



## ***Dear Friends,***

Spring is here! Peepers are peeping, skies are blue, and the deep chill of winter has seemingly retreated. We hope you are enjoying this gorgeous weather as much as we are. If you are in the Acadia region, we hope you will join us on April 27 for our favorite celebration of spring, the Earth Day Roadside Cleanup, now in its 23rd year!

## **Earth Day Roadside Cleanup: Next Weekend!**

Have you registered for the Earth Day Roadside Cleanup on Saturday, April 27, yet? **The registration deadline for groups and individuals is Monday, April 22.** We hope you will pitch in to help clean up “a winter’s worth” of trash from the roadsides of MDI and Trenton. Participants will each receive a commemorative NOSO gear patch!

[Visit our website](#) for registration and more information.



## Help Clean Up Storm Damage in Acadia

Winter storms over the last few months, particularly two in January, created unprecedented damage to infrastructure and resources in Acadia National Park. While park teams were assessing the damage, people started asking, "How can we help?" Here's a way!



Join us for upcoming volunteer cleanup events, one at Schoodic on May 1 and one at Seawall Picnic Area on May 3. Registration is required and limited to 25 for each event.

[Visit our website](#) for more info and to register.

## Friends of Acadia Joins NPCA to Advocate For Funding Our Parks

Friends of Acadia Government Affairs Manager Veronica Torres joined over a hundred advocates on Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. last week to urge Congress to better fund our national parks! In partnership with the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA), park champions requested the following:



**Park funding:** Increase funding for the operations of the National Park Service at and above levels proposed in the President's budget. More robust funding levels will better equip parks to restore staff positions, manage high visitation rates, prepare for climate change, and meet cultural resource protection needs.

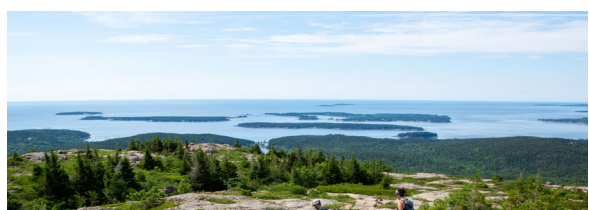
**Park Maintenance:** Support forthcoming legislation to extend funding to fix our parks. The passage of the Great American Outdoors Act (GOA) provided dedicated funding to support hundreds of park maintenance projects across the country. We urge members of Congress to keep the momentum going and support the reauthorization of GOA.

**Preservation:** Enact the Cultural Resource Challenge. This would provide \$250 million over five years to allow NPS to hire historians, archivists, and curators to preserve America's most important places and cultural heritage sites.

## Work With Us!

Friends of Acadia is currently hiring for several positions:

[Vice President of Finance &](#)



### **Administration and Chief Financial Officer:**

This leadership position works closely with the CEO and the Board of Directors and oversees financial management, information technology, risk management, office and facilities management, and construction project management.



**Development Manager:** Friends of Acadia seeks an experienced, organized, and creative development professional to manage the annual fundraising programs, including membership, annual fund, and business support campaigns.

**Corporate and Foundations Relations Coordinator:** The Corporate and Foundations Relations Coordinator works closely with the Vice President of Development and others to identify, cultivate, solicit, and steward corporate and foundation grant funders. This is an exciting new opportunity for a part-time, detail-oriented, self-motivated grant writer.

### **Seeking Professional Consultant – Advocacy Strategic Plan:**

Friends of Acadia is soliciting proposals from consultants or firms to collaborate with staff and board members in crafting a public policy and advocacy strategic plan that will guide our efforts around climate change action, park appropriations and policies, threats to the park, and other issues. Proposals are due by May 13, 2024. Learn more about the RFP [on our website](#).

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### **Winter/Spring Issue of Acadia Magazine Out Now**

[The latest issue](#) of our magazine has been delivered to mailboxes across the country! As a thank you for your continued support of our work in Acadia, all current Friends of Acadia [members](#) and [donors](#) receive a subscription to the magazine.



### **This issue features:**

**The Power of Volunteers:** A thank you to all our volunteers with stories focusing on three individuals and the ways they give back to Acadia through volunteerism (April 14-20 is National Volunteer Week)!

**Fostering Future Park Leaders:** The NPS Academy program provides real-world experience to help Interns gain career opportunities within the National Park Service.

**and much more!**

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### **Save the Date for These Upcoming Events:**

**Great Meadow Loop and Community Connector Trail Update on Zoom** (Virtual Meeting) on Wednesday, May 15th from 5-6:30 p.m.

**Friends of Acadia Annual Meeting**



on Wednesday, July 10



**35th Annual Benefit** at Cover Farm in Hulls Cove on Saturday, August 10

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**In Case You Missed It:**

[Timber Framing Complete at Acadia Gateway Center \(Maine Biz\)](#)

[Park Loop Road Now Open to Motor Vehicles](#)

[\\$3.3M Seasonal Housing Development Underway at Acadia National Park \(Maine Biz\)](#)

[Acadia Announces \\$950,000 for Ecosystem Restoration and Climate Restoration Projects](#)

[Annual Benefit Moves to New Location](#)

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Until next month,



**Julia Walker Thomas**  
*Visual Storytelling &  
Creative Projects Manager*

Header Photo: Beaked hazelnut (corals cornuta) flowers in the Wild Gardens of Acadia. (photo: Ashley L. Conti/Friends of Acadia)



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