Vermont Town Forest

Recreation Planning

Formal Process for Proposing and Reviewing New Trails and Facilities

Key Attribute #:

4 6 10 18

Need #:

3 4 12

Estimated Cost:

\$

Timing: Short-Term

By adopting a formal process for proposing and reviewing new trails and facilities, the Stranahan Stewardship Committee will ensure that the development of the forest proceeds in such a way that protects and balances the function of the forest and human uses.

As the Stranahan is a relatively new forest, there has been and will continue to be significant interest in new trails and facilities. So far, the new trails and facilities have been added in such a way that protects the resources of the forest. Yet going forward, it is important there is a consistent and transparent process to rely upon.

A formalized process will create a clear, straightforward mechanism for proposing trails that all the user groups have the same access to. The formal proposal process also provides transparency and objectivity in the management of the forest and ensures careful public decision based on the community's shared values for the land. The process can also give user groups a strong sense of whether a project is likely to get approved, and if not the necessary modifications in order to receive approval.

A project model proposal form and a committee review questionnaire are included in the Vermont Town Forest Recreation Planning Toolkit.

Responsibility
Stewardship

Committee

Partners Involved
Stranahan User
Collaborative

Planning Required
Review, adjustment,
and adoption of
model process

Toolkit Resources

Model Proposal Process

Natural Resource Guidance Toolkit

