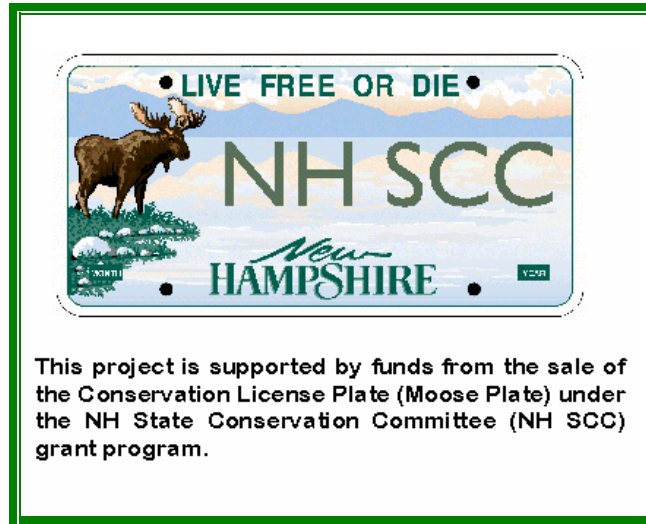


NH State Conservation Committee Conservation License Plate Grant Program



The NH State Conservation Committee's "Moose Plate" acknowledgment sign.

The NH State Conservation Committee began its Conservation License Plate Grant program in 2002 by awarding eight grants totaling \$33,026. In 2003 grants were awarded for \$93,071, in 2004 a total of \$104,582 was distributed and in 2005, a total of \$303,133 was dispersed for 19 projects. Over \$500,000 has been awarded to support and promote programs and partnerships throughout the state that protect, restore and enhance the state's valuable natural resources. Projects are funded that foster stewardship and the sustainability of New Hampshire's natural environment.



SCC chair Peter Blakeman, far right, at the unveiling of the Frankestown Elementary School's "Moose Plate" sign.

2005 Moose Plate Grant Program – (\$303,133 awarded)

All 2005 contracts expire 6/30/07. Grants are listed by project name, location or target of project, applicant, a brief summary of the project and amount awarded.

05- Madbury Awareness & Trail Enhancement

Town of Madbury

Madbury Conservation Commission

To construct and reroute existing trails along Town Hall Road & Kingman Farm and to redirect trail users around sensitive areas, to post signs and mark trails, and to plant native species on trails that have been retired. This project will also develop, print and post large maps of the trail system using GPS/GIS technology and will post environmental education material pertinent on each season and smaller “pocket” maps of the trail system at the kiosk (as well as the Library and Town Hall). This project will also purchase and provide additional books on plant and animal identification that will be available to checkout at the library, and will host four trail walks with a naturalist.

\$3,375.00

05- Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum’s Medicine Woods Enhancement Project

Town of Warner

Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum

To improve the physical and educational aspects of a 2.5 +/- acre nature trail, called the Medicine Woods. The intent is to better disseminate the environmental component of the Museum’s mission with improved signage and information, by widening and resurfacing the trail, and by producing a new brochure.

\$4,750.00

05- Acworth’s Natural Communities Project

Town of Acworth

Acworth Conservation Commission

To identify, map, and analyze the town’s important physical features and natural divisions based on the NH DRED, Natural Heritage Inventory’s recently published “Natural Communities of NH”.

\$4,964.00

05- Swain Farm Manure Management Project to Improve Water Quality in Hunkins Pond
Sanbornton, NH
Belknap County Conservation District

To improve the management of manure and stormwater at the Swain Farm in Sanbornton, NH. This project will reduce the flow of nutrients off the land and hopefully reduce periodic algae blooms occurring in Hunkins Pond, which will improve the quality of water of Hunkins Pond, and brooks connecting to Lake Winnisquam. A roof will be added over the heavy use area (approximately 96' x 50') and a new gravel based pathway will be constructed, and cows will be rerouted to help prevent erosion as the cows are being moved to the lower pasture. At the end of the construction process, at least two workshops will be offered focusing on conservation BMPs, water quality, watersheds, and basic barnyard, forestry and farm management programs.

\$33,175.00

05- Ashuelot Watershed Migratory Amphibian Monitoring Project
Towns in Cheshire County
Ashuelot Valley Environmental Observatory

To establish a citizen-based monitoring program for migratory amphibians and the vernal pools they breed in within Cheshire County. Results will be digitized and made available to conservation groups, citizens groups, and planners.

\$4,800.00

05- Solar Powered Irrigation System at Willow Pond Community Farm
Town of Brentwood
Brentwood Conservation Commission

To install a solar powered irrigation system at Willow Pond Community Farm, an organic vegetable farm in Brentwood. Electricity generated by solar panels will power two water pumps, one will pump pond water to a drip irrigation system, and the other will pump potable water from a well for greenhouse irrigation and washing vegetables.

\$4,995.00

05- Integrated Landscape Practices: An Innovative Tool to Reduce the Spread of Invasive Species and Create Sustainable New Hampshire Landscapes
Rockingham and Hillsborough Counties
Hillsborough County Cooperative Extension

The Integrated Landscape Practices Workgroup proposes to develop tools to help foster a cultural shift in landscaping attitudes and practices, and to provide alternatives to invasive species for public, commercial and residential settings. The goal is to create healthy, sustainable New Hampshire-specific landscapes that benefit local communities and ecosystems. This will be accomplished through the development and resultant educational outreach of a manual on integrated landscape practices that will focus on the replacement of three invasive species (Norway maple, Japanese barberry, burning bush) that are to be banned in New Hampshire by 2007.

\$37,000.00

04- Effingham Wetlands Inventory and Protection

Town of Effingham
Effingham Conservation Commission

To accurately depict a Town of Effingham wetland map through aerial photographic analysis and field survey. To determine the highest value wetland resources of town, exemplary wetland natural communities and rare and endangered wetland species. A strategic wetlands conservation plan will be developed for the Town of Effingham that will include written reports, maps, charts, presentations and public education.

\$19,500.00

04- The Sunapee Swirler: Catch-basin Improvements

Town of Sunapee
Lake Sunapee Protective Association

To improve the design and sediment retention efficiency of a concrete catch basin to decrease pollutant loading in water bodies. The design will employ simple design features and readily available materials. The model basin will be exhibited for educational purposes, and results will be reported and basin design will be disseminated.

\$4,505.00

05- Glen Oaks Project

Town of Fremont
Fremont Conservation Commission

To assist with the acquisition of approximately 313 acres of the Glen Oaks property by the Town of Fremont. A conservation easement will be held by the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests (SPNHF). Another easement will be held by the SPNHF on an additional 25 acres for a total conservation project of 338 acres. This land includes upland forest buffer that is essential to protect Spruce Swamp, and this

area also encompasses a portion of the Prime Wetland in town. This area has been a priority to protect for both the SPNHF and the Fremont Conservation Commission.

\$50,000.00

05- River Continuity Assessment of the Ashuelot River Watershed

Towns in Cheshire County
The Nature Conservancy, NH Chapter

To undertake a scientific, watershed-wide assessment of fragmenting features along the Ashuelot River and its tributaries that will include an inventory and assessment of dams and culverts. This assessment will help to prioritize conservation actions such as dam removals, culvert improvements, and riparian restoration opportunities. The final results will provide an analysis of findings that will include maps, and priorities for implementing aquatic connectivity restoration.

\$13,079.00

Contract Expiration Date: 6/30/07

05- Freedom Town Forest/Trout Pond Project

Town of Freedom
Freedom Conservation Commission

The Town of Freedom is about to purchase 2600 +/- acres to conserve as a Town Forest, and based on the preliminary results of a stewardship plan, this project is to develop and construct three kiosks at the primary points of entrance to this property and to develop and construct an interpretive trail on the property. This project will have an immediate impact on the management and use of the property and will promote the sustainability of the land and water resources found on this property.

\$15,000.00

05- Remick Farm Museum Interpretive Trails and Materials

Town of Tamworth
Remick Country Doctor Museum and Farm

To create a 1 +/- mile long trail system through a working historic farm landscape and to engage the public with interpretive signage, trail guides, and discovery backpacks.

\$22,202.00

05- Portsmouth Buffer Restoration and Education Project

City of Portsmouth
Portsmouth Conservation Commission

To restore approximately one-acre of wetland buffer at one or two sites on public lands in the City of Portsmouth. Sites will be used for educational workshops and ongoing demonstrations. A brochure will be created and published that will feature a menu of buffer restoration options and will be sent to property owners with wetlands and buffer areas within the City, to describe straightforward costs of effective buffer restoration techniques.

\$16,465.00

05- All Weather Horse Paddock

Town of Hampton Falls, Rockingham County
Rockingham County Conservation District

To construct an all weather horse paddock by adjusting conservation standards from Ohio at Gaylee Stables to New Hampshire conditions. This project will also monitor the site for management and sustainability, and a request will be submitted to USDS, NRCS in NH for a standard practice to be included in existing Heavy Use Area protection standard for cost share under federal programs. One informational/demonstration workshop will be held at Gaylee Stables to promote this conservation practice to horse owners and others interested in this technology.

\$20,900.00

05- Implementing Ecosystem-Based Forest Management Practices

Hillsborough, Grafton, Belknap, Merrimack, & Rockingham Counties
Society for the Protection of NH Forests

To accomplish a detailed ecological inventory work on key Forest Society Reservations that will inform a larger management planning process, and help identify areas that are appropriate for Natural Area designation. This project will advance the Forest Society's goal of formally designating 30% of its overall landholdings as Natural Areas. In addition to improving the management of natural communities on Forest Society lands, this project is intended to provide a working model of holistic, ecosystem-based management for landowners across the state.

\$12,500.00

05- Wiggin Farm-Tuttle Swamp Conservation Area

Town of Newmarket
Newmarket Conservation Commission

To implement the management recommendations of the Natural Resource Management Plan developed for this property in collaboration with the Town of Newmarket and the NH Fish and Game Department. This project will provide well-planned public access for traditional public uses, protect critical resources including wildlife habitat and water quality, and provide opportunities for public outreach on the conservation and stewardship of the site's natural resources.

\$4,925.00

05- Territory Ranking Project, Northern New Hampshire

Lakes Region and North Country

Loon Preservation Committee of NH Audubon

To create a habitat quality ranking system for common loons in New Hampshire for conservation purposes. This project will continue the quantitative review of lakes in central New Hampshire, focusing on all lakes not known to support territorial loon pairs and being of sufficient size for loon occupation, and a quantitative review of all lakes with known loon pairs in northern New Hampshire. Principle component analysis will be utilized to determine the parameters that have a significant influence on the linear regression model. Parameters may include the following: type of loon territory; islands available; development; boat ramp presence; accessibility; maximum depth; water quality; clarity; water level fluctuations; rafts; and ropes and/or floating signs; and Mercury will be added as a parameter. The established review board will continue to evaluate results from these findings. With this documented information collected, a second project tier may include additional conservation and management measures. To create a 1 +/- mile long trail system through a working historic farm landscape and to engage the public with interpretive signage, trail guides, and discovery backpacks.

\$26,000.00

05- Increasing the Role of Citizens in Monitoring for the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) in Southeast New Hampshire

Southern New Hampshire, primarily in Rockingham and Hillsborough Counties.

Rockingham County Cooperative Extension

To develop and disseminate a Hemlock Pest Identification Booklet focusing on hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) signs, comparing and contrasting them to other stress agents. To develop three Resource Kits that will include training protocols to monitor hemlock stands and detect HWA, and an incidence monitor form. To publicize the program and to offer two teacher and community training workshops on the identification of the HWA infestation and techniques to monitor hemlock stands.

\$4,998.00