

CONSERVATION COMMISSION AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING (VIRTUAL)
Thursday, January 12, 2023, 7:30 P.M.
Town Office Building, 15 Gilead Street, Hebron, CT

REGULAR MEETING (VIRTUAL)

Hebron Conservation Commission Regular Meeting (Virtual)
Thu, Jan 12, 2023 7:30 PM - 10:30 PM (EST)

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- I. Call to Order/Roll Call
 - A. Seating of Alternate
- II. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting – December 8, 2022
- III. Additions to the Agenda
- IV. Recognition of Guests: Opportunity for citizens to briefly address the Commission on non-agenda items.
- V. Violations
 - A. Ralph and Lynn LaGuardia, 25 Mai Road – Violation of Conservation Easement Update
 - 1. Motion to Move to Executive Session
- VI. New Applications - None
- VII. Pending Applications - None
- VIII. Wetlands Agent Approvals / Compliance Updates
- IX. Pre-applications - None

CONSERVATION COMMISSION
AGENDA (cont.)
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X. New Business

- A. Discussion of Conservation Commission input regarding the Parks and Recreation Department's revision of Hebron's Park and Open Space Policies

XI. Other Pertinent Business

- A. CT RC&D ERT Update
- B. Discussion of the Airline Trail State Park Master Plan and Hebron Events
 - 1. Listing of Hebron Recreational Highlights
 - 2. Gold Star Trails Map
- C. Discussion of DEEP Timber Harvest in SRSF

XII. Correspondence

- A. Email from A. Zitkus to the Commission re: Park and Rec update of Open Space Policies, January 1, 2023
- B. Email chain from A. Zitkus and J. Chester to the Commission re: Park and Rec Parks and Open Space Policy Update and Leashed/Unleashed Domestic Animals
- C. Emails from A. Zitkus to Town Staff and CT RC&D re: Hebron Events to be Posted on the ALT Website
- D. Email from A. Zitkus to CT RC&D re: Public Recreational Highlights in Conjunction with the ALT
- E. Email from J. Chester to the Commission re: CAWS 2023 Annual Meeting

XIII. Liaison Reports

- A. Open Space Land Acquisition Committee
- B. Salmon River Watershed Partnership
- C. CT Association of Wetlands Scientists; Notice of Next Annual Meeting (March 9, 2023, live in Berlin CT)

XIV. Adjournment

Next Regular Meeting – February 9th, 2023 (Virtual)

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2023 JAN -6 A 9:43

Carla A. Thompson
HEBRON TOWN CLERK

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**TOWN OF HEBRON
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Thursday, December 8, 2022 - 7:30 PM**

MINUTES

RECEIVED

Carla A. Bongiorno
2022 DEC 13 A 8:19

HEBRON TOWN CLERK

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Vice-Chair Christopher Frey called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. and directed that Ann Zitkus be seated as an alternate member of the Commission.

Members Present: Christopher Frey (Vice-Chair), Dan Seremet, Joanna Chester, Ann Zitkus

Not Present: Tom Loto (Chair), Jasmin Okugic

Also Present: Jim Cordier (Wetlands Agent), Joan Nichols (Certified Forester), Paul Towne (Quinebaug Valley Engineers), Ken Jardin (Parks and Rec Commission Chair), Craig Bryant (Parks and Rec Dept Director)

II. Approval of Minutes – November 10, 2022 (Regular Meeting)

Motion by A. Zitkus and seconded by J. Chester to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

III. Additions to Agenda

J. Cordier submitted the following addition:

Section XI Other Pertinent Business – Add XI.B Horse Ring Materials

A. Zitkus submitted the following addition:

Section XI Other Pertinent Business – Add XI.C Ice Chip International Road Salt Alternative Update

J. Cordier submitted the following addition:

Section VII Pending Applications – Add VII.A DEEP Timber Harvest, Riedy Hill

IV. Recognition of Guests

J. Cordier recognized Joan Nichols (Certified Forester) and Paul Towne (Quinebaug Valley Engineers), pursuant to **Section VI New Applications – 2022-08 F Notification of Timber Harvest.**

V. Violations

A. Ralph and Lynn LaGuardia, 25 Mai Road – Violation of Conservation Easement Update – J. Cordier reported ongoing communication between Ken Slater (Town Counsel), and Attorney Dubitsky (representing the property owner). The owner is having a surveyor delineate between the areas in question, and will update Attorney Slater when completed. J. Cordier noted it has been over a week, and that no further updates are likely until the survey is complete.

VI. New Applications

A. 2022-08 F – 981 Church St, Route 85, Amston, Quinebaug Valley Engineers – Notification of Timber Harvest

J. Cordier stated the application concerns a private commercial timber harvest at the old Zagray Farm on the Hebron/Colchester border. 75 acres are targeted for harvest.

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The objective is to thin the forest, enhance forest health, release advanced oak regeneration, and improve overall stand quality, promoting long-term sustainability and forest management. Approximately 35-40% of merchantable saw timber will be thinned, with low vigor, damaged and diseased trees being removed. The only noted impact to area wetlands would be a temporary bridge for trucks and equipment, allowing them to cross a roughly 5' wide stream. Water bars will be installed per the field judgement of J. Cordier or the forestry agent. Additionally, some trees will be removed in an upland review area. The operation falls under agricultural use, and will be supervised, with J. Cordier receiving occasional updates. He noted the operation is a use as of right, and the Commission has no jurisdiction to impose restrictions. The notification is a professional courtesy. He introduced Joan Nichols, a certified forester retained by Quinebaug Valley Engineers. She shared aerial photos overlayed with the proposed harvest zone, property boundaries and existing skid roads to be used during the operation. Utility lines and wetlands easements were also included. There is a small portion to the west of the Airline Trail and north of the gravel pit, but the majority of the harvest would be to the east of the trail. She described the area as a high and well-drained upland oak stand, with very little wetlands on the property. There is a small stream at the southern end of the property, running parallel to the AT&T easement. Quinebaug Valley is applying to construct a temporary bridge to provide truck access to the harvest site south of the stream. It would likely be a timber bridge featuring sawn-out material bolted together in one large mat, or multiple smaller sections.

A. Zitkus asked if a buffer of trees would be left in place along the trail to preserve the scenery for users. J. Nichols stated visual evidence of harvesting is unavoidable, but she believes the operator will perform effective cleanup in order obtain more saleable firewood. She also noted there is existing fire scar damage from the time the railroad was active.

A. Zitkus asked if abutting landowners would be notified of the harvest. J. Nichols stated they would not, as there is no requirement to do so. She anticipates the operation will take roughly 2 months. The Commission discussed posting signs notifying trail users of logging activity ahead, then discussed the issue of invasive species. There is a non-native jumping worm which has become a rapidly developing issue in the area. J. Nichols stated she has not yet encountered that problem in the context of logging operations, and thus does not have a protocol to address the jumping worm issue at this time. J. Cordier stated SOPs for many municipalities and companies is to wash down trucks and equipment before moving them between sites.

P. Towne (Quinebaug Valley Engineers) reiterated the truck crossings at the railroad trail will be flagged, either with a sign or by an operator, in order to maintain pedestrian safety.

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J. Cordier again stated the Commission has no jurisdiction to impose stipulations for approval, but may make recommendations such as those already noted, namely safety at crossing areas and aesthetic maintenance along the eastern side of the trail.

Motion by D. Seremet and seconded by J. Chester that, pursuant to Section 4.1 and 4.2 of the Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Regulations of the Town of Hebron, and discussion by the Commission at its December 8th, 2022 meeting, the Hebron Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission affirms petition 2022-08 F – Notification of Timber Harvesting, as represented in the applicant's presentation on the foregoing date. There are no stipulations noted, as the foregoing harvest operation is a use as of right activity. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

VII. Pending Applications

A. DEEP Timber Harvest (Riedy Hill)

J. Cordier reported on an email from Nathan Piche, who is overseeing the project for DEEP. A walkthrough of the site was conducted. Notification is again a professional courtesy. The project is anticipated to start next week. C. Frey will be keeping tabs on the project as well. D. Seremet noted the Commission had requested DEEP present their plan at a Commission meeting, but that had not occurred. DEEP did provide the Commission with information including a management plan. A. Zitkus expressed concern over the proposed level of clearing, stating that although the operation is described as a "thinning," it appears to be more of a clear-cut. She also stated her concern about the use of herbicide in the operation. C. Frey noted he did not recall any mention of chemicals in the management plan provided. J. Cordier urged members not to speculate, and to reference the written materials provided by DEEP. D. Seremet requested occasional updates on the project from DEEP. J. Cordier will follow up. The Commission also discussed what protocols DEEP has to prevent further jumping worm invasion. J. Cordier stated many agencies are still determining mitigation or abatement procedures.

VIII. Wetlands Agent Approvals/Compliance Updates

No update.

IX. Pre-Applications

None

X. New Business

A. Parks and Recreation Department Park and Open Space Policies Presentation

Ken Jardin and Craig Bryant joined the Commission to present the Parks and Recreation Department's proposed Park and Open Space Policies revision, which has not been updated since 2009. It was also expanded to include Open Space policies, as the Department has oversight of those properties. That revision was reviewed by A. Zitkus, who provided further proposed additions and deletions, which the Commission then discussed with K. Jardin and C. Bryant. Further suggested revisions from Commission members will be submitted to K. Jardin prior to the Park and Rec

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Commission's next meeting on January 17th, 2023. Topics reviewed included the following:

1. **Pesticides** – K. Jardin asked if the Commission wanted to include specific prohibited pesticides (such as neonicotinoid and chlorpyrifos insecticides), or use broader language. C. Bryant stated the Department has no written pesticide policy, but utilizes best practices as usual. He noted there has not been a need for any treatment operations other than mechanical to this point.
2. **Open Space definition** – expanded to include ecosystem services and protections
3. **Fees for Open Spaces** – A differentiation between active Park and Rec facilities and passive Open Spaces must be made, as charging fees for Open Space properties would negate certain liability protections. Further, use of passive lands purchased with state funds cannot be assessed a fee.
4. **Trail Use** – A suggested addition would advise users to respect adjacent private property by staying on trails, as well as following proper trail etiquette.
5. **Additional Activities** – Proposed activities for addition (and relevant guidelines) include hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. J. Chester noted there is no section on running/walking. New sections concerning boating and farming were discussed. A. Zitkus' proposed addition would require farmers to obtain permission from the Parks Director and Conservation Officer prior to farming in Open Space land. K. Jardin noted there is a history of farming at this Open Space property. He would not be in favor of requiring consultation, which J. Cordier agreed with.
6. **Prohibited Uses and Activities** – Proposed additions would be aimed at preventing the introduction or removal of non-native species. J. Chester also asked if archaeological artifacts should be included. Reasons for prohibiting swimming and wading were discussed, namely user safety.
7. **Dog Park** – J. Chester suggested an off-leash dog area in Open Space.
8. **Parks/Open Spaces Names** – A. Zitkus noted there is not an established procedure for naming park/Open Space lands in town, and inquired about establishing one.

XI. Other Pertinent Business

A. CT RC&D ERT Update

J. Cordier reported no update, as DEEP's Wildlife Division has not yet submitted their input.

B. Horse Ring Materials

J. Chester previously expressed concern regarding artificial materials used in horse rings, namely ground-up tires and sneakers. J. Cordier reported that after contacting the property owner, and based upon his own observations, that the material in question is packed gravel, not an artificial material. He also noted the Commission has no power of stipulation or enforcement, but recommendations to follow best practices are reasonable. The Commission then discussed the requirements to be considered a farm, and conditions imposed on properties achieving that designation.

C. Ice Chip International Road Salt Alternative Update

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A. Zitkus reported after meeting with a sales rep from Ice Chip International, she still has questions, particularly regarding their efforts to kill jumping worm cocoons, which may survive for 2 years. The company provides an alternative to road salt utilizing crushed wood chips. A. Zitkus stated she was told they heat the wood chips to 140 degrees and turn it over frequently. She would like them to state they will adhere to the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station requirements. C. Frey asked if anyone had approached Public Works about road salt alternatives; A. Zitkus stated she spoke to Andy Tierney previously. C. Frey raised the possibility of conducting a trial with the alternative product, perhaps in a smaller, town-owned parking lot. J. Cordier noted budget cycles are just beginning, giving the town enough time to set aside funds if that decision is made. The impact to streams and waterways from residual wood chips is believed to be comparable to normal, seasonal debris from leaves and sticks.

XII. Correspondence

- A. Letter of Reappointment of Joanna Chester to the Conservation and Inland Wetlands Commission**

XIII. Liaison Reports

- A. Open Space Land Acquisition Committee**

C. Frey noted one update regarding the O'Connor property; two appraisals were conducted, with the same value determination of roughly \$481,000. The committee recommended the town purchase the property, which the owner has agreed to sell for the appraised amount. The town will attempt to recoup some of that money through state land acquisition grants and other avenues.

- B. Salmon River Watershed Partnership**

No updates since last meeting; C. Frey noted they are always looking to increase the group's visibility.

- C. CT Association of Wetlands Scientists**

J. Chester reported no updates.

XIV. Adjournment

J. Cordier noted the next meeting is scheduled for January 12th, 2023.

Motion by J. Chester and seconded by D. Seremet to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

Vice-Chair C. Frey adjourned the meeting at 10:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Hannah Walcott (Board Clerk)

Conservation Commission suggestions to Draft Amendment (10-24-2022)

Park and Open Space Policies

These are great updates to the Park and Open Space Policies! Thank you for asking us for input. Please see our suggestions below:

in blue = suggested to be added

in red ~~strikeout~~ = to omit

in green = added as explanation, but not intended to be part of the Policies (can delete from Policies document)

We are happy to discuss any of these items with the Parks and Recreation Commission and, again, greatly appreciate the request for input.

Sincerely,
Conservation Commission

DRAFT AMENDMENT (10-24-2022)

Town Of Hebron
Parks & Recreation Commission
Park and Open Space Policies

Sec 1 Introduction

The Town of Hebron (hereafter, The Town) takes pride in the high quality of its parks, recreational facilities and open space. The Parks & Recreation Commission (hereafter, The Commission) has therefore directed the staff of the Parks & Recreation Department (hereafter, The Department) to manage the Town's parks, recreational facilities and open space in a fair manner that recognizes proper care and conditioning.

Sec 2 Definitions

Parks: Developed public green areas owned by the Town devoted to the use of active and passive recreational needs. Parks may include defined parking areas, enhanced trails, bridges, roads, buildings, and other permanent structures.

Recreational Facilities: Any areas and structures owned by the Town designed for specific recreational purposes, such as athletic fields, playgrounds, courts and pavilions.

Open Space: Undeveloped conservation areas owned by the Town ~~and used~~ for passive recreational ~~or agricultural~~ purposes; ecosystem services including climate mitigation, water / air filtration preservation, and biodiversity protection; ~~which~~ and farming, as appropriate. This may include but is not limited to land without buildings, roads, driveways, or other permanent structures.

Sec 3 Hours of operation

All parks, recreational facilities and open space shall be open Sunrise to Sunset unless posted by the Parks & Recreation Director or their authorized agent (hereafter, The Director) subject to the limitations stated. No person shall under any circumstances without written permission enter, remain, or loiter in any park, recreational facility or open space, between closing and opening time as posted by the Director. All parks of the Town will have signs posted regarding hours.

Sec 4 Exclusion from parks, recreational facilities and open space

The Town Manager, the Director as the designee of the Town Manager and any police authority shall have the right to exclude, when necessary, any person from entering a park or recreation facility or a portion of any park, recreation facility or open space to ensure that the area will not become over-crowded, or to ensure the safety of persons both inside and outside the park or recreation facility.

The Town Manager, the Director as the designee of the Town Manager and any police authority shall also have the right cause to have removed or excluded from any park, recreation facility or open space any person whose conduct is detrimental to the safety of others, creates a risk of damage to property or is in violation of these rules or of any federal, state or local statutes, ordinances, or regulations.

In emergency situations, any portion of parks, recreational facilities or open space may be closed to the public until it is deemed safe to reopen.

Sec 5 Supervision of minors

No supervision will be provided by the Department for minors, except in programs sponsored by the Department.

Sec 6 Permits

A permit is required for any person, group, or organization who or which seeks to use any park, recreational facility or open space in a manner which is prohibited by, disallowed under, or at variance with the specific uses and activities permitted under this ordinance, or where an exception is sought or if scheduled for a specific group or use. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age. The Town and its departments shall not be required to obtain a permit, to enter upon parks, recreational facilities or open space for any Town purpose but shall in advance obtain permission to perform its function from the Director. Recreational facility use plans shall be approved annually by the Commission.

A permit is required for any person, group or organization who or which seeks to engage in any activity which, without any exception to these rules and regulations, would not be permitted or who or which seeks to reserve a park, recreational facility or open space, or portion thereof for a particular schedule of events. The Director may approve or deny a permit upon such conditions as are reasonably necessary to protect public property and safety.

Any permit granted by the Director is granted subject to all other statutes, ordinances, and regulations which are applicable to the use sought, activity to be undertaken, and park, recreation facility or open space to be used.

All fees imposed by the Town for use of parks, recreational facilities or open space shall be paid in full at least 7 days prior to the scheduled date of use.

Cautionary note: Charging fees for open space recreational use would negate landowner liability protection afforded to municipalities. State Statute Section 52-557G: "[...] an owner of land who makes all or any part of the land available to the public **without charge, rent fee or other commercial service** for recreational purposes owes no duty of care to keep the land, or the part thereof so made available, safe for entry or use by others for recreational purposes, or to give any warning of a dangerous condition, use, structure or activity on the land to persons entering for recreational purposes." Sec. 52-557h states that **the owner would be liable if there are charges** for the recreational use of the land. [bold text added for clarity]

Any permit obtained under this section shall be retained by the person or group for which the permit was granted and shall be shown to the Town Manager, any member of the Department, or police upon request. Failure to have possession of and to show said permit upon such request may subject the person or group to civil removal from the parks, lawful remedies or criminal penalties.

Standards of Issuance of permits:

The proposed activity or use of the park, recreational facility or open space will not unreasonably interfere with or detract from the general public enjoyment **or ecosystem services** of the park, recreational facility or open space;

The proposed activity and use will not unreasonably interfere with or detract from the promotion of public health, welfare, safety and recreation;

The proposed activity cannot reasonably be expected to incite violence, crime, or disorderly conduct;

The proposed activity will not entail unusual, extraordinary or burdensome expense or police operation of the Town. The Town reserves the right to require police presence at any event with the user reimbursing the cost of police service.

Sec 7 Fees

Fees charged for the use of parks, recreational facilities or open space shall be paid directly to the Department with the Town named as payee. Checks may be accepted at the discretion of the Director. A returned check charge may be imposed for all checks which are returned from the payor's bank unpaid. Fee schedule will be annually reviewed by the Commission and approved by the Director.

Sec 8 No liability for stolen property, property damage, personal injury As a condition for use of parks, recreational facilities or open space, persons or

groups using any park, recreational facility or open space agree to hold the Town harmless, assume all responsibility for lost or stolen property, personal injuries, or property damage, and by entry onto the park, recreational facility or open space agree that the use of the park, recreational facility or open space is at their own risk. If fees are charged, landowner is liable per state statute noted above.

Sec 9 Use in accordance with law

Any persons or group using parks, recreational facilities or open space shall do so in accordance with all applicable state statutes and regulations, and town ordinances and regulations, and posted rules.

Sec 10 Vehicles, motor vehicles, parking

Motor vehicles are permitted in parks, recreational facilities and open space only in designated parking areas.

Vehicles shall be parked so as not to unduly restrict the parking of other vehicles or to obstruct the passage of other vehicles, including emergency vehicles or operators, into and out of the designated area.

The following vehicles are permitted access to all park areas

- (1) Authorized emergency vehicles, including but not limited to fire department, police and ambulance, and other emergency vehicles.
- (2) Town vehicles.
- (3) Vehicles engaged in department-approved maintenance.
- (4) Vehicles engaged in activities related to the enforcement of this section.
- (5) Other vehicles authorized by the Director.

Sec 11 Speed Limit

The speed limit within all parks and recreational facilities will be posted, but not more than 15 mph.

Sec 12 Domestic Animals

Domestic animals must be on a leash and restrained at all times except in designated areas. Owners shall clean up and dispose of animal waste, in approved receptacle. In areas where domestic animals are off-leash, they must be under the control of their owners.

Sec 13 Flying model aircraft, drones

The use of any flying model aircraft or drones shall be allowed only with permission of the Director.

Trail Use: Ensure treads of shoes, bicycles, etc. are clean before entering open spaces; brush off any acquired soil before leaving open spaces. This helps prevent the transport of jumping worm cocoons that may be present in soil.

Respect private property adjacent to trails; staying on trails is highly encouraged.

Observe the Trail User Yield Symbol (see attached) for safety purposes. Bicycles and pedestrians pull over as needed to let horses go by; bicycles yield to pedestrians. Downhill hikers yield to uphill hikers, same with bikers.

Sec 14 Bicycles

Bicycles may be ridden in designated areas in parks, recreational facilities and open space, provided that such use is in accordance with all applicable state statutes and general town ordinances regulating the use of bicycles, including but not limited to the requirements pertaining to working brakes and operator helmets. Bicycle riders must stay on the designated trails and ride in a manner respectful of the property and of other trail users. See Trail User Yield Symbol.

Ensure wheel treads are free of soil before entering open space areas. to prevent importing non-native invasive jumping worm cocoons that may be in soils.

Bicycles with motors of any kind are specifically prohibited, except for electric bicycles as allowed per applicable state statutes.

Sec 15 Horseback riding

Horses may be ridden in designated areas in parks, recreational facilities and open space, provided that such use is in accordance with all applicable state statutes and general town ordinances regulating the use of horses. Horse riders must stay on the designated trails and ride in a manner respectful of the property and of other trail users.

Sec # Hiking, Snowshoeing, Cross-Country Skiing

Please refer to Safety Tips on Parks and Recreation website (i.e., location tracking, wearing colorful clothing, etc.). Staying on trails is highly encouraged. (Observe Trail User Yield Symbol for safety.)

Ensure shoe treads are free of soil before entering open space areas to prevent importing non-native invasive jumping worm cocoons that may be in soils. Brush off any accumulated soil before leaving a property.

Sec 16 Skateboarding, roller skating, rollerblading

Skateboarding, roller skating, and rollerblading are permitted only where posted.

Sec 17 Fishing

Fishing is permitted only where posted. To prevent the spread of jumping worms, The dumping of fishing bait is prohibited. Ensure fishing bait does not include jumping worms; worms purchased online, especially, may include them.

Sec 18 Ice Skating

Ice skating is permitted only at places and under conditions posted.

Sec # Boating – boating is permitted only where posted. Clean boats are required to prevent importation of aquatic non-native invasive species.

Sec # Farming

Where there is a history of use, and as practical / harmonious with other uses, open space land may be farmed with permission from the Director, in consultation with the Conservation Officer. Climate smart agricultural practices – as identified by USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) - are encouraged. Please see: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/natural-resource-concerns/climate/climate-smart-mitigation-activities> The use of neonicotinoid and chlorpyrifos insecticides in farming on open space is prohibited as is the regular use (used without the crop being threatened) of chemical herbicides and pesticides (see below Prohibited uses).

Sec 19 Prohibited uses and activities

The following uses and activities shall be and are hereby prohibited in parks, recreational facilities and open space:

- *Damage to property.* No persons shall damage, deface, displace, remove, destroy or tamper with any gates, fences, security devices, seats, shelters, or structures of any nature whatsoever, roads or any equipment or building or part of thereof, or any sign, notice or inscription, owned, operated, or under control of the Town.
- No persons shall deface, remove, destroy, or otherwise injure in any manner whatsoever any structure, waterway, trails, rock, artifact, tree, flower, or any other plant life; nor disturb or molest any wildlife. To prevent the introduction of harmful non-native invasive species (i.e., jumping worms, or releasing pet turtles, fish, etc.): To protect biodiversity, any plants, animals, mulch, soil, etc., will not be added / released unless approved by the Director, in communication with Conservation Officer. Gathering of seeds or herbs requires the permission of the Director. This is to ensure that the gathering does not threaten the reproduction of beneficial communities of plants. (Volunteer activities involving safe, manual removal of non-native invasive plants are allowed with prior permission from Director, in communication with Conservation Officer.)
- *Littering.* No rubbish or debris shall be brought into a park, recreational facility or open space for disposal. Any rubbish or debris, which results from the usual and normal use of a park or recreational facility, may be disposed of only in receptacles provided in the park or recreation facility for such purpose. Disposing, throwing, leaving, dropping, or discharging any rubbish or debris in any other place upon the premises of a park, recreational facility or open space is prohibited. State Parks rules: "Take only pictures, leave only footprints." It is not allowed to leave anything in a state park nor to take anything.
- *Rubbish, garbage, sewage and noxious material.* No persons shall bring into, leave behind or dump any material of any kind into the open space. Refuse is not to be dropped, thrown or scattered on open space property. No persons

shall throw, discharge into, cast, drop or leave in any river, brook, stream, pond, lake, or drain any substance, matter or thing, either liquid or solid, which may or shall result in the pollution of said river, brook, stream, pond or lake.

A note about the suggested prohibitions below: As previously stated, Town open spaces serve multiple purposes requiring harmony among them. These include preserving / regenerating water, biodiversity, clean air; providing the public with healthy passive recreational opportunities; addressing the climate emergency by drawing large amounts of carbon emissions from the air and storing them in the ground; and allowing for farming in some areas. Because the use of neonicotinoid and chlorpyrifos insecticides are killing / harming pollinators and songbirds, easily get into groundwater, and cause fetal defects in mammals, Connecticut has recently banned chlorpyrifos use by golf courses and landscapers and there is much effort to do the same for neonicotinoids (they have both been banned for homeowner use for years). Hebron's Plan of Conservation and Development is being updated to prohibit their use in open space farming uses and thus prompts a similar suggestion to the drafted Park and Open Space Policies. Also, the regular use of chemical herbicides and pesticides in farming exposes threatened pollinators, songbirds, and the public to them. Instead, if a farming need arises that requires the use of chemical pesticides or herbicides, the matter could first be reviewed by the Conservation Commission. If pesticides or herbicides are used, posting of the area would be first be required and kept up during and for a safe period after so that the public, their pets, etc. are kept safe.

- *Herbicides and Pesticide Use in farming operations:* The regular use of chemical herbicides and pesticides in farming operations on open spaces is prohibited as is the use of neonicotinoid and chlorpyrifos insecticides. If a need for a chemical herbicide or pesticide arises, review by the Conservation Commission is required. When herbicides or pesticides are used, the area must be posted before, during, and for a period after, to notify the public that they are in use.
- *Advertising.* No persons, companies, or other entities shall distribute or display any flag, banner, sign or any other matter for advertising or promotional purposes, nor attempt to attract attention for advertising purposes by use of any musical instruments or any sound device without the approval of the Director. The foregoing provision shall not be deemed to prohibit entering a park, recreational facility or open space by means of motor vehicles displaying company logos, identification or other similar information.
- *Soliciting.* No person shall solicit for any purpose whatsoever.
- Functions involving an entrance fee, raffle, fund raising or for-profit activities that are not related to a local non-profit are prohibited.

□

- *Swimming or recreational wading.* Swimming or wading is prohibited.

□

- *Golf.* The playing or practicing of golf, or the driving or hitting of golf balls, is prohibited.
- *Camping.* No person shall camp overnight, unless approved by special permit.
- *Fireworks.* No person shall bring in or have in his possession in any park, recreational facility or open space any fireworks, of any nature whatsoever.
- *Fires.* No person shall kindle, build or maintain a fire except at approved locations.
- *Excavation.* No person shall dig or remove any dirt or stone except in areas designated by the Director, make any excavation in violation of town zoning ordinances, quarry any stone, or set off any explosion, or cause or assist in doing any of these things.
- *Metal Detectors.* The use of metal detectors is prohibited.
- *Hunting, trapping and disturbing wildlife.* No persons shall hunt, trap or otherwise disturb any animal or bird; nor shall any person remove, collect or have in his possession the young of any wild animal or the egg or nest of any bird unless express written permission is given by the Director.
- *Firearms.* No person shall use, carry or possess firearms of any kind or have air- or gas-powered guns, crossbows or bows, or other missile-throwing devices or weapons of any kind.
- *Snow vehicles, motorbikes and all-terrain vehicles.* Motorized snow vehicles, motorbikes, all-terrain vehicles or any other means of motorized transport are not permitted.

Sec 20 Alcoholic beverages/drugs/smoking

- No alcoholic beverages, cannabis or controlled substances of any kind may be possessed or consumed by any person within a park, recreational facility or open space.
- No person shall be present in any park or recreational facility under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance or combination thereof to the extent that the person's ability to use the facilities is impaired to a substantial degree or to the extent that the person's condition impairs the health, safety, or enjoyment of the park or recreational facility by any other person or group.
- Smoking or vaping of any kind is prohibited in any park, recreational facility or open space.

Sec 21 Director's ability to grant permission

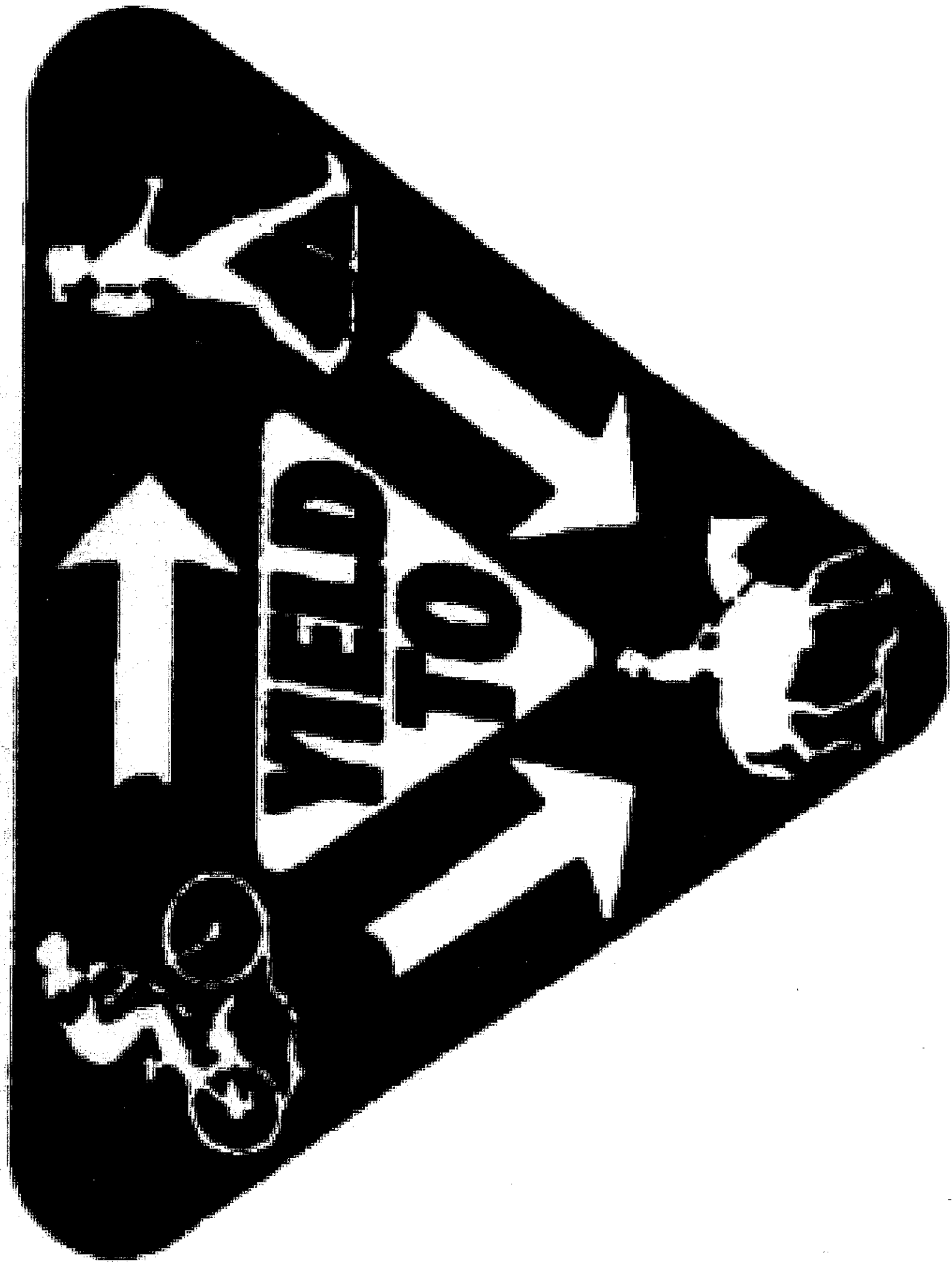
The Director may approve exceptions to these rules by granting permission for such an exception under such conditions as he deems appropriate. All such approvals shall be in writing setting forth the reason therefore.

Sec 22 Power to enforce chapter

The town's police department shall have the power and authority to enforce all sections contained in this ordinance.

Sec 23 Violations and penalties

Any person who violates any of the above rules and regulations shall be subject to a fine, penalties, cost and damages specified in (272-3 in the code ordinances).



Hebron Events for 2023 for Air Line Trail 12-Town website

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration Monday, January 16, 2023 6:30 p.m. St. Peters Episcopal Church Hall, 30 Church Street, Hebron CT 06248 Prior registration required by emailing: code.diversity1@gmail.com We will have a dinner together at St. Peter's Church in Hebron, view a 1 hour PBS production hosted by Professor Henry Louis Gates, Jr: "Making Black America", Episode 4: *From Black Power to Black Twitter* revealing safe spaces created by Black America; Discussion following the movie *This event is free of charge but free-will donations will be accepted to defray food costs.*

Hebron Maple Festival Saturday Mar 18 and Sunday Mar 19, 2023

<https://members.windhamchamber.com/events/details/hebron-maple-festival-03-18-2023-596>

10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. The 35th Annual Hebron Maple Festival is a two day event celebrating one of our great agricultural traditions...maple syrup production! The highlight of the event is the touring of active maple sugaring houses in the area. Join us on the Hebron Green for fun: maple flavored food items, arts and crafts, quilt show, demonstrations, games and our loved by all tractor parade. For a complete list of events and vendors please visit our website as we get closer to the weekend. The event runs rain or snow or shine. The event is in the Hebron Library parking lots and town green, right on Route 66. The event is mostly outdoors so please dress appropriately. Parking downtown is VERY limited so please park at RHAM High School and take one of our constantly running shuttle buses to the event. Handicap parking is directly across the street from the Library.

Market Day May 2023 (date to be announced) 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hebron Town Center <https://www.thetowncenterproject.org/marketday>

This outdoor event features tag sales, handmade goods, art, antiques, home decor, clothing, jewelry and more!

National Trail Day June 3rd, 2023 Free Event Enjoy a guided hike on one of Hebron's many trails. Time and Place to be announced nearer event date.
<https://hebronct.recdesk.com/Community/Page?pagelId=21530>

Farmers and Artisans Market June, July, August, 2023 dates, times to be announced Hebron Elementary School, 92 Church St., Amston (Hebron)
<https://hebronct.recdesk.com/Community/Page?pagelId=21530>

Hebron Day Celebration June 17th, 2023 Free Event Burnt Hill Park, 148 East Street, Hebron, CT Fun for the Whole Family: Activities, Food, Music, Vendors More info to be announced: <https://hebronct.recdesk.com/Community/Page?pagelId=21530>

Juneteenth, jointly organized by Coalition on Diversity and Equity (CoDE), Historic Properties Commission, and Hebron Parks and Recreation Free Event We will be celebrating Juneteenth, the national holiday celebrating the end of slavery in the United States, on Hebron Day (June 17th this year) at the historic Peters House at Burnt Hill Park, 148 East Street, Hebron. The Peters House is on the Freedom Trail in honor of

Cesar and Lowis Peters and their children, former slaves during the later 1700's in Hebron, who were able to gain their freedom in one of the most dramatic freedom tales of Connecticut history and one of the early stories of the abolitionist movement in Connecticut. Enjoy a tour of the restored Peters House, a museum and community center. For more info, see: <https://hebronthistoricalsociety.org/hebron-slavery.html>; <https://code-diversity.org/>

Hebron Lions Fireworks June, date and time to be announced Free Event Lion's Fairground, 347 Gilead Street, Hebron <https://www.hebronclions.org/fireworks>

Make Music Day June 21, 2023 Main Street, Hebron times to be announced Free Event <https://www.thetowncenterproject.org/makemusicday> A celebration of music around the world, held on the same day—the Summer Solstice—in more than 800 cities in 120 countries. How exciting is that!

Fourth of July July 4, 2023 time to be announced Old Town Hall, Main Street, Hebron Free Event <https://www.thetowncenterproject.org/fourth-of-july>

Summer Concerts on the Lawn Saturdays July 8, 15, 22, 29; August 5, 19, 26 times to be announced, outside the Century 21 offices on Main St., Hebron Free Events. Parking also available at Douglas Library across the street. <https://www.thetowncenterproject.org/summer-concert-series>

Hebron Harvest Fair Thurs. – Sun., September 7-10, 2023 Lion's Fairground, 347 Gilead Street, Hebron times at: <https://www.hebrontharvestfair.org/fair-future-past> An annual event since 1971, the Hebron Harvest Fair has grown to become one of the largest agricultural fairs in Connecticut! Four days of fun featuring animal displays, various fair food, animal pulls, truck pulls, country music, carnival midway, and something to enjoy for the entire family.

Harvest Moon Festival October 2023 Saturday date, times to be announced <https://www.thetowncenterproject.org/harvest-moon> Join us along Main Street (Route 66) for a spooky, ghoulish gathering. Featuring a tower of Jack-o-Lanterns, apple pie baking contest, music, vendors, food trucks and trick-or-treating! The Ghoul Bus is a free shuttle that brings visitors from RHAM to the Town Center, Fire Station and Ted's.

Ghost Run 20th Annual Half-Marathon Saturday Nov. 4, 2023, 9 a.m. **Registration required.** Forms and more info available will be at Hebron Parks and Recreation Department, Burnt Hill Park, 148 East St., Hebron and <https://hebronct.recdesk.com/Community/Page?pageId=21530> The race begins at Hebron Elementary School located on Route 85, picks up the Air Line Trail behind Juliano's Pools, and continues on the Air Line Trail through Colchester and into East Hampton, ending at Center Elementary School. Relay running with shuttle buses available.

Why the name "Ghost Run": In 1891 the New England Limited Railroad Co. purchased two plush Pullman luxury cars painted white with gold trim. The remainder of

the train was white washed and the engine crews and staff were dressed in white overalls. The "White Train" became an instant success, carrying businessmen and the wealthy between Boston and New York. For people watching the locomotive and cars speeding through their trains, the train became known as the "Ghost Train."

National Take-a-Hike Day Free Event Nov. 17, 2023 and also Sat., Nov. 18, 2023 times and location to be announced

<https://hebronct.recdesk.com/Community/Page?pageId=21530>

Lights in Motion Thanksgiving through New Year's Day (some closed days to be announced) Lion's Fairground, 347 Gilead Street, Hebron

<https://www.lionslightsinmotion.org> A 20-minute drive of 1 mile through over a million lights changing color and synchronized to music. "Next generation" light show benefitting children's charities.

Hebron's Open Space Public Recreational Highlights

as well as the Air Line Trail

Listed from north to south.

For locations of Preserves within Hebron, please see accompanying Map of Hebron's Trails created by Hebron resident Catherine Chester during the course of earning her Girl Scout Gold Award

Note: Town-owned Preserves follow State Park Rules unless otherwise noted in Hebron Parks and Recreation *Parks and Open Space Policies*

Gay City State Park (abutting Meshomasic State Forest) 435 North Street, Hebron, CT

Highly varied State Park of over 1,500 acres rich in cultural and natural assets. Includes extensive hiking system, historical interest, picnicking amenities, seasonal swimming with seasonal amenities. A regional draw. Large parking areas.

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/State-Parks/Parks/Gay-City-State-Park>

Jagger Lane - Way (temporary name) **Preserve** entryway on north side of Jagger Lane, intersection of Hardy Road and Jagger Lane

32-acre preserve of hilly open fields and the Merrow Swamp, a wetlands of statewide special concern. Includes a small pond, a section of forest with specimen trees, and in-use agricultural field. Scenic views of the marsh and excellent bird watching opportunities. Parking: on shoulder of road, dead end side of Jagger Lane. *Photo attached.*

<https://hebronpaths.org/maps#jagger>

Holbrook Pond 142 Gilead St., Hebron

83-acre pond with boat ramp nestled in a 240-acre parcel of the Salmon River State Forest. A regional draw. Large parking area.

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Boating/Boat-Launches/Holbrook-Pond-Boat-Launch>

<https://hebronpaths.org/maps#holbrook>

Burnt Hill Park 148 East Street, Hebron

Multi-use Town Recreational Park of 171-acres includes several active recreation fields, walking trails, pavilion, restroom facilities, forested area, pond and in-use agricultural field. Adjacent to the park is the ca. 1795 Town-owned Peters House, future historical museum with community rooms, and designated site on Connecticut's Freedom Trail. *Photo attached.*

https://hebronct.recdesk.com/RecDeskPortal/Portals/609/Map_1.pdf

<https://hebronct.recdesk.com/Community/Page?pageId=25437>

<https://hebronct.recdesk.com/RecDeskPortal/Portals/609/Burnt%20Hill%20Park%203%20Mile%20Course.png>

Veterans Memorial Park 66 Wall Street, Hebron

17-acre town owned multi-use park containing children's playscapes, skateboard park, walking trail connecting with Town Center Trails, active recreational fields, restroom facilities. A paved parking lot of approximately 100 spaces is situated near the front of the park.

Hebron Center Trails

Two-mile loop trail system connecting Veterans Memorial Park, Town owned open space and Hebron Center sidewalks. Provides pedestrian access through Hebron's historical, retail and business districts. Parking at Veterans Memorial Park.

<https://hebronct.recdesk.com/RecDeskPortal/Portals/609/Hebron%20Center%20Trail%20Brochure.Final.8-17-15.pdf>

<https://hebronpaths.org/maps#center>

Chestnut Hollow Nature Preserve / Grist Mill Trail Chestnut Hill Road, just off West Main Street (Rte. 66), Amston
20-acre nature preserve with hiking trails paralleling the Class A Jeremy River. Specimen trees and vegetation with identification signs. Historic Old Town Pound. Small parking lot just off Chestnut Hill Rd.

<https://hebronct.recdesk.com/RecDeskPortal/Portals/609/Grist%20Mill%20Trails.pdf>

<https://hebronpaths.org/maps#grist>

Raymond Brook Preserve

A 116-acre passive recreation Town Park preserving the site of Hebron's first settlements in 1704. Features historic "wagon roads", in-use agricultural fields, formal gravel trail system with elder specimen trees, a scenic pond, picnic tables, forest, demonstration pollinator garden, with a substantial bridge crossing Raymond Brook. Located between Hebron's Town Center and the Air Line Trail, Hebron is in the process of creating a trail connection between these. Three large parking areas, one each on Church Street, Kinney Road and Millstream Road. *Photo attached.*

[https://hebronct.recdesk.com/RecDeskPortal/Portals/609/Raymond%20Brook%20Preserve%20Website%20Map%20\(3\).pdf](https://hebronct.recdesk.com/RecDeskPortal/Portals/609/Raymond%20Brook%20Preserve%20Website%20Map%20(3).pdf)

<https://hebronpaths.org/maps#kinney>

<https://hebronshistoricalsociety.org/hebron-s-beginnings.html>

Refer to in-process (near term future) Air Line Trail Connection Map

Cardillo (temporary name) **Preserve** off town-owned access drive off 330 Church St., Lutheran Church

48-acre preserve uphill and protecting the Raymond Brook Marsh. Grassy slope with bird habitat, leading to marsh inlet and State-owned forested land around the Raymond Brook Marsh. Excellent bird watching opportunities. Interesting mix of ledge and marsh topography. Limited parking on grass, southern shoulder of access drive. *Photo attached.*

<https://hebronpaths.org/maps#cardillo>

Air Line Trail State Linear Park Approximately 4.5 miles of this "rail to trail" linear state park gem lies in Hebron between Lebanon and Colchester. The Town of Hebron has made a concerted effort to preserve nature along the Air Line Trail, resulting in almost the entire Trail being bordered by Town or State-owned Open Space. These natural areas along the trail provide serenity, scenic views, and enjoyment of wildlife habitat, as well as off-Trail excursions to explore further historic and natural assets. Hebron has also been making progress for years on its plan to connect the Trail with its Town Center. The Trail is in its final stages of connecting with the Raymond Brook Preserve which is just south of the Town Center. Refer to the Air Line Trail to Hebron Center Connection Map.

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/outdoor_recreation/greenways/AirLineTrailBrochurepdf.pdf

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/State-Parks/Parks/Air-Line-State-Park-Trail>

Raymond Brook Marsh area surrounding Air Line Trail, between Rte. 85 and Old Colchester Road, Amston

A special highlight of the Air Line Trail. This marsh of state-wide special concern lies on both sides of the Trail and is protected by significant areas of open space to the north (state-owned) and south (town-owned). Exceptional scenic, bird watching and wildlife viewing opportunities. Large parking area on Rte. 85, Church Street, accommodates horse trailers. *Photo attached.*

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/outdoor_recreation/greenways/AirLineTrailBrochurepdf.pdf

Mint Brook Open Space off Highland Drive, Amston, CT

15-acre town owned open space abuts state land along the Air Line Trail in vicinity of Rte. 207. Contains a trail system around Mint Brook Marsh (the headwaters of Mint Brook, a major tributary of Raymond Brook) and also the site of the historical Wilcox Saw Mill. This open space is instrumental in Hebron's ongoing endeavor to connect the Air Line Trail with the Raymond Brook Preserve (and ultimately the nearby Town Center); plans are underway to soon construct a bridge over Mint Brook.

<https://hebronpaths.org/maps#highland>

Hibbert (temporary name) **Preserve** 310 Old Colchester Road, Amston, CT

82-acre nature preserve along the entire northern border of the Air Line Trail from Old Colchester Road to Grayville Road intersections. Contains over 3000 feet of Raymond Brook, a tributary of the Class A Jeremy River watercourse (itself a tributary of the Class A Salmon River). From the Air Line Trail, a painted tree-marked Teal Trail (near bench) leads to the Raymond Brook and an 1800's dam site.

Access from Old Colchester Road has four more painted tree-marked paths: Main trail is Blue, leading from the 310 Old Colchester Rd. accessway, into diverse forest, to an overlook of Raymond Brook. Continuing on, nearing Raymond Brook, the Blue path parallels an old "Wagon Road." Following remnants of an old "sluice way" towards the east leads one to an 1800's damsite and interesting geology. The White Trail parts a short distance from the beginning of the Blue Trail and leads to 1700's mill site on Raymond Brook, also highlighted by a giant, brookside glacial erratic. Red and Green Trails are looping forest sidetrails off the Blue Trail.

Parking is on west side of Old Colchester Road, near yellow pedestrian caution sign, on grassy shoulder not far from chain linked access drive. *Photo attached.*

<https://hebronpaths.org/maps#hibbert>

Grayville Falls Park 129 Grayville Road, Amston, CT

35-acre Town Park with impressive cascading waterfalls of Raymond Brook in a shady hemlock grove. Lies along the western side of the Air Line Trail from its intersection with Grayville Road to its border with the Salmon River State Forest, Old Forestland designated section. Large parking area accommodating horse trailers on Grayville Road leads to large open field, picnic tables, horseshoe pits, and trails. Within the park, an old mill site lies on the Raymond Brook.

<https://hebronct.recdesk.com/Community/Page?pagelId=25437>

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/outdoor_recreation/greenways/AirLineTrailBrochurepdf.pdf

Salmon River State Forest in multiple areas of Hebron: 273 acres designated as Old Forestland along the Air Line Trail, opposite the Bernstein Preserve and adjacent to Grayville Falls Park; off Old Slocum Road; around Holbrook Pond. In the State Forest along the Air Line Trail, old mill sites are found along the Judd Brook before its confluence with the Class A Jeremy River.

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/State-Parks/Forests/Salmon-River-State-Forest/Overview>

Bernstein (temporary name) **Preserve** located along the east side of the Air Line Trail, between Grayville Rd. and Judd Brook Bridge.

215.5-acres abutting over 3,300 feet of the east side of the Air Line Trail, just south of Grayville Falls Park and extending to the Judd Brook (Hebron's border with the Town of Colchester). This Preserve is across the Air Line Trail from the Old Forestland designated portion of the Salmon River State Forest. There is also frontage along and potential future access from Old Colchester Road and Birch Hill Drive.

Access from Air Line Trail: Just north of the Judd Brook Bridge, a "Y" junction path off of the east side of the Air Line Trail brings one into the southern part of this diversely forested Preserve. This current Eversource right-of-way follows the old rail line "wye" spur which was made to transporting earth materials in construction of the Air Line Railroad! Walking this spur paralleling the Judd Brook brings one to multiple historical stone bridge foundations lining the Judd Brook. These impressive foundations give testimony to the massive efforts made to fill beneath the 137-ft. high by 1,108-ft. long Lyman Viaduct in Colchester and 60-ft. high x 1,380-ft. long Rapallo Viaduct in East Hampton (spectacular features of today's Air Line Trail) in the early 1900's.

The Bernstein Preserve contains intact native forest with associated Judd Brook wetlands. Exceptional bird watching and wildlife viewing habitat in the Preserve and along its border with the Air Line Trail. Parking: intersection of Grayville Rd. and Air Line Trail parking; also Grayville Falls Park parking area. *Photo attached.*

<https://hebronpaths.org/maps#bernstein>

Harasimowitz (temporary name) **Preserve** Old Colchester Road (across from the Town Transfer Station)

A 20-acre peaceful preserve along the east side of Old Colchester Road featuring majestic elder white pines with scattered pitch pines and a marsh of statewide concern. Path leads to a woodland pond, Judd Brook Marsh, and upland diverse forest. Exceptional bird watching habitat. Parking: limited, on road shoulder, near metal entryway gate. *Photo attached.*

<https://hebronpaths.org/maps#hara>

date: January 4, 2023

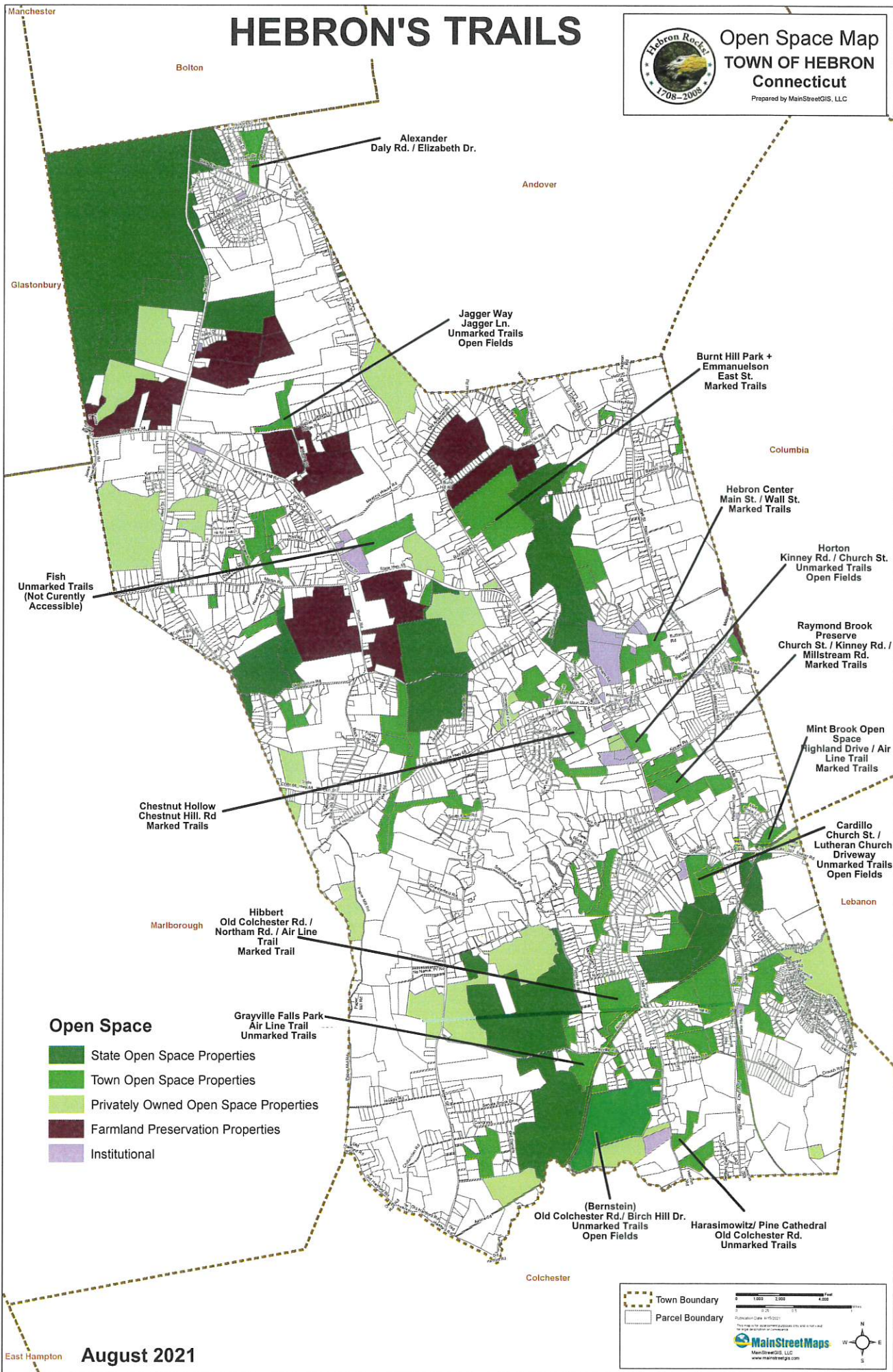
prepared by Frank and Ann Zitkus

HEBRON'S TRAILS



Open Space Map
TOWN OF HEBRON
Connecticut

Prepared by MainStreetGIS, LLC



James Cordier

From: A Zitkus <cthistory10@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 1, 2023 11:20 AM
To: Loto, Tom; Christopher J. Frey (cfrey@GZA.com); Daniel Seremet (Dan.Seremet@aecom.com); Joanna Chester; Jasmin Okugic; James Cordier
Cc: A Zitkus
Subject: For your review, Parks and Rec Updated Parks and Open Spaces Policies
Attachments: Park and Open Space Policies 12-30-22 Draft with Dec. CC meeting suggestions.docx; Trail User Yield Symbol.pdf

Healthy, Happy 2023, All!

Attached please find the suggestions to the Parks and Rec drafted updated Parks and Open Spaces Policies that we discussed at our last meeting, and also the Trail User Yield Symbol referred to.

The Parks and Rec Commission has kindly asked for our input. They would like our suggestions finalized and sent to them, and we said we would do that after our Jan 12 meeting

A suggestion made by one of our members regards the Parks and Rec requirement for domesticated animals to be on a leash except in designated areas. I wasn't sure how to word what our commission would like to suggest, so that suggestion (page 4, Sec. 12, Domesticated Animals) especially needs review.

Thank you in advance for reviewing.

Ann

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Thank you in advance for reviewing.

Ann

James Cordier

From: A Zitkus <cthistory10@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 2, 2023 10:35 AM
To: Joanna Chester; James Cordier; Loto, Tom; Christopher J. Frey (cfrey@GZA.com); Daniel Seremet (Dan.Seremet@aecom.com); Jasmin Okugic
Cc: A Zitkus
Subject: Re: For your review, Parks and Rec Updated Parks and Open Spaces Policies

If necessary, I could attend the Jan meeting; however, as the only item on our agenda is the Parks and Open Space Policies, I am fine with finalizing this through our emails..

Besides Section 12 Domestic Animals, is everyone all right with the P&R Policies as is submitted?

A reply to Joanna's input regarding Section 12: open spaces are also passive recreational areas...We could leave it as submitted but ask Parks and Rec if they have plans to soon designate some areas to be off-leash areas. I am thinking the Way property, for example, might be such an area as there may be less chance for wildlife conflict there. A State Park representative explained at a Board of Selectmen meeting last year that a reason all CT State Parks require dogs to be leashed is to avoid conflict with wildlife. Specifically, if a dog has a wildlife conflict, they have to search for the wild animal(s) and destroy them so a rabies test can be done (which can only be done by dissecting the brain). So, keeping dogs on-leash protects against the majority of these problems. It was mentioned that mama wildlife can get aggressive if dogs get curious near their dens, even when rabies is not an issue.

On Mon, Jan 2, 2023 at 4:50 AM Joanna Chester <joanna@chesterenv.com> wrote:

Hi-

I propose the following for Section 12 because we wouldn't want dogs off leash where people commonly congregate or areas where children are playing, but open spaces would be acceptable at times. I am assuming the "designated areas" would be a future dog park. Is that correct?

Section 12 Domestic Animals

Domestic animals must be on a leash and restrained at all times in Parks and Recreational Areas, except in designated areas. Owners shall clean up and dispose of animal waste, in approved receptacle. In areas where domestic animals are off-leash, they must be under the control of their owners.

Joanna LJ Chester

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: The information in this email, including any attachments is considered confidential and is intended only for the recipient(s) listed above.

On Sun, Jan 1, 2023 at 11:20 AM A Zitkus <cthistory10@gmail.com> wrote:

Healthy, Happy 2023, All!

Attached please find the suggestions to the Parks and Rec drafted updated Parks and Open Spaces Policies that we discussed at our last meeting, and also the Trail User Yield Symbol referred to.

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Thank you in advance for reviewing.

Ann

James Cordier

From: Frank Zitkus <annfrankz@att.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 4, 2023 7:46 AM
To: Jeanne Davies; Pete Hary
Cc: Matthew Bordeaux; Craig Bryant; James Cordier; A. Zitkus
Subject: Hebron Events planned for 2023 for 12-Town Air Line Trail website
Attachments: Hebron Events for ALT 12-Town website 1-4-23.docx

Hello, Jeanne and Pete,

Attached please find a listing of Hebron's events planned for 2023, in chronological order, for the 12-Town Air Line Trail website. A basic description and necessary info is included as several of these events do not yet appear on their associated websites (information will be added to these websites as the dates draw nearer).

Please reply to let me know Hebron's Event listing has been received in good order and with all the information needed for the new website.

May 2023 be a very positive and fruitful year!

Best,

Ann Zitkus

James Cordier

From: Frank Zitkus <annfrankz@att.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 4, 2023 8:42 AM
To: Jeanne Davies; Pete Hary
Cc: Matthew Bordeaux; Craig Bryant; James Cordier; A. Zitkus
Subject: Hebron's Public Recreational Highlights in conjunction with ALT
Attachments: Hebron Open Space Public Rec Highlights updated 1-4-23.docx; Gold Award Map CT_Hebron_OpenSpace with labels.2022.pdf

Hello, Jeanne and Pete,

Attached please find a listing of Hebron's Public Recreational Highlights including Descriptions, Access, and Parking Info for inclusion in the 12-Town ALT website. For ease in locating the various preserves and trails within Hebron, also attached please find the Map of Hebron's Trails showing the location within Hebron of the Open Space Preserves listed.

After this email, there will be 3 more emails sending pictures of 8 town Preserves listed on this Hebron's Public Recreational Highlights (a total of 10 photos). These lovely Preserves do not have photos elsewhere online, so they could be helpful in sparking interest. The words "Photo attached" are included after their descriptions.

This basic listing was sent in May 2022, however, a confirmation regarding receipt was never received. This current listing has been updated to note basic rules and also that several of the town's preserves await formal naming, thus temporary names are noted. The photos are new information.

Please confirm that this listing of Hebron's Public Recreational Highlights and also Map of Hebron's Trails has been received in good order and that all necessary info is included. Thank you very much for all your efforts on this project!

Best,
Ann Zitkus

James Cordier

From: Joanna Chester <joanna@chesterenv.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 5, 2023 12:36 PM
To: James Cordier
Subject: CT Association of Wetland Scientists update

Hi Jim-

I found this on the CT AWS website. May we please include it in the minutes for the next meeting?

The **CAWS 2023 Annual Meeting** will take place on **March 9, 2023** as an in-person event at Eversource's auditorium in Berlin, CT. Please SAVE THE DATE and look for more information to follow in the coming weeks! Our theme this year will be "Wetlands & Education."

Thanks

Joanna LJ Chester

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