

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 3, 2002

CONTACT: Anne Sharman, Media Affairs Specialist
Phone: (617) 523-0655 x321
asharman@amcinfo.org

AMC Hosts Fall Foliage Visitors

WHITE MOUNTAINS, N.H. - Imagine yourself, walking stick in hand, fallen leaves crunching beneath your feet, enjoying a cool afternoon amid a sea of vibrantly colored leaves in New Hampshire's White Mountains. Each year, visitors flock to the northern Appalachian region to enjoy the changing of the seasons and the spectacular fall foliage. For the past 176 years, the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) huts have provided a unique and magical view of the fall colors.

The huts provide a one-of-kind backcountry fall foliage adventure. The Zealand Falls Hut provides fantastic views of the changing leaves. An easy 2.8-mile hike from the trailhead puts you in the midst of a mixed-hardwood forest, perched on a ridge overlooking a scenic mountain notch. A waterfall blissfully falling just outside the hut door serves as a reminder that civilization is light years away. Inside Zealand Falls Hut, guests are treated to hearty, fresh meals, bread is baked the day it is served, and informative talks are provided by the hut crew and AMC naturalists.

If the hike to Zealand Falls Hut does not present enough of a physical challenge, there are seven other huts, spaced a day's hike apart, that offer fantastic fall foliage viewing from mid-September to mid-October, depending on the location.

The other huts, Lonesome Lake Hut, Greenleaf Hut, Galehead Hut, Lakes of the Clouds Hut, Mizpah Hut, Madison Spring Hut, and Carter Notch Hut, are located at different elevations providing a variety of views and hikes geared toward different skill levels. Hearty meals and friendly knowledgeable staff are part of the scenery at all of the huts.

The AMC also offers workshops designed to educate visitors about the flora and fauna of the region as well as outdoor skills and innovative conservation techniques. Visitors are encouraged to learn about Leave No Trace wilderness ethics, proper hiking etiquette and natural history in a number of guided walks and backcountry workshops. Knowledgeable AMC staff convene workshops which cover a range of outdoor skills and sports, from the most rudimentary to the most advanced skill levels.

For more information about AMC workshops and lodging for fall in the Appalachians, visit www.outdoors.org or contact Pinkham Notch Visitor Center at (603) 466-2727. AMC's programs and facilities are open to all, AMC members and non-members alike.

###