

BFRTAC/WPAC Subcommittee

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Stewardship of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail

We have been discussing the long range plans for stewardship of the trail and how this could help with a variety of issues. Even though completion of the trail is a long way off, we feel strongly about keeping the conversation going and having something in place when the trail opens.

Stewardship of the trail includes:

- Education
- Direction
- Maintenance (light, trash)
- Reporting (downed trees, vandalism, etc.)

Possible groups to consider:

- Friends of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail
- Friends of White Pond
- White Pond Advisory Committee
- Trails Committee (set up possible subcommittee for BFRT)
- West Concord Advisory Committee
- Dover Street Property Owners Association
- Boy Scouts
- CCHS Students
- Possible new town committee once the BFRTAC is dissolved. The charter of this committee would be for stewardship of the trail only.

We feel strongly that CCHS students need to be aware of the need for help and have the chance to volunteer privately or use this as part of their CCHS Community Service. Being part of the process through high school will let students contribute to the town and help take ownership for a portion of our natural resources. By doing this now, it will hopefully encourage students to volunteer for town service in the future and continue to give back to the town of Concord.

Currently Chelmsford has established the BPAC. Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee, which has been handling steward duties on the trail. Westford currently has a private group that has taken on stewardship duties as well.

Once a stewardship plan has been put in place, it will need to be decided who will coordinate and follow up with any reports and action steps that need to be taken. This can be done per each town along the trail or over the entire length of the trail.