

2019 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. Check out the logbook at the lookout for lots of great comments from visitors!

Workdays and meetings included the roadside clean up April 28th, several small impromptu workdays and a fall meeting /workday September 22. Thanks to Ed Woodbury, Jim Fitch, Doug Freeland, Reyer Jaarsma, Jim Osterlund and Roger Stone for all their work through the year, including carrying bridge repair materials to the "100 ft bridge" on the blue trail in the fall.

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, bushhogging and cleaning drainage ditches.

Future projects include trail relocations to lessen steepness and prevent erosion. In the longer view, replacing the culvert on Root Hill Road south of the southwest corner of the forest is moving up on the agenda. Also 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. A bid was submitted to the Antioch graduate student program with no results so far.

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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