

# Vermont Town Forest Recreation Planning

## Conservation and Stewardship

Key Attribute #:



Need #:



Estimated Cost:

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Timing:

Short-Term

Although this plan is aimed at outdoor and forest-based recreation, conservation must be a top priority as this plan is being implemented. Each strategy should be implemented in such a way that minimizes impacts to natural resources and protects the forest as habitat and for future use (including recreation). For example, newly built trails must be built sustainably and avoid sensitive habitat areas.

The town should also continue stewardship activities on the existing town forest. The Conservation Commission should update the 2009 Management Plan to ensure that current activities are maximizing habitat conservation and incorporating best practices and strategies. This update should be in light of the fact that there are no plans to increase the recreational access to the property and it is being set aside primarily for conservation.

The Conservation Commission should continue their work conserving existing natural areas in town and determining a proper balance of recreation and conservation in each parcel.

In natural areas in Huntington, invasive species are a serious issue. They threaten the native species and the ecosystem as a whole. Efforts should be made to remove invasive species to the extent possible.

### Responsibility:

Town, Conservation Commission, and/or a committee of local volunteers

### Partners Involved:

VLT, TPL, etc.

### Planning Required:

Due diligence and land planning

### Funding Opportunities:

CCG, MPG, ERG, VCF.



### Toolkit Resources

Natural Resource Guidance Toolkit

Land Conservation and Recreational Access Toolkit

Sustainable Trail Standards

Sustainable Facility Standards

