



REQUEST FOR TRAIL OR OTHER ALTERATION ON THETFORD PROPERTY

The Thetford Conservation Commission exercises stewardship responsibility and is charged with (among other things) allowing recreational uses on Town lands which are consistent with conservation goals and have a minimal impact on the land. To this end, this application covers requests for trails, structures, and other alterations to Town of Thetford property which contain significant natural resources. These properties include, among others, the Hughes Forest, the Post Mills Nature Area, the Taylor Parcel, the Town Forest*, the Uihlein Property, and the wetland near Cranberry Road. Requests for alterations to Town property on parcels which do not have a conservation purpose (such as cemeteries, the Thetford Center Common, and the Town Garage) are not overseen by the Conservation Commission.

** Requests for alterations to the Town Forest under the lease between the Town and the UV Fish & Game Club should be submitted directly to the Selectboard who will seek the advice of the Conservation Commission as needed.*

PROCEDURE:

Upon receipt of a request, the applicant will be invited to a Conservation Commission meeting to further discuss the project. The Commission meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at Town Hall at 7:15pm. All meetings are open to the public.

Additional information may be requested, including, but not limited to, a site visit, review of the project by a professional (forester, ecologist, engineer, builder, etc.). Generally, any costs incurred in the acquisition of the additional information will be borne by the Applicant.

If the property is covered by a conservation easement, the Upper Valley Land Trust will be consulted and their approval must be obtained.

Once all the appropriate information has been gathered, the Conservation Commission will make a recommendation on the project to the Selectboard.

APPLICATION:

Name		Organization	
Phone		Email	
Type of Proposed Use		Parcel	

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Description of proposed project (be as specific as possible, attach sketches or other related material).

USES:

Types of people served by this proposed use (e.g. walkers, bikers, birders...)

How will this use co-exist with existing activities on the parcel?

Are there any anticipated conflicts with current activities? (if yes, please explain)

What are the anticipated parking requirements for the proposed use?

CONSERVATION EASEMENTS:

The Hughes Forest and Post Mills Nature Area are covered by Conservation Easements held by the Upper Valley Land Trust. Copies of the easements are available at Town Hall and <http://www.thetfordvermont.us/conscomm.htm>. In addition to the Selectboard, approval from UVLT is required for any proposed uses on these parcels.

How does the proposed use abide by the Conservation Easement?

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Are there any potential sources of conflict between the proposed use and the Conservation Easement? (if yes, please explain)

MANAGEMENT PLANS:

Several of the Town Parcels have Management Plans. These are available for review at Town Hall. Additionally, the primary text of the plans is available at <http://www.thetfordvermont.us/conscomm.htm>.

How does the proposed use abide by the Management Plan?

Are there any potential sources of conflict between the proposed use and the Management Plan? (if yes, please explain)

Is the proposed use in a designated reserve area?

IMPACT ON NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES:

Several of the properties have had natural resources inventories and maps of natural communities, forest cover and land features are available at Town Hall and <http://www.thetfordvermont.us/conscomm.htm>. If maps are not available for the related parcel, please familiarize yourself with the parcel before answering these questions.

If the answer to any of the following questions below is YES, then please add an explanation.



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Will the proposed use make alterations within 250ft of water features (including vernal pools, seeps, wetlands etc.)? **Please circle: Yes No Unsure**

Will the proposed use make alterations within or near significant natural communities? **Please circle: Yes No Unsure**

How will the proposed use impact soil erosion or compaction?

Please circle: Yes No Unsure

Will the proposed use increase the spread of invasive species?

Please circle: Yes No Unsure

Are there any other potential impacts on the natural resources of the parcel?

Please circle: Yes No Unsure

Are there any potential impacts on cultural or historical resources (for example: stone walls, cellar holes, wells, cemeteries, Native American cultural sites...)?

Please circle: Yes No Unsure



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MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE:

Please describe how the proposed use will be overseen and maintained including issues such as maintenance and upkeep, trash removal, monitoring and prevention of inappropriate activities (e.g. ATV use on a walking trail, dumping).

Who will be responsible for the above activities (please list persons and/or organizations).

What are the anticipated costs for this proposed use?

Initial costs	
Annual maintenance	

Who will be responsible for these costs?

OTHER:

Please provide any additional information.

Send completed application to:
Thetford Conservation Commission
Thetford Town Hall
P.O. Box 126
Thetford Center, VT 0507