

**Building Conservation Leadership**  
**Workshop 2: “Fundraising”:**  
**Cultivating Broader Support in Your Community**  
*Presenters: Ginny Callan, Debby Hinman*

**Ginny Callan, New England Grassroots Fund, Montpelier, VT**

Ginny has been the program officer at the New England Grassroots Environment Fund (NEGEF), for the past three years. For two years prior to joining the NEGEF staff, Ginny was a member of the NEGEF grantmaking committee in an activist position. She has been a grassroots organizer since the 1970's, focusing on nuclear, environmental, and human rights issues. An active member of her community, she was the coordinator for Citizens for Clean Compost (CCC), a grassroots group and NEGEF grantee, working on sludge issues in Vermont. CCC was successful in mediating an agreement that included many environmental safeguards into the construction of a sludge facility. The project was eventually cancelled.

Ginny worked for the American Cancer Society as the Grassroots Director of Advocacy. She was the founder of the Horn of the Moon Café in Montpelier, Vermont, a vegetarian café that recently closed its doors after 23 years in business. She has written two natural food cookbooks, *Horn of the Moon Cookbook* and *Beyond the Moon Cookbook*. Ginny has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Goddard College. She lives in East Montpelier with her husband, Cort Richardson, also a lifelong environmentalist, and their two children.

NEGEF provides grants to projects focused around grassroots environmental issues in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont. The Fund provides money to local groups which may often be overlooked by traditional funders. By supporting local organizing, it hopes to promote sustainable, healthy New England communities. More information can be found at [www.grassrootsfund.org](http://www.grassrootsfund.org).

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**Debby Hinman, Acworth, NH**

Debby is vice chair of the Acworth Conservation Commission and chair of the Cold River Local Advisory Committee. She represents her town on the board of the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission, and an alternate on the board of the Sullivan County Regional Refuse Disposal District, which is the NH component of the NH/VT Solid Waste Project. She is also sits on the boards of the NH Association of Conservation Commissions, the Rivers Management Advisory Committee, and UNH Cooperative Extension's COVERTS program for wildlife habitat enhancement.

For the past three years, Debby has been the District Manager of Cheshire County Conservation District. Prior to that, she worked at the Student Conservation Association (SCA), in positions in recruitment, program administration, grant research and development, as well as a variety of programs serving middle and high school youth deemed to be “at risk.”

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