

2014 Conservation Commission Priorities

The Conservation Commission established the following priorities for 2014 at the February 11, 2014 meeting. Priorities are divided into 2 groups. "Shovel Ready" projects are trail improvements on town open space that can realistically be accomplished within the existing budget and available volunteers. "Other" projects are predominantly expansions of the greenbelt network beyond existing public access areas, require development of policy and/or procedures, or potentially need funding beyond the current budget.

Shovel Ready

1. **Great Pond stone steps:** Repair/replace stone steps. This will involve seeking expert advice on methods and design.
2. **Winnick Woods Loop:** Complete layout and mark the newest trail loop extending from Eastman Meadows; install improvements as needed on muddy sections (100' stretch and boggy 50' section), other trail improvements as needed.
3. **Signage:** Review current signage practice specifically to add color coding to trails where multiple trails are located on a property; install additional signage.
4. **Town Center Trail:** Coordinate with the Department of Public Works to make improvements that level the natural surface of the trail to improve its accessibility for "other-abled" trail users.
5. **Cross Hill Trail:** Improve the trail markings and make improvements in muddy sections to portions of the Cross Hill Trails (in the area of Tiger Lilly Lane).
6. **Invasives:** Prepare a policy to guide the public in volunteer efforts to remove invasive plant species on town open space, with Conservation Commission supervision.

Other

1. **Route 77 to Rob Woods II:** Work with the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust to obtain legal public access from Route 77 to Robinson Woods II (2013 Greenbelt Plan Trail #10).

2. **2013 Greenbelt Plan Implementation:** Work to implement the top priorities of the 2013 Greenbelt Plan, specifically trails #1, 2, 3, 5 and 6.
3. **Spurwink River:** Plan and implement improvements to the trail adjacent to Pollack Creek, develop alternatives for replacing bridge (51') over Pollack Creek, and enhance access to the Spurwink River across from the Scarborough overlook (2013 Greenbelt trail #14).
4. **Scott Dyer Trail:** Evaluate and repair existing damage from motorized vehicle use on the trail, update easement location and coordinate with the Village Crossings "Vinnie's walk" project.
5. **Great Pond Boat Racks:** Determine if boat rack capacity should be expanded, and if so, initiate discussions with the Sprague Corporation to amend the easement.