

## Bow Open Spaces - spring/summer newsletter



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### Board Member Opportunities

#### ***Annual meeting Tuesday at Baker Free Library***

The Annual Meeting of Bow Open Spaces will be held Tuesday, June 7th at 7:00 p.m. at the Baker Free Library. Official business includes election of officers.

Opportunities exist for new Board members. If you enjoy the use of Bow's public lands, including the trail system, please consider volunteering just a bit of your time and effort and join us! Attend our meeting Tuesday, or [email a note](#) to us. Thank you!

Become a Member! | [bowopenspaces.com](http://bowopenspaces.com)

### Trails Update

Have you seen the improved trailhead parking lot on Robinson Road or the two new kiosks in the Knox Road Town Forest?

After a very long wait, Bow Open Spaces received word in March that it could begin work on the projects outlined in a recreational trails grant submitted to the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development in December 2014.



An updated trail map is in the works- trail users can look forward to a new paper map as well as a large scale map that will be featured on the center panel of each kiosk.

Other projects that are part of the grant include new signs throughout the Forest as well as road side signs that will let motorists know they are approaching the parking area.

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### Volunteer Opportunities!

We are in the process of removing yellow, red, and blue metal trail markers throughout the forest.

After 15 years of using metal trail markers and

watching them twist as trees grow, we have decided to use paint to mark trails. Volunteers can do this at any time at their own pace.

We also are in need of several volunteers to help dig holes for sign posts- there will be about 30.

Interested? Contact [Hilary Warner](#).



## Walking the trails...

"These OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) hikers traversed Nottingcook Forest from the kiosk on South Bow Rd to parking at the Bow Bog End of Woodhill-Hooksett Rd., a distance of about 2.5 miles.

A few were not even aware of the great path walking that Nottingcook offers. It was as fine a day weather-wise as May can provide. An unbeatable day in the woods!"



## Space for Bears?

*by Bob Lux, BOS Board*

This picture was taken May 22. We have lived on Allen Road for 20 years and over that period of time, have had moose and bears in the yard and coyotes audible in Nottingcook forest.

I haven't seen a moose in quite some time but have seen prints & droppings in the snow in recent winters.

We've never seen a mother bear & cubs until now. We took in the suet about two weeks ago after a visit but evidently should have taken in bird seed, too. Which led us to wonder what do bears look for for food at this greening time of year?



The deer used to love our hostas until I discovered "Liquid Fence" deer repellent. But the bears - what do they eat now? Are they extra hungry, between winter hibernation and the growth of summer's food crop? How can such a large creature sustain itself on such meagre & literally tiny pickings as well as feed its young for a while, too?

With the housing developments of Parsons, Peasley, Crescent and the Hooksett development at the end of Merrill Crossing in the southeast section of Bow, I count approximately 60-70 new houses already built or in plans within a 1.5 mile radius from the center of Nottingcook Forest.

Upon reflection, it seems amazing (and pleasing, too) that a mother bear and cubs can still exist in Nottingcook and its environs given these incursions into their habitat. What provisions are there for the bears and the moose and coyotes (haven't heard any in a few years). Or will they all become "bothersome" by an eventual majority and disappear?



Members of several commissions that serve the citizens of Bow participated at a recent community forum. Included: Drinking Water; Conservation (with frog eggs!); Recycling; and, Bow Open Spaces. Are you interested yourself in serving others? [Contact us](#) and we'll help put you in touch with a member of a commission that can use your talent!

## About Bow Open Spaces

Bow Open Spaces, Inc. was established in 1997 to protect property that has been donated to or purchased by the Town of Bow for conservation and recreation purposes for the benefit of the citizens of Bow and its neighboring communities.

Our board and membership include citizens who are enthusiastic supporters of the Town of Bow's public lands.

[All are welcome to join!](#)

Meetings of the organization typically take place the first Tuesday of each month (September through June) at 7:00 p.m. at the Baker Free Library.



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