

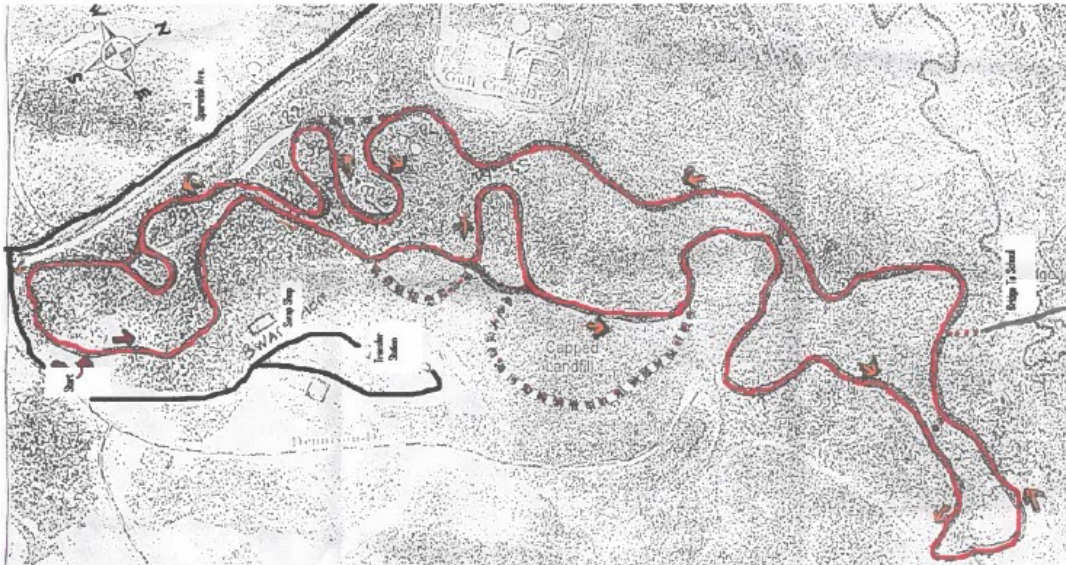


Greenbelt Gazette

January, 2024

Multi-user Mantras

•**Nordic Trails grooming.** If we get snow, and if the snow is groomed for Nordic skiing at Gull Crest, we ask trail users and their pets to *walk on the edge of the trail* so that the grooming is preserved for skiers. The Nordic trail is located at Gull Crest, shown below. Nordic trail grooming is done by a donated and aging snowmachine, and the Nordic group would be happy to accept a donation of a newer model snowmachine.



Conservation Committee Chair Matt Craig, Conservation members Michelle Boyer and Red Sullivan, Nordic Trail volunteers Jay Weiss and Bob Dunphy, and Tree Warden Jeff Tarling walk the Nordic Trail to address immediate and longer-term improvements.



•**Thank you Public Works (again).** The Cape Elizabeth Public Works Department used the cold temperatures to remove the remaining debris from the redecking of the Spurwink pedestrian bridge and boardwalk. Public Works has been a fantastic greenbelt partner, predominantly helping with supply deliveries and debris removal, squeezing in support between its more traditional responsibilities.

•**Volunteers help keep the greenbelt open.** The Conservation Committee expresses its appreciation for the volunteers who cleared trails of fallen trees in the recent storms. This month's featured volunteer is Josh Benthien, who is putting his new chain saw to use.



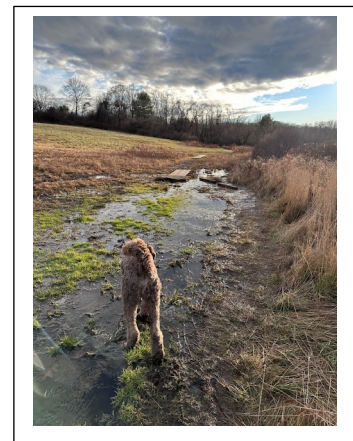
Before



After

What's Happening?

•**Town Farm Trail Rerouting.** Have you been walking on the Town Farm Trail and found muddy and icy conditions? The Conservation Committee visited the site and will be relocating the trail about 75' upland to drier ground. The rerouting (scheduled for next Spring) will allow the impacted area to naturally revegetate and avoid adding boardwalk to the open expanse of the Town Farm field.



•**Cross Hill open space monitoring.** The Conservation Committee received the annual report from the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust on easement monitoring at Cross Hill at the January 9, 2024 meeting. CELT identified a variety of easement encroachments. Some encroachments identified in prior years have been mitigated, while others remain or have been reestablished. Adjacent property owners will again be notified and asked to refrain from making alterations to town open space.

