

## From now until September 30, 2018 - Lead a Trip for Conservation!

52 Weeks Campaign for Land Water Conservation Fund (#SaveLWCF)

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a visionary and bipartisan federal funding program for protecting our nation's most special places. From Sterling Forest in the New York Highlands, to White Cap Mountain in Maine, to the Appalachian National Scenic Trail, LWCF has funded the protection of some of our most iconic landscapes and trails in the Northeast.

In December of 2015, after briefly allowing the LWCF to expire, Congress reauthorized the Land and Water Conservation Fund for three years. Now the clock is ticking down once more, with just a year to go until LWCF expires again in September 2018. As a leader within the nationwide LWCF Coalition, AMC is calling on our elected officials to permanently reauthorize LWCF and provide full and permanent funding to unleash the true promise of this critically important conservation and recreation program.

## AMC Volunteer Leaders are Needed!

Countless AMC outdoor trips have been hosted in places protected by this program, many of which may still be private property or would have been lost to development if not for LWCF. But one reason LWCF is threatened with expiration is that most people do not know its role in protecting the places they love. So this year we are shining a light on this unsung hero of conservation!

Over the next 52 weeks, through September 30, 2018, AMC and our LWCF Coalition partners will celebrate and feature every place that we can that has benefited from LWCF funding. This is a great opportunity for AMC Leaders to take people outside to these places, share what they know about LWCF with their participants, and encourage people to communicate with their elected leaders about permanent reauthorization of the fund.

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### Call to Action:

1. Schedule at least one trip on LWCF protected land between now and September 2018 and *read the LWCF overview for AMC trips included below*. This document includes a list of places to help you get started!
2. Share announcements of your trip and photographs on social media using the hashtags: #OutdoorCitizen and #SaveLWCF.
3. Encourage participants to speak up by going to the Action Center on Outdoors.org and sending a letter on LWCF to their Members of Congress. We have drafted a sample letter to get them started. We will also be keeping our #SaveLWCF webpage up to date with current news, events and ways to get involved:  
<https://www.outdoors.org/volunteer/conservation-volunteers>





## **Trip Talk Introduction to the Land and Water Conservation Fund 52 Weeks Initiative**

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Today, we are hiking/biking/paddling on public lands (waters) that were protected or improved with federal funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund or LWCF. Most people are not aware of the huge impacts of this little-known program, so they don't know what's at stake when the program is under threat in Congress.

For 52 years, the Land and Water Conservation Fund has provided funding for protecting special places in every corner of the country. It funds land protection and trail rights of way at our national parks, forests, refuges, trails, and even battlefields, and provides grants for our states to use for land protection as well as trail development and other improvements at state and local parks, trails, beaches, and playgrounds.

The funding for LWCF comes from a small portion of the federal revenues obtained from offshore oil and gas development, and neatly offsets the resource extraction impacts by funding conservation.

*(Leader can insert details about LWCF funding for the place and any additional knowledge or add some information from the 'Additional Details' section below.)*

AMC is a leader in the national Land and Water Conservation Fund Coalition and is joining with our partners over 52 weeks to call on our elected officials in Washington, D.C. to fully fund and reauthorize the program before it expires in September of 2018.

You can help support this important conservation funding program by sharing your photos from today's outing online with the hashtag #SaveLWCF. You can also go to AMC's website, [Outdoors.org](http://www.outdoors.org) and send a letter to your Members of Congress in support of the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Advancing AMC's conservation mission wouldn't be possible without your help.

Learn more and take action: <https://www.outdoors.org/volunteer/conservation-volunteers>

## Examples of places protected by the Land and Water Conservation Fund Listings are Organized from North to South

(Find more at <http://gis.tws.org/LWCF/> and at <https://www.lwcfcoalition.com/tools/>)

| State         | Park/Unit                                | Year              | Dollars                         | Purpose                                    |
|---------------|--|-------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Maine         | Acadia National Park                     | 2016              | \$2.5 million                   | Acquisition of Additional Land (shoreline) |
| Maine         | Katahdin Iron Works                      | 2007              | \$232,000                       | Acquisition                                |
| Maine         | Grafton Notch State Park                 | 1967              | \$50,000                        | Acquisition & Development                  |
| New Hampshire | Franconia Notch State Park               | 1967, 1984 & 2004 | \$1 million+                    | Acquisition & Development                  |
| New Hampshire | Crotched Mountain                        | 2012              | \$1.8 million                   | Acquisition (1,200 acres)                  |
| New Hampshire | Monadnock State Park                     | 2008              | \$700,000                       | Acquisition and Rec. Access                |
| Vermont       | Worcester Woods WMA                      | 2016              | \$4 million                     | Acquisition (working forest)               |
| Vermont       | Green River Reservoir State Park         | 2013              | \$2.5 million (total from LWCF) | Acquisition                                |
| Vermont       | Camel's Hump State Park                  | 1971              | \$400,000                       | Acquisition                                |
| Massachusetts | Appalachian Trail Corridor               | 1984              | \$627,000                       | Acquisition                                |
| Massachusetts | Boston Harbor Islands NRA                | 1978              | \$360,000                       | Acquisition                                |
| Massachusetts | Cape Cod National Seashore               | 1982              | \$2 million                     | Acquisition                                |
| Rhode Island  | John H. Chafee National Wildlife Refuge  | 2007              | \$900,000                       | Acquisition                                |
| Rhode Island  | Mount Tom Trail, Arcadia Management Area | 2004              | \$270,000                       | Acquisition                                |
| Rhode Island  | Clay Head Nature Trail, Block Island     | 1984              | \$900,000                       | Acquisition & Development                  |
| Connecticut   | Hammonasset Beach State Park             | 1983 & 2011       | \$3.1 million                   | Visitor & Nature Centers                   |
| Connecticut   | People's State Forest                    | 2010              | \$500,000                       | Development                                |

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB  
52 WEEKS LAND WATER CONSERVATION FUND



|              |  |             |                |                           |
|--------------|--|-------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Connecticut  | Towner Hill  | 2008        | \$250,000      | Acquisition               |
| Connecticut  | Stewart McKinney NWR                                   | 2010        | \$2 million    | Acquisition               |
| New York     | Huntersfield Ridge-Ginseng Mountain Long Path corridor | 2004        | \$185,000      | Acquisition               |
| New York     | Sterling Forest State Park                             | 1998        | \$17.5 million | Acquisition               |
| New York     | Gore Mountain and Whiteface Mountain                   | 1977        | \$2.3 million  | Acquisition & Development |
| New Jersey   | Ramapo Mountain State Forest                           | 1996        | \$1 million    | Acquisition               |
| New Jersey   | Appalachian Trail Corridor                             | 1983        | \$500,000      | Acquisition               |
| New Jersey   | Edwin B. Forsythe NWR                                  | 2012        | \$500,000      | Acquisition               |
| Pennsylvania | Cherry Valley NWR/<br>Appalachian Trail                | 2017        | \$2.2 million  | Acquisition               |
| Pennsylvania | Nockamixon State Park                                  | 1978        | \$5.5 million  | Development               |
| Pennsylvania | Lehigh Gorge State Park                                | 1981        | \$675,000      | Acquisition               |
| Maryland     | Patapsco Valley State Park                             | 1985        | \$3.8 million  | Development               |
| Maryland     | Patuxent State Park                                    | 1985        | \$3.75 million | Acquisition               |
| Maryland     | Catoctin Mountain Park                                 | 2012        | \$1 million    | Acquisition               |
| Virginia     | Mason Point and Leesylvania State Parks                | 1972 & 1985 | \$4 million    | Acquisition               |
| Virginia     | Appalachian Trail Corridor                             | 1980        | \$100,000      | Acquisition               |
| Virginia     | George Washington - Jefferson NF                       | 2016        | \$2 million    | Acquisition               |



### **Additional Details about the Land and Water Conservation Fund:**

LWCF works to create parks and open spaces, protect wilderness, wetlands, and refuges, preserve wildlife habitat, and enhance recreational opportunities for everyone. It "authorizes" (but does not require) Congress to spend up to \$900 million annually to conserve lands, forests, and trails across the nation.

Since 1964, federal agency projects and a variety of state grants through LWCF have helped to fund over 40,000 athletic and playing fields, 12,000 miles of hiking trails, 20,000 family picnic locations, 5,500 campgrounds, 10,000 swimming and boating facilities, and 600 hunting and nature areas. The LWCF is responsible for protecting many of our greatest national parks; from the California Redwoods, to the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, to Acadia National Park.

Many of AMC's leaders and members—whether they realize it or not-- love to recreate in places that were protected by the LWCF, from Gateway National Recreation Area in New York City to the White Mountains in New Hampshire, to local state parks and trails in every state where we work. So please help us connect these places with the critical funding source they rely on, so all our outdoor citizens know what is at stake if Congress fails to reauthorize LWCF.