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[www.elrc.org](http://www.elrc.org)

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# JOURNAL

## Serving the Needs of Land Professionals July 2007

*This newsletter is produced through a partnership between the Bureau of Land Management-Eastern States and the Eastern Lands and Resources Council.*

*Ohio's Department of Natural Resources will be hosting the upcoming Fall 2007 Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC) Conference in Cambridge, Ohio, September 23-27, 2007. See [schedule of events and registration details](#) inside...*

### Join Us for the Fall 2007 ELRC Conference in Ohio!

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources will host the ELRC Fall 2007 Conference from Sunday, September 23 through Thursday, September 27, in Cambridge, Ohio, at the Salt Fork Resort and Conference Center—one of Ohio's "premier" State Park Lodges. The park facility offers the serenity of 20,000 acres of hills and hollows, endless deer, birds, flowers, and the 3,000-acre Salt Fork Lake for quiet times and scenic views. Also available for your use is the 18-hole championship golf course, or you can take a stroll through the woods along miles of hiking trails.



**Salt Fork golf pond and sand traps at the beautiful resort in Cambridge, Ohio.**

During the conference, we will discuss cooperative methods of blending the need to explore our natural resources for energy and the use of the lands for wildlife habitat and parks. Activities will include visits to nearby areas, such as:

\* American Electric Power (AEP), which has ongoing operations of surface strip mining and power plant operations using the most modern technologies and experimentation with flue gas desulphurization (fgd) processing and using the sludge to reclaim previously mined lands;

*Continued on page 2*

# Message from the ELRC President...



Dear Friends,

Global climate change is one of the topics that has progressed to the forefront, both nationally and internationally. In fact, it was discussed at this year's Joint Spring 2007 Conference in Washington, D.C. State governments, as well as the U.S. Congress, are now addressing the issues and challenges (i.e., greenhouse gas emissions, renewable energy, energy efficiency, etc.) on a customary basis. Perhaps now is the time to ask ourselves questions, such as "What can we do to aid in the effort?" And, "What will we do?" We invite you to attend several upcoming conferences, noted in this newsletter, where topics such as global climate change among other lands and resources issues will be discussed. And, if you would like to become an ELRC member, please do not hesitate to contact us.

The ELRC provides a collaborative forum for enhancing conservation and land stewardship. Together, we can learn from each other as we seek to find solutions to not only the challenges presented by global climate change, but for many other issues.

Through the years, we have fostered communication and collaboration and resolved a variety of eastern issues with our partner, the BLM-Eastern States. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Michael Nedd, former BLM-Eastern States State Director, who has provided outstanding BLM leadership while working with the ELRC since 2002, when the BLM and the ELRC signed a memorandum of understanding, officially becoming partners. We hope to continue working with Mike at the BLM's Headquarters Office, where he now serves as Assistant Director, Minerals, Realty & Resource Protection. In the meantime, Barron Bail will serve as Acting State Director until a new State Director is appointed.

A couple of changes within the ELRC Officers include the retirement of Bill Brice, former ELRC Treasurer from the State of Minnesota, who provided excellent service for a number of years, and the addition of the newly elected ELRC Treasurer, John Titus, from the State of Maine—welcome!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynda Godfrey".

Lynda Godfrey, ELRC President

## The ELRC

...fostering responsible public land management policies for tomorrow

The ELRC is an organization comprised of highly trained public land professionals in the eastern United States which provides a collaborative and unique forum for enhancing land stewardship and conservation.

The ELRC fosters communication, strengthens professional development, and promotes sound policies and practices among those involved in the management and administration of public lands, records, and natural resources.

For more information, write:  
Lynda Godfrey, Bureau Chief, Land Acquisition,  
State Lands  
Florida Department of Environmental Protection  
Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building  
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, M.S. 115  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000  
E-mail: [lynda.godfrey@dep.state.fl.us](mailto:lynda.godfrey@dep.state.fl.us) or call  
Lynda at (850) 245-2669

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### *ELRC's Fall 2007 Conference...continued from page 1*

\* The ReCreation Lands of the AEP, The Wilds, which is a prime example of how a property can be reclaimed from years of strip mining activity to a 10,000-acre conservation preserve. Here, we will enjoy dinner and a sunset tour to view large groups of Asian, African and North American wildlife;

\* The historical Roscoe Village, which has been fully restored to its authentic era of the canal days along the Ohio and Erie Canal; and

\* Other selected State facilities managed by the Divisions of Wildlife and Parks and Recreation that have benefited by the reuse of these mineral explored lands. We will also discuss ways to work cooperatively with conservation organizations to restore these lands to their natural habitats.

Please bring your families and enjoy some Ohio hospitality before or after the conference.

Contact: Lynne Stein, Real Estate Administrative Assistant,  
Division of Real Estate and Land Management, Ohio  
Department of Natural Resources, (614) 265-6649;  
E-mail: [Lynne.Stein@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Lynne.Stein@dnr.state.oh.us)

# Highlights of the Joint Spring 2007 ELRC/WSLCA Conference



**Federal and State lands and minerals managers convened for the Joint Spring 2007 ELRC/WSLCA Conference held in Washington, D.C. to share information, ideas, and similar efforts going on in their States.**

Federal and State lands and resources managers from across the country met in Washington, D.C., from March 25-28, for another outstanding Joint Spring Conference hosted by the Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC) and the Western States Land Commissioners Association. The weather was great, and the cherry blossoms were spectacular.

This year's theme, "New Challenges for State and Federal Public Land Managers," drew together not only a large group of lands and

resources managers, but also land conservancy officers, lawyers, consultants, researchers, and representatives from private organizations. They heard discussions on a variety of issues related to real estate and minerals development.

Luncheon speakers included DOI Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management C. Stephen Allred and USDA Forest Service Deputy Chief Joel Holtrop.

Other guest speakers included BLM's Deputy Director Henri Bisson who discussed some of BLM's initiatives related to lands and resources management, BLM Wyoming State Director Bob Bennett, BLM-Eastern States Associate State Director Barron Bail, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Director H. Dale Hall, and U.S. Forest Service representatives.

Other topics of discussion included new approaches to the Endangered Species Act; impacts of producing cellulosic ethanol; strategies for addressing climate change; new challenges for land conservation; conservation in large-scale development transactions; understanding and reaching small forest landowners; coordinating Federal land conservation grants to States; challenges for land conservation; and Federal land transaction proposals.

To conclude the conference, Friends of the National Zoo Executive Director Robert Lamb gave an informative talk to conferees who then enjoyed a tour of the new Asian Trail at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C.

The BLM-Eastern States and the ELRC began their association in 1983 and became official partners in 2002. Together both groups work toward the development and promotion of sound Federal and State public land management policies in the East.



**The DOI's Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals Management, C. Stephen Allred, provided remarks about the Department's Healthy Lands Initiative, the impacts of energy production, drought and the upcoming fire season, and invasive weeds.**

*Contact: Terry Lewis, BLM-Eastern States, External Affairs Chief, (703) 440-1712; E-mail: terry\_lewis@es.blm.gov; Article and photos by Peggy Riek, BLM-Eastern States, Writer-Editor, External Affairs Office, (703) 440-1716; E-mail: peggy\_riek@es.blm.gov*

# *What's Happening in YOUR State?*

## **Michigan's Multi-agency Rail-Trail Initiative**

Michigan has over 1,400 miles of rail-trail corridor, just part of an extensive State trail system acquired by purchase and gift through a broad array of public and private interests. Facing growing legal and funding challenges, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Department of Transportation (MDOT), at the direction of both department directors, are working to develop a stronger, unified strategy for trail acquisition, development, and management. This collaboration was bolstered in 2006 when Governor Granholm announced her vision of a statewide network of interconnected trails.

Major accomplishments of this partnership include:

1. A joint DNR/MDOT report entitled, *Michigan Trails at the Crossroads: a Vision for Connecting Michigan*. This report references work on rail-trails in Maryland, North Carolina, and by several Federal agencies.

2. Creation of a "Michigan Trailways Team Room" in the State's intranet system in which documents, scanned Val maps, court filings, rulings, deeds and other materials are stored for access and retrieval by members of the team. This is a valuable repository for documents related to ongoing litigation. Student assistants are creating notebooks for over 50 trail corridors, containing purchase documents, deeds, lease records, and other resources for ready reference.

3. Active participation from the State Office of the Attorney General (OAG), to lay the groundwork for a coordinated approach to preserving former rail corridors for future transportation use, with provision for interim trail use.

4. Adoption by the Michigan Transportation Commission of a new policy clarifying the role of MDOT in acquiring rail corridors for public purposes.

5. Approval for MDOT to acquire a 40-mile long rail corridor in the central Lower Peninsula using the newly approved policy. The corridor

is being acquired by MDOT using Federal Transportation Enhancement Funds, with a matching grant from the DNR using the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund. Title to the corridor will be held by MDOT and managed by the DNR for recreational trail purposes, with the assistance of local units of government and private partners. This model will serve to strengthen the State of Michigan's title in these corridors and further the intent of the State Transportation Preservation Act (aka "State Rail-banking" Act).

6. Development of a Memorandum of Understanding between the departments to define responsibilities and goals for joint efforts to acquire and manage State-owned corridors.

7. Coordination on research and support to the Office of Attorney General on litigation in two specific areas: a) where the DNR or MDOT are defendants; and b) where the DNR or MDOT are filing actions to defend the State's ownership investment

The initiative has provided an opportunity for attorneys from several divisions of the OAG to share information and legal resources. This increased collaboration will result in increased efficiency and enhanced legal services for both departments.

Contact: Roger Storm, Trailways Specialist, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, OLAF, (517) 335-3258, or [stormr@michigan.gov](mailto:stormr@michigan.gov). The report, "Michigan Trails at the Crossroads: a Vision for Connecting Michigan," is downloadable from the DNR Web site at [http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/DNR\\_Trail\\_Report2-6-07\\_188399\\_7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/DNR_Trail_Report2-6-07_188399_7.pdf)

***Please note:***

***This is the last time the ELRC Journal newsletter will be printed.***

***In the future, please visit the ELRC's Web site at [www.elrc.org](http://www.elrc.org) to view articles from the ELRC members.***

# Virginia's 400th Anniversary Celebration Includes Gains in Land Conservation

In conjunction with the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the landing of English settlers at Jamestown, Virginia's Department of Conservation and Recreation announced the establishment of the Captain John Smith Trail along the York River near Williamsburg. The new trail includes 36 recreation sites, historic places and museums, some of which can only be accessed by boat. Trail maps are now available from the Department or via the Web site [www.johnsmith-trail.org](http://www.johnsmith-trail.org). These are the first maps developed for the newly designated Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail.

In late June, Governor Timothy M. Kaine announced the completion of Norfolk Southern's donation of a 31-mile abandoned rail line in four counties of Southside Virginia, bringing the rail line a giant step closer to becoming the new High Bridge Trail State Park. The bridge itself is 2,400 feet long and towers 160 feet above the Appomattox River, and was the site of one of the last battles of the Civil War.

"High Bridge will be the centerpiece of this new State Park, and Norfolk Southern's generous donation

of this unused rail line has been highly anticipated and is greatly appreciated," Governor Kaine said. "People in communities surrounding the rail-to-trail are excited to see this historic and scenic resource protected. Thanks to Norfolk Southern, it also will serve as a 'must see' attraction, drawing visitors to this area, and enhancing the health of the region's environment, economy, and people."

Also in June, Governor Kaine announced the award of Virginia Land Conservation Foundation grants totaling \$6.2 million. The grants will help add 11,540 acres toward Kaine's goal of preserving 400,000 acres by 2010.

Thirty-one applications were received, with grant requests totaling over \$24 million. Of the 15 recommended projects, 12 will provide public access and use; nine projects are fully accessible to the public, and three offer limited access.

Contact: Joseph Maroon, Director, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), or David Dowling, Director, Policy, Planning & Budget, Virginia DCR, (804) 786-2123.

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## A Trip to the National Zoo



Photo by Peggy Riek

**ELRC and WSLCA conferees enjoy watching a panda while on tour of the new Asian Trail at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C.**

When I first heard we were going to visit the National Zoo in Washington, D.C., I immediately thought of the experiences we probably all have had visiting our local zoos in our home States.

In Ohio, I have had many opportunities to visit the Columbus Zoo, where Zoo Curator, Jack Hanna, has made the Zoo nationally known. But the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. took me by

surprise. I found it to be one of the highest quality zoos around.

One of the best features about the National Zoo is the free admission. I was most impressed by the new Asian Trail section which recently opened. The animals are located in an open, close-up and natural surrounding which provides a unique interaction, making picture-taking easy to accomplish.

During the tour, we were able to visit just one small part of the Zoo. In the future, I will look forward to a return trip to take in the remaining sections and sights.

If you have not visited the National Zoo, make sure you make some time during your next trip to Washington, D.C. The Zoo is an easy taxi cab or Metro ride from within the city and well worth the effort.

Contact: Gene Wells, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Real Estate Administrator, (614) 265-6934; E-mail: [gene.wells@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:gene.wells@dnr.state.oh.us)

# Massachusetts Completes Largest Conservation Deal in 5 Years

After over 10 years of negotiations and many ups and downs, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) completed the acquisition of the 900-acre Spectacle Pond Farm in the Berkshire Hills in western Massachusetts. The parcel lies between two large State holdings and connects 9,000 acres of protected conservation land. The parcel also includes one of only two lakes left in the Berkshires with a totally undeveloped shoreline that is not already protected.

The farm is mostly forested and contains one of the last unprotected "old growth" forests in the State—with only 1,200 acres left in the State. The holding also contains the remains of an 18-19<sup>th</sup> century mill village and is home to one of the longest undisturbed remaining portions of the Knox Trail, used by General Henry Knox during the winter of 1776 to bring the cannon from New York's Fort Ticonderoga to Massachusetts to break the

British siege of Boston. The farm is also at the headwaters of the Farmington River, Massachusetts most pristine river system and the drinking water supply to Hartford, Connecticut.

The project was extremely complicated and involved the acquisition of two ½ undivided interests held by a developer and the Massachusetts Audubon Society (MAS). The project would not have been successful without the work of MAS, which acquired its ½-undivided interest last fall in the hopes of bringing the two family heir groups together. The other ½ of the heirs later decided to sell to a developer, and DCR negotiated the complicated \$5.2 million deal. The farm will be used for passive recreation including kayaking, canoeing, hunting, fishing, and primitive camping.

Contact: Bob O'Connor, Director of Land and Forest Conservation, Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, (617) 626-1170; E-mail: robert.oconnor@state.ma.us



**HOLD THIS DATE—April 6-9, 2008!**

## The Joint Spring 2008 Conference on Emerging Challenges for State and Federal Public Land Managers

sponsored by the Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC) and the Western States Land Commissioners Association (WSLCA)



Reserve *Now* for Special ELRC-WSLCA Conference Rates at the Doubletree Hotel  
1515 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.  
(202) 232-7000/(800) 492-5195  
[www.doubletreewashington.com](http://www.doubletreewashington.com) (Convention Code: ELR)

We **invite** Congressional members, Congressional staff, Federal and State officials, land conservancy officers, lawyers, economists, researchers, and advocates to discuss with conferees the implications of legislation, Supreme Court decisions, regulations, Administration initiatives, mapping resources, and successful management strategies.

We will **discuss** new developments, such as: the *Natural resources agendas* for new Federal officials; responses to the Supreme Court decisions on Federal *wetlands*; understanding *Indian laws* and decision-making in managing lands and water, including cultural sites; impacts and limits of adaptation to *climate change* in the United States, plus State, regional and Federal initiatives; new features of *maps* available on the internet showing energy leases, rights-of-way, and boundaries of Federal public lands; emerging issues in *leases for wind and tidal energy* projects; and implementation of the 2007 *Farm Bill* conservation and price support programs.

We will also **visit** the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian on the Mall.

For further information, visit the ELRC's Web site at [www.elrc.org](http://www.elrc.org) or contact Elinor Schwartz, Joint Spring Conference Coordinator, (703) 920-5389; E-mail: [es@elinorschwartz.com](mailto:es@elinorschwartz.com).



# Eastern Lands and Resources Council

Fall 2007 Conference

September 23-27, 2007

Salt Fork Resort and Conference Center

Cambridge, Ohio

## Sunday, September 23, 2007

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Golf Outing for those interested in participating  
Tee times have been arranged. See Conference Center regarding course information  
at Web site <http://www.saltforkresort.com>

To be determined **ELRC Working Meeting**

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Registration**

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. **Evening Reception**  
Poolside (weather permitting) or Summit View – 4<sup>th</sup> Level (inclement weather)

## Monday, September 24

6:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. **Buffet Breakfast**

8:00 a.m. – 8:05 a.m. **Welcome**  
Lynda Godfrey – ELRC President and Branch Chief, Land Acquisition, Division  
of State Lands, Florida Department of Environmental Protection

8:05 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. **Introductory Remarks**  
Gene Wells – Real Estate Administrator, Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
Sean Logan – Director, Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
Bureau of Land Management Leadership

8:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. Washington D.C. Update  
Elinor Schwartz, ELRC/WSLCA

9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **Break**

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Watershed Conservancy Districts  
John Hoopingarner, Executive Director, Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District  
John Wryst, President, Hocking River Commission  
Mat Horvat, Watershed Coordinator, Maumee Watershed Conservancy District

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Dam repairs at Salt Fork, Department of Natural Resources

12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. **Lunch**

1:15 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Dam inspection of Repair Area

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Division of Wildlife Fish Shocking Demonstration, Salt Fork Lake

5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Fishing opportunities for those who wish to participate; others will return to the  
Salt Fork Resort and Conference Center

**Dinner on your own**



# Eastern Lands and Resources Council

Fall 2007 Conference

September 23-27, 2007

Salt Fork Resort and Conference Center

## Tuesday, September 25

6:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. **Buffet Breakfast**

8:00 a.m. – Depart for Generating Station Power Plant Conesville, Ohio, tour

9:00 a.m. – Plant Presentation

10:00 a.m. – Group A – Begin Generating Station Power Plant Conesville, Ohio, tour  
Group B – Depart for FGD Landfill and AML Project & Sludge Reclamation Area

11:30 a.m. – **Lunch** at the Learning Center - *Following lunch, the groups will switch locations*

12:30 p.m. – Group B – Begin Generating Station Power Plant Conesville, Ohio, tour  
Group A – Depart for FGD Landfill and AML Project & Sludge Reclamation Area

2:30 p.m. – Groups leave for Roscoe Village Tour

2:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – Arrive at Roscoe Village, a canal village restored to the era of the days of the early canal days

- Canal Boat Ride
- Museum
- Shops

**Dinner on your own**

## Wednesday, September 26

6:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. **Buffet Breakfast**

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Real Estate Issues

- Encroachments
- Conservation Easements and Baseline Documentation

9:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. **Break**

9:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Partnerships

- Timber Management Organizations
- Land Trusts
- Not for Profit Organizations

11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Travel to Woodbury Wildlife Area

12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch** at Woodbury Wildlife Area



# Eastern Lands and Resources Council

Fall 2007 Conference

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## Wednesday, September 26 —continued

- 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Wildlife habitat restoration area and shooting demonstration
- 2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Leave for AEP ReCreation Lands, Miners Memorial Park, and “The Wilds”
- 3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Arrive at “Miners Memorial”
- 3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Depart for “The Wilds”
- 3:45p.m. – Arrive at “The Wilds” for presentation
- 4:30 p.m. – **Dinner**
- 5:00 p.m. – Sunset Tour and Wildlife Animal Areas
- 8:00 p.m. – Estimated time to return to Salt Fork Lodge

## Thursday, September 27

- 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. **Buffet Breakfast**  
Business Meeting - All Attendees Welcome

Photo by Mike Williams, Ohio DNR



Lake view of Salt Fork in Ohio.



# Eastern Lands and Resources Council

Fall 2007 Conference

September 23-27, 2007

Salt Fork Resort and Conference Center

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Agency/Company \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 Business Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_; Fax: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_; E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please note any special needs: Access \_\_\_\_\_ Dietary \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Conference Fees

Full Conference (September 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27) \$350 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

One Day - September \_\_\_\_\_ \$175 (One-day fee) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Please indicate which day you will attend.)

\$200 (Guest) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check Meal Attendance (These meals are included in the registration fee.)

Sunday – Reception Hor D’Orderves \_\_\_\_\_

Monday – Breakfast Buffet \_\_\_\_\_ Lunch \_\_\_\_\_

Tuesday – Breakfast Buffet \_\_\_\_\_ Lunch \_\_\_\_\_

Wednesday – Breakfast Buffet \_\_\_\_\_ Lunch \_\_\_\_\_ Dinner “The Wild’s Sunset Safaris” \_\_\_\_\_

Thursday – Breakfast Buffet \_\_\_\_\_

Meals for guests are included in the \$200 Guest Fee. Please note any requested meals for guests below:

Please indicate if you are interested in golfing on Sunday. Space is limited to 20. Yes, I will golf \_\_\_\_\_  
 No, I am not interested in golfing \_\_\_\_\_. Cost: \$27.00 includes 18 holes of golf and golf cart.

### Method of Payment

Check Enclosed – Please Circle (Y / N), Check Number \_\_\_\_\_ MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: ELRC  
 Credit Cards – MasterCard or Visa. Please identify the credit card and complete the credit information below.  
 Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ 3-digit code \_\_\_\_\_  
 Paid \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail the registration form and payment to: ELRC Fall 2007 Conference

Attention: John Titus, ELRC Treasurer  
 Maine Department of Conservation  
 Bureau of Parks and Lands  
 22 State House Station  
 Augusta, Maine 04333  
 Phone: (207) 287-3061; Fax: (207) 287-6170

**Cancellation Policy:** You may receive a refund of conference fees less \$25 administrative fee until September 13, 2007. Conference fees will not be refunded for cancellations made after September 13, 2007.



# Eastern Lands and Resources Council

Fall 2007 Conference

September 23-27, 2007

Salt Fork Resort and Conference Center

## HOTEL INFORMATION

A block of rooms has been reserved at a special ELRC rate of \$80 per night for conference participants at the Salt Fork Resort and Conference Center. There is an additional \$10 per night parking fee per vehicle. This reduced rate is only guaranteed until **August 23, 2007**. **Space is limited, so please make your reservation promptly.** If you are planning to come early or to extend your stay after the conference, the Salt Fork Resort & Conference Center will honor this special rate based on room availability.

**RESERVATION DEADLINE: August 23, 2007.**

**Address: Route 22 East, Box 7, Cambridge, OH 43725; Phone: (740) 439-2751, Toll-free: (800) AT-A-PARK;**

**Fax: (740) 432-6615; Web site at <http://www.saltforkresort.com>**

**AIRPORTS:** 1 ½ hours West from Pittsburgh International, 1 ½ hours South from Akron-Canton International, or 1 ½ hours East from Columbus International.

**RENTAL CARS:** All major car rental companies are available at the airports listed above.

### **DRIVING DIRECTIONS:**

**From Pittsburgh (1.5 hours)** — Take I-79 South to Interstate 70 West, from Interstate 70 take Interstate 77 North to Exit 47 (U.S. Route 22 East, Cambridge). Turn right onto U.S. Route 22 East and follow 6 miles to park entrance. Turn left at stoplight and follow the signs to the lodge. Approximately 15 minutes to the lodge from the park entrance.

**From Akron-Canton (1.5 hours)** — Take I-77 South to U.S. Route 22 East (Cambridge Exit 47). Turn left on U.S. Route 22 East and follow six miles to park entrance. Turn left at stoplight and follow the signs to the lodge. Approximately 15 minutes to the lodge from the park entrance.

**From Columbus (1.5 hours)** — Take I-70 East to I-77 North, take I-77 North to Exit 47 (U.S. Route 22 East, Cambridge). Turn right onto U.S. Route 22 East, and follow 6 miles to park entrance. Turn left at stoplight and follow the signs to the lodge. Approximately 15 minutes to the lodge from the park entrance.

### **AREA ATTRACTIONS:**

For information on attractions in the State of Ohio, please go to [www.visitguernseycounty.com](http://www.visitguernseycounty.com) or [www.discoverohio.com](http://www.discoverohio.com)

Ohio has two world-known amusement theme parks, Cedar Point and Kings Island:

**Cedar Point** – <http://www.cedarpoint.com>

**Kings Island** – <http://www3.paramountparks.com/kingsisland>

There are also an abundance of excellent State forests, wildlife management areas, and trails and trailways for residents and visitors to enjoy. You can also visit the Amish Community not far from the lodge.

Fishing licenses can be obtained by visiting the State of Ohio's Web site at [www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife/fishing](http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife/fishing).

For additional information, please contact Lynne Stein, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Real Estate and Land Management, by E-mail at [lynne.stein@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:lynne.stein@dnr.state.oh.us) or by telephone at (614) 265-6649.

# On the Horizon...

## Maine to Host the 2008 Fall Conference

Mark your calendars to attend the Fall 2008 ELRC Conference, September 28-October 2, 2008, in the scenic village of Bethel, nestled in Maine's Western Mountains. Bethel, near the New Hampshire border, has become a four-season destination for Mainers and visitors, particularly at this time of year, when fall colors emerge.

The conference will be held at the Bethel Inn within walking distance of local eateries and places to shop (check it out at [www.bethelinn.com](http://www.bethelinn.com)). The Inn is also a short distance from a variety of State and Federal lands, including the White Mountain National Forest, Grafton Notch State Park, the Mahoosuc Management Unit of Public Reserved Lands and the Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge. Also nearby are several important hydro dams, including the Azischohos and Richardson Lakes storage projects.

The Bureau of Parks and Lands will host an old fashioned "Maine lobsta bake" during the conference, and there is an 18-hole golf course right off the back steps of the Inn for those who can come early or stay late. If you would like to add the Maine coast to your visit, the Portland Jetport is within 30 minutes of some of Maine's finest beaches and coastal



**The beauty of Maine's Western Mountains will provide the backdrop for ELRC's 2008 Fall Conference (from Baldpate Mountain, Mahoosuc Unit, Public Reserved Lands).**

**Photo by Maine Natural Areas Program**

destinations. There will be Jetport and shuttles available within the conference time frame.

The Maine Department of Conservation hosted this event 10 years ago, and is once again looking forward to showcasing some of the finest public lands in northern New England!

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**Joint Spring 2008 ELRC/WSLCA Conference — Washington, D.C., April 6-9, 2008**