## Massachusetts Society of Municipal Conservation Professionals, Inc.

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## **Brown Bag Lunch Series**

## Assessing Ecologically Important Habitats in Your Community Belchertown Town Hall 2 Jabish St., Belchertown Thursday, November 20, 2014 11:00am-1:00pm

Scott Jackson, Extension Associate Professor at the University of Massachusetts will update us on the Conservation Assessment and Prioritization System (CAPS) and the related Critical

Linkages project. CAPS is a computer software program and an ecosystem-based (coarse-filter) approach for assessing the ecological integrity of lands and waters and subsequently identifying and prioritizing land for habitat and biodiversity conservation. Working in partnership with The Nature Conservancy and state agencies, UMASS recently completed a comprehensive analysis of areas in Massachusetts where connections must be protected and restored to support the Commonwealth's wildlife and biodiversity resources. The Critical Linkages project has also developed spatially explicit tools, including models, maps and scenario-testing software, for use in mitigating the impacts of roads and railroads on the environment.

Learn how these tools can assist your town with their conservation initiatives!



There is plenty of parking behind town hall. There is access to a fridge, sink, toaster and microwave

Please register for the event at : www.tinyurl.com/MSMCP11-20-14Event