

2016 TOWN FOREST REPORT

The spring meeting and roadside clean up was attended on April 3^h by Jim Fitch, Ed Woodbury, Doug Freeland and Ginny Prince. Topics discussed included having a facebook page, forest inventory, trail markers, continuation of the new trail, a summer workday, Lucas Roper's Eagle Scout project, the deteriorating condition of the Root Hill Rd culvert and the difficulties of getting anyone to perform a small timber harvest with the difficult mechanized access to the town forest.

Ed Woodbury and Ginny trimmed brush and cut trees to slightly increase the southern view from the lookout on Sept 25.

A dozen people attended the dedication of Lucas Roper's Eagle Scout project on September 30th. A large print version of the new digital map created by Lucas and Steve Wilkie is mounted at the kiosk (installed earlier by the scout troop) and protected by Lexan, with an adjacent notice board. Smaller versions of the map are mounted along the trail from Tandy Brook Rd and at the northwest entrance to the forest.

With permission of the select board Ginny set up a facebook page for the town forest. Due to the simplicity of posting information, this format will be easier to keep updated than the webpage which is located on the town website. Search for Cornish Town Forest on Facebook.

The entries in the log at the lookout show that many people are enjoying unobtrusive visits to the forest. There are entries from southern NH and VT and out of state as well as local residents. We also learned that there has been a geocache in the town forest for quite a few years and it is rarely "found."

Many anonymous friends of the forest perform trail maintenance throughout the year. As a result the trails were in excellent shape once again. Loop road maintenance was performed as usual.

The forest continues to be very popular for hunting, mountain biking, hiking, snowshoeing and skiing. The Eagles Ledge lean-to is available for anyone to use. Visit the town forest facebook page and the webpage on cornishnh.net for info about the town forest, maps, and the management plan.

As in past years, the town forest budget includes no tax money. State law requires that spending any funds, donation or payment or otherwise, must be authorized in the warrant, so the committee is requesting permission to spend up to \$1500 for trail marking materials and other miscellaneous items for repair and construction of signs, bridges, gates etc.

For more information, if you're interested in youth or community projects or to share thoughts about the town forest contact any committee member:

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