



NH Animal Rights League

New Hampshire Animal Rights League Newsletter

July 2014

NHARL
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HB1579 is Becoming Law; A Small But Significant Achievement

Previously called Andrew's Bill, designed to restrict recreational fur trapping in NH, this legislation is now just called HB1579 and was amended in the House Fish and Game and Marine Resources Committee and in the Senate Environmental and Natural Resources Committee. It increases the penalty for killing a domestic animal in an illegal trap. It will also require a trapper who hasn't had a trapping license in the past three years to attend and pass a trapper education course before being able to get another license. HB1579 passed the full House and the full Senate and will become law.

We argued that Andrew's Bill was not just about illegal traps and that legal traps are also responsible for killing and maiming domestic animals, as well as other non-targets. Although we are disappointed we didn't get everything we wanted it is still an accomplishment to get any bill to do with trapping to pass in NH. We would like to thank all of our supporters and especially our sponsors. We have some good people in our state government, who truly care about animals, and we are looking forward to working with them again.

NH Citizens Against Trapping

We still have a lot of work to do to help animals caught in cruel traps. While working on HB1579, to restrict fur traps, we focused on domestic animals and non-targets but many targeted animals would be helped also if we can end trap use. It will happen someday; it is just a matter of time. And with some hard work from us it will happen sooner.

Please continue to sign and share our petition at www.tinyurl.com/nhcatpetition and follow us on Twitter @NHCAT2014. We also have a Facebook page www.tinyurl.com/nhcatfacebook and a website www.nhcat2014.org. We learn from each experience, and we will be better and bigger in 2015 and in subsequent years.

Gentle Thanksgiving and NHARL Election 2013

Held once again at that Marion Gerrish Community Center in Derry we had over 40 in attendance. (We may need a bigger room this November). The dessert table was overflowing with delicious pies, cupcakes, cookies, and anything else your sweet tooth might desire. There were even vegan donuts to try. NHARL provided the various types of plant-based "roasts" and everyone filled the tables with all the fixin's, too many to mention.

Afterwards we held the annual NHARL member meeting. This is open to anyone and many people stayed for the meeting. Emily Murphy hosted and first up the newly elected board was announced and congratulated. The discussion included the continuing campaign to restrict fur trapping in NH and new member Helen Tam-Semmens spoke about a Fur-Free Friday protest she would coordinate. Many of us attended this protest held in Manchester at the Mall of NH. The annual member meeting is a great opportunity for members and supporters to ask any questions or bring up any concerns about animals. We welcome this opportunity to speak with you. If you can't attend or if you have any questions or concerns throughout the year, please write or give us a call at 603-377-0225.

Legislation

Dear NHARL Friends,

Here is a roundup of the final outcomes of animal related bills in the 2014 New Hampshire Legislature. We had a couple of wins, a couple of disappointments, and defeated several really bad bills...

HB 110, the "ag-gag bill", left over from 2013 was TABLED

HB 1578, relative to record keeping for transferred animals, was sent back to Committee for INTERIM STUDY

HB 1178, relative to the sale of animals from animal shelters, PASSED in the House, but was ITLed(defeated) in the Senate

HB 1179, relative to health certificates, ITL

HB 1568, relative to service animals, signed by the Governor, 5/27/2014

HB 1579, as amended, increasing fines for violation of trapping laws, PASSED and ENROLLED (waiting for action by Governor)

HB 1410, giving animals protection under domestic violence protection orders, PASSED AND ENROLLED

HB 1598, creating an animal friendly license plate, ITL

HB 1451, establishing a Canine Veteran's Day (March 13), PASSED and ENROLLED

HB 1492, relative to fines for unlicensed dogs, ITL

HB 1295, relative to the definition of livestock, signed by the Governor, 6/11/2014



NHARL Board member Julia Sinclair giving testimony for Andrew's Bill, HB 1579, in Representative's Hall.

HB 1495, repealing the prohibition on silencing devices for taking of wildlife, ITL
 SB 337, prohibiting deer baiting on public lands, PASSED in Senate, ITL in House
 SB 407, relative to wolf hybrids, INTERIM STUDY

This November every New Hampshire legislator, and the Governor, will be up for re-election. There will be some dramatic changes in both the House and the Senate, as several key legislators are retiring, including House Speaker Terri Norelli, and at least four Senators. Now is the time to find out who is running in your town, and to ask for their positions on animal related issues. I've just sent cards to all legislators who sponsored or co-sponsored animal-friendly legislation in 2014, to thank them for their efforts, and would suggest that others do the same.

A good summer to all,
 Jean

This Newsletter

Due to time constraints, and all the necessary work needed for the animals, this newsletter publication was held up. We know how important it is for us to communicate with our members and supporters so we sincerely apologize for the delay.

NH Citizens Against Trapping

Volunteers are needed for the NHCAT work. Attending meetings, tabling, collecting petition signatures, help with fundraising, and much more. Please contact Linda at lindld6@gmail.com to volunteer. Thanks!

Donation Request to Save Some Beavers While Preventing Flooding

The NHARL is engaging in a new project to save some beavers and beaver ponds. The money total needed to raise for this project is \$2500. This money will enable us to hire an expert "beaver deceiver" installer. (more info in the article below, *Contest to Win a Free "Beaver Deceiver"*)

Press releases will be sent out to get statewide media coverage of the installation. This successful installation will get people talking about this option of saving beavers and their ponds, rather than the current method of cruelly trapping and destroying the beaver and their dams. Someday this animal/environmental friendly method of beaver management will be the preferred method.

Beaver flow devices (beaver deceivers, etc.) allow beavers to keep their pond while preventing flooding of surrounding property. Beaver created ponds are essential for a healthy environment. They are home to many wildlife species, act like sponges during heavy rainfall, and filter and clean the groundwater. <http://www.beaversww.org/beavers-and-wetlands/>

The NHARL is a non-profit public charity and your donation is tax deductible. We will send you a receipt along with some fun facts about beavers and helpful advice on how to, for example, protect favorite trees. For more information please check out our website www.nhanimalrights.org or write us an email if you have any questions.

Thank you very much for your help with this project. Together we can change the world for this very important keystone species. Checks can be made out to NHARL and are tax deductible. Please note "beaver deceiver" in the memo line to designate the funds for this project only. If you prefer to make an online donation we have set up a Go Fund Me account here: www.gofundme.com/amj0bg

** The cost of installing flow devices is often not this costly. Not knowing yet where or what the installation will involve we have a high estimate, as we would rather have more money than not enough. Any money not used will be put toward a future installation.*

Contest to Win a Free "Beaver Deceiver"

Did you know beaver ponds are a vital habitat for great blue herons, osprey, kingfishers, mink, otters, and muskrat? Do you have or know of a property in NH that easily floods due to a beaver dam? Have you tried many solutions only to have the beavers return and rebuild? Do you wish you could live harmoniously with beavers and also eliminate flooding and property damage? Then enter our contest to win a free "Beaver Deceiver".

This contest will determine the location of the installation of a beaver flow device (beaver deceiver, etc) when we receive the necessary funds (approximately \$2,500). The landowner, or someone on behalf of the landowner, who owns the property where the problem is occurring may enter the contest. This could be the town Conservation Commission, the Department of Public Works for a town, or a private landowner.

We ask that entries submit a description of the problem, the location, and a picture if available. If you know of someone having an issue with a beaver dam, ask them to enter the contest. Entries can be mailed to PO Box 4211, Concord 03302, or sent through email at: nhanimalrightsleague@gmail.com

Expert installer and Beaver Deceiver inventor Skip Lisle, who will be hired to do the installation, may also help us determine the winner of the contest. <http://www.beaverdeceivers.com/>

**Deadline for contest entries is September 1, 2014.*

Some of our Past Events

Discover Wild NH Day

April 17-This was the annual Earth Day Event of the NH Fish and Game Department and NHARL had a booth. We have done this before but this is the first time we signed up under our name. How's that for progress, an animal rights booth at NH Fish and Game headquarters in Concord. At our booth we promoted kind treatment of wildlife that was especially directed at children. We created a game where children are asked to match some small finger puppets with their habitat. We also had an activity game about saving wildlife from those plastic rings that are still used as can and bottle beverage holders. The kids had fun at our booth and so did we. Fish and Game reported they had 3,500 attendees so, as you can imagine, it was a very busy day.

NH VegFest

May 3-The 2nd annual NH VegFest held at Manchester Community College was also a fun event for everyone. There was food, vendors, speakers, free yoga and tai chi, meditation, music, and a children's play area. Food samples were given out and there was also vegan food for sale. Susty's Café, a vegan restaurant located in Northwood, sponsors this event.

Our busy season of outdoor tabling events began in May at the "Walk on the Wildside" fundraising dog walk of the Upper Valley Humane Society in Lebanon. (The UVHS facility is located in Enfield) A couple of weeks later we tabled at the Cocheco Valley Humane Society dog walk fundraiser. We hope we helped these worthy organizations a little by participating. Many more tabling events are planned, until the end of the season which is usually in early October. If anyone would like to volunteer for any tablings or other activities please let us know by writing nhanimalrightsleague@gmail.com or calling 603-377-0225. Thank you to everyone for your continued support. Everything you do to help is greatly appreciated.

Your membership and financial help is much needed and appreciated.

___ \$20.00 Regular member, age 15 or over.

___ \$5.00 Student member, Senior member, Junior member, (age 14 and under).

___ \$200.00 Life member, for self and spouse.

\$_____ Sponsor/Donor who wants to support NHARL, without being a member.

\$_____ Additional Donation.

\$_____ Total. **THANK YOU!**

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

The NHARL is registered as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Bequests in your will are a good way to make sure your advocacy for animals is remembered. Thanks Greatly.

Upcoming Events

July 7 Bristol, Kelly Miller Circus Protest 6 to 7:30

July 9 Hillsborough, Kelly Miller Circus Protest 3:30 to 5 PM and again at 6 to 7 PM.

July 17-19 Vending Concord Market Days Festival

July 27 Summer Vegan Picnic at Odiorne State Park Bring a vegan potluck dish to share and NHARL will provide the Susty's sandwiches. Begins at 1pm. For more information: <http://www.meetup.com/vegan-204/>

Below are presentations by other organizations that we think may be of interest to you. Some of us will be attending so contact us if you would like to carpool.

July 17 Moultonborough, 7:30pm, Coyote Presentation by Fish and Game biologist Kris Rines <http://www.loon.org/summer-talks.php>

Sept 12 Merrimack, 1-4pm Learning to Live With Beavers by the Merrimack Conservation Commission. <http://tinyurl.com/wildinnh>

NHARL Yard Sales

We will be doing a few yard sales to get funds for the beaver deceiver project. If anyone has any items they would like to donate please let us know. The yard sales will be held in July and August.