

To: Members of the Cape Elizabeth Conservation Commission  
Maureen O'Meara, Town Planner

From: Robert C. Malley, Director of Public Works

Date: December 5, 2011

Re: Greenbelt Trail Maintenance Program

As you are aware, the Town Council authorized the creation of a seasonal, part-time grounds maintenance position in the FY 2012 budget. It was approved with the understanding that 20 hours (of a 40-hour work week) per week would be dedicated to Greenbelt Trail maintenance. This action was intended to provide a more consistent effort on maintaining the trails, based on the recommendations outlined in the 2009 Greenbelt Maintenance Plan.

I am very pleased to report that we accomplished our mission and made great strides on the maintenance on most of major trails located throughout the community. Brendan Sweeney, who was selected to the position in June, did a stellar job, on both this and other assignments. Once he learned the layout of trail network, he worked in a productive and orderly fashion, most of it in an un-supervised environment. Though he had assistance from other public works staff members, it was Brendan who did a majority of the manual tasks. He persevered through the summer, often toiling in oppressive humidity, battling deer flies and mosquitoes along the way.

A short time ago, I had asked Brendan to provide me his daily field book, which he kept throughout the summer as he worked on the trails. I intended to take his notes and put them into a summary for you. Without hesitation, Brendan took it upon himself to create his own report. Other than making some minor format changes, I have it left mostly intact. I was taken by the effort he put into it, along with the detail of the work he performed. I feel it captures both the enormity of the task, along with the accomplishments he made as he worked on the Greenbelt trails this year.