

# CLF NEW HAMPSHIRE

CONSERVATION LAW FOUNDATION



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For a thriving New England



**New Hampshire's majestic White Mountains, stunning lakes, rivers and coastal waters and its many historic town and city centers add up to an unparalleled quality of life. However, unchecked climate change and a business-as-usual approach to development jeopardize the many assets that make New Hampshire so special. CLF New Hampshire is committed to solving these problems.**

## Hot Topic:

### Northern Pass

CLF New Hampshire is actively engaged in the proposed Northern Pass project—a project that could have significant implications for the state's and region's energy future, and for New Hampshire's landscape, natural resources and communities. The billion-dollar proposal involves a 180-mile transmission line to transmit 1,200 megawatts of electricity from Hydro-Quebec in Canada into New England. CLF New Hampshire is actively watchdogging the project to ensure a fair, well-informed and rigorous permitting process, and to ensure that the project evolves in a way that is environmentally acceptable and moves us toward—and not away from—a clean energy future. Visit CLF's Northern Pass Information Center to learn more: <http://www.clf.org/northernpass/>.

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## The Challenges

New Hampshire has begun to feel the economic and environmental impacts of climate change, including more frequent and severe storms and warming temperatures. We also have lost forests, fields, wetlands and even a sense of community to low-density sprawl development. And, as in the case of the Seacoast region—where sprawl has led to a near-doubling of paved areas since 1990—scattered growth is degrading critically important water bodies. Fortunately, CLF is tackling the hard issues necessary to protect New Hampshire's people and places.

## The Solutions

### Building a Clean Energy Economy

As part of CLF's region-wide Coal-free New England campaign, we're working to transition New Hampshire away from dirty, inefficient coal power plants such as Merrimack Station in Bow—the Granite State's single largest source of greenhouse gas pollution. At the same time, we are promoting greater investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy. And our non-profit affiliate, CLF Ventures, is leading a statewide effort to help New Hampshire towns and cities reduce energy use and save money.

## Fighting for Clean Water

CLF is leading the charge to ensure the protection of our waters. With a particular focus on the sensitive and highly stressed Great Bay estuary, CLF New Hampshire is using federal laws to require appropriate regulation of the most significant sources of pollution—outdated sewage treatment facilities, and stormwater pollution associated with sprawl and heavily polluting industrial activity.

### Advancing Clean Transportation and Healthy Communities

CLF is advocating for policies and investments that end our reliance on ever-expanding highways and support clean, energy-efficient transportation, such as rail. Better planning and further investments in transit are essential to reducing global warming pollution and promoting vibrant, walkable communities, as opposed to car-driven sprawl.

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We feel lucky to live, work, and play in the Granite State, as we advocate solutions to the most significant challenges facing New Hampshire's communities and natural environment.

# KEY WORK

## Join CLF

Only with the support of our members are we able to engage in our critical work in New Hampshire. To become a member of CLF today, use the “Donate” button at CLF.org. You can also contact: Devon Parish, dparish@clf.org

## CLF NEW HAMPSHIRE

27 North Main Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
P: 603.225.3060  
F: 603.225.3059

## CONTACT

Tom Irwin  
Director, CLF New Hampshire  
(603) 225-3060  
tirwin@clf.org

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## CLF NEW HAMPSHIRE SUCCESS STORIES

Even before CLF New Hampshire opened its doors in 1997, CLF had important successes in the Granite State, including helping protect Franconia Notch from a proposed four-lane highway, and successfully making the case against the construction of a second unit at the Seabrook Nuclear Power Station.

Successes in more recent years include:



Photo credit: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### Securing needed protections for the Great Bay estuary

- We persuaded EPA to finally require Portsmouth’s sewage treatment plant—the largest on the Seacoast—to upgrade to more protective treatment levels.
- We secured designations under the Clean Water Act to provide the estuary greater regulatory protections.
- We persuaded EPA to require nitrogen pollution limits for the Exeter wastewater treatment plant.
- We obtained needed regulatory action to force the cleanup of toxic stormwater pollution from a major industrial operator adjacent to the Piscataqua River.
- In 2012, we established the Great Bay-Piscataqua WATER-KEEPER, NH’s first member of the Waterkeeper Alliance.

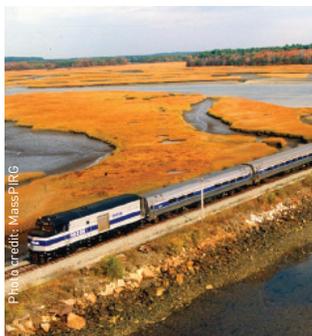


Photo credit: MassPIRG

### Promoting sensible transportation investments and vital communities

- We dramatically downscaled and reshaped a major highway project in Keene to be consistent with community character and avoid important wetlands.
- We prevented the construction of a new, unnecessary highway bypass through forests and wetlands in Troy.
- We developed a state law to promote the rehabilitation of downtown buildings.
- We led a region-wide effort to promote better regional rail coordination among the New England states and elected officials.



Photo credit: John Snell

### Advancing energy efficiency

- Our non-profit affiliate, CLF Ventures, is managing a project that in its first ten months has served over 35 percent of New Hampshire’s communities to assist in reducing energy consumption and costs.