

## **Hartland Conservation Commission 1997 Report**

### **\*\* Natural Resources Section of the Town Plan**

The Commission worked with an Antioch College graduate student to complete a draft of the Natural Resources section of the new upcoming Town Plan. The draft includes a Perspective, Goals, and Recommendations for 5 topics: Historical Resources, Agriculture and Forestry Resources, Water Resources, Natural Areas/Fragile Areas/Wildlife Habitat Resources, and Scenic Resources. To start our project we put up a poster at Old Home Day asking Hartland residents to write down what they think are Hartland's special places. We will continue to work with the townspeople and the Planning Commission in early 1998 to review, improve, and complete this important piece of the Town Plan.

### **\*\* Dedication of the Foster Meadow Trail**

A descendant of Timothy Lull (Hartland's first settler), cut the ribbon on Old Home Day to dedicate this trail. The Boy Scouts honored Travis Ramsey for his completion of this Eagle Scout project. The trail brochure and trail-building materials were gathered from a variety of generous community businesses and individuals.

### **\*\* Town Forest Trail**

Another Eagle Scout project by Jack Dukeshire at the Town Forest completed the first leg of our Town Forest trail. The trail was part of the Town Forest Management Plan that the Commission completed last year.

### **\*\* Green-Up Day**

The weather: cold and rainy. The volunteers: a hardy crew of 48 (down a bit from the usual complement). The trash collected: just over a ton, plus 31 tires. Many thanks to the Hartland Volunteer Fire Department for use of the firehouse as a picnic site following trash pick-up, and of course many, MANY thanks to those intrepid volunteers. Let's hope for sunnier skies in 1998.

### **\*\* Photo Contest**

Andrea Ambros coordinated our third annual photo contest on "The Barns of Hartland" and created a wonderful display for Old Home Day. Next year we want even more entries from all age groups for the theme "Stone for A Purpose" - any stone that has been moved for a good reason, or any reason at all! Like gravestones, stone walls, foundations, culverts - you name it, as long as its in Hartland.

### **\*\* Other Activities**

- \* Meeting with the new Executive Director of the Vermont River Conservancy.
- \* Discussion of the Connecticut River Corridor Management Plan.
- \* Comments on proposals for the I-91 interchange.

*We look forward to a productive 1998; thanks to all of those who volunteered their time and resources to our activities this year!*

### **Conservation Commission Members:**

Pierre Fournier and Geoff Dates (co-chairs), Scott Richardson (Treasurer), Jennifer Waite (Secretary), Sue Achenbach, Andrea Ambros, Deborah Luquer, Dr. Charles Marrin, Philip Nothnagle (planning commission representative), Virginia White. We note with sadness the passing of Graceann Ridlon, a dedicated Conservation Commission member and lover of nature.