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Downeast Lakes
LAND TRUST

March 7, 2017

Downeast Lakes Landings

Spring Is Just Around The Bend!

The sap is running, buds are beginning to swell, and the ice will soon be out on the lakes. Open water fishing season is almost at hand!!! (Can you tell we're excited?) The longer hours of sunlight have us daydreaming of early spring brook trout, late May wildflowers, summer evenings "upta camp," and berrypicking an old log landing. But, there is still much more in store for the coming months of thaw and mud!

The Downeast Lakes Community Forest has many special corners that are best enjoyed in all seasons of the year. While Farm Cove (pictured above) might look cold and icy now, shore lunches and canoeing are just around the bend. Thank you for your continued support of conservation in the Downeast Lakes region!

Eastern Maine Sportsmen's Show: March 10-12

The Penobscot County Conservation Association is hosting the 79th Annual Eastern Maine Sportsmen's Show at the New Balance Field House in Orono, ME. This family friendly show has something for all ages and is the longest running sportsmen's show in the country run by volunteers. Every year over 150 vendors, ranging from sporting goods dealers to hunting and fishing guides, gather at this event. The Eastern Maine Sportsmen's Show is a great place to see the latest activities, products, and organizations dedicated to the great outdoors of Maine.

Downeast Lakes Land Trust will have a booth at this exciting event. Please stop by to say hello and see what's new in the Downeast Lakes Community Forest and the Grand Lake Stream area. Festival hours are: Friday 5-9 pm, Saturday 9 am-8 pm, and Sunday 9 am-3 pm. Tickets are only $8 for the day, and children under 12 are free. See you there!

Winter Survival In The Community Forest

In Northern New England, winter can be a harsh and unforgiving season. With a passion for winter sports and outdoor recreation deeply rooted in the traditional culture of Downeast Maine, being well-informed and educated about winter safety and survival techniques is of the utmost importance. The earlier one learns these critical skills, the better.

On February 21, Downeast Lakes Land Trust held a "Kids Winter Survival Class," led by DLLT Education and Outreach Manager Colin Brown. Taking advantage of a warm and sunny February day, 12 students ventured into the Downeast Lakes Community Forest to learn the skills of building a proper quinzhee (snow shelter), fire making, winter wild edibles, and navigation. Over four feet of snow fell in recent weeks, making for excellent conditions when practicing and learning how to stay safe in the Maine woods.

"Learning these skills at an early age is not only crucial for general safety reasons, but instills excitement and an appreciation for the outdoors during a time of year that is sometimes ignored due to the conditions," said Brown.

Throughout the year, DLLT offers free, public education programs that highlight the natural and cultural history of the Downeast Lakes

region. Outdoor programs for children are offered during school vacations that explore different areas of the Downeast Lakes Community Forest. To find out what's happening next, please call DLLT at (207) 796 – 2100 or email **info@downeastlakes.org**.

Upcoming Programs and Events

March 26 - Maine Maple Sunday Group Trip

Is there anything sweeter than Maine maple syrup? On Sunday, March 26th, join Downeast Lakes Land Trust staff for a group trip up to Chandler's Sugar Shack in Kossuth, Maine to celebrate Maine Maple Sunday, a statewide celebration of all things maple. We will tour the sugar shack and witness the process of boiling down maple sap into everyone's favorite sweet treat. Meet at the Downeast Lakes Land Trust office at 12 pm to carpool. Chandler's is a family-run business with almost 3,500 taps, churning out the finest maple syrup. Be sure to bring your wallet if you'd like to bring some goodies home! For more information, please contact DLLT at (207) 796 – 2100 or email**cbrown@downeastlakes.org**.

DLLT Photo Contest Deadline

Downeast Lakes Land Trust is pleased to once again be hosting the "DLLT Photo Contest." Show us your best photographs of the area! Rules and guidelines for the DLLT Photo Contest can be found at **www.downeastlakes.org**. All photos must be submitted by emailing **photo@downeastlakes.org**. ***The deadline for submission is April 15, 2017***. Winning entries will be featured in DLLT's summer newsletter and at a photography show in Grand Lake Stream. Good luck!

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