



---

## Celebrating Progress in Seasonal Housing

This spring, thanks to the support of our members, seasonal employees working in Acadia moved into new housing at the Dane Farm and Jordan River Road campuses. Seasonal employees, along with Acadia's full-time staff, are critical for every aspect of park operations, from visitor services and trail and carriage road maintenance to habitat restoration. Accessible housing addresses a critical need, allowing Acadia to attract and retain the skilled seasonal staff it needs to make the park shine.



This year's seasonal staff quickly turned this housing into a home. [In this video](#), Rhiannon Johnston, one of our incredibly talented seasonal staff members, shares what this housing meant to those who lived there.

Building on this momentum, construction is underway in Acadia National Park on the most ambitious housing initiative yet: a 56-bedroom facility at [Harden Farm in](#)

[Bar Harbor](#). Together, these projects represent significant progress toward our long-term goal of creating 130 new beds to support Acadia's future.

We are incredibly grateful to each and every member who helped support these efforts.

---

### **Before-and-After Photos From This Season's Carriage Road Vista Clearing**

This season, Friends of Acadia drop-in volunteers and service groups helped park staff restore 12 of the park's historic carriage road vistas. Crews trimmed branches and cleared brush to renew the views, which were designed in the 1920s and '30s in tandem with the carriage roads.



In keeping with each vista's original design, some unfold as sweeping views of the coastline and ponds, while others are intentionally subtle, offering quiet glimpses of features beyond the trees.

[Check out these before-and-after images and time-lapse videos](#) to see some of the new views at Bubble Pond, Chasm Brook Bridge, Around the Mountain Loop, Gilmore Meadow, Breakneck Pond, and others.

---

### **Listen to the New Season of the *Sea to Trees* Podcast**

[Listen to learn more](#) about the ongoing restoration of Acadia National Park's largest freshwater wetland, the Great Meadow; how soil coring allows us to look back thousands of years to understand past landscapes; and how an Indigenous approach to wetland restoration means restoring relationships and food sovereignty.



Hear from Dr. Suzanne Greenlaw, an ecologist, writer, traditional harvester, post-doctoral scientist at Schoodic Institute, and a citizen of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians; Lauren Gibson, Wild Acadia Coordinator for Friends of Acadia; and Dr. Chris Nadeau, Climate Change Adaptation Scientist at Schoodic Institute.

[Sea to Trees](#) is a podcast from Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park.

---

### **Acadia Magazine - In Mailboxes Now**

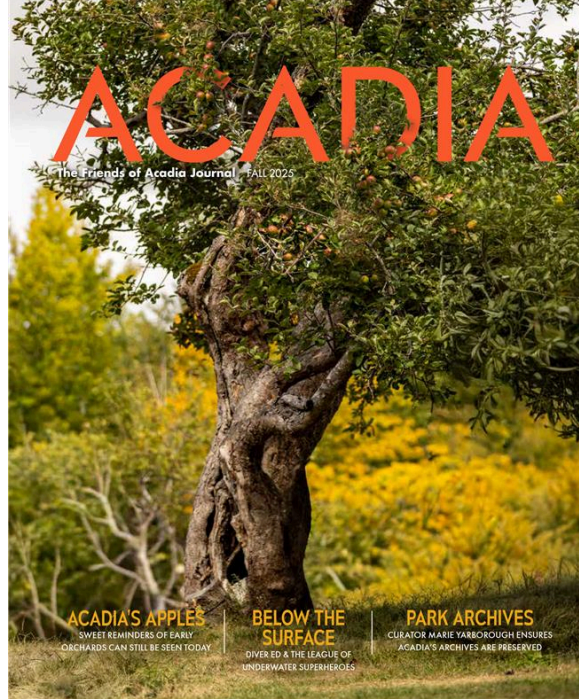
The fall issue of *Acadia* magazine is in mailboxes and online now. It features stories about [how fire is managed](#) in Acadia today, [small mammal research](#) on the park's summits, and the early orchard backstory to [Acadia's enduring apple trees](#). There's also a spotlight on the [curator who helps preserve Acadia's history](#) (and some of her favorite artifacts), and an early peek inside the [park's new](#)



[maintenance facility](#), made possible by funds from the Great American Outdoors Act. Plus [glacial erratics](#), [wild turkeys](#), and the [League of Underwater Superheroes](#)!

*Acadia* magazine is published three times a year and mailed to Friends of Acadia members. If you're not already, [become a member today](#) and receive an annual subscription, or [gift a membership](#) to a loved one this holiday season!

[Click here](#) to read the most recent magazine stories online.



## Employment Opportunities at Friends of Acadia and Acadia National Park

- Friends of Acadia is currently hiring a Stewardship Manager. This full-time, year-round position primarily manages the Stewardship Volunteer Program to help maintain Acadia's trails and carriage roads. [Learn more and apply here](#).
- Friends of Acadia is beginning to post our 2026 seasonal positions. If you or someone you know are passionate about Acadia National Park and conservation, please [watch our website](#) for position listings. These roles will include:
  - Summit Stewards
  - Membership Table Coordinators
  - Recreation Technicians
  - Stewardship Crew Members
  - Communications Seasonals
  - Wild Gardens of Acadia Intern
- Acadia National Park is also hiring for multiple seasonal positions including trail crew members, maintenance workers, and preventative search and rescue rangers. [Learn more about these roles and how to apply here](#).



## Dust Off Your Skis!

The Acadia Winter Trails Association volunteer groomers are gearing up for the 2026 winter season. Groomers will hit the carriage roads as soon as the park determines the carriage roadbed is adequately frozen and there is at least a six-inch snow base.

Fingers crossed for good snow and cold temps in January, when grooming is expected to begin. As the season gets underway, please check [Friends of Acadia's website](#), [Instagram](#), and [Facebook page](#)

for grooming updates, and use the hashtag #SkiAcadia to share your conditions reports. Happy trails!



## Year-End Giving Opportunities

Thank you to everyone who gave to Friends of Acadia on GivingTuesday! If you didn't get a chance to donate then, we offer a variety of other meaningful ways you can support FOA and the park we all cherish. Consider these options for your year-end giving:

- [Give a one-time gift](#) to make an immediate impact on the park we all love.
- [Sign up for an auto-renewing gift](#) and provide steady support throughout the year.
- [Give a gift membership](#) to share your love of Acadia with friends and family, and don't forget to print out or email a [complimentary gift card](#)!
- Honor someone with a [memorial or tribute gift](#).
- Other giving options include [gifts of stock, securities, QCD, charitable gift annuities, donor-advised funds, and real estate](#) ([Contact Lisa Horsch Clark](#) before December 31 for more details.)
- Thinking about selling your car, boat, motorcycle, truck, RV, or other vehicle? [Turn that vehicle into support for the park you love!](#)



## Seasonal Closures in Acadia

Most of the Park Loop Road is now closed until the spring, but it remains open to winter activities, such as walking, cross-country skiing, biking, and snowmobiling. The Park Loop Road will remain open to motor vehicles between Jordan Pond Road in Seal Harbor and the Jordan Pond parking lot and between Schooner Head Road and Otter Cliffs Road in Bar Harbor.



When visiting Acadia in winter, being prepared for cold weather, early darkness, and icy conditions will help ensure a safe and enjoyable experience.

Visit the park's website to see the most up-to-date [information on closures](#), [winter activities](#), and [tips for how to prepare](#).

## National Parks 2026 Appropriations Update:



The Fiscal Year 2026 appropriations process remains unresolved as Congress works against a January 30 continuing resolution (CR) deadline to fund the government for the full year. Lawmakers have advanced several individual spending bills through committee, including separate House and Senate versions of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies bill, which funds the National Park Service, but no full-year appropriations package has been enacted. Agencies covered by the Interior bill are operating under the CR at Fiscal Year 2025 funding levels while House-Senate differences are negotiated. Congress must reconcile these differences and pass final legislation to avoid additional CRs, funding uncertainty, and another government shutdown.

Friends of Acadia continues to call for full funding and full staffing for national parks.

---

### In Case You Missed It:

- ["Project Will Expand Seasonal Employee Housing At Acadia National Park"](#) (*National Parks Traveler*)
  - ["Five Highlights From the Drop-in Stewardship Volunteers Season"](#) (*Friends of Acadia*)
  - ["Loss of Acadia Entrance Fees Could Impact Park's Future Projects"](#) (*Mount Desert Islander*)
  - ["Acadia National Park and the Case of the Missing Ivory Gull"](#) (*Bar Harbor Story*)
- 

Until next month,



Header Photo: The view from the Eagle Lake boat landing under a blanket of snow (Lynn Verrill/Friends of Acadia).



If you do not wish to receive E-News emails, please contact [amanda@friendsofacadia.org](mailto:amanda@friendsofacadia.org) to be removed from this list. **Please note:** If you click "Unsubscribe," you will no longer receive any email communication from Friends of Acadia.

---

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

[Friends of Acadia](#)

43 Cottage Street P.O. Box 45, Bar Harbor, ME 04609-0045