

Barre Town Forest Management Plan Committee

Committee Make Up

The Barre Town Selectboard will appoint a core group, also known as the committee, of 7 Barre Town residents or individuals representing Barre Town organizations.

Committee Charge

This core group will be supplied the general parameters of what constitutes a management plan that would satisfy the requirements of the draft conservation easement and the two public funding sources (Vermont Housing & Conservation Board and the federal Community Forest & Open Space Program). With assistance from non-voting consultants: the Trust for Public Land, the Washington County Forester, and the Millstone Trails Association (MTA), this core group will organize, and coordinate the collection of information from individuals and organizations that have interest in the type of activities that would be included in the Barre Town Forest Management Plan. There have been many recreational groups that have expressed interest in providing guidance as it relates to their sport of interest. It is the intent of the Barre Town Selectboard that the Management Plan Committee utilizes the expertise of these folks or solicits from folks information as needed to create a balanced use of the Proposed Town Forest, while adhering to the restrictions of the draft conservation easement and requirements from the funding sources, and agreed to by the Barre Town Selectboard. The collection of information should also include at a minimum 2 public hearings to gather additional input from the public at large. From the collection of information, this core group, the Washington County Forester, The Trust for Public Land, and MTA will ~~create a Draft~~ draft a Barre Town Forest Management Plan, which the committee will approve and to present to the Selectboard for their its review and input. The final Management Plan will need to be reviewed and approved by the Washington County Forester, the Vermont Housing & Conservation Board, the Vermont Land Trust, and the Barre Town Selectboard.

The 10-year Plan will include:

- A description of the property, including acreage and location, land use, forest type and vegetation cover;
- Objectives for the community forest;
- Community benefits to be achieved from the establishment of the community forest;
- Mechanisms promoting community involvement in the development and implementation of the community forest plan;
- Implementation strategies for achieving community forest plan objectives;
- Plans for the utilization or demolition of existing structures and proposed needs for further improvements, such as parking areas or recreational structures;
- Long-term use and management of the property, including management needs of the recreational uses, and how they will be balanced with other uses of the property;

- A plan for road, sign, trail and sanitary facility use that has minimal impact on water quality and plant, wildlife and aquatic habitat;
- Provisions for the sustainable use of fish and wildlife resources; and
- Provisions for the identification and protection of natural communities, plant, wildlife and aquatic habitat and other ecologically sensitive or important areas.

Management Plan Meetings

It is understood that all Town Forest Management Plan Committee meetings will be open to the public and that minutes will be kept. It is expected that the core group of 7 will elect a chairperson, vice-chairperson and secretary that will facilitate all public hearings and meetings.

Time Table

It is the hope of the Barre Town Selectboard that this committee will have its work completed within a 6-month period.

Adopted by the Barre Town Selectboard April 12, 2011.
Amended April 26, 2011
Amended May 24, 2011