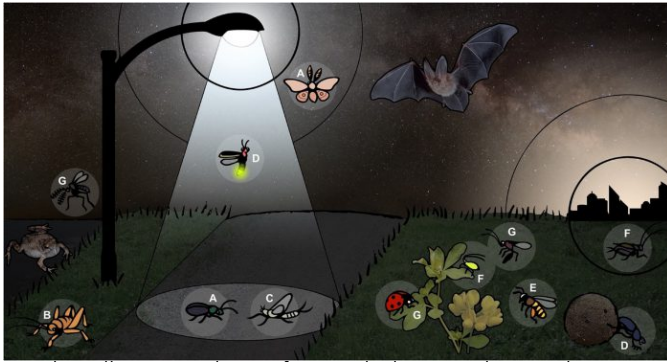


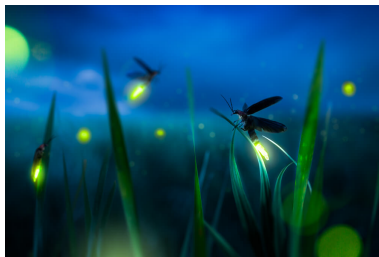
NIGHT SKY IS SUPPOSED TO BE DARK



"Light pollution is a driver of insect declines" Author: Avalon C.S. Owens, Précillia Cochard, Joanna Durrant, Bridgette Farnworth, Elizabeth K. Perkin, Brett Seymoure. Publication: Biological Conservation. Publisher: Elsevier. Date: January 2020.

PROTECTING A NATURAL RESOURCE WE LOOK AT EVERY NIGHT – THE DARK SKY

There have been many recent studies showing that lights at night affect our very sensitive insect population, including nocturnal pollinators. "...researchers recently identified light pollution as a 'key bringer of insect apocalypse' and another study warned that fireflies could face global extinction due to excessive light at night."*



This night time light affects insects' circadian rhythms, mating rituals, and ability to navigate. We might not worry

thinking that, well, they are just bugs, but insects' place in the food web and role in pollinating food crops are vital to our own survival. This may seem cataclysmic and futuristic, but besides that, who can say that they haven't been enjoying the fabulous light show of fireflies this summer? Wouldn't it be a shame for future generations to miss this summer event?

One of the easiest solutions is to put your outdoor lights on a motion sensor. The limited time that a light is on is much less impactful than a light that is on all night long, all year round.

Our January 2021 newsletter has some great information about down lighting that is helpful too. We want to see our stars and our fireflies, so we must do what we can. For more information about protecting or naturally dark nighttime skies visit www.darksky.org. There is a lot of interesting information and ways we all can stop light pollution.

* From www.darksky.org

RIVERBANK RESTORATION PROJECT IN FULL SWING

Don't be alarmed by the big equipment next to the Ammonoosuc River just north of town. It's there to help. The CT River Conservancy (CRC) supported by the Natural Resources Conservation Service



agency (NRCS) is coordinating this project to restore approximately 600 feet of river bank on Ammonoosuc Conservation Trust (ACT) land.

This feat of engineering to restore a segment of the river that has been eroding at an estimated twelve feet in four years is being done by Sean Sweeney of Headwaters Hydrology, PLCC in Littleton, NH.

The grade of the steep (caused by erosion) east

bank has been lowered about three and a half feet by adding three “benches” of soil encapsulated by heavy duty biodegradable erosion control fabric and Willow live stakes to take root on which young established Willow trees will also be planted.



At the upstream portion of the project where the stress on the bank is highest, they will put in root wads to support the bank while the vegetation is establishing.

The benefits to this project are numerous. Slowing down the speed of erosion will improve water quality by reducing

sediment, improve flood storage capacity (the benches will create a greater more natural flood plane area), and improve the riparian habitat. The longer term goal is to have the plant life evolve into a forested area along the river which will improve aquatic habitat as well.

It is really neat to see how this project is coming along, and it will be even cooler to see how it evolves and enhances such a picturesque spot in our Lisbon landscape. For more information about the project you can access ACT's Q&A event from May at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8KVf7-p7zw> or see Ron Rhodes from CRC interviewing Sean Sweeney at <https://www.facebook.com/connecticutriver/videos/155776286629703>.

GET OUT!

Our local and state trails are a great way to get outside and enjoy nature. But trail use has its own pitfalls where protecting natural habitats are concerned. The Conservation Commission has recently learned of a new trail mapping tool that the NH Fish & Game Department (funded by the US Fish & Wildlife Service) has made available. This tool can be used to assess existing trails and site new trails in the most wildlife-friendly way.

The Lisbon Conservation Commission stewards and protects the town's natural resources through planning, promoting and educating to assist the town boards and the public in conservation matters. We encourage informed decision making to keep Lisbon a livable place today and for decades to come.

It highlights areas particularly important for wildlife and areas that would be more suitable for trail development. There is even a guidebook that explains how recreation can impact wildlife, how to use the tool to minimize those impacts, and provides some real-world examples of how conservation organizations are using it to make their trail planning efforts most effective.

Maybe you have some trails around your property or want to create some. Learn more about the best way to do so using this tool. Go to wildnh.com/trails to learn more.

An example of some local trails that utilize habitat protection practices are on land conserved by ACT, the Society for the Protection of NH Forests, and NH Audubon. Visit <https://act-nh.org/explore-our-lands> and <https://act-nh.org/education-events> where you can find not only trails, but some fun activities like a story walk or an interpretive walk both perfect for the whole family. OR visit www.forestsociety.org (Visit and Explore) OR visit <https://www.nh.audubon.org/lands/sanctuaries/> for information on the Scotland Brook Wildlife Sanctuary in Landaff.

You Don't Have to Wait Until Trash Pick-up Month to Help Keep Lisbon Litter Free

We received this e-mail on July 23rd. We hope it is inspiring to everyone to do what you can do....

“To the Lisbon Conservation Commission: On July 21st I picked up all the litter on Pearl Lake Rd between the Sugar Hill boundary and the Scotland Road intersection. I collected one full grocery plastic bag of items. I saved the recyclable items collected with my personal recyclables.

Sigmund Hudson 2661 Pearl Lake Rd”

Lisbon Conservation Commission Members:

Katrine Barclay, Chair (March 2022)
Robert Cook (March 2022)
Rosalind Page (April 2022)
Mark Roberts (September 2022)
Betsy Stead, Recording Secretary (August 2022)