



# Chocorua Lake Conservancy celebrating 50th anniversary

*CLC hopes to raise \$1.8 million to protect the iconic view and public access to the lake*

CHOCORUA — It is one of the most photographed scenes in the Northeastern United States and is recognized on New Hampshire's second "America the Beautiful" state quarter — yet many people don't know about the long-time efforts to preserve the untouched Chocorua Lake Basin and its access to the beautiful view of Mount Chocorua.

North of Chocorua Village in the foothills of the White Mountains, Route 16 climbs a hill and a breath-taking vista opens before you. Two clear expanses of lake separated by a line of trees and a rustic wooden bridge, their shores lined with forest and not a house in sight, and behind them, rising up, the long flanks of stone-capped Mount Chocorua—nearly the same view one would have

seen 50 or even 150 years ago. People from all over the world have pulled off Route 16 to take in this iconic view.

What many people don't know is that the serene and unchanged nature of this magical place is the result of half a century of work by the Chocorua Lake Conservancy (CLC), a volunteer-led land trust formed in 1968 to continue the century-old tradition of protecting the Basin from development and providing convenient public access to Chocorua Lake and surrounding conservation lands for visitors and local residents. Thanks to the vision of its founders, the generosity of its donors, and the dedication of its volunteers, the CLC now owns or manages almost 1,000 acres of conservation land in the Basin and protects 3,000 additional acres.

The result? A stunning and iconic view from the highway, immaculate water quality, miles of public trails, public access to nearly half of Chocorua Lake's shoreline, and wetlands that support a diversity of native plants and animals.

This summer the CLC will mark 50 years of helping to preserve and protect the Chocorua Lake Basin through conservation and active stewardship of the land. In celebration and gratitude, the CLC is looking to the next 50 years and beyond with the Timeless Chocorua campaign, which will allow the CLC to honor its legacy while also inviting the next generation to help ensure that the Basin remains pristine and untouched forever.

In 1968, landowners in the Chocorua Lake  
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# CHOCORUA

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Basin joined with other community members to form the Chocorua Lake Conservation Foundation (CLCF) and the Chocorua Lake Association (CLA), sister organizations with a mission of preserving the beauty and natural resources of the Basin for public benefit. In 2014, the CLCF and CLA merged to form today's Chocorua Lake Conservancy, which carries on their missions and commitment. More than 125 individuals have generously donated their time as board members of the CLFC, CLA and CLC over the past 50 years, and over 725 different households from over 30 states have made financial donations. The CLC receives no federal, state

or town funds.

The CLC has a two-fold mission: 1) to protect the natural beauty of the Chocorua Lake Basin, and 2) to provide access to the lake and CLC-maintained conservation lands to visitors and residents. To sustain this mission long into the future, the CLC has launched the Timeless Chocorua campaign; this \$1.8 million campaign will fund three important initiatives:

**View Lot Project:** Purchase a conservation easement to forever protect from development the iconic Basin View Lot with the historic barn on Route 16 at the top of the hill, provide safer off-highway parking, and ensure public access for visitors in perpetuity;

**Stewardship Fund:** Create a Stewardship Fund to provide sufficient annual income to employ a full-time Stewardship Director now and in the future. Lynne Flaccus, our current Stewardship Director, implements and manages a volunteer-based stewardship program to effectively protect the almost 4,000 acres currently under the CLC's care; Chocorua Lake &

**Land Access Fund:** Establish a Chocorua Lake & Land Access Fund so that the thousands of visitors each year to the Grove, Island, public beaches, and conservation land owned or managed by the CLC will always find these areas clean and well-maintained.

While the CLC is already 91 percent of the way towards meeting its \$1.8 million campaign goal, an additional \$157,600 remains to be raised. The CLC is honored that The Tamworth Foundation is supporting us in this effort with a challenge grant:

The Foundation will match every dollar up to \$20,000 donated by New Hampshire residents between now and Labor Day. The mission of The Tamworth Foundation, according to TTF board member Gail Marrone, "is to support and enhance the quality of life in Tamworth through our grants and projects. The Timeless Chocorua campaign is critical to supporting the health and sustainability of a local resource that plays such an important role in the lives of our citizens."

The CLC is also marking its 50th anniversary

with celebrations and events that invite people of all ages to enjoy the Chocorua Lake Basin and learn more about the natural world we inhabit, beginning with a 50th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, June 30th at the Island public access area on the eastern shore of Chocorua Lake.

"We welcome the entire community to join with us this summer as we celebrate our achievements and plan for our future," says CLC President Alex Moot. "The Chocorua Lake Basin belongs to this community. We should all have a say as we work to preserve this special corner of the world."

The CLC is also holding a photo contest! Send us your favorite pictures from around the Lake Basin, and the winning entries will be featured in a 2019 calendar. More information on this will be released in the coming weeks.

Visit [timelesschocorua.org](http://timelesschocorua.org) to learn more about the Campaign and the photo contest.

For event information, visit [chocorualakeconservancy.org](http://chocorualakeconservancy.org) or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

