

## SUNAPEE-RAGGED-KEARSARGE GREENWAY

The Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge (SRK) Greenway Coalition has planned summer walks and hikes both on and off the Greenway trail. The purpose of the hikes is to see and enjoy our part of New Hampshire. Please contact the leader for start time and location. Ample water and snacks are essential, as are good walking shoes or boots.

Greenway guidebooks are available at local book stores. The SRK Greenway Coalition is a ten-town, all-volunteer non-profit organization with members throughout the SRK region and beyond. For more details see SRKG.com.

### August Hikes

Sunday, August 10: Brent Scudder (763-0187). Visit the Newport Town Forest. Hike from Coit Peak and The Pinnacle south to the high school. 3 miles. (E)

Saturday, August 16: Ralph Spofford

(526-6568). Climb three small mountains overlooking Newfound Lake via the Elwell and Bear Mtn trails. 5 miles. Meet locally and car pool to the trailhead.. (M)

Sunday, August 17: Art Robbins (927-4377). A morning walk on Class 6 and town sections of historic Old Province Road, arriving at Sutton's Old Home Day celebration. 5 miles. (E)

Friday, August 22: Ann and Marc Davis (927-4596). In Springfield, join Ann and Marc for another late summer hike to a different section of their property "Woods Without Gile." Cookies and lemonade to follow hike. (E to M)

Saturday, August 23: Dave Cook (526-9057). "Hypotenuse Hike": From Great Brook in New London through Wilmot Flat to Winslow Site below Mt. Kearsarge, using SRK trails and town roads. 10 miles. (D)

## Deer Season Dates Announced

New Hampshire's deer hunting seasons have been established for this fall, and the outlook is generally good in spite of the challenging winter of 2007-2008.

General New Hampshire deer season dates for 2008 are:

Archery: Sep 15 - Dec 15

Muzzleloader: Nov 1 - Nov 11

Regular Firearms: Nov 12 - Dec 7

Youth: Oct 25, 26

For full details of the upcoming New Hampshire deer season, listed by WMU, visit [Wildlife.State.NH.US/Hunting/Hunt\\_species/hunt\\_deer.htm](http://Wildlife.State.NH.US/Hunting/Hunt_species/hunt_deer.htm).

New Hampshire's youth deer weekend will take place on Saturday and Sunday, October 25 and 26. The youth deer hunt weekend is a special chance for young hunters (age 15 and younger) to hunt under the guidance of a licensed hunter over age 18.

A change this year is that non-resident youth hunters may participate only if New Hampshire youth can hunt during special youth deer hunts in their state. Currently, Vermont is the only adjoining state without reciprocity. Last year's youth deer hunt resulted in a statewide harvest of 642 deer.

### Prospects For The Season

The impact of the cold, snowy winter on parts of the deer herd in New Hampshire suggests that 2008 may not be a record-setting season like last year. New Hampshire's 2007 hunter harvest of 13,559 deer was the second highest since record keeping began in 1922 – exceeded only by a harvest of 14,204 in 1967 – according to Kent Gustafson, Deer Project Leader for the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department.

"In a lot of the state, we should still see a good season in 2008. Last winter had the least impact on southern New Hampshire and the western part of the state," said Gustafson. "Other parts of the state, especially the more northern areas, were harder hit, and we've taken steps to help the herd recover from the effects of a winter that was more severe than usual!"

Measures continue to be in place in the far north in WMU A to try to increase the number of older-age bucks in the population and harvest. As was the case last year in WMU A, both the regular firearm and archery seasons will end one week early, and the muzzleloader season is shortened by two days at the beginning of the season. In addition, a 2-point antler restriction applies in WMU A for all seasons (except youth weekend). Under this restriction, a buck must have at least 2 points (1 inch or longer) on one side to be legal.

Information about hunting in New Hampshire, including seasons for other species, can be found at [Wildlife.State.NH.US/Hunting/hunting.htm](http://Wildlife.State.NH.US/Hunting/hunting.htm).



Maureen Bresland sent this photo of an ermine (also known as a short-tailed weasel when it's wearing its brown and white summer coat) that visited her suet feeder at Bradley Lake last winter. She only saw it the one time, but it seemed to really enjoy the high-calorie snack on a cold winter day.

# Bluewater Farm Summer Picnic and Homemade Boat Regatta

Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>

3-6 pm

*Race to the "Island" and back for the Pirates Treasure  
(our tropical island will be anchored about 150 yards from shore)*



*Rules:*

1. *You may enter as a team or by yourself*
2. *Your boat cannot have been a boat in a former life*
3. *It must be powered by non-motorized means*
4. *It must be able to float and not sink or dissolve in the water*
5. *ALL participants must wear life preservers, no exceptions!*

*(Bluewater has lots available in all sizes)*

*This event is free to the public -  
All are welcome!*

*We will be serving hamburgers, hotdogs, fried dough, watermelon ice and simple summer food.*

*For more information or to register your boat, call 735-5159*

*You may register the day of the race.*