

Selectboard Meeting
December 3, 2019

**Forest Blocks and Habitat Connectors in Halifax
and
The Staying Connected Initiative**

Local Perspective

Town Plan, Natural Resources section, Forest Blocks and Habitat Connectors
Working Together

Regional and International Perspective

Northern Appalachian/Acadian Region in the United States and Canada

Staying Connected Initiative

The Staying Connected Initiative (website is stayingconnectedinitiative.org) is a international collaboration working to sustain the forested landscape connections across a binational region to accomplish ecological, social and economic benefits of a healthy and connected landscape. Each step of the way, from the Tug Hill Plateau and Adirondack Mountains in New York across the forests of New England to the Canadian Maritimes, the actions residents take in their backyards and communities make a difference.

Halifax and its role in the Staying Connected Initiative

From the Green Mountains to the Hudson Linkage, which includes Halifax, Staying Connected partners are providing outreach to communities and partners to share analysis and identify opportunities for infrastructure, land protection, and management projects in the highest priority areas across the region.

Local people who are developing the vision for natural resource management and wildlife connectivity in their town can take advantage of Staying Connected Initiative programs that translate regional connectivity science into local action.

The first step is often engaging residents in an examination of the natural resources in their town. Talks about wildlife movement or species of interest, walks that point out local natural history and citizen science programs to track wildlife along roadways can engage communities and equip individuals to participate in local planning efforts.

