

# SRPC Planning Board UPDATE

12/05/2017



**1** NH's Annual Land Conservation Conference will be held on Saturday, April 7, 2018, at Prospect Mountain High School in Alton, the UNH Cooperative Extension (UNHCE) just announced. Last year's meeting offered sessions on agritourism, conservation easements, appraisals, fundraising, community stewardship, trails, and many other conservation related topics. Contributing partners in addition to UNHCE include Lakes Region Conservation Trust, Land & Community Heritage Investment Program, NH Land Trust Coalition, Society for the Protection of NH Forests, Southeast Land Trust of NH, The Nature Conservancy (NH), and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Stay tuned for conference details and registration information coming in February at:

<https://savingspecialplaces.org/>.

**2** Strafford Regional Planning Commission's (SRPC) MapGeo website officially launched last month and can be found at <https://srpcnh.mapgeo.io/>. Four of SRPC's 18 communities have signed on, providing information to be included on the site.

For those that may not be familiar, SRPC's MapGeo is an online GIS viewer that hosts a variety of data related to land use, zoning, natural resources, transportation, and socioeconomic indicators for the SRPC region. Users can browse current projects in different transportation plans, compare different zoning districts across the region, and even toggle combinations of data layers, add labels and draw figures to create their own maps. Some data layers, such as conservation land and recreational trails, are continually updated as new information becomes available, so make sure to check back to see what's new!

We are always looking for interested municipalities to participate. If you are interested we encourage you to contact GIS planner Rachael Mack at [rmack@strafford.org](mailto:rmack@strafford.org) or 603-994-3500 for more information.

**3** Each year, the UNH Sustainability Fellows Program pairs exceptional students from a variety of colleges and universities and a range of disciplines with municipal, educational, corporate, and non-governmental organizations to work on transformative sustainability initiatives. They are currently working with Partner organizations throughout New England to develop a suite of challenging, impactful, sustainability-focused 10-week projects for Fellows to tackle in 2018.

Applicants design a project, and the UNH Sustainability Institute (UNHSI) recruits a highly qualified Fellow with skills and experience tailored to project and organization needs. This allows the applicant and the UNHSI to collaborate on training and mentoring the Fellow throughout the summer, allowing for the joint investment in the project's success and the Fellow's education. UNHSI aims to choose projects that catalyze long-term, substantial change for partners, and provide a rich experiential learning opportunity for Fellows.

This is a highly competitive program for partners and Fellows alike. Interested parties should submit a proposal. If you'd like submit a project, use the RFP form at <https://sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows-program-get-involved> to tell UNHSI about your organization and your idea. Check out some of our recent Fellows and projects for inspiration at <https://sustainableunh.unh.edu/sustainability-fellows>. Proposals are due Dec. 15. They're glad to discuss your ideas or answer questions in the meantime (contact [megan.carney@unh.edu](mailto:megan.carney@unh.edu)).