WE'RE THRILLED TO WELCOME HADLEY COURAUD TO our team! As the Sebago Clean Waters Conservation Coordinator, Hadley splits her time between the Loon Echo and Western Foothills Land Trust Offices. Over the next two years, Hadley will be laying the groundwork for new conservation projects to help the Sebago Clean Waters Partnership reach the goal of protecting 15% more of the Sebago watershed. Hadley's responsibilities will include identifying high priority conservation areas and increasing the pace of land protection, managing LEIT's easement monitoring program, and assisting WFLT with a variety of conservation and stewardship projects.

**Q:** *What's your background in?*

**A:** "In college I studied Biology and Peace Studies, where I began to learn about the interconnectedness between ecosystems and human communities. I became really passionate about the intersections of conservation, community health and engagement, and social justice. After college, I spent three years working in animal behavior research as-

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sociated with Michigan State University, which was an unplanned and incredible adventure.”

**Q:** *What brought you to Maine?*

**A:** “After MSU, I was looking for a way to get involved in conservation. A seasonal job opened at the Nature Conservancy in Maine to conduct road-stream crossing assessments across the state, and it felt like the perfect opportunity.”

**Q:** *What do you like to do in your free time?*

**A:** “In Maine, I’m active in youth-led equity and environmental action through the Maine Environmental Change-makers. I also love salsa dancing, exploring the outdoors, listening to stories, and writing letters. “

**Q:** *How do you like to spend time outside?*

**A:** “How do I not like to spend time outside might be a shorter answer! Most of the time, I find myself hiking, swimming in lakes, and taking slow walks in the woods to geek out over all the fascinating details of species and their remarkable interactions. “

**Q:** *Share one thing you’ve learned in your first few months on the job.*

**A:** “Oh wow, so much! Everything from how to monitor an easement to identifying snowshoe hare tracks. It’s also been marvelous to start piecing together local history. There’s the farm that used to have a duck that would carry the family puppy on its back, then there’s Edgar Welch’s man-powered endeavor to decrease the altitude on Rattlesnake Mountain, so his farm would receive more sunlight. And each day, I learn about how many ways people feel connected to and care about the land and waters in this region.”

If you see Hadley enjoying time outdoors on one of the many Loon Echo Land Trust or Western Foothills Land Trust preserves, be sure to say “Hi” and ask her about culverts, her most recent adventure on conserved land, or what’s new in the world of Lakes Region land conservation!



### **BON VOYAGE, HEATHER!**

As Hadley joined us this fall, we also had to say “see-you-later” to long-time LET employee Heather Rorer. Heather is taking time away from LET and Maine to fulfill a life-long dream of living in and exploring Switzerland with her husband and two cats. Heather’s incredible organizational skills, sustainable eye, and vast institutional knowledge will be missed in 2020. The LET staff & board wish Heather a safe and happy year of adventuring & skiing (we aren’t jealous at all...)!



L-R Barbara York, Eric Dibner, Jim Tabor

### **MAYBERRY HILL PRESERVE TURNS 30**

On March 15th, 2020, Mayberry Hill Preserve will turn 30 years old. John and Nancy Gillis of Hudson, MA and Casco, ME donated approximately 130 acres of land located on Mayberry Hill in Casco. The preserve was LET’s first fee-owned property.

The conservation of Mayberry Hill was covered in the Spring 1990 edition of the Loon Echo News:

*Loon Echo Inland Trust is pleased to announce that it has received the donation of a 128-acre parcel in Casco*

*for preservation. The tract includes woodland and fields and scenic views of surrounding lakes and hills. It is at the top of Mayberry Hill, has several wetland and streams that feed Lake Thompson, and provides valuable wildlife habitat and groundwater recharge areas.*

*The gift encompasses land which has been carefully managed for tree growth, but it is a parcel in the midst of recent subdivisions. The donors have been members of the land trust for several years. They recognized that with nearly a third of a mile of road frontage the site could have been developed into a major subdivision.*

[...]

*Erik Bartlett, President of the land trust, in recognizing the donation, said “This generous gift represents a fitting and enduring tribute to our conservation purposes. It is a model for how our work within the community can save a diminishing resource for the future of Maine.”*

On May 25, 2001, 30 acres were added to Mayberry Hill Preserve. Today, the 160-acre preserve features a one-mile loop trail and is used annually by local schools for the Mayberry Hill Forestry Field Day. A celebration of the preserve’s 30 years under LET’s ownership will be held on Sunday, March 15th at 2pm.

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## LELT EVENTS

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### LOOKING BACK

LAST SUMMER AND FALL WE ENJOYED A WIDE VARIETY OF events- some new, some decade-old traditions.

New last year we hosted the **Maine Outdoor Film Festival** at Hacker's Hill preserve. Outdoor-inspired films, shown outside. On a beautiful (albeit cold) August evening on top of the hill. Special thanks to Ski Hot Ski Shop and Baxter Brewing for their sponsorship of the evening. We hope to bring the festival back to the hill in August 2020.



We also had a blast looking back in time at natural and cultural history of LELT preserves at the **Evening of Geology** with Maine State Geologist Bob Marvinney at Hacker's Hill, and at the **Trekking through Time** event with Bridgton Historical Society at Narramissic and Peabody-Fitch Woods.

**Loon Echo's 32nd Annual Meeting** was held at Winona Camps in Bridgton. It was a perfect late-August evening on the lake- a light breeze, warm sunshine, dry air accompanied by that sweet smell of clean water, and of course the backdrop of over 2,000 protected acres on Pleasant Mountain. We were happy to welcome Robin Lapoint, the CEO of Geary Brewing Company (who also donated all the beer for the evening!). We first connected with Robin after participating in Portland Water District's Drinking Water Week celebration in May. As Robin noted, the craft brewers in the Portland area rely on the clean waters of Sebago Lake, as do nearly 250,000 Mainers who



receive their drinking water from the lake. We're happy to be working together with our Sebago Clean Waters partners to continue conserving land in the Sebago Lake watershed.

Finally, the 19th annual **Loon Echo Trek** was a great success. It was year two of the Trek as a hike and run event, and we hosted over 80 participants on Pleasant Mountain. The Trek was generously sponsored by Norway Savings Bank and Shawnee Peak, as well as many other local businesses.

### LOOKING AHEAD

One of LELT's goals for 2020 is to make the outdoors accessible to a wider variety of audiences. With help from the Onion Foundation and our membership, LELT will continue to offer walks, talks, music, and film events on our lands free-of-charge for all to enjoy!

New this year is our "First Monday" walk series in Pondicherry Park. We hope these events will provide a space for participants to meet new people, feel comfortable out on the trail in all seasons, and get to know LELT staff.

### LOOK AT THESE!

Last year we had the opportunity to work with Jerry Monkman of [ecophotography.com](http://ecophotography.com). Funded by Sebago Clean Waters, Jerry visited several LELT and WFLT preserves in all four seasons to take photos of conserved land in the Sebago Lake Watershed. You can find his photos featured on our website, social media, and in print materials.

**Quiz Time!** Where were each of the photos above taken? (answers on page 7). You can check out more of Jerry's work at [ecophotography.com](http://ecophotography.com). Thanks, Jerry, we had a blast working with you!



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## 1,712 ACRES PROTECTED IN 2019

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### EXPANSION OF THE CROOKED RIVER FOREST AT INTERVALE

**Town:** Harrison

**Acres Conserved:** 35

**Thanks to:** The Nature Conservancy, Casco Bay Estuary Partnership, Sebago Clean Waters, and individual donors.

**Fun fact:** The Crooked River is the largest tributary to Sebago Lake, with nearly 40% of the inflow. The Crooked River and some of its tributaries provide excellent spawning and juvenile habitat for native landlocked salmon.



### PEABODY-FITCH WOODS

**Town:** South Bridgton

**Acres Conserved:** 248

**Thanks to:** The Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation, Davis Conservation Foundation, Morton Kelly Charitable Trust, Fields Pond Foundation, Ham Charitable Foundation, an anonymous foundation, Portland Water District, the family of Margaret Normann, and many Generous individual donors.

**Fun fact:** An 18th-century granite quarry, the source of the stone used for the foundation of the homestead (Narramissic, or Peabody-Fitch Farm), is located on the property.



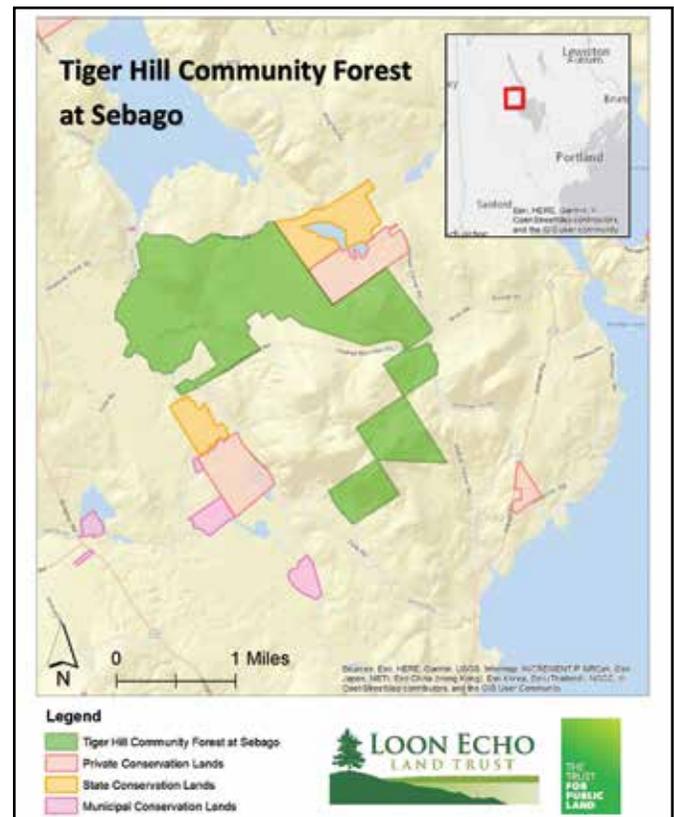
### TIGER HILL COMMUNITY FOREST

**Town:** Sebago

**Acres Conserved:** 1,429

**Thanks to:** The Trust for Public Land, Portland Water District, Open Space Institute, Morton-Kelly Charitable Foundation, Casco Bay Estuary Partnership, Maine Natural Resources Conservation Program, Allagash Brewing, Norway Savings Bank, an anonymous foundation, and many generous individual donors.

**Fun fact:** Based on local legend, Tiger Hill was named after “Tigerettes,” colonial men who poached the “King’s Timber.”



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## NOTES FROM THE TRAIL

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AFTER A FINE AUTUMN IN THE NORTHERN SEBAGO LAKE region, winter has fully embraced us. The boundaries of our fee-lands have been monitored, trail work put on hold until the snow melts, and now it is time to plan for the year ahead. But first, let us look back on a remarkable year on the trail.

Spring took its sweet time joining us as snow lingered well into May. From the causeway in Naples, snow could be seen on Mt. Washington on July 1st. and Tuckerman's Ravine held snow until August 4th! Our volunteer trail stewards had less time to prepare the bare trails for spring and summer use, but as usual, they did an exceptional job. We would not be able to offer such great trails without their dedication. In September, LEIT celebrated its volunteers with a cookout at Bicentennial Park in Denmark.

Raymond Community Forest has become a favorite destination for many. The gentle terrain of the Spiller Homestead Loop (mountain bike and pedestrian) and the rugged Pismire Bluff Trail each have their own appeal. The Pismire Bluff offers dramatic views of the surrounding lakes and the White Mountains. Back in 2018, planning began for an extension of the mountain bike opportunities at Raymond. Volunteer Dave Dowler, with support from his wife Barb, spent hours plotting a trail through the forest, incorporating interesting natural features while avoiding sensitive plants and wetlands. After nearly 400 volunteer hours (yes, 400 volunteer hours!) the new 1.1 mile Grape Expectations Trail was officially opened on November 24th with a ceremony and ribbon cutting. Volunteers included members of the community and coworkers of Dave's from Jotul North America, all avid mountain bikers. The Raymond Community Forest is home to the Summer Grape, rare for the northern region and inspiration for the trail name. To all of the trail warriors, thank you for this incredible gift to the community.

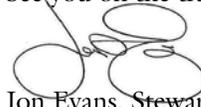


In August, Loon Echo celebrated the acquisition of the Peabody-Fitch Woods in South Bridgton with a concert by Bruce Marshall. This beautiful 250-acre property surrounds Narramissic Farm owned and managed by the Bridgton Historical Society. This important conservation project connects to the 1,600 acre Perley Mills Community Forest to the west. The Woods also are in close proximity to Five Fields Farm and Bald Pate, Sebago Headwaters and Holt Pond Preserves. Peabody-Fitch Woods protects public benefit ATV and snowmobile trails, walking trails, important habitat and timber.

The most interesting aspect of this project is the protection of important cultural features. The property is home to at least 3 granite quarries, one that dates back to 1797! Massive stone walls, and abandoned pastures lay waiting to be explored. In spring 2020, a new parking area will be constructed and an informative kiosk will be installed. Visitors can expect to see pedestrian trails including a machine built, universal access interpretive trail to accommodate many ages and abilities. This exciting project was the result of a unique collaboration with the Bridgton Historical Society. We cannot wait to welcome you all in 2020!

In closing, I want to acknowledge the passing of a dear friend to LEIT, Ron Fryer. Ron spent years on the Loon Echo Board and was part of the team that conserved Bald Pate Mountain and Sebago Headwaters. Ron and family also volunteered on the trail network. Ron was a great friend and father figure to me. I will miss his love for the natural world.

See you on the trails!



Jon Evans, Stewardship Manager



JERRY MONKMAN - ECOPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

The Northwest River near Tiger Hill Community Forest, protected by LELT in December 2019, was supported by many SCW partners.

**THE SEBAGO CLEAN WATERS FUND:  
LINKING DOWNSTREAM WATER USERS WITH UPSTREAM LAND OWNERS**  
**STACEY CRAMP, SEBAGO CLEAN WATERS COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR**

LOON ECHO LAND TRUST (LELT) is one of nine organizations that makes up the conservation collaborative Sebago Clean Waters (SCW). You will be hearing more about this innovative partnership in the coming months as LELET works closely with SCW to help protect the forestland in the Sebago Lake watershed. With a goal of permanently protecting 25 percent of the watershed (35,000 acres of forestland) over the next 15 years, SCW is launching a mechanism known as a water fund to raise \$15 million for purchasing and permanently protecting these lands that are critical to keeping our drinking water supply clean.

Water funds are a community approach to water source protection. They typically provide a financial and governance framework to unite public, private, and civil society stakeholders around a common goal of water security through science-based watershed management. A relatively new conservation model, they are being implemented around the world in various forms to great success. While they differ in specifics by locale, their

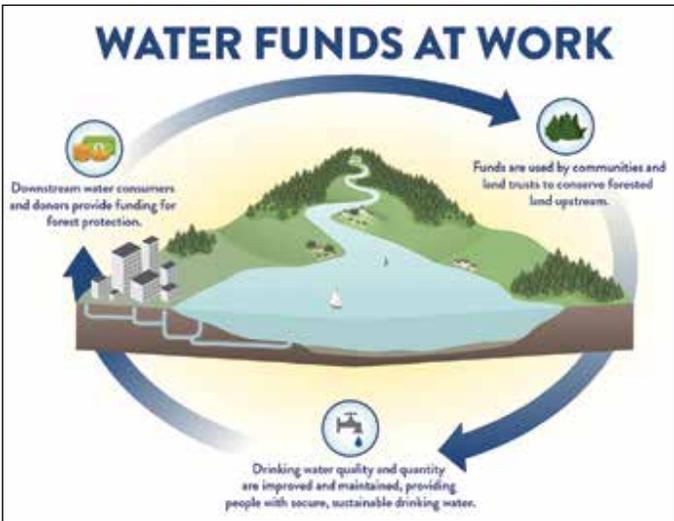
major common attribute is that they link downstream water users with upstream land stewards.

The Sebago Clean Waters Fund is a vehicle for businesses, organizations, and individuals in Greater Portland to provide financial support for the purchasing of critical upstream conservation lands. All donations to the fund go directly to conserving land in the watershed. Open Space Institute, another SCW partner, is set up to receive direct contributions to the fund. These funds are segregated and restricted for the protection of the target 35,000 acres.

Portland Water District will supplement these donations with support for individual land conservation projects to further the impact of the fund. SCW conservation partners, including LELET are raising additional funds from traditional conservation sources to reach the estimated \$50 million full cost of preserving the 35,000 acres.

For more information visit [sebagocleanwaters.org](http://sebagocleanwaters.org)

ANSWERS for page 4 From top to bottom: Bald Pate Preserve, Northwest River at Tiger Hill Community Forest, Bald Pate Preserve, Raymond Community Forest.





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*Address service requested*

## Tiger Hill Conserved

1,429 ACRES IN SEBAGO ARE NOW THE TIGER HILL Community Forest (THCF). The forest is home to sensitive wildlife habitat, traditional working forestlands, and safeguards the water quality of Sebago Lake – the drinking water supply for over one-sixth of Maine residents.

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) facilitated the acquisition of the property from generous landowners. Under LELET ownership, public access for recreation will continue. THCF protects hundreds of acres of critical wetland habitat and miles of frontage on the Northwest River, Sebago Lake’s second largest tributary. The conservation of THCF also increases forest connectivity, providing valuable wildlife habitat.

While the land is now under LELET’s ownership, we still need to raise another \$250,000 to help cover the costs of caring for the land forever. Those costs include annual tax payments to the Town of Sebago. Donations to support the long-term stewardship of Tiger Hill Community Forest may be sent to LELET at 8 Depot Street Suite #4, Bridgton, ME 04009 or made online at [lelt.org/tigerhill](http://lelt.org/tigerhill).



# WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Help us learn about your investment and interest in LELET by taking our member survey.

**To take the survey, visit**  
[www.loonecholandtrust.org/membersurvey](http://www.loonecholandtrust.org/membersurvey)  
**Password: 1987**

*If you prefer to complete a paper survey, please call Maggie at (207) 647-4352.*

## PROTECTING LAND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

Loon Echo Land Trust conserves over 8,000 acres of land and maintains 32 miles of multi-use recreational trail for the benefit of the public. These important open spaces protect the region’s water resources, wildlife habitat, working forests, scenic views, recreational opportunities and rural character. A membership driven non-profit, Loon Echo welcomes all those who have a passion for protecting the region’s land and quality of life for current and future generations.

Loon Echo Land Trust proudly serves the towns of Bridgton, Casco, Denmark, Harrison, Naples, Raymond and Sebago.

### Stay connected with Loon Echo!

- Like Loon Echo Land Trust on Facebook 
- Follow @loonecholandtrust on Instagram 
- Follow @loonechoLT on Twitter 
- Signup for our monthly E-News on our website, [www.lelt.org](http://www.lelt.org)

### LELET Membership

*Join or renew today! A donation of any amount makes you a LELET member for one year. Your gift to LELET supports all the work that goes into protecting and stewarding the landscape of the northern Sebago Lake region.*

- \$50 - Individual     \$100 - Family     \$250 - Land Steward  
 \$500 Conservator     \$1000 - Trustee     \$\_\_\_\_\_

Check Enclosed or  Credit/Debit Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- I'd like to remain anonymous.  Please save paper and do not send a thank you.  I'm interested in volunteering.

*Return to: Loon Echo Land Trust 8 Depot St, Ste 4 Bridgton, ME 04009*

Visit [loonecholandtrust.org/donate](http://loonecholandtrust.org/donate) for more giving options or to donate directly online.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS FEBRUARY- JUNE



## Backcountry Nordic Skiing

February 8, 10 AM  
Crooked River Forest -  
Intervale, Harrison

Join Loon Echo Executive Director and Registered Maine Guide Matt Markot for a moderate backcountry Nordic ski adventure at Loon Echo's Intervale Preserve on Scribner's Mills Road in Harrison. You'll need to bring your own equipment and metal edged touring skis are recommended. Snow conditions permitting, the preserve offers fine opportunities for off-trail ski touring (mostly flat and suitable for intermediate skiers) and perhaps a side trip via snowmobile trail to neighboring Fluvial Brewing for a pint or two! Meet at the parking area on Scribner's Mills Road at 10 am. Event may be postponed depending on snow conditions. Please RSVP to membership@lelt.org prior to the event. *Approximately 3.5 hours. Strenuous*

## Kids Fishing Derby

February 15, 8 AM  
Bridgton

Join Loon Echo Staff and Unc'l Lunkers at the Maine Lakes Winter Carnival as we help put on the free Kids Fishing Derby at Highland Lake. Come participate, watch or volunteer. Your \$5 button from the Greater Bridgton Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce (GBLRCC) gets you into all the Winter Carnival Events! Meet at the GBLRCC booth at Highland Lake at 8:00 AM. Appropriate winter clothes and boots required. *Approximately 6 hours. Easy*

All outdoor events are subject to weather conditions and/or date changes. Events will be postponed or cancelled when dangerous conditions or heavy weather are forecasted. For hikes and work days, always wear appropriate clothing and footwear for the weather conditions and varied terrain. Please bring water and snacks with you. Obedient dogs on leashes are welcome at LELT events unless specified. *We're always adding new events! Check our website ([www.lelt.org/events](http://www.lelt.org/events)) and "Like" our Facebook page for an up-to-date event calendar and other announcements.*

Please visit our website, [www.lelt.org/events](http://www.lelt.org/events), for full event details, location & descriptions.

## Partnership Snowshoe

February 29, 9:30 AM  
(inclement weather date, March 1)  
Crooked River Forest -  
Intervale, Harrison

Join Loon Echo, Portland Water District (PWD) and Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIFW) staff members for a "partnerships" snowshoe hike. Guests will have an opportunity to learn from the experts that work to protect land, water, and wild communities in the northern Sebago Lake region. RSVP required online at [www.lelt.org/events](http://www.lelt.org/events) or by calling LELT at 207-647-4352. *Approximately 3 hours. Strenuous*

## No Snowshoes? No Problem!

We are excited to be able provide you with snowshoes and poles - free of charge - at our events this winter. Thanks to support from the Onion Foundation, LELT now owns 6 pairs of snowshoes and poles. Just let us know you'd like to borrow a pair prior to an event, and we'll have them ready to go for you!

## Mayberry Hill 30th Anniversary

March 15, 2 PM  
Mayberry Hill Preserve, Casco

Join us to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the



conservation of Mayberry Hill. We will walk the 1-mile loop trail and reflect on the past 30 years of stewardship. *Easy*

## Spring Sunrise Hike

March 20, 6 AM  
Bald Pate Preserve, Bridgton

Get up early and join us to catch the first sunrise of spring from the summit of our beloved Bald Pate

Mountain. Meet at the main parking area at 6:00 AM. Snowshoes, or traction devices required. Water, snacks (especially baked goods) and a headlamp are encouraged. *Approximately 2 hours. Easy to Moderate*

## Trail Work at Pleasant Mountain

April 18, 9 AM  
Pleasant Mountain Preserve,  
Denmark

Join Loon Echo and Maine AMC volunteers as we spruce up the Ledges Trail after the long winter. Clearing drainage, building rock steps and brushing in "social trails" will be on the agenda as conditions allow. Tools and training provided. Appropriate work clothes, pants and boots required, plenty of water and snacks always encouraged. *Approximately 6 hours. Strenuous*



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS FEBRUARY- JUNE



## Earth Day Trail Work

April 18, 9 AM  
Pondicherry Park, Bridgton

Celebrate Earth Day with the Pondicherry Park Stewardship Committee and help clean up and repair the trails in Pondicherry Park. Participants will learn about basic trail upkeep and the history of the park. Appropriate work clothes, boots and gloves required. Tools and training provided. Meet at the Community Center at 8:45. *Approximately 3 hours. Easy to moderate*

## Earth Day Hike

April 22, 5 PM  
Bald Pate Preserve, Bridgton

Join Loon Echo staff and friends as we make the annual trek to the rocky summit of Bald Pate to observe Earth Day. Kid and pup friendly! Sturdy hiking boots or shoes, water and snacks recommended. *Approximately 2 hours. Easy to moderate*

## Northwest River Paddle

May 2, 9 AM  
Tiger Hill Community Forest, Sebago

For hardy spring paddlers who are up for a bit of exploring, join LELET staff for a canoe/kayak exploration of the Northwest River starting from the Folly Road bridge in Sebago. We'll try to take advantage of high spring

## First Mondays: Walk in Pondicherry Park

**When:** The first Monday of every month in 2020. Meet at 12:30, walk will last 30min - 1 hr.

**Where:** Meet at the park entrance behind Reny's on Depot Street in Bridgton.

**What:** The group will decide on a route based on ability, interest level, and time constraints. Attend one walk or come every month, it's up to you! For up-to-date details, visit our website and Facebook Page.



water (no rapids) to explore the river as it weaves it's way south from the Tiger Hill Community Forest. We're not quite sure what to expect but if you're up for an adventure, bring your own canoe/kayak, warm clothing, and meet at the Folly Road Bridge at 9 am. Prior paddling experience is necessary. Please RSVP to [membership@lelt.org](mailto:membership@lelt.org) prior to the event.

## Vernal Pool Hike

May (date to be determined) 9 AM, Raymond Community Forest, Raymond

Raymond Community Forest is at the head of Crescent Lake and acts as an important natural filter for runoff headed

to the pristine waters of the lake. Join us as we explore the new RCF trail in search of these fascinating bodies of water that are home to our favorite "peepers" (and so much more)! Layered clothing, tick repellent, snacks and water are encouraged. *Approximately 2 hours. Easy to moderate*

## National Trails Day

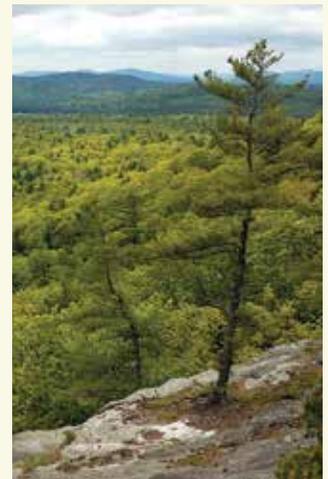
June 6, 9 AM  
Pleasant Mountain Preserve, Denmark

Give back on National Trails Day! Ledges Trail at Pleasant Mountain is one of the most popular hiking trails in the State of Maine. With heavy use comes constant maintenance. Join LELET staff and learn some basic trail work techniques-no experience necessary. Appropriate work clothes, sturdy boots, tick repellent, water and snacks are required. *Approximately 5 hours. Strenuous*

## Summer Solstice Hike

June 20, 5 PM  
Bald Pate Preserve, Bridgton

Join us for the annual Summer Solstice Hike up the Bob Chase Trail at Bald Pate Mountain. This annual trek has been a Loon Echo tradition for 20 years. Feel free to share music, poems or stories that embody the spirit of the day. Sturdy hiking boots or shoes, water and snacks are always encouraged. *Approximately 2 hours. Easy to moderate*



# SAVE THE DATE!

**Acoustic Sunset Series is back for Summer 2020!**

**August 5** - Bruce Marshall at Narramissic