GREAT BARRINGTON COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

APPLICATION FOR CPA FUNDING

There are 2 Steps to the CPA application. Only applicants that successfully complete both Steps can be considered for funding. After reviewing the Step 1 applications, the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) will invite the eligible applicants to submit Step 2 of the Application. Only projects that complete Step 1, and are invited by the CPC to proceed, may submit Step 2.

Step 1 applications will be accepted not later than <u>Friday, November 3, 2023</u>, by <u>4:00 PM</u>. The CPC will meet on Tuesday, November 7 at 5:00 PM to review the applications and invite Step 2 submittals for those deemed eligible. Applicants must be present at that meeting.

Step 2 applications must be received not later than <u>Friday</u>, <u>December 1</u>, <u>2023</u>, by <u>4:00 PM</u>. The Committee will meet on Tuesday, December 5 at 5:00 PM to begin review of Step 2 submittals. Applicants must be present at the meeting at which their proposal is reviewed.

For both steps, ten (10) hard copies <u>and</u> one (1) electronic copy (PDF) of the application must be received on or before the deadline. <u>Any Step 1 or Step 2 application received after the</u> deadlines will be rejected.

All pages of the application must be numbered.

Hard copies must be received by the Town Planner, Great Barrington Town Hall, 334 Main Street, Great Barrington, MA 01230 on or before the deadline. An electronic copy of each application must also be submitted, either in the form of a memory stick or CD (delivered with the 10 hard copies) or in the form of an electronic PDF file sent to crembold@townofgb.org on or before the deadline.

The CPC reserves the right to refuse to consider applications that are incomplete and/or to request additional information of any applicant.

Before submitting an application, applicants must familiarize themselves with the CPA legislation, the Great Barrington CPA bylaw, the Great Barrington Community Preservation Plan, and the application guidelines. These items are available on the town website at this link: https://www.townofgb.org/community-preservation-committee. Hard copies are also available in the Town libraries and in the Town Clerk's office. Applicants are also encouraged to consult the Community Preservation Coalition's website at: www.communitypreservation.org for more background and information on CPA and CPA eligibility requirements. Applicants are welcome to contact the Great Barrington Town Planner for more information.

Review and Approval Process

The CPC will review all applications and make all decisions during open public meetings. Applicants will be informed of the meetings and are required to attend.

Eligible Step 2 applications will be invited to present their project to the CPC at a public meeting. The CPC may request additional information, schedule additional meeting(s) and/or schedule a

project site visit. Applicants will be informed of which meetings they should attend, but of course all CPC meetings are open to the public.

Following the review, the Committee will recommend projects to Town Meeting for funding. Generally, applicants will be notified of the decisions before the end of January 2024. The final decision to fund or not to fund a project rests with the town voters at the May 2024 Town Meeting.

Successful applicants are required to assist in preparing a presentation of their project for the Annual Town Meeting in May of 2024, and they are required to attend that Town Meeting.

All non-municipal project applicants whose projects are funded by Town Meeting will be expected to enter into a contract or grant agreement with the Town of Great Barrington that will govern the project scope, timeline, deliverables, payment amount and timing, insurance, and other special conditions as may be required. Applicants should be aware that the Committee may withhold some or all funds until applicable permits and approvals are in place. The Committee may also require performance or completion bonds and may withhold funds for nonperformance.

The CPC may, under highly extraordinary circumstances, vote to accept applications that, because of market opportunities or other deadlines, require consideration outside of the normal funding cycle. Potential applicants who believe that their circumstances call for such unusual action may contact the Town Planner or CPC Chair to discuss the possible submission of an off-cycle application.

GREAT BARRINGTON COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

APPLICATION FOR CPA FUNDING - Step 1

Date Received (for office use only)
Title:
Email
tional page if necessary)
\$
eived by your project?
Email:

If Owner is different from applicant, you must include a letter signed by the Owner giving permission to apply for funds for the specified project on the Owner's property.

In the following chart, mark the box(es) that best apply to your project.

Boxes with an X through them are not CPA eligible activities. Contact the Town Planner if you need more information.

	OPEN SPACE	HISTORIC RESOURCES	RECREATIONAL LAND	COMMUNITY HOUSING
Activities (refer to Glossary for definitions)	Land to protect existing and future well fields, aquifers and recharge areas, watershed land, agricultural land, grasslands, fields, forest land, wetland, river, stream, lake and pond frontage, land to protect scenic vistas, land for wildlife or nature preserve, and land for recreation use.	Building, structure, vessel, real property, document or artifact listed on the state register of historic places or determined by the local historic preservation commission to be significant in the history, archeology, architecture or culture of the city or town.	Land for active or passive recreational use including, but not limited to, the use of land for community gardens, trails, and noncommercial youth and adult sports, and the use of land as a park, playground or athletic field Does not include horse or dog racing or the use of land for a stadium, gymnasium or similar structure.	Housing for low and moderate income individuals and families, including low or moderate income seniors. Moderate income is less than 100%, and low income is less than 80%, of US HUD Area Wide Median Income.
ACQUISITION Obtain property interest by gift, purchase, devise, grant, rental, rental purchase, lease or otherwise. Only includes eminent domain taking as provided by G.L. c. 44B				
CREATION To bring into being or cause to exist. Seideman v. City of Newton, 452 Mass. 472 (2008)				
PRESERVATION Protect personal or real property from injury, harm or destruction				
SUPPORT Provide grants, loans, rental assistance, security deposits, interestrate write downs or other forms of assistance directly to individuals and families who are eligible for community housing, or to entity that owns, operates or manages such housing, for the purpose of making housing affordable				
REHABILITATION AND/OR RESTORATION Make capital improvements, or extraordinary repairs to make assets functional for intended use, including improvements to comply with federal, state or local building or access codes or federal standards for rehabilitation of historic properties	Only applies if property was acquired or created with CPA funds			Only applies if housing was acquired or created with CPA funds

Chart adapted from "Recent Developments in Municipal Law", Massachusetts Department of Revenue, October 2012.

GREAT BARRINGTON COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

APPLICATION FOR CPA FUNDING - Step 2

Date Received (for office use only)

All applicants submitting Step 2 <u>must</u> include a copy of their Step 1 application.					
All applicants must answer quest are applicable to your CPA area. I not include Housing, then you ma subheading "Historical Preservat	For example, if your p ay skip questions 12, 1	roject has to	do with Historical Pres	servation but does	
You may attach additional sheets additional pages of narrative. The margins. If your project combine then you must answer ALL quest additional pages of narrative. (Page 2)	ese additional pages r s two or more CPA pr ions under both of the	nust be forma iorities, such ose 2 subhead	tted with a minimum as Community Housing lings and you may incl	11 point font, 1 inch g AND Open Space, ude up to 10	
All pages must be numbered. Plea separate sheets, also number eac answering.					
Applicant Name					
Project Name					
Project Address					
Assessor's Map	Lot				
Property Deed Book / Page /					
1.) Project Budget (list all sources and uses, including grants, fundraising, etc.)					
Total CPA funds requested: \$_					
-		s and uses ir	ucluding requested C	PA funds:	
Fill in the chart below showing all project sources and uses, including requested CPA funds: Source Name Amount Wo of total Used for Committed?					
Total budget:					
		I			

Attach additional budget sheets or project budget if necessary. Budget pages do not count towards the 8 page limit. Be sure to include project management, oversight, engineering, and administrative costs that may be incurred. Describe all funding that has been sought and/or is available for this project.

2.) Timing of Funds: Describe when CPA funds and other funding sources are to be received.	
3.) Existing use or deed restrictions, permanent easements, historic designations, special permits etc. if any:	3,
4.) Proposed Use or Deed Restrictions after Project Completion (in accordance with CPA rules):	
5.) Describe the project team, including project management personnel, design professionals, contractors, and other applicable consultants, their relevant experience, so forth. Attach addition pages/resumes as needed.	a l
Additional Information: These pages do not count towards the 8 page limit. Attach additional information as appropriate, for example: • Project timeline; • Plans or drawings stamped and signed by an Engineer or Architect as appropriate;	

- Photographs;
- Map showing project location in town;
- Ownership letters or site control verification;
- Budgets;
- Feasibility studies;

- Existing conditions reports or needs assessments;
- Letters of support;
- Resumes and experience of key personnel;
- For Historic Preservation projects, if the project is not State Register-listed, the applicant must provide a letter from the Historical Commission which details the significance of the project to Great Barrington's history, culture, architecture or archeology.

Funding Considerations
6.) Consistency: Describe how the proposed project is consistent with the Community Preservation Plan and with the Great Barrington Master Plan.
7.) Town Projects: Is the proposed project for a town-owned asset? Yes No If yes, please describe funding options. For example, what portion of the project budget is CPA funding? If CPA funds are not received, what are the alternative funding options, if any?
8.) Public Benefits: Describe the public benefits of the project.
9.) Leverage: Will the CPA funds be used to leverage or supplement other funding for this project? Please explain other sources and whether they have been committed.

10.) Community Input and Support: Describe any community input, meetings and/or support that you have for your proposed project. Include support letters as applicable (they will not be counted towards the 4-page limit). Letters should be unique and not reproduced form letters.			
11.) Permits: Describe permits that and/or when the applications will be	may be required, the status of those permits or applications, e submitted and permits received.		
Affo	rdable Housing Projects		
12.) Affordable Housing Projects: goals of the Community Preservation	Clearly describe how the project meets the Affordable Housing n Plan.		
13.) Affordability Level(s):% of area median income% of area median income% of area median income	no. of units no. of units no. of units		
For example: Is the site zoned for the	ny other relevant information about the project and the site. e proposed use and if not what is the plan for zoning approvals; previously-developed site? Is the site or could the site be lan for remediation?		

Historic Preservation Projects

Applicants should note: all CPA-funded historic preservation projects must comply with the US Secretary of the Interior's standards for the treatment of historic properties.

15.) Historic Preservation Projects: Clearly describe how the project meets the Historic Preservation goals of the Community Preservation Plan.

16.) Other Information: Describe any other relevant information about the project and the site. For example: is the site zoned for the proposed use and if not what is the plan for zoning approvals; does the project reuse a building or previously-developed site; is the site or could the site be contaminated and if so what is the plan for remediation.

Open Space and Recreation Projects

17.) Open Space and Recreation: Clearly describe how the project meets the Open Space and Recreation goals of the Community Preservation Plan.

This project meets the stated Open Space Recreation Goals specified within the Community Preservation Plan. These goals include:

Goal OSR 4 identifies the need to enhance parks, open space, and recreation areas to become thriving facets of Great Barrington's economy.

OSR Goal 5 defines the town's objective to create connections between the various recreational assets within Great Barrington.

OSR goal 6 refers to the town's goal of partnering with entities in the private sector to improve and create opportunities for outdoor recreation.

In addition to these stated goals, Vision Map 4 (see attached), which is included in Great Barrington's Community Master Plan, specifically references the Three Mile Hill Trail.

18.) Other Information: Describe any other relevant information about the project and the site.
For example: Is the site zoned for the proposed use and if not what is the plan for zoning approvals?
Does the project reuse a building or previously-developed site? Is the site or could the site be
contaminated and if so what is the plan for remediation.

Certification

Name:		
Ph:	Email	
knowledge. [For no Contract with the	on-municipal applicants only: I furth	nation is true and correct to the best of my er declare my willingness to enter into a the use and expenditure of CPA funds.]

All hard copies of the entire application package, and one PDF of the entire application package, are due prior to the 4:00 PM deadline.

Number all pages.



Proposal to the Great Barrington Community Preservation Committee: Three Mile Hill Segment Trail Construction

Project Description

BNRC requests funds to construct a new hiking trail, that will create a connection between BNRC's Thomas and Palmer Reserve and the town-owned woodland to the east of Elmwood Cemetery. The trail segment will be part of BNRC's larger High Road network, which will include a 6-mile walkable route from Fountain Pond State Park to Thomas and Palmer Reserve. This route will create public access to one of Great Barrington's most scenic natural resources, providing hikers with the opportunity to explore a previously inaccessible tract of woodland.

This section of the Three Mile Hill trail is part of a larger High Road segment. The High Road is a long-term project led by the Berkshire Natural Resources Council, which aims to create connections between and into town centers via hiking trails. It will serve local residents as well as visiting outdoor recreationalists. It will be a mechanism to further conservation efforts, elevate opportunities for outdoor recreation in Berkshire County, and expand access to nature for communities by creating more easily available and accessible trailheads.

In addition to the significance that this trail has for The High Road initiative, it will also be an asset for residents, visitors, and local businesses. Due to the proximity of this route to the town's commercial district, it will encourage hikers to stop at the many retail establishments along the way, bolstering economic activity in these businesses.

The proposed trail was designed in summer 2023 by BNRC staff, with careful consideration to include sustainable trail building techniques. The trail will be constructed primarily of natural materials, using industry-best practices to create a permeable walking surface that is durable and long-lasting. The trail is primarily designed for hikers and will also accommodate runners and snowshoers (motorized activity will be prohibited here, as on other BNRC trails and reserves).

The work described in this proposal is the first phase of a trail collaboration between BNRC and the Town of Great Barrington, connecting BNRC's Thomas & Palmer Reserve toward the woodland east of Elmwood Cemetery. In the next phase of this project, the trail as proposed will cross into the townowned woodland. From there, the route will extend to Blue Hill Road, incorporating quiet roads and sidewalks before connecting with the existing portion of the Three Mile Hill hiking trail.

In summer 2023, BNRC worked with the town to identify the optimal route through the town-owned parcel, considering the proximity of the route to Elmwood Cemetery and adjacent areas. BNRC then worked with a wetland specialist to assist in the trail location, to ensure that the unique aspects of working near wetlands were addressed. In early fall, 2023, a draft easement for the section of trail within the town-owned parcel was submitted to the town for legal review. We continue to work with the town to formalize this easement, anticipating construction of that trail section can immediately follow the completion of the first portion, which is the subject of this proposal. BNRC does not anticipate requesting GB CPA funds for that next section of trail.





Project Summary

BNRC is seeking funds for construction of a ¾ mile segment of hiking trail within its Thomas and Palmer Reserve, which will a create connection to Blue Hill Road via the town-owned woodlands above Elmwood Cemetery. Once finished, this trail segment will be part of BNRC's larger High Road network, which aims to create a 6-mile walkable route from Fountain Pond State Park to BNRC's Thomas and Palmer Reserve. This route will expand public access into some of Great Barrington's most scenic natural resources, while bringing hikers into walking distance into the town's business district.

Name **Existing Trail** New Trail Construction Road/Sidewalk Route Protected and Recreational OpenSpace DCR-State Parks & Recreation DCR-State Parks & Recreation DCRS/DFG Department of Fish & Game DCR-Water Supply Protection Department of Agricultural Resources Commonwealth of Massachusetts hreemile Municipal Public Non-Profit Conservation Organization Private Other Unknown Location of Phase II Trail on Town Parcel Location of Proposed ¾ Mile New Trail Construction Christian Belcher Square Thomas and Palmer Reserve Great Barrington NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, Town Hall Park 0.5 2 3

Budget

Item	Unit Cost	Quantity	Total Cost
Singletrack benchcut trail	\$8/linear foot	3,800	\$30,400
Project Management	\$38/hour	250	\$9,500
Total Project Cost: \$39,900			

Timeline

Winter 2023

CPA grant application is finalized and submitted

Field Season 2024

- · Grant awards are announced
- BNRC creates RFP for qualified contractors for trail improvement project
- Grant funding is received
- BNRC hires contractor for trail construction
- Construction begins (Weather depending)

Winter 2024/2025

- BNRC creates inventory of remaining work
- BNRC completes any required grant reporting

Spring 2025

- BNRC finishes work on trail construction
- BNRC completes any required grant reporting

Current Conditions

The following images show some of the locations along the proposed hiking trail. The pink flagging indicates the uphill side of the proposed trail. The area in which the proposed trail will be built is relatively open and on a relatively moderately steep slope.

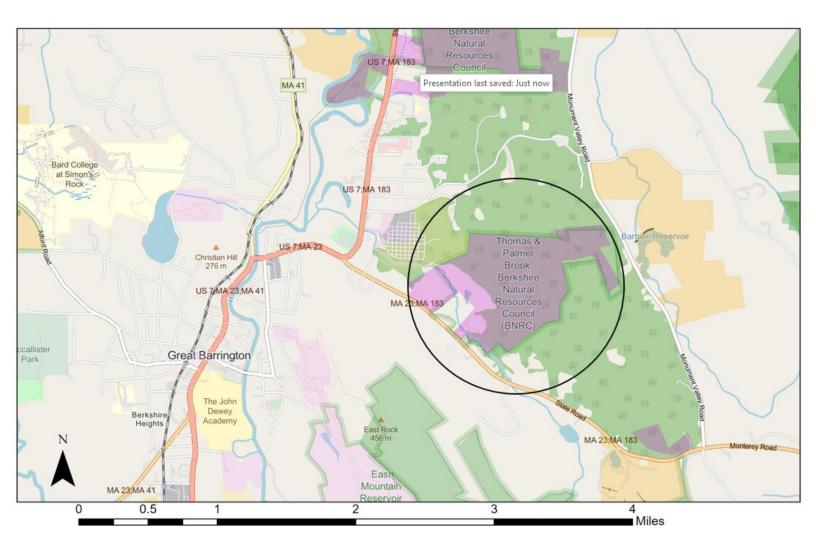








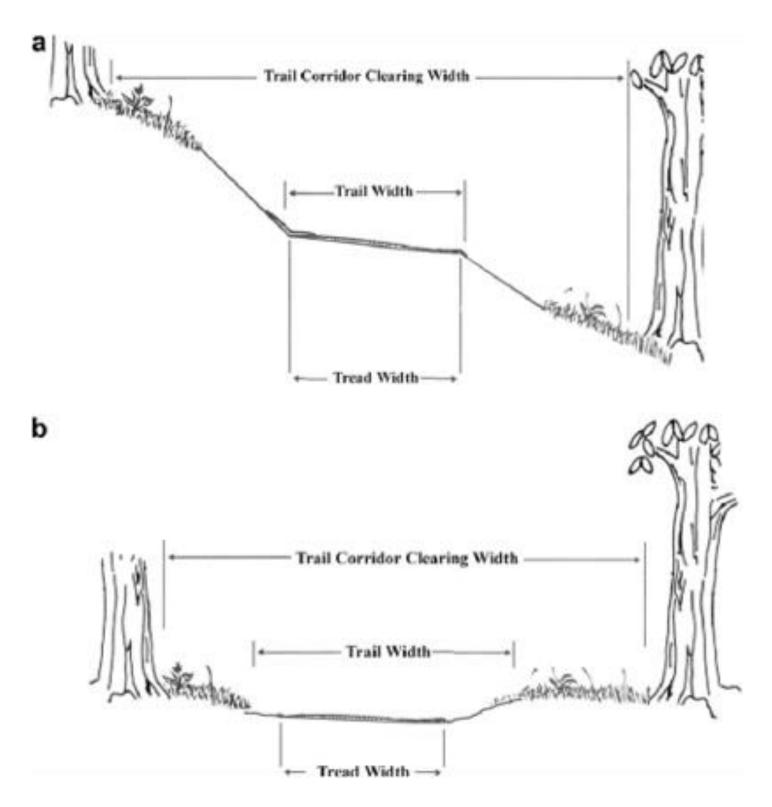
Map of Proposed Location to Town



Thomas and Palmer Reserve is located approximately 1.3 miles from Main Street in Great Barrington, and approximately .8 miles from the commercial district along Route 7. It is situated along the southern end of the ridgeline known as Three Mile Hill.

Construction Description

the 3800' of trail will consist of natural surface singletrack hiking trail. It will be built to US Forest Service standards, with a tread width of 24"-30" and a corridor height of 8'-10'. The tread will be properly outsloped to accommodate drainage, with rock armoring and rolling grade dips when necessary.





November 30, 2023

Great Barrington Community Preservation Committee

334 Main Street

Great Barrington, MA 01230

Dear Committee Members,

I write in support of the application for CPA funding from Berkshire Natural Resources Council (BNRC). The trail extension BNRC is proposing, which will provide access points from the town center to the Thomas & Palmer Reserve trail, will be a valuable addition to our town's recreation and visitor resources. The extension will allow for easy access to BNRC's Thomas & Palmer scenic nature reserve, and eventually, to BNRC's impressive High Road trails system.

Amenities like these recreational opportunities are part of what keeps our town and region lively and inviting and thereby leads to a growth in commerce. The trail will be a benefit for both residents— especially those without transportation—and visitors to our area, who can enjoy the downtown's shops and restaurants before or after taking advantage of this new trail system.

BNRC is collaborating with the Town of Great Barrington on this project, and we have full confidence in its successful outcome. We hope you will approve this application for funding.

Thank You.

Betsv Andrus

Executive Director

Deanna Smith 507 Peaceful Valley Road Canaan, NY 12029 Dsmith@BNRC.org (607) 759-9776

Education

Bachelor's Degree, State University of New York College at Oneonta

2011 - 2014

Major: Environmental Science **Minor:** Outdoor Leadership

Experience

High Road Manager

Berkshire Natural Resources Council April 2022-Current

- Managed all project components of BNRC's High Road initiative, including route planning, partnership coordination, and stakeholder engagement
- Conducted site visits to prospective parcels
- Assessed opportunity for trail network on conservation land
- Facilitated meetings with program members and site partners
- Represented BNRC at town meetings on behalf of trail projects
- Created updated project framework for assessing High Road trail segment opportunities
- Conducted landowner outreach for prospective acquisitions and trail easements

Project Coordinator, Natural Resource Stewards

Student Conservation Association April 2021-April 2022

- Oversaw all elements of Natural Resource Steward program, including budgeting, recruitment, hiring, program management, and grant compliance
- Engaged with NYS Department of Environmental Conservation partners to facilitate conservation projects
- Participated in Conservation Work Skills subcommittee to develop best-practices and vetting of new trail work instructors
- Participated in conservation work skills instruction, focusing on sustainable trail design and construction methods
- Conducted regular site visits to inspect work-quality
- Facilitated meetings with program members and site partners
- Analyzed and compiled work-outputs on trail and conservation projects into mid-season and year-end reports

Co-Founder, Lead Planner, Builder

Pinnacle Trail Design & Construction *November 2016-Current*

Deanna Smith 507 Peaceful Valley Road Canaan, NY 12029 Dsmith@BNRC.org (607) 759-9776

- Conducted all phases of large-scale trail development projects, including: planning, logistics, construction, and way-finding
- Engaged with community leaders, land managers, and stakeholders regarding trail development projects
- Created Trail Master Plan documents for regional non-profits, municipalities, and other trail clients
- Wrote successful grants for regional nonprofits to pursue funding for trail projects
- Created and implemented marketing strategy for promotion of trail company services
- Created and maintained informational databases on the following: project and material costs, permitting requirements, completed and in-progress projects
- Managed employee hiring, day-to-day workflow, payroll, and scheduling

Skills and Competencies

Computer & Database

- GIS (ArcGIS, Q-GIS, CalTopo, Avenza)
- Salesforce
- Microsoft Office Suite
- Google Workspace
- Adobe Creative Suite
- Google Analytics
- Facebook Business Manager
- MailChimp, Constant Contact, Substack
- Wordpress

Other

• Game of Logging Level 1 Chainsaw Training

Josh Hopmans

309 Pittsfield Road Lenox, MA 01240 **Office: (413) 377-9013 JHopmans@bnrc.org**

EXPERIENCE

Berkshire Natural Resources Council - Property Manager

January 2019 - present Lenox, MA

Managed BNRC's fee-owned reserves with improved recreational access. Hired, trained, and directed seasonal crews of 1-4 members to perform maintenance of ~60 miles of trails and 28 trailheads throughout Berkshire County.

Identified and coordinated trail repair and improvement projects, including bridge replacement, bog-bridging installation, tread repair, corridor widening, blaze painting, etc.

Served as the eyes-on-the-ground for BNRC's trail networks in staff discussions addressing issues, potential regulation changes, and project planning.

Fabricated/purchased and installed kiosks, benches, and signage.

Established and managed BNRC's trail counter program, purchasing and installing devices, and analyzing data from 15 discrete hiker and vehicle counters across BNRC trail networks. Provided insight from this data to inform stewardship decisions and wrote reports for senior staff to help visualize growth, solve issues, and report to funders.

Assisted BNRC's Trails Manager to complete larger trail building/reconstruction projects.

Collaborated with the Community Conservation Manager to update signage, kiosks, trail maps, website, and social media outlets.

Managed ten snow removal contractors for 14 trailheads around the county.

Berkshire Natural Resources Council - Seasonal Stewardship Staff

May 2017 - December 2018 Pittsfield, MA

Worked on BNRC trail crew building hiking trails on numerous properties. Utilized sidehilling, turnpikes, bridging, train hardening, and cribbing techniques. Worked alongside Off The Beaten Path (OBP) trail crew, Housatonic Valley Association, Greenagers, Great Barrington Land Trust, Berkshire NEMBA, and Massachusetts Dept. of Conservation and Recreation.

Monitored conservation restrictions on 67 properties (130hrs in the field), occasionally with representatives from MassWildlife, Williamstown Rural Lands Foundation, Richmond Land Trust, or private landowners.

Navigated with GPS, topographic maps, and satellite images. Spent 5-6 hours a day, 3-4 days a week in the woods bushwhacking through hundreds of acres of conserved land.

Searched for, photographed and documented issues/changes, then created waypoints, tracks, basic maps (using GPS/GIS) for annual monitoring reports.

Conducted field assessments and write-ups for grant applications and MA Dept.

SKILLS

Contractor Management

Project Management

Hiring

Flexible/adaptable, team-oriented

Creativity & problem solving

Organization, patience

Attention to detail

Certifications

First Aid, CPR/AED

Game of Logging Level 1 Chainsaw Training

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of Environmental Protection RDA for Wetlands Protection Act.

Conducted property maintenance including fallen tree removal, mowing, field reclamation, trail hardening, invasive plant removal, bridge replacement, rubbish removal, investigating property misuse, trail blaze painting.

Led group hikes for the public. Worked with student groups and volunteers on various trail projects.

Tyler Fogg

339-222-8602

tylerfogg@gmail.com

Volunteer Experience

- Served four terms with AmeriCorps based conservation corps in California,
 Maine, and Utah, as a corps member, crew leader, and trainer
- Performed trail construction and rehabilitation, invasive species mitigation, watershed restoration, and fuels reduction projects
- Trained volunteers and AmeriCorps staff in wilderness First Aid, chainsaw operation, dry stone masonry, trail building, and leadership skills
- Surveyed and outlined new trails
- Volunteered with the Lexington, KY chapter of Habitat for Humanity, completing ground up home builds and helping instruct other volunteers

Professional Experience

- Built technically challenging and historically accurate trail features over 5 seasons with the Acadia National Park trail crew including stone walls, steps, bridge abutments, timber bridges and signs
- Led an Acadia Youth Conservation Corps crew and volunteers from the Sierra Club and Friends of Acadia in trail rehabilitation projects
- Worked with Historic Preservation Training Center (NPS) carpentry team to restore and preserve historic buildings and support satellite NPS facilities in need of carpentry work
- Worked as a landscaper, mason, and home renovator
- Fulfilled contracts for trail and landscape features for private clients as well as Blue Hill Heritage Trust in Blue Hill, ME
- Operated and maintained heavy equipment, trucks and trailers, and smaller power equipment like chainsaws and rock drills

Academic Experience

- Graduated from University of Massachusetts, Amherst, with an undergraduate degree in Anthropology, focusing on community development and issues surrounding social justice
- Co-facilitated a "teacher-less classroom" course titled Grassroots Community Development, during which I was responsible for responding to student's written assignments and developing weekly lesson plans
- I am currently working on a certificate in Sustainable Building and Design through Yestermorrow design/build school, with coursework including permaculture, greenhouse design, timber framing, and building science