

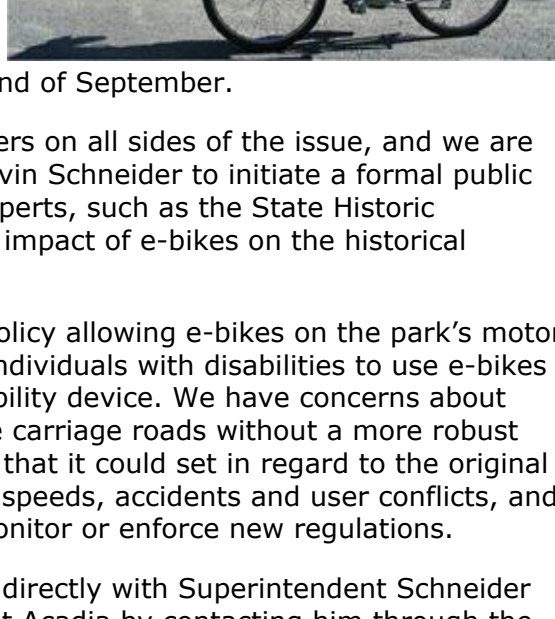
Dear Friends,

September is the perfect time to slow down and appreciate the last warm days before the coming fall. With a slight chill in the mornings and evenings, autumn is on its way.

Out on the trails of Acadia, we are beginning to see hints of red and gold. As we pack away our bathing suits and shorts, we look forward to our favorite cool weather activities—biking or running on the carriage roads, hiking in brisk winds, taking in the tableau from a blustery mountaintop, or just enjoying the view from a scenic vista—day or night. The clear, cool nights of early fall are a perfect time to stargaze in Acadia!

E-Bike Usage in Acadia

On Thursday, August 29th, Interior Secretary David Bernhardt issued an order directing the National Park Service (NPS) to develop policies to allow electronic bicycles (e-bikes) everywhere that regular bicycles are allowed. The resulting [NPS policy guidance](#) requires that park Superintendents implement this change within 30 days. This new policy would open Acadia’s carriage roads and multi-use paths to e-bike usage at the end of September.



Friends of Acadia has heard from members on all sides of the issue, and we are encouraging Acadia’s Superintendent Kevin Schneider to initiate a formal public comment process and to consult with experts, such as the State Historic Preservation Officer, about the potential impact of e-bikes on the historic integrity of the carriage road system.

Friends of Acadia supports the current policy allowing e-bikes on the park’s motor road system. We also support allowing individuals with disabilities to use e-bikes on the carriage roads if needed as a mobility device. We have concerns about further extending a motorized use to the carriage roads without a more robust public process because of the precedent that it could set in regard to the original donor intent, the potential for increased speeds, accidents and user conflicts, and the lack of park funding or staffing to monitor or enforce new regulations.

We encourage our members to weigh in directly with Superintendent Schneider with your thoughts about e-bike usage at Acadia by contacting him through the webform accessed at <https://www.nps.gov/acad/contacts.htm> or mailing him at: Superintendent Kevin Schneider, P.O. Box 177, Bar Harbor, ME 04609.

Volunteer at the Night Sky Festival

The Acadia Night Sky Festival is September 25-29, 2019. Volunteers are needed to help with parking and directing visitors from 6:30 p.m. onward at the Friday, September 27th star party at the Seal Cove Auto Museum. Contact Stephanie Clement at stephanie@friendsofacadia.org or 207-288-3340 if you are interested in signing up. Friends of Acadia will supply reflective safety vests and tools for directing traffic. For more information about the festival, the schedule of events, or to reserve a parking space at MDI High School for the Saturday evening star party on Cadillac Mountain, go to www.acadianightskyfestival.org.



TPIAD Registration Now Open

[Registration](#) for the 2019 Take Pride in Acadia Day will go live soon! Join hundreds of other Acadia lovers on Saturday, November 2nd, to help park staff prepare the carriage roads for winter. As always, after the morning’s work, crews will return to park headquarters for a hot lunch—the event’s traditional “CCC” meal of chili, cornbread, and cider (plus an extra “C” of cake). We hope you’ll join us for this wonderful community event.



For more information and to register, please [visit our website](#).

Acadia Quest--There's Still Time to Participate!

There’s still time to be part of this season’s Acadia Quest! Acadia Quest is a series of outdoor experiences that encourage youth to explore, learn about, and protect Acadia National Park. The

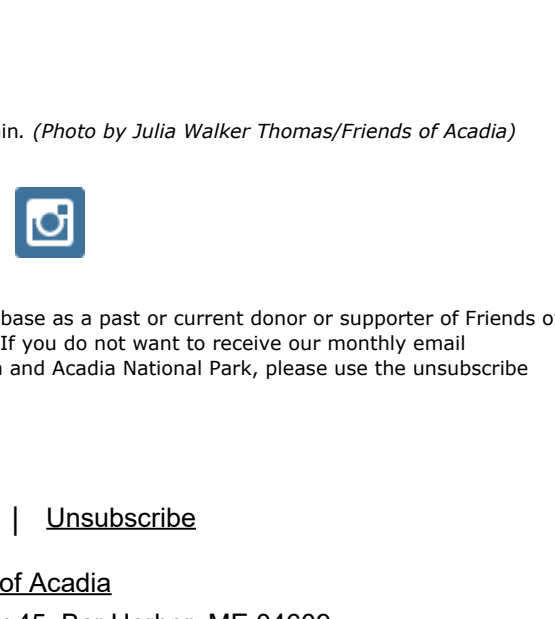


2019 Pathmakers Quest features locations chosen by the members of the park’s trail crew. And, for the first time, Acadia Quest is available in App form. Participants receive instructions from the trail crew via videos, and see footage of the crews at work. Challenges are designed to appeal to all ages. The program is free and open to all, but you will need a park pass to participate. Register and get a packet here: <https://friendsofacadia.org/events/acadia-quest/>

Acadia Quest ends on November 15. All registration forms and documentation must be entered at that time to be eligible for prizes that are sent to teams at the end of the year.

Moon Dance Exhibit Opening

Join 2019 Acadia [Artist in Residence](#) Howie Motenko for the opening of Acadia Moon Dance at the Northeast Harbor Library on Friday, October 4 at 5 p.m. Refreshments, music, and remarks by Howie and Acadia National Park Superintendent Kevin Schneider round out this special evening.



Acadia Moon Dance is the result of exploring Acadia National Park during twenty-four full moons. Photographer Howie Motenko applies his intimate knowledge of Acadia, infusing the evening weather conditions and calculating the Moon’s position, to produce these one-of-a-kind images.

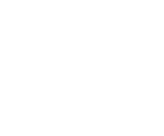
New and Renewing Business Members

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Our new and renewing Business Members this month are [Acadia Goldendoodles](#), [Garden Club of Mount Desert](#), [Maine Camp Outfitters](#), [Mira Monte Inn](#), [Sawyer's Specialties](#), and Secret Gardens.

Header Photo: Autumn sunrise colors on Cadillac Mountain. (Photo by Julia Walker Thomas/Friends of Acadia)



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Friends of Acadia

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