

Goose Pond Forest

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Summary Prepared April 1995
(Plan Adopted June, 1993)

Goose Pond Goals

Long Term: The intent of this plan is to maintain the natural beauty of the Greater Goose Pond Forest while encouraging public use. The area should provide the citizens of Keene a large woodland area accessible only on foot, ski, peddle bike or snowshoe from various points and laced with clearly marked trails and woods roads which lead to ponds, nature walks and scenic vistas.

Interim Goal: To produce accurate mapping, improve the trail systems with additional access points, more trail linkage and marked trails while concurrently proceeding with the identification of important natural areas and with land acquisitions needed to consolidate the area.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. Several key parcels should be acquired as soon as possible to assure the long range protection of the Goose Pond Forest.
2. A trail map for public use should be created as soon as possible and funding for the creation of the map should be given a high priority.
3. A schedule should be established for the creation of additional trails and the improvement and maintenance of existing trails.
4. A uniform sign system for use in all City open space areas (not just Goose Pond) should be developed by the Conservation Commission in coordination with the Parks and Recreation Department.
5. Biologically important areas should be identified by local high school and college students. A Forest inventory of all parcels should be prepared by a professional forester.

6. A Management Plan for the entire Goose Pond area should be prepared by the Conservation Commission, Planning Department and Parks and Recreation Department. This Plan should incorporate the results of the forest inventory, the biological survey, and the trails plan and should be submitted to the City Council for final approval.

7. A new trail from Gunn Road should be established to provide better access to the northern portions of the Goose Pond Forest.

8. The gated dirt access road entering the area from East Surry Road should be repaired.