

CONSERVATION PLANNING SPEAKER SERIES AT PSU

PLYMOUTH, NH - The Margret and H.A. Rey Center in Waterville Valley and the Center for the Environment at Plymouth State University in Plymouth, NH are pleased to offer a two-part presentation series focused on tools for community conservation planning in New Hampshire and Vermont. Vermont Conservation Planning Biologist Jens Hilke, will be presenting on the Vermont Community Wildlife Program on Friday, February 13th from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m., and Biological Technician for New Hampshire Fish and Game's Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program, Lindsay Webb will be presenting on New Hampshire's Wildlife Action Plan on Friday, March 13th from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Both presentations will be held at Plymouth State University in the Boyd Science Center, Room 001 located off Highland Street in Plymouth, NH. These presentations are open to the public and there is no charge to attend.

On Friday, February 13th Jens Hilke will explain how the Community Wildlife Program provides technical assistance to towns, non-profit organizations and regional planning commissions on conservation and land-use planning in Vermont. The program focuses on helping towns to be clear about their values, provides them with the most up-to-date conservation science, interprets that scientific information and offers suggestions on a range of non-regulatory and regulatory tools that towns might use to move from goal-setting to implementation. This presentation will review the approach employed by the Community Wildlife Program, look at some case studies of town and regional work and then examine how some of these strategies might be employed in New Hampshire in the context of the New Hampshire Wildlife Action Plan.

On Friday, March 13th Lindsay Webb will present on the Wildlife Action Plan, highlighting how other individuals and communities have used the plan to implement conservation strategies that are aimed at preventing the state's wildlife from becoming endangered. Lindsay will guide you through this document by highlighting key chapters for conservation planners to focus

their attention. She will also discuss some new conservation planning tools and techniques such as auditing your town documents for natural resource protection. The Wildlife Action Plan identifies species at risk, assesses threats to their continued existence, and offers strategies to address these needs statewide. Attendees will learn how to interpret the plan, maps, and data as well as explore how they can help turn the plan into action.

Center for the Environment addresses the science, policies, culture and economics of the natural environment in northern New England through research, education and collaboration. The Center engages on- and off-campus partners to define, acquire, and provide science-based knowledge to make informed decisions.

The Margret and H.A. Rey Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to honoring the lives of Margret and H.A. Rey, authors of the Curious George books and former summer residents of Waterville Valley, NH. The Rey Center provides community education programs and collaborative environmental monitoring initiatives that reflect the Reys' lifelong interests in service learning, arts, illustration, astronomy, natural history and environmental action. For more information please contact the Margret & H.A. Rey Center at 603-236-3308 or visit ReyCenter.org.