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**Join Us for Take Pride in Acadia Day on Nov. 7! Registration Is Now Open.**

Friends of Acadia and Acadia National Park invite volunteers to come together Saturday, Nov. 7, for the 34th annual Take Pride in Acadia Day, a longstanding fall tradition that combines hands-on stewardship with a celebration of the community that cares for Acadia.



Each year, volunteers fan out along Acadia National Park's historic carriage roads to rake leaves and clear drainage features, helping prevent erosion and washouts during winter storms and the spring thaw.

The event will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Nov. 7, and lunch will be served at noon. [Please register by Friday, Oct. 30, on our website.](#) Volunteers will receive their assigned meet-up locations along the carriage roads before the event. Special

thanks to our presenting sponsor, [Chilton Trust](#), for helping make this event possible!

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## Special 40th Anniversary Issue of Acadia Magazine!

A special edition of Acadia magazine is arriving in member mailboxes this week. The issue celebrates our 40-year history, early projects with long-standing impact, and the people—including donors and volunteers like you—whose dedicated work makes it all happen.



Read stories about the [momentous carriage road](#) and [trails restoration projects](#). Discover how [volunteers sparked the flame of Friends of Acadia](#), explore the [history of the Wild Gardens of Acadia](#), and meet [former seasonal staff whose professional careers were deeply informed by their work in Acadia](#). Plus, look back through a robust [Friends of Acadia timeline](#) that highlights projects big and small over the years.

[>>Read those stories and more here.](#)

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## Move, Give, and Share Your Love for Acadia - Join the 40 for Acadia Challenge!

The 40 for Acadia challenge is a simple way to celebrate FOA's 40th anniversary and support our beloved park while simply spending time in Acadia!



Here's how it works:

- **Log 40 miles** of any activity in Acadia, hiking, biking, walking, swimming, paddling, adaptive riding, touring, or by carriage. OR
- **Volunteer for 4 hours** in Acadia: [click here](#) to explore some ideas!

Once you complete your activity, **share a short note, story, or photo [through our submission form](#)**. For every completed submission, **the Cornelia Cogswell Rossi Foundation will donate \$40 to Friends of Acadia**, and you'll receive a limited-edition 40 for Acadia patch. The foundation will also match any donation (optional) submitted with the form, up to a total of \$8,000!

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## Trail Work in Costume at Trick-or-Trails on Oct. 29

You're never too old to dress up and do trail work! Join the Stewardship Volunteer Program on Thursday, Oct. 29, for Halloween fun at "Trick-or-Trails" as we celebrate the end of another successful drop-in volunteer season with one last project. See the [upcoming volunteer drop-in schedule on our website](#) the Friday before to find out the project location.



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### Did You Know? October is Donor-Advised Fund Month

If you have a donor-advised fund, have you considered what will happen to it in the future? Many donors carefully update their wills, trusts, retirement accounts, and insurance beneficiaries but never review their donor-advised fund succession plans.

In this month's gift planning article, you'll learn:

- What happens to a donor-advised fund after your lifetime
- Common options for naming successors and charitable beneficiaries
- How a DAF can help create a lasting legacy for Acadia National Park

[>>Read more on our website.](#)

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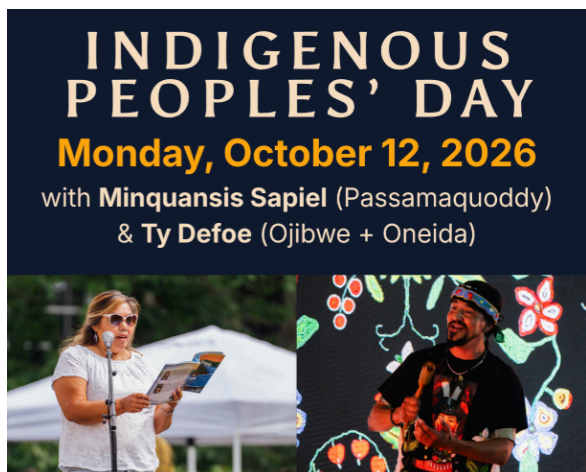
### Indigenous Peoples' Day at the Abbe Museum: Oct. 12

Join the Abbe Museum on Indigenous Peoples' Day, Oct. 12, for a special day of programming centered on the theme "Water is Life." Enjoy pay-what-you-can admission and explore stories, art, history, and performances that honor the enduring relationships between Wabanaki peoples and the waters that sustain life.

Experience a special appearance by Grammy Award-winning artist Ty Defoe (Ojibwe and Oneida), who will perform excerpts from *Skeleton Canoe*, their acclaimed theater and puppetry piece. Ty will be joined by storyteller Minguansis Sapiel (Passamaquoddy).

[Click here for event details.](#)

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[The Stewardship Volunteer Program](#) hasn't let cooler temperatures stop them from working on projects in the park. In fact, they recently completed bogwalk construction on the Hadlock Brook Trail! Congratulations to everyone who worked so hard to make that project happen.

As we shared last month, a few of the program's Volunteer Crew Leaders participated in a video series explaining some of the crew's tasks and how first timers can join future projects. The fourth and final video in this series is out now, featuring John Baird explaining what "brushing" Acadia's trails means:



- [Brushing with John](#)
- [Bogwalk with Barb](#)
- [Flossing with Mark](#)
- [Drainage clearing with Joey](#)

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## Which Acadia Mountain Plant Are You? Take the Quiz!

From green alders and gray birch to bearberry, sheep laurel, and boreal blueberry, there's an array of plant life growing on Acadia's summits. But trampling and erosion have damaged these tough yet fragile plant communities.



Schoodic Institute, Acadia National Park, and Friends of Acadia are working together to help restore these splendid summit ecosystems.

Find out which Acadia mountain plant you most identify with! [Take the quiz.](#)

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## Upcoming Events and Save the Dates:

(Friends of Acadia events in **bold**)

- Oct. 8: [Pints for a Purpose](#) - Acadia's Carriage Road Vista Management with Emily Owens
- Oct. 9: [Wetland Revival – Walking the Path of Restoration](#) Ranger Hike in the Great Meadow
- Oct. 15: [Pints for a Purpose](#) - The Island Explorer with John Kelly and Paul Murphy
- Oct. 21: [Jesup Memorial Library's Archives Grand Opening](#), featuring the George B. Dorr Instruction Room
- Oct. 29: [Trick-or-Trails volunteer event](#) with the Drop-In Stewardship Crew - also the final day of the drop-in program for 2026!



- Oct. 31: [Trail of Treats!](#) at Camp Beech Cliff
  - **Nov 7: [Take Pride in Acadia Day](#)**
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### In Case You Missed It:

- "Acadia Counts Migrating Hawks as Researchers Study Climate Change Impact on Raptors," ([Bangor Daily News](#), [Bar Harbor Story](#))
  - "Acadia's Enduring Apple Trees," ([Acadia magazine](#), [Fall 2025](#))
  - Spend a "Day in the Life" with this summer's Wild Gardens of Acadia intern ([Instagram](#), [Facebook](#))
  - "Roots of Routes: the Evolution and Conservation of Acadia Trails," [by Grace Upham](#), [Schoodic Institute](#)
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Until next month,



*Header photo: The view from the summit of Bald Mountain in October 2025 (photo by Rhiannon Johnston/FOA).*



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