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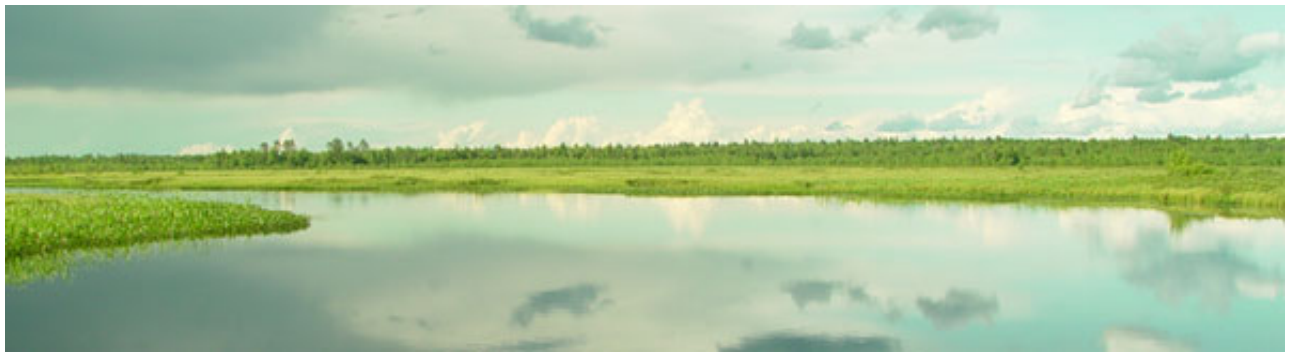
Downeast Lakes LAND TRUST

May 6, 2015

Downeast Lakes Landings



Downeast Lakes Land Trust Hires New Education and Outreach Manager

The Downeast Lakes Land Trust (DLLT) is pleased to announce that Mr. Colin Brown will become the new Education and Outreach Manager. A resident of Pembroke, Maine, Colin comes to DLLT with a wealth of experience as an education technician in a number of Washington County schools and as an environmental educator at nature centers and outdoor programs throughout the Northeast. An avid birder and paddler, Colin believes in building stronger connections between people and the outdoors with a focus on educating future generations and building their appreciation for the natural environment. He holds a degree in Sociology and History from the University of Connecticut.

DLLT Executive Director David Montague commented on the addition to the staff, saying, "Colin is a great addition to the trust. His enthusiasm for sharing the natural and cultural assets of the Downeast Lakes region with both residents and visitors will enhance DLLT's education and outreach program, while furthering our mission to contribute to the long-term economic and environmental well-being of this spectacular place."

Local History Comes to Life in Princeton

The Downeast Lakes Land Trust and the Grand Lake Stream Historical Society were proud to host over sixty-five people at the Prisoner of War Camps in Maine presentation at the Princeton Town Office. All in attendance deemed it a resounding success! The presentation was given by David Greenham, Program Director at the Holocaust & Human Rights Center of Maine. For an hour, Mr. Greenham transported the attendees back in time to the mid-1940s World War II POW camp, located less than a mile from the site of the

presentation. Many folks shared memories of when the German soldiers, actually young boys aged 14 and upward, were transported to the camp and worked in the Grand Lake Stream area cutting wood to supply the local mill.

Mr. Greenham captured the feel of the time and place perfectly, testament to his extensive research and eloquent delivery of historic details. In addition, he shared vivid personal experiences of a time that affected not only the local area, but also the State of Maine, the United States, and European history. This opportunity to share community memories will help to ensure that we remember a unique chapter in our local history. For more information on David Greenham visit the Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine at: http://hhrcmaine.org/.

Neither Rain, nor Sleet, nor Snow Stops Princeton Elementary School Nature Club

This spring Princeton Elementary School students have been excitedly participating in an after-school Nature Club hosted by the Downeast Lakes Land Trust (DLLT). Each week students learn a little more about the natural world surrounding them while having a lot of fun.

In the first week, students got the chance to show their creative sides by constructing their very own nature journals. They mixed and matched covers, illustrated title pages, and had a great time working together to compile it all into a working notebook. The budding naturalists carry these journals to every club meeting and during their own forays outside to keep notes, draw pictures, or record in any other way what they observe out in nature.

Due to the unpredictable weather during the ongoing struggle between winter and spring, DLLT volunteer Roxzanna Montague, Education Committee member Brook Mercier, and the Nature Club students have had to be as adaptable as the creatures they're observing. Club participants have snowshoed through hip-deep snow while learning to identify trees in winter and looking for animal signs; they made bird feeders and learned to recognize some of their feathery visitors; and they experienced the pros and cons of animals' winter survival strategies by playing a game in which they collected resources while avoiding predators and Old Man Winter!

During the last program day students hunted for signs of spring, discovered how valuable all their senses are when investigating nature, put their observation skills to the test, and much more!

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