

Hartland Conservation Commission 1998 Report

**** Natural Resources Section of the new Hartland Town Plan**

Much of our time in the beginning of the year was spent finishing 5 sections of the Town Plan that we began in 1997. We continued work with an Antioch graduate student and submitted final chapters to the Planning Commission on Historical Resources, Agriculture and Forestry resources, Water Resources, Natural Areas/Wildlife Habitat Resources and Scenic Resources. We designed these chapters so that they would provide information on the topic, goals for that resource, and a range of possible actions to consider. We also wrote a Land Conservation Policy to guide the Commission in project priorities.

**** Gas Station/Convenience Store Proposal at I-91**

The Commission spent much of the latter half of the year on this project. We have party status under the Act 250 process and have attended site visits, hearings, and planning commission meetings to stay informed and respond to the various proposals. We are very interested in the long term future for the interchange area, and want to work together with everyone involved to create a plan that all Hartlanders can be happy with and proud of. As part of our interest in this "gateway" to Hartland, we also worked with the selectboard on guiding improvements to the Park and Ride lot.

**** Green-Up Day**

When will the sun shine again on Green-Up Day? Lucky for Hartland, a little bad weather does not deter helpful citizens spring-cleaning Hartland's roadsides. Thanks to those who also did clean-up days on their own.

**** Photo Contest**

Another wonderful round of photos came out of this year's theme "Stone For a Purpose" and were exhibited at Old Home Day. Many thanks to Andrea Ambros for organizing this project. Next year's theme: Big Trees of Hartland – get out your cameras!

**** Community Meetings**

We met with representatives from Valley Quest, Hartland Community Connections, and the Cobb Hill Cooperative Housing project.

Our priorities for 1999 include land conservation (including rebuilding our depleted Conservation Trust Fund and creating a base map of conserved properties), proposing revisions to the water resources section of the Town Plan, and more outreach and education activities, especially with school children. We usually meet on the first Tuesday evening of the month at Damon Hall and all are welcome to attend.

Thanks to everyone who devoted their time and effort to our work this year!

Members of the Conservation Commission:

Pierre Fournier (Chair), Jennifer Waite (Secretary), Scott Richardson (Treasurer), Philip Nothnagle (Planning Commission representative), Sue Achenbach, Andrea Ambros, Geoff Dates, Deborah Luquer, Tom Ramsey, Ginny White.

A very special thanks to outgoing member Charles Marrin for his years of great work for the Commission!