

2018 TOWN FOREST REPORT

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

Workdays and meetings included the roadside clean up April 29, several small impromptu workdays and a fall meeting /workday Oct. 21. Thanks to Ed Woodbury, Jim Fitch, Doug Freeland, and Roger Stone for all their work!

Trail work included major rockwork on the red trail climb from the Tandy Brook Parking lot masterminded by Jim Fitch. In addition work continued through the year to refine the lower Gold Trail which now connects the red trail west of the lookout to the low point of the white trail. Thanks are in order to many anonymous friends of the forest who perform trail maintenance throughout the year. Loop road maintenance was performed as usual.

Future projects include trail relocations to lessen steepness and prevent erosion. Also a friend of the forest is looking into locations for a Frisbee golf course. In the longer view, the culvert on Root Hill Road south of the southwest corner of the forest will eventually need to be replaced. The committee is still searching for ways to perform an inventory of the flora and fauna of the forest; Suggestions are welcome, including anyone interested in setting up a BioBlitz.

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:

Ginny Prince, chair: 675.2129 virginiatprince@gmail.com

Jim Fitch fitchfarm@gmail.com

Ed Woodbury edwoodbury@hotmail.com

Reyer Jaarsma Reyer@myfairpoint.net

John Hammond, select board