Welcome Volunteers!

Adopt-A-Trail
By adopting a trail, you are helping to make the Norwell Trail system a better place for hikers, bikers, naturalists, kayakers, and all other trail-users. We sincerely appreciate your time and efforts.

Thank You!!!
Who We Are

Since 1961, the Norwell Conservation Commission has worked to preserve natural resources and open spaces throughout the town.

The Friends of Norwell Trails assist the town by:
1) Monitoring town trails
2) Reporting stewardship needs
3) Becoming volunteer trail stewards

The Adopt-A-Trail program is an integral first step in establishing this new volunteer group.
Volunteering

The town stewardship team is small and we greatly value our volunteers. With more eyes and hands, we can get more done!
Properties & Trails

- Jacobs Pond
- Cuffee Hill
- Donovan Wildcat
- Hatch Lots
- Simon Bowker
- The Pathways
- Stetson Meadows
- And More!
We are a small land trust and greatly value our volunteers. With more hands, we can get more done!

- 189-acre property surrounds the 60-acre pond
- This man-made pond created in 1730 by the damming of Third Herring Brook at Main Street
- Includes trails, ADA accessible dock with canoe/kayak launch, agricultural land, recreation field, and the historic farmhouse
350-acres property in a collaborative effort with the Nature Conservancy representing Cuffee Hill, Black Pond Swamp, and Black Pond Bog.

The preserve protects NHESP core & rare habitats, including a quaking bog and White Cedar Swamp.

Acquired by the town in 2013 under the care of the Historic and Conservation Commissions.

The largest continuous conservation area in Norwell, Cuffee is part of the larger regional “Greenway” in the town Master Plan.
• 50-acre site leased for agricultural purposes and connecting 100-acre conservation area
• The Donovan Fields have been used for agriculture since the 1820’s
• When acquired by the town in 1977, a portion was sold for a cluster-zoned housing development under the mandate that the Wildcat trails be created
Expectations and Goals for Adopt-A-Trail

- Have at least one steward per trail section
- Monitoring feedback at least once a month
- Improve quality of info on kiosks
- Maintaining ecologically friendly yet welcoming parks
- Give our volunteers the tools to be great land stewards
- Create a long lasting partnership with community volunteer members
Volunteering

• As a Volunteer Land Steward, you will have opportunities to:
  – Gain hands on stewardship experience
  – Identify property needs and improvements
  – Engage with people in your community
  – Monitor trails and properties
  – Help us improve our conservation lands
Safety

TICK IDENTIFICATION CARD

nymph  male  female  male  female
Deer ticks  American dog ticks

(actual size)

MA Department of Public Health
617.983.6800
www.mass.gov/dph

Poison oak  Poison sumac  Poison ivy
Do **NOT** use power tools/equipment. If power tools are needed, alert the town and let them handle the situation. Hand tools like loppers or hand-pruners are fine.
So what could you be doing?

- Property monitoring
- Inspecting kiosks
- Inspecting trail signs and 911 Markers
- Site maintenance
- Removal of trash
- Reporting vandalism, dumping, motorized vehicle use, illegal hunting
- Lead trail work days
- Reporting rare and/or invasive species
Species of Conservation Concern: INSECTS

New England Bluets
_Damselflies rest with wings together._

Mocha Emeralds
_Dragonflies rest with wings apart._
Species of Conservation Concern: REPTILES
Species of Conservation Concern: PLANTS – Estuary Beggar-ticks

Estuary Beggar-ticks (*Bidens hyperborea*)
State Status: **Endangered**
Federal Status: **None**
Found on edges of tidal rivers and marshes.
Hemlock Parsley (*Conioselinum chinense* (L.))
State Status: **Special Concern**
Federal Status: **None**
Found in swamps, wet meadows, bogs or fens, and marshy forests.
Species of Conservation Concern:
PLANTS – Parker’s Pipewort

Parker’s Pipewort (*Eriocaulon parkeri*)
State Status: **Endangered**
Federal Status: **None**
Found on shallow, tidal fresh water and on tidal mud flats of rivers.
Gypsywort (*Lycopus rubellus*)
State Status: **Endangered**
Federal Status: **None**
Found on damp soils, mainly maple swamps, marshy pond/lake shores, seepage areas, and floodplain forests
Swamp Dock (*Rumex verticillatus*)
State Status: Threatened
Federal Status: None
Found in water or in places that are periodically flooded
MIPAG Voted Invasive Plants

- Norway Maple
- Sycamore Maple
- Bishop’s Weed
- Tree of Heaven*
- Garlic Mustard*
- Japanese Barberry
- Fanwort
- Oriental Bittersweet*
- Black Swallow-wort
- Autumn Olive
- Burning Bush*
- Leafy Spurge
- Glossy Buckthorn*
- Horned Poppy
- Dame’s Rocket
- Yellow Iris

- Tall Pepperweed
- Honeysuckles*
- Moneywort
- Purple Loostrife*
- Milfoils
- Common Reed*
- Japanese Knotweed*
- Mile-a-minute Vine
- Crisped Pondweed
- Fig buttercup
- Black Locust
- Multiflora Rose*
- Rusty Willow
- Water-chestnut

http://www.massnrc.org/mipag/invasive.htm
Invasive Challenge!
Invasive Challenge!
Scenarios

Knowing what to do and what not to do as a volunteer land steward for the Town of Norwell is important.
Vandalism
Motorized Vehicle Use
Other Possible Encounters

• Deer Stands
• Unauthorized hunting
• Storm damage
• Broken kiosks/signs
• Party Sites
• Campfire rings
• Unauthorized trail clearing
Documentation!

- Adopt-A-Trail volunteers should submit Monitoring Reports for their site at least once a month.
- The more the better!
- Reports can be found on the Town Website: [www.townofnorwell.net](http://www.townofnorwell.net)
  - Home >> Boards & Committees >> Pathway and Woodland Adopt-A-Trail Program
Report a Problem Stewardship Request/Observation Form

Location *
Pathway

Other location *

Approximate location on Trail: Please add as much detail as possible so we can direct the trail crew to the problem *

Level of Importance/Need for Response *
1- Dangerous Situation, Safety Risk
Please tell us how urgent a response is needed!

Observation / Report *
- Select -

Insert photo
Files must be less than 100 MB.
Allowed file types: gif jpg jpeg png bmp tif pdf doc ppt pptx.

Name

Please provide your email for follow-up
Being able to communicate with you helps ensure your project is completed as quickly as possible
Nancy Hemingway
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