

Parks Advisory Committee Meeting
October 7, 2009
Old Spring Hill Field 6:00 pm
Immediately after site walk we will adjourn to the MCC Conference Room

***In the event of rain we will meet at the Mansfield Community Center Conference Room at 7:30**
An email will be sent by 4pm regarding the change of the location

Acting Secretary- Michelle Baughman

- I. Welcome
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of September Minutes- to be handed out at meeting
- IV. New Business
 1. Review of Old Spring Hill Field Management Plan
 2. Plan for revising management plans
- V. Continuing Business
 1. Fall FOMP Programs-Walktober, etc.
 2. Winter Program Ideas
- VI. Staff Report
 1. Open Space bond referendum
 2. Bird Blind update
 3. NAV Fall workdays- Report
 4. River Park Rain Garden
 5. River Park is online
 6. Grants Currently in Implementation Phase
 - Commonfields Path through time
- VII. Other Committee Minutes
 1. Conservation Commission
 2. Open Space Preservation Committee
- VIII. Other
- IX. Adjournment

MANSFIELD LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR PARK, RECREATION, OR OPEN SPACE PROPERTY

Name of property: Old Spring Hill Field

Location of property: Central Mansfield/Storrs, corner of Spring Hill Road and Maple Road, adjacent to Mansfield Middle School.

Size of property: 6.445 acres

Public access: Allowed. Open space. Passive recreation.

Property classification: Purchased by Town, Conservation Easement deeded to Town in association with PZC/IWA approval.

Agencies that helped prepare the management plan: Town Staff (Director of Parks & Recreation and Town Planner) and Michael W. Lefor, member of the Open Space Preservation Committee, Botanist, and Certified Professional Wetland Scientist.

Date plan was prepared: October 16, 1998

Revision dates: March 3, 1999, PAC

Date of Town Council approval: February 14, 2000

Committee review date: PAC monitor annually.
Staff review, October, 2004.

MANSFIELD MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR PARK, RECREATION OR OPEN SPACE PROPERTY

Name of Property: *Old Spring Hill Field* (formerly known as Bodwell Property or Gifford Estates)

Location of Property: Central Mansfield/Storrs, corner of Spring Hill Road and Maple Road, adjacent to Mansfield Middle School

Size of Property: 6.445 acres

Public Access: Allowed

Property Classification: Purchased by Town, Conservation Easement deeded to town in association with PZC/IWA approval.

Agency that helped prepare Management Plan: Town Staff (Director of Parks & Recreation and Town Planner) and Michael W. Lefor, member of the Open Space Preservation Committee, Botanist, and Certified Professional Wetland Scientist

Date Management Plan was prepared: October 16, 1998

Revision Dates: March 3, 1999 PAC Meeting

Date of Town Council approval: *approved by Town Council
2-14-2000*

I. Inventory

A. Notable Physical Characteristics (topography, soils, watercourses, fields, vegetative cover, etc.)

The ground surface slopes generally from the northeast corner to the southwest corner. There is a drainage ditch along the western edge. Soils, watercourses and vegetative cover are detailed in the Wetland Assessment Report from the original Gifford Estates Subdivision Plan (see attachment D) The parcel presents three or so vegetation types: grass in mesic to wet meadow, shrubland (all *Rosa Multiflora*), and open herbaceous wetland.

B. Notable Special Features (playgrounds, ballfields, cultural or historic features, structures, trails, views/vistas, endangered species, etc.)

1. There is a conservation easement on a portion of the property to protect wetland boundaries.
2. Significant stone wall along Spring Hill Road.
3. Portions of the property are very visible from Spring Hill Road and contain wetland areas on the westerly side.
4. Wetland portions of site may have value for scientific study by MMS classes.
5. Southeast corner is immediately adjacent to Spring Hill ballfields and MMS upper parking area. This portion of the site appears to have soils appropriate for athletic or recreational use such as: small T-Ball field or basketball courts.

C. Notable Concerns (physical environment, cultural/historic environment, habitat, water quality, aesthetics, etc.)

Invasive species (*Rosa Multiflora*) has taken over old field areas. Consideration should be given to removing undesirable plant species.

II. **Goals/Recommended Management Actions:** General and specific goals and management actions designed to promote protection of the environment, wildlife habitats, agricultural use, recreational use, site aesthetics, etc. As appropriate, include implementation schedule.

A. Overall Goals for the Property:

1. Enforce Conservation Easement restrictions.
2. Preserve stone wall.
3. Maintain buffer for MMS and Spring Hill Fields.
4. Manage for educational and habitat purposes.

B. Goals/Management Actions Requiring Immediate Attention:

1. Stabilize the existing vegetation as much as possible by killing any young trees in amongst the shrubs, insofar as it is possible to reach them.
2. Leave Alders in swales.

C. Goals/Management Actions Requiring Short-Term Attention (up to 5 years):

1. Discuss/review management of invasive plant species to improve wildlife habitat.
2. Clear brush, small saplings and overgrowth in front of the stone wall.
3. In years 1-2, brush hog one or two mowed trails through the *Rosa Multiflora* and drier areas of the site.
4. Treat the stumps of the Rose and seedlings thereof with an environmentally approved herbicide, which works well on this species.
5. Plan boardwalk for nature study through the southwesterly end of the parcel.
6. In years 2-6, and beginning at the edges of the mowed trails:
 - a. Remove the Roses a few at a time using approved methods. At the end of each growing season check for seedlings of same and repeat treatment;
 - b. Plant shrubs of *Cornus racemosa*, *C. stolonifera*, *C. amomum*, *Ilex verticillata*, and various *Viburnum* spp. (the last 4 in moister/wetter areas) and similar native shrubs in place of the Rose. The purposes of this stepwise replacement are 1) to make it easier and more manageable by Town staff and/or volunteers, and 2) to avoid wholesale soil disturbance which will favor other weedy species and/or more Rose. This work should be done before the Roses fruit in late June.
 - c. Continue with trail maintenance and Rose eradication, which can eventually be turned over to the School. Bear in mind that it will probably be impossible to completely control the Rose, but after the first few years this will continue to become easier.
 - d. Construct boardwalk through the southwesterly wetland. Remove any tree seedlings as they appear by cutting and removing or treating the stumps at the beginning or end of the season, or in the winter.

D. Goals/Management Actions Requiring Longer-Term Attention (5+ years):

1. Habitat shrubland with non-invasive native shrubs.
2. Boardwalk through herbaceous southwesterly wetland for nature study; broad (20-50ft.) trails (mowed twice yearly) through shrubland.
3. Edges: leave margin of trees and shrubs on the west; keep border and shortcut with Spring Hill Road open on the north.
4. Kill Asiatic Bittersweet in the borders, along with Japanese Barberry.
5. Continue to remove Rose, Barberry, and Bittersweet as they appear.
6. Remove tree seedlings from open areas.

III: Identification of Management Plan Attachments

- A. Aerial Photo
- B. Site Plan
- C. Property Description
- D. Wetland Assessment

IV. Recommended Schedules for:

- A. Monitoring site conditions: annually
- B. Monitoring implementation of recommended management actions: seasonally
- C. Updating Management Plan: as needed

V. Agency/Person(s) Recommended to:

- A. Monitor site conditions: Director of Parks & Recreation and Town Planner
- B. Monitor implementation of recommended management actions: Director of Parks & Recreation and Town Planner
- C. Update Management Plan: Director of Parks & Recreation and Town Planner

VI. Other Comments

Mansfield is poor in herb- and shrub-lands, which are important to bird species. Proximity to Mansfield Middle School affords an opportunity to train/educate students in various areas of biology and vegetation management.

SCHEDULE "A"

A certain piece or parcel of land situated on the southerly side of Spring Hill Road in the Town of Mansfield, County of Tolland and State of Connecticut, designated as Lot 27D on a map entitled, "Resubdivision Plan Gifford Estates Lot #27B Mansfield, Conn. Scale: 1" = 40' Owner/Resubdivider Russell Bodwell 87 Saudders Lane Glenhead, NY 11545 October 24, 1989" Revised: April, 1991; July 15, 1991; July 31, 1991; October 23, 1991, Sheet 1 of 3, which map was prepared by Datum Engineering & Surveying, 132 Conantville Road, Mansfield Center, CT 06250 456-1357. Said Lot 27D is further bounded and described as follows:

- NORTHERLY: By Spring Hill Road, 385.00 feet;
- EASTERLY: By Lot 27C on said map, 268.16 feet;
- NORTHERLY, again:
By Lot 27C, on said map, 154.53 feet;
- EASTERLY, again:
By land now or formerly of the Town of Mansfield,
250.0 feet;
- SOUTHERLY: By land now or formerly of the Town of Mansfield, 627.90 feet;
- WESTERLY: By Spring Hill Road, 535.20 feet; and
- NORTHWESTERLY:
By Spring Hill Road, 54.88 feet.

Containing 6.445 acres and being a portion of the same premises described in a deed dated September 28, 1987 and recorded in Volume 262 at Page 416 of the Mansfield Land Records.

Subject to Drainage easements and a Conservation easement to the Town of Mansfield as shown on said map.

ATTACHMENT C

WETLAND ASSESSMENT

GIFFORD ESTATES Lot #27

Prepared for: Russell Bodwell
87 Souders Lane
Glenhead, New York 11545

c/o Datum Engineering
132 Conantville Road
Mansfield Center, CT 06250-1620

Prepared by: Robert W. Kortmann, Ph.D.
Ecosystem Consulting Service, Inc.
430 Talcott Hill Road
Coventry, Conn. 06238
(203) 742-0744



October 4, 1989

Portion of Report describing the physical
Characteristics of land being considered
by the Town for acquisition.

ATTACHMENT D

The wetlands on the site can be separated into three sections based on vegetation and apparent hydrological evidence. Section 1 is approximately ~~80 feet wide and 360' long~~ with small fingers extending further to the north, one of which is the drainage channel from an 18" culvert at Spring Hill Road (Figure 3). The area of this section is about 35,000 square feet (0.80 acres). The vegetation of this section is characterized by a predominance of Reed canary grass. Although a few other species occur in this section, the grass composes about 80% of the cover. No trees occur in this area. The shrub layer is represented by scattered clumps of multiflora rose. In the southern center of this section OBL plants were found indicating long periods of saturation; field evidence supported this.

Section 2 is the extension of Section 1 and is located in the rear of lots 27D and 27E. It is about 360 feet long and 160 feet wide (58,000 square feet, 1.32 acres). The vegetation of this section is similar to that of Section 1 with the dominance of Reed canary grass less so, but still apparent. Multiflora rose comprises the shrub layer. The Herb layer is notably more diverse than Section 1, with several species growing interspersed in the background carpet of Reed canary grass (see Table 1b).

The OBL plants found in Section 1 were also located throughout Section 2 indicating soil saturation. This was verified in the field. Section 2 drains to the south by way of a drainage channel through the stone wall at the property boundary. South of the wall the channel flows into a small pond.

Section 3 is a drainage channel running along the western end of the property. Originating from a 30" culvert under Spring Hill Road, this section runs 280 feet to the northwestern side of Section 2. This section is narrow, about 10-12 feet wide, having an area of 3360 square feet or 0.08 acres.

The vegetation of this section is characterized by a gradient from northern to southern ends. The northern end, beginning at the culvert, is composed of a thick shrub layer of speckled alder, with few herbs present. This dominance by alder gradually gives way to herbs and occasional multiflora rose. The channel is an eroded but stably stabilized by the thick vegetation on the banks and within a course for the full distance. On the date of the field work, evidence was observed of recent bank and channel erosion from heavy rains a few days earlier.

Together the site is characterized by thick wetland grasses, lack of trees or shrub dominance (except for local alder dominance and scattered rose). The surrounding upland is typified by large clumps of rose and grasses. This indicates that the site may have been grazed for continued periods of time so that the rose could form large clumps somewhat isolated from each other and the most abundant shrub on the property.

Note: All wetland areas described are on the property being considered by the Town

Lands Summary - Function

As described in the previous section, the field delineated lands shown on the plans (by soils) meet the three criteria of wetland definition protocol: soils, floristic composition, and soil saturation. The wetland areas provide several desirable functions. With the exception of the "eroded swale", flow is very "aided"; not within a defined channel. This, and the tussock vegetation identified in Section II - Figure 3, indicate that flow retention, and renovation of runoff quality, are significant functions. Habitat availability is also important, but is somewhat limited to local, on-site habitat. The site's location high in the drainage basin indicates that "streambelt corridor function" is not important on this site. These wetlands do not interconnect stream-downstream wetland habitat areas. Groundwater infiltration is probably an important function relative to maintaining low flow conditions in the downstream watercourse system. These functions should be preserved and, where possible, enhanced.

Proposed Activities, Impacts, Recommendations

Activity 1: Culverting/Fill along Spring Hill Road

The proposal includes installation of a culvert conveyance system to carry runoff from the Maple Road/Spring Hill Rd. intersection to the 548 ft. contour (Figure 4). This piping and fill represents a direct wetland impact which we would usually discourage. In most cases avoidance of direct fill impact, and minimizing overland conveyance by a swale system is preferred. However, this wetland section currently exhibits a rather serious erosion problem. Steep erosive cuts were observed throughout the length of the proposed culvert. In this case, we believe culverting the section that is presently unstable is desirable; maintaining a subtle grassed swale for local runoff as shown. Below contour 544 the grade becomes less steep; flow disperses throughout Section II, and erosion is not a problem.

If desired by the Agency and/or Applicant, the treatment of culvert outfall could be modified to enhance wildlife habitat features, and overcome some of the groundwater difficulties on Lot 1. A groundwater interceptor drain could be located upgradient of the septic leaching field and drained toward the culvert outfall (discharged into the culvert). The outfall could be discharged to a small area of "created marsh" which would serve as a level leader to the lower wetland area. This suggestion is discussed further on. The piping of drainage, in this case, appears to be appropriate to eliminate an erosion problem. Mitigative replacement of filled wetland area and function would not be difficult in this case.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

TOWN OF MANVEL

SITE OF PROPOSED TOWN ACQUISITION

SPRING HILL FIELDS



ATTACHMENT B

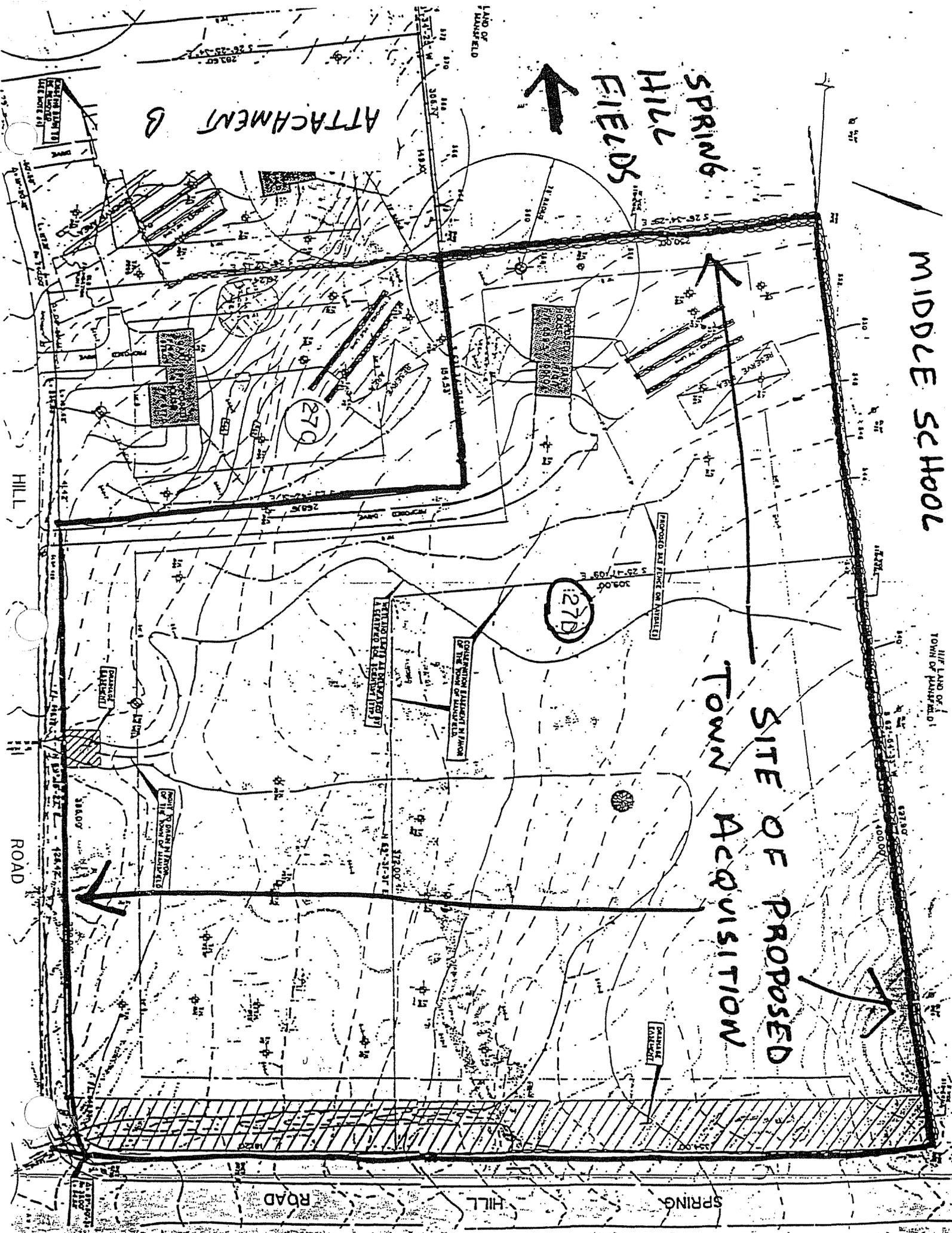
HILL ROAD

ROAD

ROAD

HILL

SPRING



Natural Areas Volunteers
Town of Mansfield CT, Parks & Recreation Department

Volunteer Work Dates

PROPOSED VOLUNTEER RESTORATION MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE Sample

9/20/03

10/4/03

SITE Old Spring Hill Field STEWARD J. Haskell

YEAR 2003-2004 Quarter (circle one) 1 2 3 4

Other event .

Map Symbol/ Plant Community	OBJECTIVE	METHOD	EXPECTED WORK DATE	DATE DONE
(Also list rare habitats or species in management area.) North entrance	Create access with gate, begin clearing invasives within.	Cut and herbicide (Brush-B- Gon). Create brushpile.	spring 2003	3-2003
E,W, Stonewall	Clear Stonewall and trees of overgrown invasives and poison ivy.	Foliar spray herbicide to leaves or cut-stump w/Brush-B-Gon. Create brushpile.	Fall, 2003	9-20-03 10-4-03 11-15-03
near North Entrance	Remove tree saplings, including Autumn Olive	Cut, apply Brush-B-Gon to stump. Create brushpile by entrance.	12-06-03	Cancelled storm
Interior swath for grassland mowing.	Open up area for mowing maintenance. Remove invasives.	Cut, apply <u>Brush-B-Gon</u> to stumps.	Winter 2004	

Approved By: _____

Date: _____

Natural Areas Volunteers
Town of Mansfield CT, Parks & Recreation Department

Volunteer Work Dates

PROPOSED VOLUNTEER RESTORATION MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE Sample

2-7-04

3-27-04.

4-3-04.

SITE Old Spring Hill Field STEWARD J. Haskell -----

YEAR -2004 Quarter (circle one) 1 2 3 4

Other event .

Map Symbol/ Plant Community	OBJECTIVE	METHOD	EXPECTED WORK DATE	DATE DONE
(Also list rare habitats or species in management area.) <i>South stonewall</i>	<i>Stonewall brushclearing.</i>	<i>Cut and herbicide (Brush-B-Gon). Create brushpile.</i>	<i>winter 2004</i>	<i>storm cancell</i>
<i>Under large hickory</i>	<i>Clear tree of overgrown invasives and poison ivy.</i>	<i>Foliar spray herbicide to leaves or cut-stump w/Brush-B-Gon. Create brushpile.</i>	<i>Spring, 2004</i>	<i>3-27-04</i>
<i>South Stonewall along Tel. wires</i>	<i>Clear brush along wall for access over wall.</i>	<i>Cut , apply Brush-B-Gon to stump. Create brushpile by entrance.</i>	<i>Spring, 2004</i>	<i>4-3-04</i>
<i>Old field cut area</i>	<i>Plant survey</i>	<i>walk and ID plants</i>	<i>summer, fall, 2004</i>	<i>7-16-04 10-1-04</i>

Approved By: _____

Date: _____

Natural Areas Volunteers
Town of Mansfield CT, Parks & Recreation Department

Volunteer Work Dates

3-19-05

4-2, 4-9

4-16, 4-30

Other event .

PROPOSED VOLUNTEER RESTORATION MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE Sample

SITE Old Spring Hill Field STEWARD J. Haskell

YEAR -2005 Quarter (circle one) 1 2 **3** 4

Map Symbol/ Plant Community	OBJECTIVE	METHOD	EXPECTED WORK DATE	DATE DONE
(Also list rare habitats or species in management area.) <i>South stonewall</i>	<i>Stonewall brushclearing inside</i>	<i>Cut and herbicide (Brush-B- Gon). DPW and staff</i>	<i>spring, 2005</i>	
<i>Under large hickory</i>	<i>brushclearing, remove invasives</i>	<i>Foliar spray herbicide to leaves or cut-stump w/Brush-B-Gon. Create brushpile.</i>	<i>Spring, 2005</i>	
<i>South Stonewall along Tel. wires</i>	<i>Clear brush along wall for access over wall.</i>	<i>Cut, apply Brush-B-Gon to stump. Create brushpile by entrance.</i>	<i>Spring, 2005</i>	
<i>Old field cut area</i>	<i>Plant survey, monitor invasives control</i>	<i>walk and ID plants, staff herbicide invasives resprouts</i>	<i>summer, fall, 2005</i>	

Approved By: _____

Date: _____

Town of Mansfield Parks and Recreation Department
Old Spring Hill Field Native Shrubland Restoration Project

This 6.4-acre open field surrounded by stonewall was historically a pastureland and is now in the early stages of old field succession; from open field, to shrubland, to small trees, to forest; a common occurrence for local abandoned fields in north east Connecticut. The Town of Mansfield purchased the land as part of the development of the Mansfield Middle School, and it was decided to keep the field a natural area and develop a management plan that would keep it open, since we already had many examples of forests in our parks system. Other goals in the management plan encourage improving the shrubland habitat to benefit several non-forest bird species and animals, and making the wetland area accessible to students for environmental education.

The field has a picturesque corner location on Spring Hill and Maple Roads. Unfortunately as the years have passed without active management or grazing, non-native invasive species have grown aggressively, covering the openness with brush tangles. These "alien invasive" species are Autumn Olive (a small tree), Multiflora Rose (a bush with thorns), Japanese Barberry (a bush with thorns), and Asiatic Bittersweet (a tree-climbing vine). Poison Ivy vines have also invaded the stone wall. This is a common problem with local homeowners, too, as these aggressive plants spread throughout New England, often replacing native species such as Dogwood, Steeplebush, Holly, Viburnum, and Blueberry.

In 2003, the Mansfield Parks Advisory Committee decided to take action on the property and begin a long-term restoration project (as outlined in the original 2000 land management plan). This project includes cleaning up the stonewalls, removing the invasive plants, establishing a deer-exclosed native shrub nursery, replanting native shrub clusters surrounded by grasslands that can be periodically mowed, establishing a path for birding enthusiasts, educating the public about restoration activities, and providing an area for middle school environmental programs.

Our Mansfield Natural Areas Volunteers work on many of the Town's preserves, and have held many workdays this year at Old Spring Hill Field. If you are interested in community service projects, please contact us for our workday schedule and visit our Town website (www.mansfieldCT.org). We also have special projects to organize, such as our native shrub nursery, stonewall repair, and bluebird trail.

PAC Land Management Plan Review Sheet

Date: 8-11-05

Preserve: Old Spring Hill Field

Original Plan approved date: 10-16-98 Plan last reviewed: 3-1-05

Current status assessment:

List start-up, short-term, and long-term goals already accomplished.

1. A large northwest portion was cleared by DPW in December, 2003.
2. NAV workdays cleared east, south, and west stonewalls of vegetation 2003-2005.
3. WHIP grants were applied for but not accepted in 2003-2005.
4. Steward recruited and began work inside SE stonewall clearing invasives for shrub nursery, Spring, 2005.
5. DPW removed brushpiles and cut resprouts along south stonewall, August, 2005.

List LMP goals put on hold.

Building a boardwalk for nature study in southwest section.

List LMP goals or special projects to complete this year.

Maintenance:

1. DPW continue mowing up to outside east, south, and west stonewalls.
2. Remove resprouts from stonewalls, herbicide.
3. Establish a path to be periodically mowed inside property.

Ecological restoration:

1. Clear area in SE for shrub nursery site.
2. Clear vegetation from rest of south stonewall.

Monitor: Invasives, deer browse damage, bird population, old field regrowth.

Additional comments.

- Plan shrub nursery.
- Promote shrub restoration project by signage, and public environmental programming.

Attach a map if necessary. Give to Parks Coordinator for review, placement in Preserves file, and management schedule preparation.

Town of Mansfield CT, Parks Office

PROPOSED RESTORATION MANAGEMENT SCHEDULE

Volunteer Workdays
11/05 and 11/12

SITE Old Spring Hill Field Prepared by J. Haskell

YEAR 2005 Quarter (circle one) 1 2 3 **4**

Other event

Map Symbol/ Plant Community	OBJECTIVE	METHOD	EXPECTED WORK DATE	DATE DONE
A. southeast corner	clear area for shrub nursery	Cut and herbicide stumps	11/05/05	
B. southern wall	clear vegetation from wall	cut and herbicide stumps	11/12/05	11/5
C. along south wall	remove brushpiles	DPW haul away	Nov. 16, 2005	11/12
D. Old field cut area	plant survey, monitor invasives control	walk and ID plants, staff herbicide invasives resprouts	October, 2005	11/23
E. interior path	cut path inside stonewall	DPW to mow while staff present	Dec. 2005	
F. shrub nursery area	planning	steward and staff make plan for shrub nursery	winter 2005	

LM Plan reviewed by PAC April, 2005.

Approved By: _____
Date: _____



TOWN OF MANSFIELD

Explanatory Text *November 3, 2009 Referendum*

Resolutions adopted by the Mansfield Town Council at its meeting held August 24, 2009 shall be submitted to referendum vote of electors of the Town and persons qualified to vote in town meetings who are not electors, to be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2009 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. in conjunction with the election to be held on that date, in the manner provided by the Mansfield Town Charter and Code of Ordinances, and the Connecticut General Statutes. The full texts of the resolutions as approved by the Town Council are on file and available for public inspection in the office of the Town Clerk, Audrey P. Beck Building, 4 South Eagleville Road in Storrs, during normal business hours.

Electors shall vote on the questions at their respective polling places.

Voting District Locations

District 1—Community Center
10 S. Eagleville Road

District 2—Fire Station 107
Stafford Road (Route 32)

District 3—Buchanan Auditorium at
Buchanan Center at
Mansfield Public Library
54 Warrenville Road (Route 89)

Voters who are not electors shall vote on the questions at the following polling place: Registrars of Voters Office, Audrey P. Beck Building, 4 South Eagleville Road in Storrs.

Application for an absentee ballot should be made to the Town Clerk's office.

www.mansfieldct.org

Question 1

"SHALL THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD APPROPRIATE \$1,052,450 FOR ACQUISITION OF LAND OR INTERESTS THEREIN FOR OPEN SPACE, MUNICIPAL, OR PASSIVE OR ACTIVE RECREATIONAL USES AND FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO LAND CURRENTLY OWNED BY THE TOWN OR TO BE ACQUIRED BY THE TOWN FOR SUCH PURPOSES, AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO DEFRAY SAID APPROPRIATION?"

If approved at referendum, the resolution to be presented under the first ballot heading above will appropriate \$1,052,450, and authorize the issue of bonds and notes to defray the appropriation, for costs related to the acquisition by the Town of land or interests therein for open space, municipal, or passive or active recreational uses and for improvements to any parcel of land currently owned by the Town or acquired by the Town pursuant to this resolution for such uses. The appropriation may be spent for survey fees, feasibility and planning studies related to potential acquisitions, design, construction, acquisition, installation, material and equipment costs related to such improvements, legal fees, net temporary interest and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project.

Question 2

"SHALL THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD APPROPRIATE \$3,093,840 FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE STONE MILL ROAD AND LAUREL LANE BRIDGES AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES TO DEFRAY THE PORTION OF SAID APPROPRIATION NOT FUNDED FROM GRANTS?"

If approved at referendum, the resolution to be presented under the second ballot heading above will appropriate \$3,093,840, and authorize the issue of bonds and notes to defray the appropriation, for costs related to the replacement of the bridges on Stone Mill Road (over the Fenton River) and Laurel Lane (over the Mount Hope River). The Town anticipates receiving Federal bridge project grants of eighty percent (80%) of the eligible project cost to defray in part the appropriation, and the amount of bonds or notes authorized shall be reduced by the amount of grants received by the Town for the project to the extent that such grants are not separately appropriated to pay additional project costs. The Town anticipates that the net cost of the bridge projects will be approximately \$618,800. The appropriation may be spent for design, construction and inspection of construction costs, materials, engineering fees, survey fees, construction management costs, permits, legal fees, financing costs and other expenses related to the projects.

Question 3

"SHALL THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD APPROPRIATE \$105,250 FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE HUNTING LODGE ROAD BIKEWAY/WALKWAY AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO DEFRAY SAID APPROPRIATION?"

If approved at referendum, the resolution to be presented under the third ballot heading above will appropriate \$105,250, and authorize the issue of bonds and notes to defray the appropriation, for costs related to the construction of an approximately 2900 foot long bikeway/walkway on Hunting Lodge Road between North Eagleville Road and Carriage House Drive. The appropriation may be spent for construction and inspection of construction costs, materials, construction management costs, permits, legal fees, financing costs and other expenses related to the project.

Question 4

"SHALL THE TOWN OF MANSFIELD APPROPRIATE \$263,130 FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A SALT STORAGE SHED TO BE LOCATED AT THE MANSFIELD PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT COMPLEX AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO DEFRAY SAID APPROPRIATION?"

If approved at referendum, the resolution to be presented under the fourth ballot heading above will appropriate \$263,130, and authorize the issue of bonds and notes to defray the appropriation, for costs related to the construction of a salt storage shed at the Town's Public Works Department complex located at 230 Clover Mill Road, capable of storing approximately 2,000 tons of deicing materials and sand/aggregate mixtures. The appropriation may be spent for design, construction, materials, site work, inspection of construction, materials testing, construction management, permits, legal fees, financing costs and other expenses relating to the project.

*Prepared by Mary L. Stanton, Mansfield Town Clerk
in accordance with C.G.S. § 9-369b*

INSERT NAME AND ADDRESS OF RECIPIENT

Town of Mansfield
4 South Eagleville Road
Mansfield, CT 06268

Information Session

An Information Session will be held on the following
Referendum Questions:

- \$1,052,450 Open Space and Improvements to Such Lands
- \$3,093,840 Stone Mill Road and Laurel Lane Bridge Replacement
- \$105,250 Hunting Lodge Road Bikeway/Walkway Construction
- \$263,130 Salt Storage Shed Construction

Session: October 22, 2009
7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Buchanan Auditorium at the
Buchanan Center
Mansfield Library

Referendum scheduled for November 3, 2009

Town Meeting

A Town Meeting will be held for the
purpose of discussing the following
Referendum Questions:

- \$105,250 Hunting Lodge Road Bikeway/Walkway Construction
- \$263,130 Salt Storage Shed Construction

Meeting: October 26, 2009
6:00 p.m.
Council Chambers,
Audrey P. Beck Building,
4 South Eagleville Road

No votes will be taken on these questions at the meeting. The Town Meeting will be adjourned to November 3, 2009 Referendum.

DRAFT
Town of Mansfield
Open Space Preservation Committee
September 15 2009 Minutes

Members Present: Steve Lowery, Ken Feathers Jim Morrow

- 1. Meeting called to order at 7:45**
- 2. Minute of the May and June meeting approved on motion by Feather /Lowery**
- 3. Opportunity for Public Comment:**
 - none present**
- 4. Old Business**
- 5. New Business**
 - November Open Space Referendum was discussed. Some concerns express were: Why is it bad not to spend money? Will voter turn out be enough to approve the referendum question?**
- 6. Meeting adjourned 8:30**

Respectfully Submitted
Jim Morrow

Town of Mansfield
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting of 16 September 2009
Conference B, Beck Building
(DRAFT) MINUTES

Members present: Scott Lehmann, John Silander, Joan Stevenson. *Members absent:* Robert Dahn, Peter Drzewiecki, Quentin Kessel, Frank Trainor. *Others present:* JC Beall, Katrina Higgins, Grant Meitzler (Wetlands Agent).

1. The meeting was **called to order** at 7:37p by Acting Chair John Silander.
2. The draft **minutes of the 19 August 09 meeting**, circulated by e-mail shortly thereafter, were approved as written.

3. IWA referral W1438 (Beall & Higgins, Wormwood Hill Rd) Because abutters did not receive the legally required notice, the proposal approved by the IWA as W1433 is being considered *de novo*.

Silander participated in the IWA Field Trip to the site on 9/15/09 and made the following observations: (1) The small wetland shown on the site plan did not have any typical wetland vegetation, but may contain standing water at times. To qualify as a vernal pool, water would have to remain in it for at least a month in the spring. A determination of whether this is likely is a matter for a hydrologist. (2) It is also unclear whether the small wetland drains to a pond below (if it does, the potential impact on wetlands may be greater); this also is a matter for a hydrologist. (3) Only a portion of the septic system and a portion of the driveway lie within the 150 ft wetlands buffer; it may be possible to alter the plan slightly so that house, driveway, and septic are not in the buffer (and the proposal needs no wetlands permit).

Concerning (1), Meitzler pointed out that a vernal pool is just a wetland from the perspective of Town wetland regulations, so a finding that it is or isn't a vernal pool has no regulatory force. Concerning (2), he noted that the wetland is in a bowl whose lip rises 12-18 inches above it on the down-slope side.

Stevenson and Lehmann recused themselves, leaving just one disinterested Commission member present, a number insufficient to pass a credible motion, even by the Commission's relaxed standards. Accordingly, the members present agreed simply to pass the above observations along to the IWA. {Beall & Higgins then left the meeting.}

4. 2009 Planning Acquisition and Management Guidelines. These guidelines, updated by the Town Council on 8/24/09, assign to the Commission responsibility for "periodically monitoring Mansfield's existing conservation easements." (IV) Since there are many such easements, this will be a big job. While planning was deferred to a better-attended meeting, it was suggested (1) that we settle on a monitoring period – one year? two years? – and schedule site visits on a monthly basis throughout it, and (2) that we enlist the help of neighbors through letters asking them to report any untoward activity on conservation easements. In response to a query about who is responsible for posting signs demarcating conservation easements, Meitzler said that most easements are connected to subdivisions and that the subdivision's surveyor must certify that boundaries are correctly delineated and signed.

5. Invasive plantings. The CVS site was replanted with invasives because Town regulations cover only new projects, not replantings (unlike current State regulations, which prohibit planting invasives on state land, including UConn property). The sense of members present

was that the Commission should propose stronger regulations to the PZC, but this too was deferred to a better-attended meeting.

6. Adjourned at 8:15p

Scott Lehmann, Secretary, 17 September 09