



Dear Friends,

Spring is here! With sunshine and warmer days ahead, the weather is perfect for [hiking](#) or walking the [carriage roads](#). This week is National Park Week—a time to learn about and explore the beauty of our National Parks—what better way than to begin with our favorite, Acadia.

Acadia Quest Registration Now Open

As part of our National Park Week celebration, registration has officially opened for the 14th season of Acadia Quest—the experiential park scavenger hunt that inspires youth to explore Acadia National Park with their family and friends. Click [here](#) for more information and to register your family or group today.

[Register Now](#)

Acadia Opens for 2022 Season

Acadia National Park officially kicked off the 2022 season with the opening of the entire Park Loop Road, including Cadillac Summit Road, on April 15! Vehicle Reservations for Cadillac Summit Road are required from May 25 through Oct. 22, 2022. Learn more about park entrance passes and vehicle reservations [here](#).



The Hulls Cove Visitor Center opens May 6. Campgrounds and other park facilities will open throughout April and May. Learn more about [operating hours and seasons](#) at Acadia.

The fare-free Island Explorer bus system begins service on the Schoodic Peninsula on May 25, and service on MDI will begin on June 23. Masks are required on all buses and at all bus stops. See routes & learn more [here](#).

This will be another incredibly busy season at Acadia. Read the [Top 10 Tips for Visiting Acadia in 2022](#) to help plan your visit.

Last Chance to Register for Earth Day Roadside Cleanup

Time is running out to register for the 2022 Friends of Acadia Earth Day Roadside Cleanup. Registration closes, tomorrow, April 22. Please [click here](#) to complete your free registration or contact Stewardship Coordinator Nikki Burtis at nikki@friendsofacadia.org or 207-288-3934 for more information.



Salmon Pen Proposal for Frenchman Bay Dealt a Major Blow

On Tuesday, the Maine Department of Marine Resources terminated the permit for American Aquafarms' massive salmon farm in Frenchman Bay because the company failed to select a proper source for its fish eggs. The company can still submit an entirely new application but doing this would likely add extra years to the permitting process.



"The decision by the Maine Department of Marine Resources was a small victory and we are delighted by the news," said Stephanie Clement, Interim President and Conservation Director at Friends of Acadia. "This is a serious setback for American Aquafarms, but it is likely not the end of the proposal. There is still a lot of work to do."

Today, in response to the DMR's action, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection returned American Aquafarms' application for a waste discharge license. So, the application is basically dead in both Maine state departments, for now.

Learn more about the decision on our [website](#).

The Friends of Acadia Advocacy Committee will continue to monitor development and discuss strategies for defending Acadia against industrial size aquaculture. Stay tuned to E-News and the advocacy page on our website to learn more about recent developments and what you can do to help ensure our bay and its ecosystem are protected from this industrial threat.

Happy Mother's Day from FOA!

Friends of Acadia is offering Acadia-themed Mother's Day cards free of charge to all our members and friends. The cards can be printed at home or sent digitally. Click [here](#) to see all the beautiful cards.



Summer Events: Save the Dates

Friends of Acadia is excited to announce we will have in-person events again this year!

The **Annual Meeting** is at the Bar Harbor Club on **Wednesday, July 6 from 4-5 p.m.** Join other friends and community members to hear about our recent accomplishments and initiatives, get updates from the park, and meet our new President and CEO Eric Stiles.



The 33rd **Annual Benefit Auction** will take place in person at the Asticou Inn on **Saturday, August 13**. The evening will include a seated dinner and a Live Auction and Paddle Raise under the tent, while the Silent Auction will remain virtual. At the fun and fast-paced event, registrants can bid on incredible trips and experiences, artwork, jewelry, and a host of one-of-a-kind items—all to benefit our favorite park!

[Visit our website](#) for more details and to see the full events calendar.

Acadia Magazine: In Mailboxes Now!

The Winter/Spring issue of the Friends of Acadia Journal is now [online](#). Check out our features on the return of the Acadia Youth Conservation Corps, [life under the ice in a frozen pond](#), and a tribute to outgoing FOA President and CEO David MacDonald.

Want to receive the Journal? Join Friends of Acadia, and you'll receive our beautiful Acadia magazine three times per year. [Click here](#) to join or renew.



Header Photo: Cedar Waxwing (Photo by Ashley L. Conti/Friends of Acadia)



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