



Dear Friends,

With temperatures taking a turn for chilly this week, October has made her entrance. Bright reds and golds highlight Acadia mountainsides, and flocks of Canada Geese are announcing their presence with boisterous honks as they head south. Indigenous People's Day Weekend was one of the busiest on record in the park, with so many out enjoying Acadia's trails and carriage roads. No matter where you are, we hope you are out enjoying all of fall's splendor. Thank you for helping Friends of Acadia preserve and protect this amazing place.



Advocacy Alert: Opportunity for Public Comment on American Aquafarms Proposal

More than 50 people attended Friends of Acadia's virtual information session on the American Aquafarms salmon farm proposal, hosted in early October by Conservation Director Stephanie Clement. The most frequently asked question at the session was: "How can I help?" Here is the first of many opportunities for public comment and outreach.



The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will host a meeting for the public to comment on the wastewater discharge anticipated from the two 60-acre salmon farms proposed by American Aquafarms in Frenchman Bay. The meeting will be held via Zoom on **Thursday, October 28, 2021 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.** While this meeting is not part of the regulatory review, it is an important opportunity for Friends of Acadia's members to express their concerns about the more than 4 billion gallons of wastewater flowing from the proposed salmon farms each day.

To view the waste discharge applications from American Aquafarms and access the public meeting notice containing the Zoom link for the October 28 meeting, [click here](#).

If you are unable to attend the public meeting, written comments and questions may be submitted to the DEP through cindy.l.dionne@maine.gov. Keep an eye on the Friends of Acadia website, E-News, and social media to learn about future opportunities to get involved.

[More Information and Zoom Link](#)

Take Pride in Acadia Day Registration Now Closed

Event registration for this year's modified Take Pride in Acadia Day is now at full capacity and registration has closed. Thanks to all of those who pre-registered for the Nov. 6 event.



Like last year, this year's event has been modified to increase safety due to the lingering pandemic. The event will run at about 50% capacity, with groups meeting at work locations rather than park headquarters. We wish everyone could be included in our annual cleanup of the carriage roads, and we hope to resume the event at full capacity next year.

Thank You for Helping Us Set a Record!

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who donated to the Fall E-Challenge campaign held earlier this month. In Friends of Acadia's 35-year history, we don't think we've ever met a challenge campaign goal so quickly! In less than 12 hours, more than 90 generous donors helped us reach our \$20,000 goal. Thanks to your wonderful support, we have raised more than \$40,000 for Acadia National Park. These gifts will go directly toward our conservation mission to preserve and protect this very special place. We are truly overwhelmed with gratitude because of your enthusiastic support—thank you!



Didn't participate? You can still support Acadia by becoming a Friends of Acadia member or donating today! [Click here to donate](#).

Friends of Acadia has a New Website!

This past week, we launched our newly redesigned [website](#). The new site offers more visual content, storytelling, and material related to our programmatic priorities. The new homepage gives you options to navigate quickly to the information you are seeking, and you can read about our projects and priorities, easily navigating by topic or issue area, under [Our Impact](#).



Stay informed by following our [News section](#) which has all the top news and events from Friends of Acadia and the park. Peruse stories of people, places, and projects under [Stories of Acadia](#). And, you can join us and support our conservation work under [Membership & Giving](#). We invite you to check out the new website and let us know what you think. <https://friendsofacadia.org/>

Strategic Charitable Giving at Year-End

More than 38% of charitable gifts are given in the fourth quarter of the calendar year and sometimes it is hard to decide when and how to make a gift. Visit our new website at www.friendsofacadia.org/membership-giving/ to learn how to make a strategic year-end gift using appreciated stock, a qualified distribution from your retirement fund, a donor advised fund, or a cash gift.



For a deeper dive into the topic, visit our corporate partner William Blair's recent white paper on strategic giving, [here](#).

Summit Steward End-of-Season Presentation

Join the Friends of Acadia Summit Stewards as they recap their 2021 season and share personal highlights and observations from their work. Summit Stewards hike Acadia's trails and summits, answer visitor questions, conduct basic trail maintenance, repair cairns, remove visitor-built cairns and rock art, respond to emergencies, communicate with park managers, and collect data about weather, car and bus traffic, visitor use, and visitor behavior.



Save this link to participate in the Summit Stewards' final presentation Wednesday, October 27 at 12 pm: <https://friendsofacadia.zoom.us/j/81262857320>

The 2021 Acadia Digital Media Team hosted their final presentation in August. To watch a recording, click [here](#).

Header Photo: Fall Foliage on Dorr and Cadillac. (Photo by Ashley L. Conti/Friends of Acadia)



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