

Volunteer Conservation Chair: Role Description

The SEM Conservation Chair coordinates activities with the involvement and assistance of the SEM Conservation Committee.

The SEM Conservation Chair works closely with AMC's Conservation Policy and Research Staff to educate and engage members and non-members in conservation action and stewardship activities. In addition, they report on opportunities for AMC to engage in local conservation actions such as providing comments for proposed legislation, writing letters relating to local issues, and responding to inquiries and requests from members and partners.

SEM Board members, including the Conservation Chair, serve 1 year terms, which can be renewed annually. Generally, committee chairs serve 3 years.

Responsibilities of the Conservation Committee:

1. Attend meetings of the SEM Board
2. Integrate Conservation into culture and practice in the local chapter
 - a. Raise local awareness about AMC's Conservation mission and priorities.
 - i. Contribute conservation-oriented content to chapter newsletters and webpages
 - ii. Leverage events like Earth Day, National Trails Day, and National Public Lands Day
 - b. Partner with local conservation organizations
 - c. Engage in annual chapter budget planning in support of trainings and programs that accentuate conservation such as Leave No Trace; film series; speakers; etc.
 - d. Use chapter communications channels to communicate conservation matters that are important at the regional and/or local level.
 - e. Encourage people to sign up for AMC's Conservation Action Network

f. Participate in SEM training activities including but not limited to Leadership Training and Winter Workshop.

g. Work closely with other SEM committees, such as Education, Membership, and Trailwork to promote SEM's mission.

3. Collaborate with AMC's Conservation Policy and Research staff.

a. Contact staff when a local conservation issue may warrant club engagement.

b. Work with staff to seek input from the Chapter Executive Committee relating to a club priority or conservation position. This input can help AMC staff hone their messages and make decisions about how to approach a conservation action.

c. Visit elected leaders, attend hearings, etc.

4. Rules

o Chapter Executive Committees cannot, as a body, vote on whether or not to support conservation positions or priorities. In other words, a chapter must align with the positions and actions of the AMC and cannot take alternative stances.

o Chapters cannot take a position on issues either in writing or in person without approval from the Vice President of Conservation. Contact Faith Salter to inquire about taking a position.

Preferred Qualifications/Skills:

- An AMC member in good standing.
- Good communication skills both in person and in writing.
- Event planning
- Be an enthusiastic promoter of the Chapter and the AMC!

Resources, Training, & Benefits: · AMC's Conservation Onboarding Information · Outdoors.org/conservation

· Conservation Action Network

Points of Contact:

AMC Policy Staff (AMCconservation@outdoors.org)

· Clubwide Conservation Committee – Composed of all chapter conservation chairs, a committee chair, staff, and interested volunteers, this group meets once a year in person and again via webinar. This

committee reports to AMC's Board of Directors Conservation Programs Committee (CPC). Agenda items come from conservation chairs and focus on a range of items, but primarily:

- Networking and idea sharing among conservation volunteers – what works well, etc.
- Workshops, news, and reports from AMC's conservation staff about current campaigns and how chapters can support and promote them
- Working together as a group to accomplish a common goal ·

www.outdoors.org/conservation for detailed information about AMC's conservation work.

Conservation Elevator Speech

AMC conserves land. It has provided valuable protection to vast tracts of land and has developed and maintained trails throughout the northeast and mid-Atlantic regions.

AMC actively advocates for conservation. Staff and volunteers communicate with law makers from across the political spectrum about AMC conservation priorities including funding protection of lands and waters.

AMC's conservation work is science based. Scientists work in its offices in Boston, New Hampshire and elsewhere.

Local Conservation Work – we rely on all of our members to get active locally in support of our conservation values, and to call on the AMC when they need help with public comments for example.

DMS 8/05/21