

REPORT OF THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Warrant Article to add an additional twenty six (26) wetlands to join Spruce Swamp as Prime Wetlands was passed by the voters in March 2008. Subsequently, the data was digitized and the tax maps prepared. The Prime Wetland tax maps and correspondence were submitted to NH DES in November of 2008 and we expect acceptance by NH DES in early 2009.

An amendment to the Natural Resource Inventory (NRI) of the Master Plan, including six (6) newly updated maps, was submitted to the Planning Board and approved following an August 6, 2008 public hearing.

Mark Prescott's Eagle Scout project resulted in bulletin board kiosks being built and installed at both Glen Oakes and Oak Ridge locations of the Town Forest.

The Commission continued to collaborate with Charlie Moreno, our Town Forester, on the Glen Oakes Forest and Wildlife Management Plan. In September 2008 Charlie Moreno estimated his field work was 2/3 complete and the document was about 1/4 complete. We expect the Glen Oakes Forest and Wildlife Management Plan to be available by June of 2009.

The Commission assisted Hjalmer and Christine Anderson in placing a Conservation Easement on their property on Old Ridge Road.

The Rockingham County Woodlands Association held a walk in Glen Oakes for its members in May of 2008.

A "turtle walk" led by Laura Deming of Audubon was held along the Rail Trail a little beyond the Fremont Public Library parking lot in June and was very well attended.

The Conservation Commission investigated the creation of a Water Rights Ordinance similar to that of Nottingham which was tabled until results of a legislative commission looking into the topic is known.

The Commission passed a motion to recommend adoption of the provisions of NH RSA 36-A-4-a, I (b) that would give the Conservation Commission the ability to support projects by giving money to qualified organizations (such as land trusts) without taking property interest. This Article was reviewed and approved by the Planning Board, Selectmen and Town Counsel and will be put before the voters as an Article on the 2009 Town Warrant.

The Conservation Commission has applied for and been awarded a PSNH Environmental Community Grant in the amount of \$850.00 to be used for signage and associated posts to mark the forest trails in the Glen Oakes Town Forest.

The Commission discharged its responsibilities to monitor compliance with environmental laws, including the Comprehensive Shoreland Act which was introduced this year. In addition, they participated in site walk inspections, reviewed, deliberated and

commented on various projects before the Planning and Zoning Boards.

Land Use Administrative Assistant Meredith Bolduc has been instrumental in effectively keeping continuity and communication between all the Land Use Boards (Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment and Conservation Commission).

Please visit the Conservation Commission page on the Fremont Town website for ongoing updates and information relative to minutes, agendas and related activities.

If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions for the Conservation Commission, or if you would like to participate by filling one of the available positions, please contact the Land Use Office at 895-3200 X 17.

Respectfully submitted,

The Fremont Conservation Commission



Dedication of the Glen Oakes Bulletin Board Kiosk

L to R: Conservation Commission Members Janice O'Brien, Pat deBeer, Bill Knee, Eagle Scout Mark Prescott; and Conservation Commission Chair Jack Karcz

Photo Courtesy: Bob O'Brien