

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS****FORESTRY PROGRAM**MISSION

The mission of the Forestry Program is to promote sound forest management practices on City-owned land. Good forest management promotes the development of quality forest products, effective wildlife management and recreational use of the City forestlands. A second mission of the forest program is to assure that the management of the City forests is financially self-sustaining. Funds for this budget are generated from the revenue from forest products. That revenue is then transferred to the Forest Trust Fund. These funds provide funding for the services of a forest consultant to manage the City forests, to prepare and update the forest management plan, and to assure the City of long term forest related income.

Actual	Actual	Estimated	Projected
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<u>SERVICE INDICATORS</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
1. Acreage of Forest Land Managed	4,078	4,118	4,363	4,551
2. Acres of Harvested Forest Land	18	125	20	100
3. Value of Timber Sales	\$14,997	\$50,000	\$10,000	\$18,000

2010 GOALS1. Administration

- a. Prepare monthly reports to inform the Conservation Commission and City personnel of the status of all forestry projects and programs.
- b. Provide Assistance to the Conservation Commission when conservation projects involve City Forest lots and review proposed land acquisitions for future forestry management potential.
- c. Provide written descriptions of the conservation values of proposed land acquisitions, such information to be included in the baseline documentation of newly acquired conservation land.
- d. Coordinate with the City's consultant forester to prepare the Forestry Program budget.

2. Boundary Line Identification

The goal of the boundary lines program is to insure that all of the City Forest boundaries are well identified to limit any forestry activities to the intended parcel and to help prevent accidental trespass on the part of abutters. This includes establishing all corner bounds and maintaining the boundaries with periodic blazing and painting.

- a. Identify and blaze the boundary line in preparation of proposed timber sales.

3. Trail Work

The goal of the trails program is to allow the City's residents to enjoy the City Forest land and to provide them with a safe hiking experience while limiting their impact to the environment.

- a. Continue to coordinate and perform routine maintenance of all the City Forest trails as recommended in the management plans for the City Forest land that contain trail systems.
- b. Coordinate with the State of New Hampshire to develop a trail head, parking, and a trail system at the Rossview Farm property and assist with the construction of the trails at Winant Park.
- c. Review the need to expand the Oak Hill parking area, and also review the need to improve the parking and pedestrian access to Lehtinen Park, with the anticipated increase of use due to the installation of the Heroes Memorial Bridge.

4. Forest Management

The goal of forest management is to maintain a forest that will provide for a sustainable timber harvest program that, in turn, provides a dependable and continuous source of income to the forest management program, while incorporating the concerns and needs of wildlife, watershed protection, recreation and education.

- a. A timber sale is proposed for the west side of Penacook Lake. A timber cruise, along with the necessary bid documents to set up the timber sale, will need to be completed.
- b. The Riley lot needs to be brush hogged to control the occurrence of invasive plant species.
- c. Continue to update the Forest Management Plan as new lands are added to the City forest inventory.

5. Wildlife Management

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The goal of the wildlife management program is to ensure that critical wildlife habitats on City properties are protected and that other habitats are maintained to provide diversity and to support self-sustaining wildlife populations, especially in areas adjacent to land that has been converted to development.

- a. Continue the wild apple tree release program on the various City forest lots as recommended in the Forest Management Plan.
- b. Investigate the potential of having the Fire Department perform prescribed burning to enhance wildlife habitat.
- c. Coordinate with the Groundwork Concord Green Team, or some other volunteer or service oriented conservation group, for the removal of invasive plant species on City Forests.

**2009 GOALS STATUS****1. Administration**

- a. Prepare monthly reports to inform the Conservation Commission and City personnel of the status of all forestry projects and programs.

9-Month Status: This is an ongoing item; reports have been submitted every month to the Commission.

- b. Assist Groundwork Concord when their projects involve City Forest lots.

9-Month Status: The City Forester and Planning Staff have been attending all meetings that involve trails and City Forests.

- c. Assist with the preparation of the Forestry Program budget.

9-Month Status: This work is ongoing.

**2. Boundary Line Identification**

The goal of the boundary lines program is to insure that all of the City Forest boundaries are well identified to limit any forestry activities to the intended parcel and to help prevent accidental trespass on the part of abutters. This includes establishing all corner bounds and maintaining the boundaries with periodic blazing and painting.

- a. Identify and blaze the boundary line for the B&M parcel and blaze the boundary for the Oak Hill property in preparation of the proposed timber sale.

9-Month Status: The boundaries of the Oak Hill property have been blazed with red paint in preparation of the upcoming timber sale.

**3. Trail Work**

The goal of the trails program is to allow the City's residents to enjoy the City Forest land and to provide them with a safe hiking experience while limiting their impact to the environment.

- a. Continue the annual maintenance of all the City Forest trails as recommended in the management plans for the City Forest land that contain trail systems.

9-Month Status: The City's consultant forester, with the assistance of the Groundwork Green Team, completed several trail improvement projects during this past summer. The work included the relocation of the trail at Merrill Park along with the construction of a small footbridge, the realignment of a trail at the Oak Hill area, and the installation of kiosks at nine trailheads. The forester continues to remove fallen trees and debris from the trails as necessary to keep the footpaths open for hikers.

- b. Trailhead kiosks need to be installed at various trails as outlined in the 10-year trail development plan. Assist Groundwork Concord with the implementation of the work outlined in the recently awarded DRED trails grant. The project involves city-wide trail improvements to trail signage and kiosks.

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9-Month Status: Nine kiosks have been installed at trailheads throughout the city. Each kiosk has also been supplied with a large laminated trail map.

- c. Formalize a trailhead at the Marjory Swope Greenway off of Locke Road.

9-Month Status: A gate has been installed at the proposed trailhead location off of Locke Road. The Commission plans to install an information kiosk this summer.

- d. Repair and replace bridges as determined necessary at the Oak Hill conservation area.

9-Month Status: Two small bridges on the Tower Trail were reconstructed as part of an Eagle Scout project.

4. Forest Management

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- a. A timber sale is proposed for the Oak Hill conservation area. A timber cruise, along with the necessary bid documents to set up the timber sale, will need to be completed.

9-Month Status: Hopkinton Forestry & Land Clearing completed the timber sale at the Oak Hill conservation area. The sale rendered a profit of approximately \$14,000.

- b. The Riley lot needs to be brush hogged to control the occurrence of invasive plant species.

9-Month Status: The Riley lot and the Healy Park trails were brush hogged to maintain the trail systems and to control invasive plant species.

- c. The Commission has voted to rewrite and update the Forest Management Plan so that it is in an electronic file for easy updates as timber harvests are completed and new lands are added to the City forest inventory. This work will be completed during the end of FY 2008 and beginning of FY 2009.

9-Month Status: The City's consultant forester anticipates the completion of the Forest Management Plan by the end of the fiscal year. The consultant has digitized the forest maps and will continue to work towards finalizing the management plan.

5. Wildlife Management

The goal of the wildlife management program is to ensure that critical wildlife habitats on City properties are protected and that other habitats are maintained to provide diversity and to support self-sustaining wildlife populations, especially in areas adjacent to land that has been converted to development.

- a. Continue the wild apple tree release program on the various City forest lots as recommended in the Forest Management Plan.

9-Month Status: This work has not yet started.

- b. Investigate the potential of having the City of Concord Fire Department perform prescribed burning to enhance wildlife habitat.

9-Month Status: This project has not yet started.

- c. Coordinate with the Groundwork Concord Green Team for the removal of invasive bittersweet vines at the Penacook Lake watershed.

9-Month Status: The Groundwork Concord Green Team worked with the City's consultant forester to remove bittersweet vines from the city-owned forest land adjacent to Penacook Lake.

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**FORESTRY PROGRAM****BUDGET DETAIL**

	2006 ACTUAL	2007 ACTUAL	2008 ACTUAL	2009 BUDGETED ENCUMBERED	2009 ESTIMATED	2010 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET
<b>REVENUE</b>						
SALE OF PUBLICATIONS	\$440	\$293	\$507	\$300	\$300	\$300
FRM FOREST TRUST OR SALES	\$15,101	\$16,591	\$30,677	\$29,000	\$19,467	\$27,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15,541</b>	<b>\$16,884</b>	<b>\$31,184</b>	<b>\$29,300</b>	<b>\$19,767</b>	<b>\$27,500</b>
<b>APPROPRIATIONS</b>						
COMPENSATION	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
OUTSIDE SERVICES	\$24,748	\$16,910	\$31,184	\$28,267 \$467	\$18,267	\$26,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24,748</b>	<b>\$16,910</b>	<b>\$31,184</b>	<b>\$29,767</b> <b>\$467</b>	<b>\$19,767</b>	<b>\$27,500</b>

**FUNDING IMPACT**

**FORESTRY PROGRAM**

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This budget contains no significant funding changes.