

RCC 2024 Narrative

The Conservation Commission will continue with the land management surveying projects as well as invasive species work in the town forest, other properties like Brown Lane Farm and our salt marshes. RCC received estimates from Rockingham County Conservation District 10/31/2023 for invasive work. (Budget line items: property maintenance, salt marsh restoration, and town forest.)

A large project for this year will be moving the green trail in the town forest off private property. At the present time we are working with our forest consultant, Charlie Moreno, to look at the options. (Budget line items: town forest, consulting fees, property maintenance)

Another large project is working with the Rye Water District regarding a new well potentially at Brown Lane Farm. (Budget line item: consultants including wetland delineations and vernal pool by wetland scientists)

Conservation is in the process of obtaining DES permits for work.

- 1) connecting the Jim Raynes Forest with Cedar Run as we have expanded the trails at Cedar Run.
- 2) Bog bridges at Brown Lane Farm
- 3) Correcting the damage at Seavey Acres on the upward slope and stream crossing
- 4) Whitehorse Conservation land will be next for solving water issues

Conservation is working diligently to finish the town forest perimeter survey (budget line item: land management)

Goss Barn and Farm continue with maintenance to the structure and the grounds. Manage the community gardens and farmers.

For clarification on categories with examples:

Consulting fees are comprised of outside consultants such as wetland scientists, engineers, foresters.

Land Management examples land surveys, granite posts, new trails and markers

Property Maintenance examples existing trail maintenance, mowing, tree removal

Land Acquisition – costs associated with purchasing land, recording fees, closing fees, estimates

Suzanne McFarland

RCC Chair