





# Mountain P A S S A G E S


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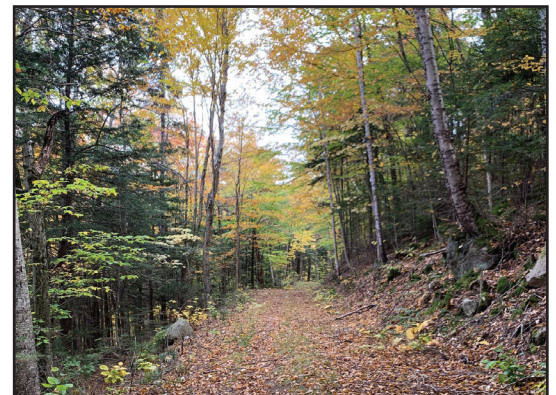
**NEW HAMPSHIRE  
CHAPTER**  
YOUR CONNECTION TO THE OUTDOORS



## A Look Back: Legacy of the Logging Railroads in the White Mountains

BY: BOB MCLAUGHLIN

Most of us have come across signs of railroads while hiking in the White Mountains. Probably, the first trails that come to mind are the Lincoln Woods Trail and the continuing Wilderness Trail along the East Branch of the Pemigewasset in Lincoln, NH, and the Zealand Falls Trail outside of Twin Mountain, NH. However, trails along old railways are common throughout the Whites. Any time you find yourself on a straight stretch of trail with a modest grade, there is a good chance you are walking along an old rail bed. Look for signs of ties in the dirt for confirmation although the ties may have been removed.



*Photo by: Bob McLaughlin. A trail along an old logging railway near Lincoln, NH.*

A LOOK BACK, TO PAGE 5 

## OUR MISSION

The Appalachian Mountain Club is the nation's oldest outdoor recreation and conservation organization, and promotes the protection, enjoyment, and understanding of the mountains, forests, waters and trails of the Appalachian region. AMC has more than 100,000 members, 16,000 volunteers, 450 full-time and seasonal staff. The New Hampshire Chapter is the second largest of the 12 Chapters within the Club.

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## Holiday Gift Ideas; Recommendations from New Hampshire Chapter Leaders

As the holidays approach, we all face the same questions every year: "What can we get our loved ones and friends as holiday gifts that they will like and use?" While we all know there is no perfect answer, we asked leaders of the AMC New Hampshire Chapter what they might suggest, and here is the list we came up with:

**Traction Devices**, such as microspikes or light weight crampons. Larry Yetter and Bob McLaughlin both think these are a great gift idea. They slip (or are stretched) on over your boots and provide reliable traction on icy surfaces. Two

popular brands are Kahtoola MICROspikes and Hillsound trail crampons. While these devices are no substitute for traditional crampons in more technical conditions, they work great on icy trails or when you need to take the dog out during an ice storm.

**Liner Gloves**, which are worn under regular gloves to provide additional insulation and wicking. Larry Yetter says "Liner gloves are thin, often micro fleece, gloves that you wear under your heavier gloves or mittens. It is good practice to have more than one pair on a hike as they can get

HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS, TO PAGE 2 



## HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS, FROM PAGE 1

damp or wet. They are \$20-\$30 each and so they are a good stocking stuffer."

**Handheld Anemometer**, a light weight device for measuring temperature and wind speed, and usually wind chill, that you can carry with you on hikes. Wanda Rice says "Small, handheld anemometer [is] a fun toy for measuring wind speed, temp, and wind chill on our windy summits."

**AMC White Mountain Guide**. There are so many guidebooks available it is hard to pick any one to recommend. However, probably the best overall hiking guide for the Whites is published by the AMC. If your recipient does not have the 30th edition of the White Mountain Guide, that will be a perfect gift. Larry Yetter says: "There is much more to the White Mountains than the 48 four thousand footers. The trail guide lists virtually all of the trails in the White Mountains, over 1500 miles of trails. It is a great way to explore new places and perhaps start your journey as a "redliner", one who completes every trail mentioned in the book."

**Waterproof Tear Proof Maps**. AMC publishes the maps to accompany the White Mountain Guide on Tyvek

paper which is water proof, and tear resistant and can accompany you everywhere you hike, paddle and ski. Other publishers provide other maps printed on Tyvek that are worth investigating. Bob McLaughlin says: "I have been using Tyvek maps for years, they are virtually indestructible. I have maps that are covered with mud, food stains and who knows what else, that are still usable. When they get too dirty, a quick wipe with a wet sponge brings them back. Try that with a paper map!"

**Subject Matter Guide-books**. There are so many to choose from. Whether it is waterfalls, photo opportunities, paddling routes, hikes with families, summits with the best views, or guides to lists of peaks, the variety seems endless. Bob McLaughlin says "There is always some new area to explore. While I love returning to my favorite spots, I also love discovering new favorites. Guidebooks offer endless ideas of great new places to visit."

**Compass**. If your recipient does not have a good compass already, this is a must have holiday gift. Rick Silverberg says "I never go out on a hike without a map and compass. It is also important that you learn how to use them properly. The AMC Chapter offers map and compass training and it is covered in

the Winter School. Adding the fee for these programs would complete a great holiday gift."

**Smartphone Apps**. There are many great apps for iPhones and Android phones that help you discover and record hikes on new trails. They also help you navigate in the backcountry. While these apps should never be your sole navigational tool, they are a great addition to your backcountry tool box. Bob McLaughlin says: "I frequently use Motion-X GPS, AllTrails and ViewRanger. Motion X-GPS is great for tracking your hikes, and I use it most. The other two have useful hike descriptions, including hiker reports, and helpful map printing functions. I am sure there are many other alternatives, but these work for me. They are well worth the cost of the app or subscription fees."

**LED Headlamp**. Flash lights and headlamps are one of the most essential of the "10 essentials" particular as the days get shorter and the nights longer. Even if your gift recipient already has a headlamp, getting another one is great idea. As

Bob McLaughlin notes: "I always carry two headlamps and a small LED flashlight when I am hiking or cross country skiing. If you ask why carry more than one, you haven't ever had to try to change the batteries in a headlamp in the dark!"

**Satellite Tracker/Emergency Beacons**. These devices are not a cheap holiday gift. Figure you will spend \$200 to \$400 for the unit and then have hefty subscription fee for the satellite tracking function. However, they do provide reliable communication in backcountry when you are outside of cell coverage. They provide reassurance to your family especially for those times when you are later getting out of the woods than you anticipated. If you ever have an injury or other emergency, they provide the ability to send an SOS through a satellite and can summon help when you otherwise would be unable to communicate. They are highly recommended by back country rescuers.

## MOUNTAIN PASSAGES

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November/December 2019

Mountain Passages is published six times a year by the New Hampshire Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club.

**Submissions**. Members may submit articles or photos (hi-res jpegs) to newsletter@amc-nh.org. Articles may be edited at the discretion of the editor to meet space and style requirements. Publication is on a space-available basis. While Mountain Passages does not pay for submissions; a byline or photo credit is given. Contact Mountain Passages for reprint permission.

**Advertising**. The AMC NH Chapter members enjoy the outdoors year-round by hiking, paddling, skiing, backpacking, climbing and biking and more.

For information and the Ad Rate Sheet, send an email to newsletter@amc-nh.org.

We reserve the right to refuse any submission, photo or advertising that is not consistent with the mission of the AMC.

**Address Changes**. Address changes or other changes to your membership must be made through AMC Member Services at 10 City Square, Boston, MA 02129; 800-372-1758; outdoors.org/membercenter

Please note: Member address updates cannot be handled by AMC-NH officers, committee chairs, or the newsletter editor.

**Mountain Passages Online**. If you're receiving Mountain Passages through the mail, please consider signing up to get the electronic version instead.

You'll get added resources not available to print subscribers: direct links to emails, forms and online information, color photos, online registration forms.

To sign up, go to [www.outdoors.org/membercenter](http://www.outdoors.org/membercenter) and set your AMC-NH Chapter newsletter preference to online.

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# AMC NH Chapter Winter School

*Session #1: January 17-19, 2020 Session #2: February 21-23, 2020*



*Photo by: Scott Taylor. A great day to be out on snowshoes. Learn how to do it right at the Winter School.*

Winter is coming, but there is no reason to stay inside as long as you are prepared. Are you?

Just because it is winter it does not mean you have to hang up your backpack until spring. Learn how to go out and explore the NH wilds this winter safely and with confidence.

This year, the New Hampshire Chapter is again offering its popular Winter School to teach how to enjoy the outdoors safely and in relative comfort. This workshop offers instruction in safe winter mountain travel to experienced 3-season hikers. Among the many available classes, almost every aspect of winter backcountry travel will be covered. The weekends are filled with instruction, field exercises, lectures, and discussions. And when you are not learning, there is plenty of great food to fuel you back up!

The Winter School workshop sessions are designed to teach you what you need to know for safe travel in the winter mountains: what to wear, what to take, how to use it, how to get there, how to get back, and how to plan for the unexpected. Both workshops will offer the same curriculum, except as noted below. All sections include extensive time outdoors.

Choose from one of the

following Winter School Workshops:

**Introduction to Winter Wilderness Travel:** Instruction in general mountain safety, clothing, and equipment, nutrition, risk management and trip planning. Instruction includes an introduction to snowshoeing as well as map and compass. This workshop section is intended for individuals with limited experience in the New England outdoors who would like to start winter activities safely. Anticipate hiking as much as three miles at a slow pace with occasional uphill grades.

**Intermediate Snow Shoeing:** Instruction in snowshoeing, route finding (map and compass) as well as general mountain safety, clothing and equipment, nutrition, risk management and trip planning. This workshop section is intended for individuals with extensive 3-season experience in the New England outdoors, but limited winter experience, who would like to get into more winter activities safely. Anticipate hiking/snowshoeing up to five miles at a moderate/slow pace with sustained uphill grades.

**Advanced Winter Wilderness Travel:** Instruction offered in winter travel on steep terrain and above treeline. Subjects covered include snowshoeing on mountain terrain, use of

crampons, dressing for extreme weather conditions, off-trail navigation and risk management. Intended for individuals with winter experience in the outdoors interested in climbing NE mountains safely. Anticipate hiking 6+ miles at moderate/fast pace, steep terrain, and significant exposure to wind.

**Leadership and Mountain Skills:** This section is for those who have mastered the basics of winter hiking. Exercises in planning, organizing, and expediting a trip with emphasis on leadership techniques and group dynamics. A review of the basics, accident scene management, medical considerations and off trail navigation. This section is also for people with potential and desire to become trip leaders for the NH Chapter Excursions Committee. NOTE: Proficiency on snowshoes is a prerequisite.

### Backpacking

In addition, two backpacking “skills” oriented sessions are offered:

**Beginner Winter Backpacking (Winter School #1 only):** For those that have mastered the basics of 3-season backpacking skills. Instruction will cover, as time permits, general winter mountain safety, snowshoeing, equipment, proper camp site selection, how to erect a tent in winter, how and what to cook, trail finding, map and compass, off trail navigation, weather, trip planning, nutrition, and emergency situations. This group will participate in indoor lectures and evening programs, sleeping outside Friday and Saturday nights, and preparing 1 meal outdoors.

**Intermediate Winter Backpacking (Winter School # 2 only):** For those that have mastered the basics of 3-season

backpacking skills, this session will cover the same subjects as the beginner winter backpacking session, but will assume higher levels of skills in the participants and will spend more time outdoors. This group will participate in indoor lectures and evening programs, sleeping outside Friday and Saturday night, and preparing 2 meals outdoors.

**Warning:** All participants in either winter backpacking session must have proper winter clothing, a winter sleeping bag that has a rating of 20 below zero or lower, a winter foam pad and a winter (3 or 4 season) backpacking tent. These are not provided.

### Backcountry Skiing

Finally, there will be three ski workshops offered.

### Back Country Ski Touring

**101:** Want to expand your horizons beyond the golf courses and touring centers? Come learn how to explore the winter back woods on skis. We will cover how to travel efficiently on the ungroomed trails over rolling terrain and how to control speed by turning and stopping on modest hills. We will also address general back country safety. Expect to be outdoors playing in the snow on skis for 3-4 hours each day and ski 2-4 miles. Be prepared to ski with a day pack.

### Intermediate Back

**Country Ski Touring:** Ready to explore the wilderness for the day and go where you want with confidence? Spend the day in the woods to improve your skills including turning, stopping, climbing, trip planning and navigation. We’ll be outdoors for about 5 hours each day skiing and learning on various terrain with your full day pack.

WINTER SCHOOL, TO PAGE 6 



# 2019/20 AMC NH Skiers calendar

Date/locations are tentative! Please check with leaders and online at:

<https://activities.outdoors.org>

Blue writing is for midweek trips

Questions? [skin@amc-nh.org](mailto:skin@amc-nh.org)

Trip	Social
Clinic	Trail work

Date	Event	Where	Activity	Style	Level	Leaders
Sat 10/5/2019	Connie's Way maintenance	Pinkham notch NH	Trail work	Trail work	All	Tim, Al
Sun 10/6/2019						
Sat 10/12/2019	Avalanche Brook maintenance	Pinkham notch NH	Trail work	Trail work	All	Tim, Al
Sat 10/12/2019	GBA trail day Maple Villa	Randolph NH	Trail work	Trail work	All	Nik
Sat 10/19/2019	ESAW	Fryeburg ME	Clinic	Avalanche workshop	Adv	Valerio
Sat 10/19/2019	GBA Black Mountain (Maine)	Rumford ME	Trail work	Trail work	Adv	Nik
Sun 10/20/2019						
Sat 11/2/2019	Crescent ridge GBA	Randolph NH	Trail work	Trail work	All	Nik
Sun 11/3/2019	Cardigan ski trail workday and ski	Cardigan NH	Trail Work	Trail work	All	Valerio, Richie
Sat 11/16/2019	GBA Maple Villa and film festival	North Conway NH	Trail Work	Trail work	All	Nik
Sat 11/16/2019	Wilderness First Aid, SOLO	Conway NH	Clinic	First Aid	All	Valerio, Thor
Sun 11/17/2019						
Sun 11/24/2019	Ski Leader Training	Cardigan NH	Clinic	Workshop	All	Valerio, Thor
Wed 12/4/2019	Avalanche beacon practice	Connecticut CT	Clinic	Workshop	All	Tim
Sat 12/7/2019	PSIA Tele Early season	Sunday River ME	Clinic	Telemark instruction	Int/Adv	Valerio,
Sun 12/8/2019						
Sat 12/14/2019	Telemark clinic for leaders (Tasse)	Loon Mt NH	Clinic	Telemark instruction	Int/Adv	Paul, Jim Tasse
Sun 12/15/2019	Alpine clinic for leaders (Ted)	Loon Mt NH	Clinic	Alpine instruction	Int/Adv	Ted, Paul
Tue 12/31/2019						
Tue 1/1/2019	New year day skinning at a resort	TBD NH	Trip	Downmountain	All	Nik, Aaron
Sat 1/4/2020	Boston AMC Telemark Clinic	Wachusett MA	Clinic	Telemark	All	Ted,
Fri 1/10/2020	Doublehead	Jackson NH	Trip	BC downmountain	Int/Adv	Tim, Marty
Sat 1/11/2020	Sherburne trail	Mt Washington NH	Trip	BC downmountain	Int/Adv	Aaron, Matt
Sat 1/11/2020	Highland XC with Ted	Crawford Notch NH	Trip	XC	All	Ted, TBD
Sun 1/12/2020						Grigory
Mon 1/13/2020	Intro to Light BC, Skins and Scales,	Lebanon NH	Clinic	Light BC/downmountain	All	Casy, Sofia, Valerio
Sat 1/18/2020	Winter School I: Ski classes for	Cardigan NH	Clinic	Workshop	All	Scott
Sun 1/19/2020	Intro/Interm/Adv BC skiing					
Sat 1/18/2020	New England Classics: Steeple Trail	Stowe VT	Trip	BC downmountain	Int/Adv	Thor, Erik
Sat 1/18/2020	Greely Pond	Waterville Valley NH	Trip	XC	All	Brian,
Sat 1/25/2020	Family XC series: trip at Jackson	Jackson NH	Family Trip	XC	Family	Emilie, Aaron
Sat 1/25/2020	Blueberry Hill	Goshen VT	Trip	Light BC	Int	Jen, Joel
Sat 1/25/2020	Ladies resort to BC with She Jumps	Cardigan NH	Clinic	BC downmountain	Beg	Casy, Margaret
Sun 1/26/2020	Hayes-Copp	Pinkham Notch NH	Trip	XC	Beg	Derril, Grigory
Sat 2/1/2020	Family downhill series: Wildcat	Pinkham Notch NH	Family Trip	BC downmountain	Beg	Tyson, JR
Sat 2/1/2020	Baldface	Chatham NH	Trip	BC downmountain	Int/Adv	Nik, Ted
Sat 2/1/2020	Greely Pond	Waterville Valley NH	Trip	Light BC	All	Sean, Margaret
Sun 2/2/2020	Maple Villa	Intervale NH	Trip	BC downmountain	Int/Adv	Ted, Nik
Sun 2/2/2020	Ossipee	Ossipee NH	Trip	XC	Int	Grigory, Thor
Sat 2/08/2020	Ladies Intermediate Skin and Ski	TBD (Cardigan?) NH	Trip	BC downmountain	Int	Casy, Margaret
Sat 2/8/2020	Family XC series: Smarts Brook	Waterville valley NH	Family Trip	Light BC	Int	Emilie, Tyson
Sat 2/15/2020	Lower Nanamocomuck	Kankamagus NH	Trip	Light BC	All	Derril, Sean
Sat 2/15/2020	Brandon Gap	Brandon VT	Trip	Downmountain	Int/Adv	Nik, Christina
Sat 2/15/2020	Family downhill series: Crescent	Randolph NH	Family Trip	BC downmountain	All	Tyson, Emilie
Sun 2/16/2020	Sandwich Notch/Smarts Brook	Waterville valley NH	Trip	Light BC	All	Joel, Sean
Sat 2/22/2020	AMC Ski Committee Avalanche awareness class	Pinkham Notch NH	Clinic	Workshop	All	Casy, Marty
Sun 2/23/2020						Thor, Matt
Sat 2/22/2020	Winter School II: Ski classes for	Cardigan NH	Clinic	Workshop	All	Scott
Sat 2/23/2019	Intro/Interm/Adv BC skiing					
Sat 2/22/2020	Crescent Ridge or XC on the	NH	Trip	Light BC	All	Erik, Brian
Sat 2/29/2020	Marcy	Lake Placid NY	Trip	BC downmountain	Adv	Dave, Jen
Sun 3/1/2020	Whiteface Auto Road	Lake Placid NY	Trip	BC downmountain	All	Jen, Dave
Sun 3/1/2020	Thunderbolt	Mt. Greylock MA	Trip	BC downmountain	Int/Adv	Christina, Nik
Fri 3/6/2020	Livermore Road	Waterville Valley NH	Trip	Light BC	Int	Thor, Tim
Sat 3/7/2020	Avalanche Brook	Pinkham notch NH	Trip	Light BC	Int/Adv	Tim, Al
Sat 3/7/2020	Family downhill series: Cardigan Kids	Cardigan NH	Family Trip	BC downmountain	All	Tyson, Emilie
Sun 3/8/2020	Connie's Way	NH	Trip	Light BC	Beg/Adv	Tim, Al
Thu 3/14/2019	Family XC series: Greely Pond	Waterville valley NH	Family Trip	Light BC	All	Emilie, Tyson
Sat 3/14/2020	Moosilauke Carriage Road	Moosilauke NH	Trip	BC downmountain	Int	Paul
Sat 3/14/2020	Pisgah State Park	Hinsdale NH	Trip	Light BC	Int	Darrell, Joel
Sat 3/14/2020	Chic-Chocs: 8 days of powder skiing	Gaspe QC	Trip	BC downmountain	Adv	Casy, Marty
Sat 3/21/2020	Gulf of Slides	Mt Washington NH	Trip	BC downmountain	Adv	Margaret
Sat 3/21/2020						Tim
Sun 3/22/2020	Sherburne trail	Mt Washington NH	Trip	BC downmountain	Adv	Tim

 A LOOK BACK, FROM PAGE 1

Also, most of us are probably at least vaguely aware that these railroads had something to do with logging in the Whites which started in the 1870s and continued until the middle of the 20th Century. In fact, the railways were essential for moving cut trees out of the back country. Unlike logging in the Connecticut River valley, in the Adirondacks and in Maine, the rivers in the White Mountains were too small, shallow and rocky to allow the loggers to float the cut logs out on the rivers.

Therefore, loggers were required to build an extensive network of railways and skidder roads leading down to the railways, and build they did. Railways were run through virtually every valley in the Whites and up the flanks of many mountains.

However, these logging railroads could only work if they connected to a main line railroad that could move the logs to the mills for processing. Therefore, the logging railroads originated at rail yards associated with the lines operated by the Pemigewasset Valley Railroad in the west, the Maine Central Railroad in the east, and the Whitefield and Jefferson Railroad in the north.



*Logged hillside in what is now Pemigewasset Wilderness.*

At least ten separate logging railroads operated in the White Mountains and surrounding areas. The largest with about 72 miles of track was The East Branch and Lincoln Railroad

which operated from 1894 to 1948, and ultimately included a saw mill, pulp mill and paper mill in Lincoln, NH. In fact, Lincoln is the longest lasting product of this logging railroad!

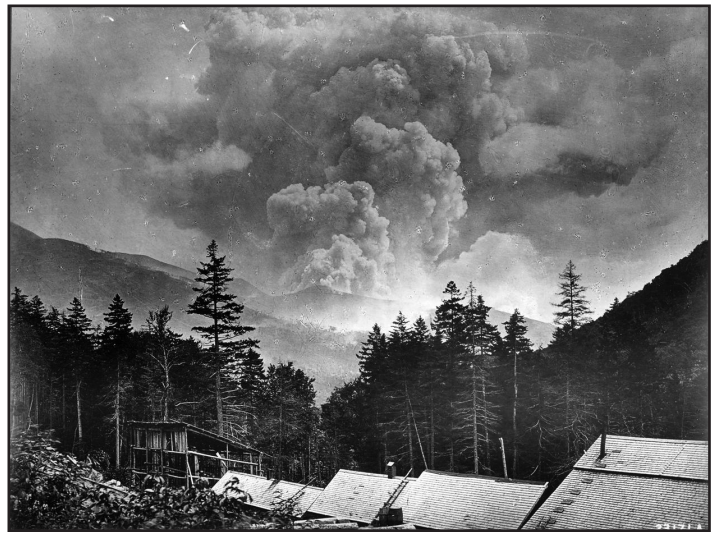
The East Branch and Lincoln Railroad started in Lincoln where a large switch yard was located, and from there connected to the Pemigewasset Valley Railroad in North Woodstock. The line itself ran out of Lincoln to the east along what is now the Kancamagus Highway to Lincoln Woods where it forked. The right fork continued along the Kanc until the area around the hairpin turn near the Hancock trail-head. The left fork continued along the East Branch of the Pemigewasset forking again near Franconia Brook with one branch following Franconia Brook and the other following the Hancock Branch.

Along these primary lines, many branch lines were cut to reach stands of timber to be logged. The start of the Black Pond Trail of the Lincoln Woods Trail has particularly well preserved ties as does the beginning of the Wilderness Trail at end of the Lincoln Woods Trail.

Ultimately, the Lincoln and East Branch Railroad reached the entire Pemigewasset Wilderness, into the Zealand area, and area around the Kancamagus Highway as far as Hancock. A truly massive part of the Whites!

This also explains the common, if somewhat confusing place names, like Camp 18 on the Wilderness Trail, and Camp 3 at the Loon Mountain Ski Resort. In fact, there were at least

34 Camps established along The East Branch and Lincoln Railroad to house and feed loggers cutting trees during the winter months. As you are hiking through the Whites, if you



*Smoke rising from forest fire in the Pemigewasset Valley.*

come across a relatively open area that has not been logged recently, you may at the site of one these camps.

Keep an eye out for old abandoned structures including bridge piers, foundations for dams, loading platforms and old foundations. They are all out there waiting to be discovered.

The other logging railroads each covered a smaller area, but together reached every area of the Whites that could be timbered. Virtually every area was cut.

To our eyes, the forests in the Whites may look primeval, but in fact they are still recovering from the logging. As you wander through the forest, keep an eye out for large old stumps left from the logging. They are still out there. In my wanders, I have found cut stumps with diameters that are two or three times the diameters of the largest of the surrounding trees. I can only imagine what the forests looked like when they were filled with these giants!

However, the logging was not the end. Too often, the slash left behind dried, and was set afire by sparks from the steam engines on the logging railways or other ignition sources. The wild fires that resulted burned over most of the land in the Whites. The result was a truly desolate wasteland.

However, when you are standing admiring the spectacular views from the bare summits of some of our smaller mountains, you are the beneficiary of the wild fires. Following the fires, the soil covering the rocky summits of many of these mountains was washed away exposing bare rock that could not support tree growth. So, many of our favorite summit views, such as those along the Welch-Dickey Trail, on Middle Sugarloaf and on the Moats, likely would have been covered with trees if the wild fires had not occurred.

As you are hiking through an area, or if you choose to deliberately explore an area, keep an eye out for the signs of this history. They are out there if you are patient and find them. Sometimes, they are right on the side of the trail or in the middle of the trail. When you find a bit of our history, don't disturb it! Not only is it illegal to collect or damage an artifact, it is bad manners. View or take pictures only, and leave it for others to discover themselves.

Interested in learning more? There are many great sources of information on the logging history in the White Mountains. First, Bill Gove has been writing a series of books documenting the history of log-

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 WINTER SCHOOL,  
FROM PAGE 3

**Down Mountain Backcountry Skiing:** Tired of the crowded lift served areas? Leave them behind and explore the solitude of the backcountry. This course is designed for the down mountain skier who wants to jump the gap from the lift served area and side country to the backcountry. This is not a learn to telemark clinic but how to apply your front-country/lift-serve skiing skills to the backcountry on down-mountain trails. Strategies for skiing on backcountry terrain in New England "Powdah" (less than optimum snow conditions) will be reviewed. Be prepared to spend 4 to 6 hours per day outside, on skis and to ski with a pack on down mountain trails. This is not just for telemark skiers, backcountry skills and strategies

for the AT skier will also be reviewed!

Cardigan Mountain Ski School has now become an official PSIA school. Most of our ski instructors hold PSIA certifications and now official PSIA events can be held at the school.

**General Information**

The workshops will begin promptly at 7:30 P.M. Friday evening and end Sunday afternoon at approximately 4:30 P.M. This is a school for everyone who wants to learn and have a great time outdoors in the winter. Cost is \$180.00 (AMC members) and \$200.00 (non-members), and includes lodging, excellent meals, materials, and instruction!

**On-line Application:**

Please apply via our on-line application to ensure the accuracy and priority of your application. You may access the web app at



*Photo by: John McHugh. Camping in the winter is more of a challenge. Learn how to do it right at the Winter School.*

<https://www.amc-nh.org/committee/excursions/index-winter-workshop.php>

You must be 18 years or older to attend the Winter School.

Workshop Director: Rick Silverberg  
[Synergyc@Aol.com](mailto:Synergyc@Aol.com)  
603 225 5921

Co leader Bob Humphrey  
(603) 456-3708

If you are not sure which class is right for you, just give us a call and ask one of our Workshop Directors.



## Cardigan Historic Ski Trails Workday! NH And Boston Chapters United!

Believe it or not, the ski trails around Cardigan picked up more blowdowns from last year. Join NH and Boston skiers along with NH Trails to clear away trees and brush for the upcoming season. It's a great workout outside as we clear trails and glades for smooth skiing come winter.

Regroup afterwards and be rewarded with dinner. To register please go to <http://forms.gle/2HxDKysbKTKp8e1i8>

What does it take to maintain some of the best backcountry skiing in New England? Not much if there are lots of people to help! Come along

with the AMC Boston and New Hampshire chapters as their ski and trails committees clear blowdowns and cut back brush to keep Mt. Cardigan's ski trails in tip-top shape. We'll provide all tools (unless you have favorite loppers or a hand saw). Work is divided into several groups, each covering a set of

related trails. Stick around for a complementary delicious meal!


This is a great way to kick off the ski season, mingle with old ski friends, and make new ones. Fans of alpine, telemark, snowboarding, back country, all terrain, and cross-country are all welcome! Come prepared for the weather, as we will work in anything short of a blizzard.



*Trail Crew getting ready for work. Be careful with those loppers!*

Your registration is complete only after you have completed the online application and a trip leader has contacted you. You may see this trip cross posted on [outdoors.org](http://outdoors.org) by either the NH or Boston AMC chapters. All links point to this same registration page.

Join us at Cardigan Lodge on Sunday, November 3, between 8:30 and 3:00, with dinner to follow!

 **A LOOK BACK, FROM PAGE 5**  
ging and particularly logging  
railroads in northern New  
Hampshire. Bill's books in-  
clude:

- Logging railroads of the Saco River Valley (2001);
- Log Drives on the Connecticut River (2003);
- Logging Railroads Along the Pemigewasset River (2006);
- Logging Railroads of New

Hampshire's North Country (2009); and

- J. E. Henry's Logging Railroads: The History of the East Branch & Lincoln and Zealand Valley Railroads (2012).
- Any of these books is of interest, but as a resident of Lincoln I personally found the J.E. Henry volume of greatest interest.

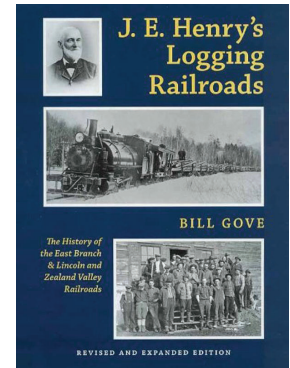
Another great source of information about the history of

the White Mountains, including the logging, is

[WhiteMountainHistory.org](http://WhiteMountainHistory.org).

This website offers an extensive collection of photos and media files to explore and provides great short descriptions of the history of northern New Hampshire and the White Mountains. It is a treasure trove of interesting historical material!

Keep exploring!



Cover by: Bill Gove



## Special Places: Pondicherry National Wildlife Refuge.

BY: BOB MCLAUGHLIN

The Pondicherry National Wildlife Refuge is a 6400 acre tract located near Jefferson and Whitefield and is managed jointly by US Fish and Wildlife Service, the New Hampshire Audubon, the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, and the New Hampshire Trails Bureau. The trails in the Refuge are maintained by Friends of Pondicherry.

The Pondicherry National Wildlife Refuge is crossed by the Pondicherry Rail Trail that is suitable for walking or biking, and cross country touring in the winter. The trails are open to snowmobiles during the winter. Connecting off the rail trail are hiking paths to Little Cherry Pond and along the shore of Cherry Pond. An operating rail line runs near the shore of Cherry Pond and you have to follow the rail line to reach the trail to Little Cherry Pond. In

addition, part of the Cohos Trail, the Colonel Whipple Trail, starts on the west side of Cherry Pond and continues north. Surrounding the Refuge, the Owl's Mountain/Martha's Mile Trails and the Mud Pond Trail are worth a visit.

The Pondicherry National Wildlife Refuge features the two lakes, Cherry Pond (about 100 acres) and Little Cherry Pond (about 20 acres). There is also large open marsh, Moor-

hen Marsh, which the rail trail crosses. Viewing platforms have been constructed on both Cherry Pond and Little Cherry Pond and they are great spots to soak in the scenery and view wildlife. Be sure not to miss the spectacular view of the Presidentials from Shore Path or the rail bed on the west shore of Cherry Pond.

The area around Cherry Pond is accessible by rail trails from Airport Road in the south

or Route 115A to the east. You can also follow the Colonel Whipple Trail from Route 115. But, however you get there, the Pondicherry Refuge is a rewarding destination.

Except for the areas immediately around the lakes, the Refuge is open for hunting. So, if you are visiting the area in hunting season, follow the precautions recommended in the "Hiking Safely" article in this issue.



Photo by: Bob McLaughlin. View of the Presidential Range from the west shore of Cherry Pond.

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From hiking to biking, AMC's New Hampshire chapter has it all. Visit our website at [amc-nh.org](http://amc-nh.org) and read more about us and our many year-round events.



## Hiking Safely; Hiking during Hunting Season

BY: BOB MCLAUGHLIN

Hunting season is upon us, but that is no reason to avoid hiking. However, you do need to take additional precautions to remain safe.

First, stay informed about the hunting seasons. Hunting seasons can be confusing, but open rifle season is typically the most dangerous. Check the hunting seasons in New Hampshire at <https://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/hunting/hunt-dates.html>

Second, wear blaze orange. A blaze orange hat, vest or jacket, or all three, will make you visible to hunters. If you hike with a dog, don't forget a blaze orange vest for them. While blaze orange may not be

your preferred fashion statement, it can keep you safe.

Third, follow established well-used trails. Hunting season is not the time for bushwhacking.

Fourth, hike in the middle of the day if possible. Since game is more active in twilight, hunters are too. Also, it is harder to see colors and detail in lower light, while movement may still be apparent.

Finally, making noise can help make sure hunters identify you as another human and not potential prey. Singing, talking and whistling are all effective as

are bells. Dogs should wear bells on their collars.

Following these simple tips, can allow you to hike safely in hunting seasons. However,

if you ever see anything that makes you uncomfortable, turn around and get out of the woods. The woods and the trail will be there another day.

