



## Dear Friends,

The Acadia region received its fair share of snowstorms in the past month. Though seemingly fleeting, the park was a winter wonderland for skiers and snowshoers—with one storm dumping more than a foot of snow, allowing for near-perfect grooming conditions.

This E-News includes a special thank you to Friends of Acadia volunteers and members from President David MacDonald, an update on the leadership transition, an introduction to new staff, and more.

## Thank You, Friends!

Please click the image below to watch a special video message from President and CEO David MacDonald.



## Friends of Acadia Leadership Transition

Although the search for the next President & CEO of Friends Acadia is very much on track, the Board of Directors expects there will be a gap between David MacDonald's departure in late March and the selection and start date of his successor. To ensure Friends of Acadia programs and partnerships do not miss a beat and provide continuity of leadership, the Board is pleased to announce that Stephanie Clement will serve as Interim President & CEO, starting next month.

Stephanie is well-known throughout the Friends of Acadia and park community, and she understands all aspects of our programs and operations from her 20+ years on the job as Conservation Director. Stephanie and David will work closely in the coming weeks to ensure a smooth transition, and both will be involved in the onboarding of the new president.



## Double Your Gift to Acadia in our Spring E-Challenge

Mark your calendar, Friends of Acadia's Spring E-Challenge is expected to arrive **in your inbox March 1st!** We know many of you love to give in our E-Challenges knowing your gift will be matched dollar for dollar, and your impact for Acadia doubled! Individual contributions will be leveraged by a group of generous donors who will match each donation until we meet our goal. Supporting the E-Challenge is a great way to celebrate Spring and the awakening of Acadia!



## Can You Host a Seasonal?

Like so many Mount Desert Island organizations and businesses, Friends of Acadia relies on seasonal employees to conduct important work in the park during the summer and fall seasons. The ability for these young people getting a start in their careers to find housing has become increasingly challenging as more units that were rented seasonally in the past have been converted to short-term weekly rentals.



If you or someone you know has seasonal housing available or might consider renting a room to one of Friends of Acadia's summer crew members, please contact Stephanie Ley at [stephley@friendsofacadia.org](mailto:stephley@friendsofacadia.org). Typically, our seasonal employees work June-August or June-November. Thank you for considering this very timely and important way to help Friends of Acadia's work in Acadia National Park.

## Earth Day Roadside Cleanup is Back!

After a two-year hiatus, we are excited to bring back the Earth Day Roadside Clean-up. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us April 30th. This year will be the 21st anniversary of the annual, island-wide event. Local community members and visitors from around the state gather to pick up a winter's worth of trash from the roadsides of Mount Desert Island and Trenton. Please visit the Friends of Acadia website or contact Stewardship Coordinator Nikki Burtis, at [nikki@friendsofacadia.org](mailto:nikki@friendsofacadia.org) or 207-288-3934 for more information.



## Say Hello to our New Staff

Friends of Acadia recently welcomed two new staff members! Nikki Burtis, who worked seasonally as the Stewardship Assistant in 2021, was promoted to the Stewardship Coordinator position at the beginning of this year. Lynn Verrill recently joined the staff as Administrative Assistant.



To learn more about everyone who helps Friends of Acadia run smoothly, please visit our website: <https://friendsofacadia.org/about-us/staff/>

## A New Phone System for the Times

We recently changed our office phone system to connect callers to the right contact person at our organization more seamlessly. Instead of all incoming phone calls going through a receptionist, you can now reach staff members directly by name or department. You can also [contact us via the Friends of Acadia website](#). Our primary office phone number remains the same at 207-288-3340.



Header Photo: Ice covers Thunder Hole. (Photo by Ashley L. Conti/Friends of Acadia)



**Why am I receiving this E-News?** You are in our database as a past or current donor or supporter of Friends of Acadia who has not opted out of email communications. If you do not want to receive our monthly email newsletter of updates and goings-on at Friends of Acadia and Acadia National Park, please use the unsubscribe button below. Thank you!

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

[Friends of Acadia](#)

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