

WELCOME!

It is great to have you working with us...and working for the environment! We are happy to help you plan your project and help you through any permitting requirements that may exist.

This brochure summarizes Eagle Scout projects on Conservation Land or in and around wetlands. Please refer to the Boy Scout Handbook for a more complete description of the Eagle Scout process.



WHAT IS REQUIRED TO EARN AN EAGLE SCOUT AWARD?

To attain the rank of Eagle Scout you must plan and carry out a service project helpful to an organization of your choosing, give leadership to others carrying out your project, and complete all requirements before your 18th birthday.

This requires **pre-planning** with your Scout Leader, your parents, and the organization you wish to help (such as the Weston Conservation Commission).

It also requires detailed **record keeping** and organized **implementation**.

WHAT TYPES OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS HAVE BEEN DONE?

Scouts have done a variety of projects:

- Building a **footbridge** across a stream to make a safe passage for children walking home from school.
- Constructing an educational **kiosk**
- Constructing a **nature trail** with an informative accompanying map
- **Rehabilitating a conservation area** (installing trail markers, cleaning up trash, clearing trails, etc.)
- NOTE: your project may not be a fundraiser for an environmental cause and may not be commercial in nature.

WHAT APPROVALS WILL I NEED?

- You will need **Conservation Commission** permission to work on their land.
- You may need a **wetlands permit** from the Conservation Commission if you will be working within 100 feet of a wetland or 200 feet of a stream.
- You will need the approval of your **Scoutmaster, Unit Committee Member, and Council or District Advancement Committee Member**. They will want to know who will benefit from the project, how they will benefit, how many people will be recruited to carry out the project, etc.

HOW DO I WORK WITH THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION?

Here's a simple checklist for conducting an Eagle Scout project on Conservation Land or in and around wetlands.

- Talk to Conservation staff** early in your planning process about your ideas – about 3 months before you want to start
- Meet Conservation staff on site** to discuss your project
- Submit a plan to the Commission** for review and approval about 2 months prior to your work day. Your plan must include:
 1. The goals of your project
 2. An illustration, map, and/or sketch plan of the project
 3. The method(s) and tools you will use
 4. The materials you will use
 5. Who your project helpers will be
 6. The timeframe for the project.
- Submit a wetlands permit application** if you will be working in or near wetlands (we will help).
- Attend the Conservation Commission meeting** when your project is being discussed. (The Commission generally meets in Town Hall every other Tuesday night). At the meeting, you will present your proposal and the Commission will review your plan and ask questions. They may ask for some revisions. When they are satisfied, they will approve the project.

- ❑ Call the Conservation office at least 48 hours before you plan on beginning work in the field.
- ❑ Notify the Conservation office before undertaking any proposed changes.



WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I COMPLETE MY PROJECT?

Even though your project was approved before you got started, you need to submit two follow-up reports.

The Conservation Commission would like a short, summary report of how the project went and what was accomplished.

The Eagle Scout Board of Review must approve the manner in which the project was carried out and so will ask:

- How did you demonstrate leadership of others?
- How did you direct the project, rather than doing the work yourself?
- How did the community benefit from the project?
- Did the project follow the plan, or if it not, why not?

WHAT RECORDS MUST I KEEP?

You must record the progress of your project.

- Keep track of the **time** you spent planning
- List the type and **cost** of any materials
- Include **before and after photos** to clearly illustrate your contribution.
- List the **people** and **hours** spent carrying out the project.
- If your original **plan changes** at any time, document the change and reason for it and contact the Conservation Commission.



THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION IS HERE TO HELP!

The Conservation Commission is here to help you in any way we can. We are happy to answer your questions and provide you with guidance in planning your project.

EAGLE SCOUT LEADERSHIP SERVICE PROJECTS

A GUIDE TO WORKING ON WESTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION LAND OR NEAR WETLANDS



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