

December 20, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Coastal Mountains Nature Program talk - *Beech Leaf Disease and Other Pathogens*

Camden – Coastal Mountains Land Trust will co-host an online Zoom presentation titled *Beech Leaf Disease and Other Pathogens* at 6:00 p.m. on **Thursday, January 13** with the Camden Public Library. Join us for this educational and informative online presentation by Aaron Bergdahl, a Maine Forest Service Forest Pathologist.

Focusing on high-profile native and non-native forest diseases already present in Maine, as well as those not yet found in the state, the presentation will cover the general biology and management of forest diseases and their implications related to the future of forest health.

Please visit the "What's Happening" adults events calendar at librarycamden.org to register for a Zoom link to attend this webinar. The presentation platform is limited to those who get an invitation from the library.

Aaron Bergdahl has been the staff forest pathologist with the Maine Forest Service since 2016. Originally from Vermont, he came to Maine from North Dakota where he was the Forest Health Manager for the North Dakota Forest Service for 7 years. He also completed coursework toward a PhD in plant pathology at North Dakota State University. Previously, he lived in Finland where he earned a master's degree in plant ecology with minors in zoology and genetics at the University of Oulu. Aaron is a father of three and enjoys spending time with his family in the outdoors, mushroom hunting, fishing, tending fruit trees and gardening.

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Coastal Mountains Land Trust has worked since 1986 to permanently conserve land to benefit the natural and human communities of the western Penobscot Bay. The Land Trust manages over 13,000 acres and maintains over 50 miles of permanent trails for public access.

The Coastal Mountains Nature Program is a monthly education series hosted by Coastal Mountains Land Trust. Walks and talks explore the natural history of Midcoast Maine, helping educate the public about environment issues and increase opportunities for residents to explore the outdoors.

Monthly Hikes Offered by Coastal Mountains Land Trust and Journey to Health
Camden - Join Coastal Mountains Land Trust and Pen Bay Medical Center and Waldo County General Hospital's Journey to Health program for their first *Happy Wanderers Hike* on **Thursday, January 6th at 10 a.m. at Fernald's Neck**. This excursion will be approximately 1.8 miles round trip and participants should bring footwear to accommodate the current hiking conditions: boots, ice grips or snowshoes if there is deep snow.

On the first Thursday of each month, the Happy Wanderers will meet at a trail head of a Coastal Mountains Land Trust preserve. The hikes will range in location from Rockport to Searsport. Each excursion will be led by a Coastal Mountains and a Journey to Health staff member. We hope you can join the adventure!

For a full schedule of hikes, please visit coastalmountains.org and visit journeytohealth.coursestorm.com to register.

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Journey to Health programming is offered by PenBay Medical Center's Community Health Improvement Team and is focused on preventing and reducing chronic disease and promoting the adoption of healthy lifestyles.

Full Moon Hike on the Round the Mountain Trail

Camden – Join Coastal Mountains Land Trust for a full moon hike on the Round the Mountain Trail on **Sunday, January 16 starting at 6:30pm**. The hike will be an out-and-back experience and approximately 1.5 miles round trip. This adventure is open to all ages and ability levels. Hot drinks and cookies will be provided!

Please bring a flashlight, mug and footwear that accommodates the current hiking conditions: boots, ice grips or snowshoes if there is deep snow.

Please email info@coastalmountains.org to register for this free event, so that we can contact you if the hike is cancelled due to inclement weather.

Location: Thorndike Brook Trail Head, 223 Hope Road, Hope, ME.