

BOW OPEN SPACES - - Get outside and enjoy your open spaces!

Bow Open Spaces - fall 2017 newsletter



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Bridge Building Workshop - Oct 28th

A great opportunity for volunteers!

Here is a special opportunity coming up soon that will provide you with what you need to know to build a simple footbridge. These are the type of bridges occasionally constructed by our volunteers, used to cross wet and uneven areas along wooded trails.

The October 28th workshop will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the Baker Free Library. A bag lunch is included with the discounted fee of \$25.00. The group members will transition to the nearby Walker Forest and have the opportunity to actually build a small bridge.

There are still a few spots left - click the image to the right for additional details and to register.

BRIDGE BUILDING: A Trails Workshop for Volunteers

THE STEWARDSHIP NETWORK: NEW ENGLAND VOLUNTEER TRAINING



**Saturday,
October 28th
9:00am-3:30pm**
Rain Date: Oct. 29th

Instructors
Lew Shelley, Snowhawk LLC & Emily Lord, UNH Cooperative Extension

What You'll Learn
This workshop will cover all the basics of how to build and maintain high-quality bridges for community trails. Perfect for Conservation Commissioners, local service clubs, land trust volunteers, private landowners, or anyone wanting to keep community trails high and dry. You'll learn terminology about different types of structures like punchcoon, stringer bridges, and bog bridges. Building and maintaining bridges can be expensive, so you'll learn how to answer the first question land managers ask: is a bridge the best solution to my problem? You'll learn how to assess the condition of the trail, and how to deal with water banks, and recreational uses. **This workshop is geared primarily at simple bridges for non-motorized users, but there will be discussion on larger bridges for equestrian and motorized use.**

We'll also have fun, using experiential learning to make sure everyone leaves with new skills. As part of the workshop, we will construct a small foot bridge as a demonstration. You'll get hands-on experience with specialty tools and learn about options for borrowing tools for your volunteer efforts. We'll cover safety and leading other volunteers, and how to determine if your trails project requires professional help.

Register Online:
<http://bit.ly/BridgeBuildingBow>

Cost: \$25
(includes bag lunch)



 Thanks to a generous donor, this workshop, valued at \$65, is offered to New Hampshire volunteers at a special rate.

Enjoy the Hammond Nature Preserve!

This is the perfect time of year to explore the Hammond Nature Preserve and its beautiful field. Never been there? Park on Dunbarton Center Road (between Woodhill and Brown Hill Roads). It's an easy and short walk from the kiosk to a beautiful field. You can also reach the field by walking or mountain biking up the Eagle Trail (a very long hill) from Branch Londonderry Turnpike.

Spectacular in the late afternoon when the sun shines on the fall foliage! Bring a picnic to enjoy on the Boy Scouts' tables at the far end of the field.

While you're there, notice the special care taken by several people to keep the area mowed so you can enjoy the beauty without fear of ticks. Our friends at the Tow of Bow Department of Public Works mow the parking area monthly, Rick Nylen mows the field once each summer AND, most amazingly, neighbor and Bow Open Spaces Trails Committee member Charly Lagasse uses his lawn tractor *every 2 weeks* to keep the parking and



kiosk areas tidy. He also mows a path around the perimeter of the field and mows the upper Eagle Trail. Thank you, thank you, one and all!

Update - Town Forest Rules

The Bow Select Board recently hosted a meeting to discuss issues related to use of the Town Forest - specifically, wheeled vehicles and dogs.

The meeting was well attended by members of the Bow Conservation Commission, Bow Open Spaces, and the Bow Pioneers.

Members of the Select Board clarified and confirmed that ATVs and motorized dirt bikes are not allowed on any trails that are on town property - this includes under power lines and on snowmobile trails.

There was considerable support expressed for mountain bicycles; and, the contribution by mountain bicyclists to trail development and maintenance was acknowledged. Since the meeting, the town has added information regarding motorized vehicles to [its website](#).

You can expect to see additional signage clarifying use of trails, and stepped up enforcement by the Bow Police Department.

The Select Board also clarified that while dogs are not required to be leashed, the law requires that they are under control (which means under voice command or on a leash).



Bow Select Board Members

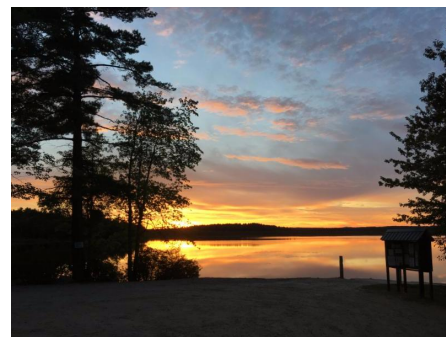
Get Out and Walk Day - Sunday, November 5!

Join the Bow and Dunbarton School District Wellness Committee in collaboration with Bow Parks and Rec for this fun family event. This is a great opportunity to get to know the trails around Bow High School.

The 2 mile trail route will start and end at the BHS track.

Check in begins at 1:30 p.m., the walk starts at 2:00 p.m.

[Text Link](#)



Turee Pond - near Bow High School

Trail Work - Success!

Thanks to the efforts of volunteers, the Walker/Hammond Forest is one step closer to having a user friendly trail network.

On September 17 the Esker and Webelos Trails were blazed, the lower entrance was improved with some fancy "trail hardening" work, and brush was cleared on the Webelos Trail.

The group also extended the Hampshire Hills Spur to the Esker Trail, with a goal of making a shorter loop for residents of the Hampshire Hills and Van Ger Drive area.

Thank you, volunteers!



Support Bow Open Spaces!

Monthly meetings at Baker Free Library

All are welcome to join the the monthly meetings of the Bow Open Spaces Board of Directors. We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Baker Free Library. We would love to hear from you about our open spaces - what you love and what improvements you would suggest. Our next meeting is Tuesday, November 7th - join us!

Membership? Your support of Bow Open Spaces is important! Become an official member of the organization today! Details on [our website](#).

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STAY CONNECTED:



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