

Conservation Matters

A monthly column focused on conservation education, as the result of collaboration among several area conservation commissions and organizations. If your town's commission or conservation organization would like to contribute articles, please contact Jessica Tabolt Halm jesshalm78@gmail.com

Title: Conserving Resources Takes Many Forms

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The Campton Conservation Commission (CCC) believes our community is sustained by its natural landscapes, clean water, forest and agricultural products, and varied habitats for plants and animals. The CCC sees its mission as working to preserve, protect, and properly utilize these resources for current and future residents of the town.

Due at least in part to the definitions spelled out in our middle school science or social studies textbooks, what comes to mind for many when they think of natural resources are ores such as coal, minerals, and oil. These are the resources that President Carter encouraged all of us to conserve when he touted wearing sweaters rather than turning up the thermostat in the winter. In fact, our nation's natural resources include all of these and more. When it comes to conserving resources in Campton, our commission mainly focuses on trees, water, and wildlife because those are the resources that exist within our town boundaries.

That's not to say that conserving resources that do **not** exist within our town's boundary is unimportant. Ever-increasing costs for home heating and gasoline coupled with the effects of the emissions associated with use of these fuels on the global climate make it more necessary than ever to look for ways to reduce our dependence on them.

The Campton Conservation Commission is excited to play a part in sharing an exciting opportunity with residents of Campton and surrounding towns for conserving energy resources. Button Up New Hampshire, the popular home energy savings workshop series, is coming to Campton. The Campton Public Library, Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative and Campton Conservation Commission are hosting this free workshop for residents and it will take place at the Campton Public Library 1110 NH Rte. 175 STE B Campton, NH on Friday October 25th starting at 6:30pm. The workshop is sponsored by NHSaves and coordinated statewide by the Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative (PAREI).

NHSaves is a collaboration of New Hampshire's electric and natural gas utilities (Eversource, Liberty Utilities, NH Electric Cooperative and Unitil). The utilities are working together to provide NH customers with information, incentives, and support designed to save energy, reduce costs, and protect the NH environment. PAREI of Plymouth, NH is working with local groups around the state to bring these workshops to the public on behalf of New Hampshire's utilities.

The NHSaves Button Up Workshop is a 1.5 hour presentation about how to improve the energy efficiency of your home. It is conducted by a certified energy auditor and covers basic building science principles as well as examples of whole house weatherization measures that will button up your home for the heating and cooling seasons. It also covers details about the energy efficiency programs offered by NH utilities (for existing homes and new construction) that provide energy audits, weatherization measures such as air sealing and insulating and rebates on new technologies and products such as electric and gas appliances and high efficiency electric heating/cooling equipment.

NH residents wishing to use energy more efficiently, conserve energy and save money on their heating and cooling bills, will find the workshop presentation very helpful. The workshop is free and no registration is necessary. For more information on the Campton NHSaves Button Up Workshop visit NHSaves.com/events or e-mail Robbin Adams at robbin@plymouthenergy.org. Workshop organizers also recommend the public sign up with NHSaves Facebook and Twitter pages for up to date information on energy saving tips and programs.

