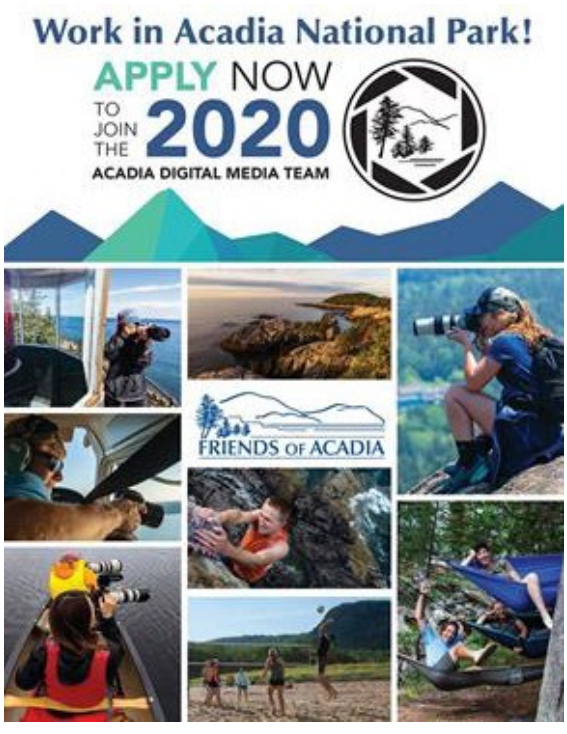
Dear Friends,

Happy New Year from all of us at Friends of Acadia! A new decade is upon us, and we're excited to see what the future holds for the park. The work of park staff and FOA members and volunteers is never over—we need your help to ensure Acadia National Park is as magnificent and protected in the second decade of this century as it was in the first. Friends of Acadia is proud to be a part of the future of the park—read on to learn more.

Familiar Faces Add Capacity in Acadia

As part of our commitment to helping steward the park into the future, we recently transitioned three field staff into year-round positions with FOA—ensuring the excellent work they do will be continued and expanded for the benefit of the park and the public. As of January 1, Recreation Technician Rebecca Stanley, Summit Steward Coordinator Stephanie Ley, and Wild Acadia Project Coordinator Brian Henkel are now FOA staff members. If you think those names sound familiar, you are correct. All three have worked with FOA in recent years, just not in a full-time capacity. Becca, Steph, and Brian provide essential work on the front lines of Acadia in the form of data collection and analysis, watershed protection, and visitation management, and your membership helps support this work—thank you! Please read our press release for more details on how these positions help solve real issues in Acadia: https://friendsofacadia.org/news/foa-commitment-to-field-work-expands/

2020 Seasonal Positions Announced



Do you know a college student or recent graduate who is passionate about National Parks? Now is the time of year we begin to post seasonal job openings. From serving as a Summit Steward, to the Acadia Digital Media Team, there will be many ways to work in Acadia National Park during the summer and fall. Check our website and Facebook page often to be in the know when positions are announced. Seasonal Position Applications Open Now: Acadia Digital Media Team, Recreation Technician, Summit Steward, and Stewardship Assistant.

Carriage Road Grooming Update

After a mild winter, the snow today and forecast for this weekend is a welcome change. Unfortunately, the carriage roads suffered deep washouts earlier this fall in the following areas: the hill from the Visitors Center, the west side of Eagle Lake, the upper leg of Around the Mountain (intersections 10-12), the lower end of the Jordan Pond Connector (intersections 14-21), and the entire Amphitheater Loop. The washouts range in depth, but the average is about 18-24 inches — enough to cause equipment to tip and potentially roll and be a safety risk for the volunteer groomer operating the machine.

Unfortunately, this means grooming is on hold for the affected sections until the washouts can be repaired in the spring. The good news is, Park staff have reached out to us and let us know the park will approve grooming in the unaffected sections once 6 inches of snow have accumulated as a base. As conditions change, a snow depth, carriage road conditions, and grooming status graphic will be updated regularly on our website. If you do choose to go out and enjoy the fresh snow on ungroomed carriage roads, please exercise caution—fresh powder can easily hide washouts and ruts.

#WinterinAcadia

Have you been enjoying Acadia in winter? Share your images of winter in the park with us on social media using the hashtags #ImaFriendofAcadia #WinterinAcadia, or email them to photos@friendsofacadia.org. We will choose a few photos to be featured as part of a winter activities photo spread in the Spring 2020 FOA Journal and will repost more of our favorites to social media. Selected photographers will receive bragging rights and a copy of the Journal.

Pints for a Purpouse

Mark your calendars! On March 12, we will be collaborating with Fogtown Brewing Company for a special event benefitting FOA. Join us from 6-8 p.m. at the brewery in Ellsworth — 50 percent of the sales from every pint sold of the selected (yet to be chosen) beer will have a portion of the proceeds donated to FOA. RSVP to our Facebook event for the latest updates: facebook.com/events/449093515970471/

Header Photo: The east face of Champlain Mountain dusted with snow. *(Photo by Julia Walker Thomas/Friends of Acadia)*

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