

BOXFORD BAY CIRCUIT PROGRAM COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT - 2008

The Bay Circuit Trail is a 210 mile necklace connecting the pearls of protected open spaces. In Boxford, the Bay Circuit trail connects Boxford State Forest, Essex County Greenbelt properties, the Phillips Wildlife Sanctuary, Lockwood Forest, (side trail to the 100 Acre Woods), Boxford Village Historic District, historic ancient way – Chapman Way, Round Top Park, Kelsey Arboretum, Georgetown-Rowley State Forest, and Cleaveland Farm State Forest

The Bay Circuit Alliance

The Boxford Bay Circuit Program Committee is a voting member of the Bay Circuit Alliance. Individuals can support the Bay Circuit Alliance by becoming a member for \$30. Dues & grants support the Bay Circuit Alliance operations. The BCA's office is at 3 Railroad St. Andover, Mass. 01810. The BCA can be contacted by phone - (978) 470-1982; e-mail - baycircuit@juno.com; or Internet - www.baycircuit.org.

Boxford Bay Circuit is part of the Boxford Trails System

In 2008, the many committees that work on preserving and maintaining the Boxford Trail System came together for joint meetings. Since the Bay Circuit trail winds through Boxford and connects trails and protected open spaces, it seemed reasonable to consolidate, at least for awhile. Following is a list of trail accomplishments and on going projects throughout Boxford.

Trail Maintenance and Signage The Thursday morning walking group checks on signage and minor trail maintenance. Trail maintainer par excellence is Steve Davis with his trusty chain saw. Many trees fall across the trails throughout the year. Any trail user may help with maintaining the trail he/she uses by doing minor cutting or reporting conditions via email to Diane Hayden, dgh8379@comcast.net. Thanks to Jean Dewberry for setting up the Trail Monitoring system. Jean has posted signs for this project at many trail heads.

Trail easement project: Through a BTA/BOLT and Forest Foundation Grant, Nick Shrewsbury, Boxford college freshman, is updating the BTA/BOLT trail easement database during his vacations.

Joint project: ECGB, North Andover Trails Committee & BTA/BOLT trails are working together on a new loop trail around the Heron Rookery in West Boxford.

Rails-Trails project – This report can be found within the Boxford Recreation Committee's annual report.

The Boxford Bay Circuit Program Committee met on Monday afternoons or evenings at the Boxford Town Hall on the first Monday of each month. Notices of these meetings are on the bulletin board at the Town Clerk's office.

Respectively submitted,

Nancy Merrill – Chair, Alison Chase, Steve Davis, Natasha Grigg, Bev Ingalls, Andrew Plucinski, Ted Riter