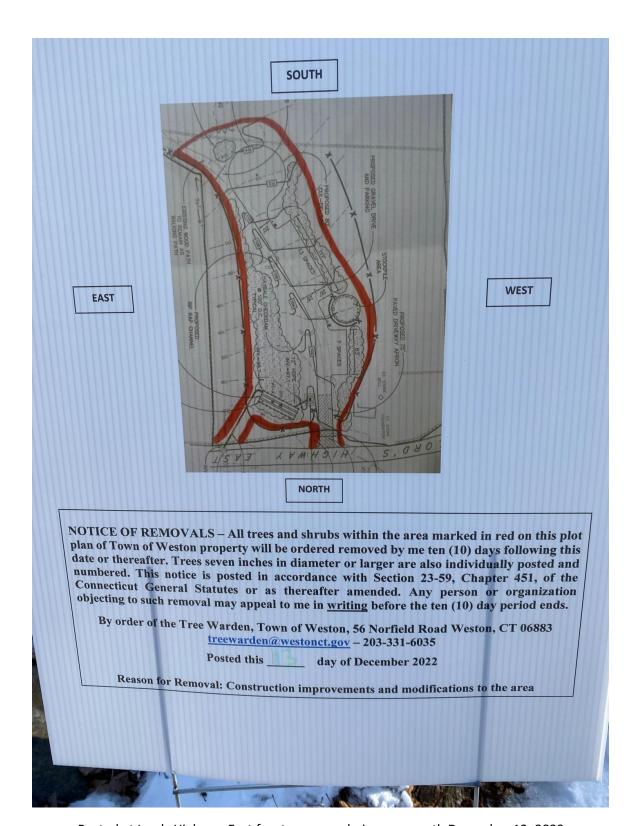
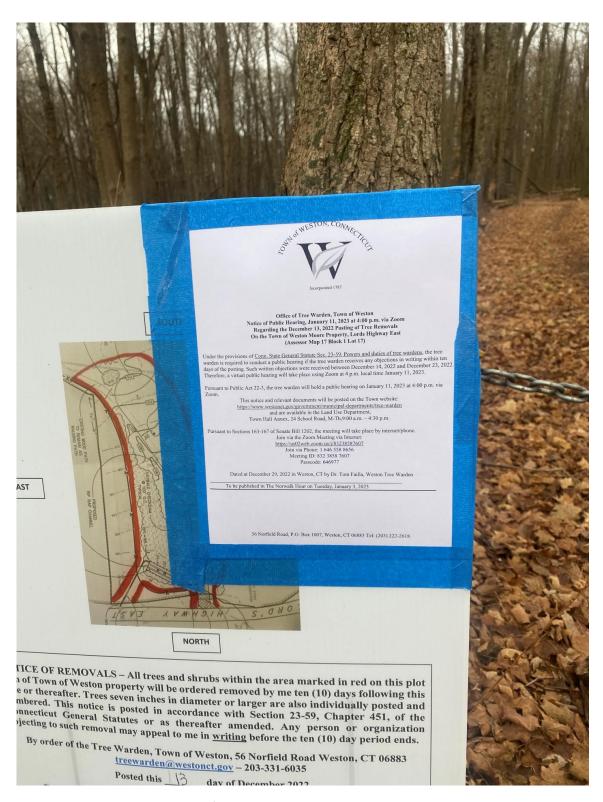
NOTICE OF TREE REMOVAL This tree, the property of the Town of Weston will be ordered removed by me ten (10) days following this date or thereafter, and is posted in accordance with Section 23-59, Chapter 451, of the Connecticut General Statutes or as thereafter amended. Any person or organization objecting to such removal may appeal to me in writing before the ten (10) day period ends. Posted this 13 day of December 2022 Signature J. T. Rull Tree Warden DBH Size: 3/ **Town of Weston** Type: ASH 56 Norfield Road Location: N Weston, CT 06883 treewarden@westonct.gov (203) 331-6035 Reason for Removal: Construction improvements and modifications to area

Example of a Notice of Tree Removal posted on 117 trees December 13, 2022



Posted at Lords Highway East frontage near chain across path December 13, 2022



Notice of Public Hearing Posted January 2, 2023

Moore Dead Trees 12-13-22

Dead Cnt	Туре	DBH	ID Letter
1	Ash	21	Α
2	Ash	7	A1
3	Ash	11	В
4	Ash	16	С
5	Ash	20	D
6	Maple	19	E
7	Ash	12	F
8	Ash	27	G
9	Maple	7	Н
10	Ash	12	Ι
11	Ash	17	J
12	Ash	20	K
13	Ash	16	L
14	Ash	26	М
15	Ash	31	N
16	Ash	17	0
17	Ash	14	Р
18	Ash	15	Q
19	Ash	11	R
20	Ash	20	S
21	Ash	15	Т
22	Maple	21	U
23	Ash	16	٧
24	Ash	24	V1
25	Ash	12	W
26	Ash	13	Χ
27	Ash	14	Z
28	Ash	17	AA
29	Ash	20	BB
30	Ash	19	СС
31	Ash	9	DD
32	Ash	19	EE
33	Ash	18	EE1
34	Ash	13	FF
35	Ash	36	GG
36	Ash	24	НН
37	Ash	12	II
38	Ash	20	JJ

Moore Live Trees Dec. 13, 2022

			2022
Live Cnt.	Туре	DBH	Number
1	Maple	22	1
2	Maple	8	2
3	Maple	27	3
4	Maple	14	4
5	Maple	15	5
6	Maple	32	6
7	Maple	9	7
8	Maple	8	8
9	Maple	15	9
10	Maple	12	9A
11	Maple	32	10
12	Maple	7	11
13	Maple	10	12
14	Maple	20	13
15	Maple	19	14
16	Maple	8	15
17	Maple	17	16
18	Maple	13	17
19	Maple	18	17A
20	Maple	17	18
21	Maple	7	19
22	Maple	25	20
23	Maple	10	21
24	Maple	8	22
25	Maple	15	23
26	Maple	9	24
27	Maple	16	25
28	Maple	42	26
29	Maple	8	27
30	Maple	11	28
31	Maple	9	29
32	Maple	11	30
33	Maple	15	31
34	Maple	10	32
35	Maple	21	33
36	Maple	8	34
37	Maple	18	34A
38	Maple	19	35
39	Maple	11	36
40	Maple	45	37
41	Maple	24	37A
1		1	1

1			
Live Cnt.	Type	DBH	Number
42	Maple	17	38
Live	Туре	DPH	Number
43	Maple	8	38A
44	Maple	20	39
45	Maple	15	40
46	Maple	14	41
47	Maple	16	42
48	Maple	12	43
49	Maple	11	44
50	Maple	33	45
51	Maple	19	46
52	Maple	18	47
53	Maple	11	48
54	Maple	8	49
55	Maple	24	50
56	Maple	27	51
57	Maple	9	52
58	Maple	8	53
59	Maple	11	54
60	Maple	9	55
61	Maple	8	56
62	Maple	15	57
63	Maple	31	58
64	Maple	11	59
65	Maple	10	60
66	Maple	15	61
67	Oak	13	62
68	Maple	13	63
69	Maple	13	64
70	Maple	18	65
71	Maple	10	66
72	Maple	11	67
73	Maple	17	67A
74	Maple	20	68
75	Maple	10	69
76	Birch	12	70
77	Maple	14	71
78	Birch	11	72
79	Birch	9	73

Moore Prop Tree NOR

Weston Tree Warden – 12-13-22

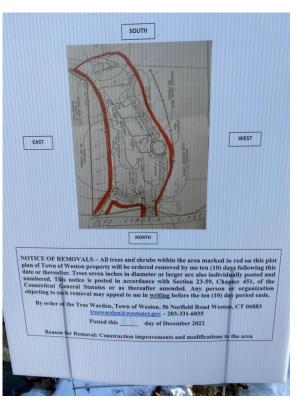
79 Live Trees -1-through-73 > 7 in. DBH

including 9A, 17A, 34A, 37A, 38A, 67A

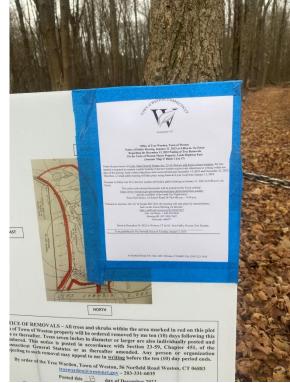
Placard at chained entrance off Lords Hwy



Dec. 13, 2022









Jan, 2, 2023

Dec. 13, 2022 Dec. 18, 2022 Jan, 2, 2023









Moore Prop Tree NOR

Weston Tree Warden – 12-13-22

38 Dead Trees A-through-JJ

Including A1, V1, EE1

Note: Trees W, Y, FF fell between 12-13-22 and 12-27-22





NOFA – Organic Land Care Accreditation Practicum – Dr. Tom Failla – Weston (CT) Tree Warden 8-30-21 Revised 9/26/2021 revised 11-29-22

Introduction: This is a conceptual vegetation and storm water mitigation plan using organic land care practices for the construction and post development of an accessway, two parking lots for a total of 20 cars and an 80-foot turnaround on less than two acres associated with the entrance to a proposed 2-3 acres dog park in the interior off of Lords Highway East in Weston, Conn.

Overall Property and Project Description: Since 2016, the Town of Weston has considered developing a new park for people and dogs on a small section < 5 acres of a 36-acre town property known as the Moore Property that runs southerly off Lords Highway East and westerly off of Davis Hill. The property was acquired in 2003 from a local resident. The land presents a sylvan open space setting traversed by a north-south, 12-foot-wide former farmer's cart path and east-west foot paths. In the 19th century or earlier the land was divided into a matrix of 2-to-4-acre fields, separated by eight stonewall rimmed "pens" which are still present. Total area planned for use by the park is 4.1 acres with 2.8 acres reserved for the exercise area and 1.3 acres for access, parking, turnaround, stormwater recharge and regrading. Of this area approximately 0.4 will be implantable and 0.9 acres is suitable for revegetation after tree and vegetation clearing and construction.

Through most of the 20th century the pastures naturally converted to woodland that today are dominated by red and sugar maples, with some ash, birch, cedar, cherry, hemlock, oak and tulip. Most trees are less than 24 inches in diameter and many are in fair condition with a few in poor or good condition. All ashes, which represent less than five percent of the trees, are dead or dying due to the emerald ash borer infestation that has progressed since 2018. The area is also afflicted with many invasives. Among the most prevalent are: Asiatic bittersweet, barberry, burning bush (winged euonymus), garlic mustard, Japanese stilt grass, rosa multiflora and wineberry. (For more details see attached report based on an August 30, 2021 Field Visit to Property of the Town of Weston at Lords Highway by David Beers, Western District Service Forester, Connecticut State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection).

The planting mitigation project area is at the northern entrance off a local public road. Clearing of trees, stumps and understory will make way for the 20-foot wide, 370-foot-long gravel access way ending in an 80-foot diameter turnaround, Off the access way on the west side will be two parking areas, one for seven cars (25x63 ft) and the other for 13 cars (25 x 117 ft). Construction requires some cut and fill regrading to create a gradual incline from the public road at approximate elevations: 415 ft to 430 ft at the turnaround as well as engineered storm water recharge system of catch basins and underground infiltrators. The Park area itself is approximated 550 ft further south and to the east, Access will be by foot along the existing cart path. The exercise area will be a rectangle approximately 410 feet long north-south by 300 feet wide east-west (approximately 2.8 acres) and will be defined by a 6-foot chain link fence built 10-feet off the north, west and south stone walls and along the eastern edge near where the slope drops off from a relatively flat area. The intention is to leave the exercise area and the area from the turnaround to the Park in its natural state after cleanup of dead wood and branches less than seven feet as well as invasive barberry which is a known to harbor ticks, and other invasives. Fencing with a wood chip border will be constructed around the permitters along with a single gate entrance area. No other changes are anticipated.

Request: Provide an organic planting mitigation plan to revitalize approximately 0.9 acres that will be disturbed by construction activity related to building an accessway, parking and turnaround. The activity requires the removal of approximately 100 dead and living trees and stumps for construction to accommodate the infrastructure and associated regrading and installation of a storm water recharge system.

Objective: Develop an organic planting mitigation plan using native species to revitalize the area post construction in a manner that is sustainable using NOFA preferred and allowed practices that will permit resilient, self-sustaining revegetation and suppression of invasives within a 2-to-5-year period.

Details: Soil samples results Aug. 10 from the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station show:

- 1. Soil Texture: loamy sand, fine sandy loam, sandy loam, loamy sand.
- 2. Organic matter: medium low to high.
- 3. pH: 4.1 to 4.5, which may account for the poor to fair condition of existing trees
- 4. Nitrate Nitrogen: Medium Low to High5. Ammonium Nitrate: Medium High to low
- 6. Phosphorous: Medium high7. Potassium and Calcium: Low
- 8. Magnesium: Medium

Prior to construction silt fences will be put in place to control erosion. Orange fencing will also be provided so crews will have visual limits for construction activity to limit damage to remaining trees and roots at the periphery of the project area.

All topsoil will be stockpiled under covers to prevent windborne reseeding and suppress further growth of invasives. Wood chips from tree removal will also be reserved for use later as tick barriers and to mix with on-site organic matter to create on site mulch and/or compost for soil enrichment later.

Planting Plan: Removal and control of invasives will follow NOFA preferred and allowed practices. Barberry and burning bush (winged euonymus) should be removed during dormant winter season to minimize spreading seeds.

All soil amendments will follow NOFA preferred standards with emphasis on organic composts, compost tea and mulches. Timing of planting depends on when construction takes place and may require interim seeding for stabilization until optimal time for planting woody plants, ground cover wild flower mix, ferns. Organizers coordinate volunteers for maintenance watering and weeding for at least first two years after planting.

Place a variety of 72 woody native shrubs selected from the list below of six types with two possible substoitutes. These will be staggered and tiered to provide a roughly natural arrangement around entrance road, parking and turnaround areas up to limits of disturbance to create a natural buffer from neighboring properties and to outcompete invasives. Among plants under consideration based on availability and pricing are: Mountain Laurel (kalmia latiilia), Silky Dogwood (cornus amomum), Summersweet Clethra/Sweet Pepperbush (clethra anifolia) Common juniper (juniperis communis), Low bush Blueberry (vaccinium angustifolium), Winterberry (ilex verticillate). Substitutes that are suitable for the acidic existing soil may be considered, such as swamp azalea (Rhododendron viscosum) and cranberry bush (Viburnum opulus).

For regraded areas between the woody plants we will select appropriate wild flower and/or grasses seed mix from such sources as: New England Wetland Plants "New England Logging Road" seed mix Seed Mixes | New England Wetland Plants, Inc. (newp.com)¹; American Meadows – Northeast Wildflower Seed Mix www.americanmeadows.com/wildflower-seeds/northeast²; Eco59 www.eco59.com/product/one-of-everything-meadow-mix/³; Rain Garden Seed Mix Rain Garden Native Seed Mix | OPN Seed⁴

Application rates depend on mix and season.

Explore with engineering firm possibility of reducing amount of grading and substituting the expense of a catch basins and underground stormwater recharge system with a series of three rain gardens down gradient and east of the turnaround, parking lots and accessway.

Among vegetation for consideration in the rain gardens are Pepperbush (clethra anifolia), Highbush Blueberry (vaccinium corymbosum) and a variety of ferns such as Hay-Scented Fern (dennstaedtia punctilobula), Cinnamon Fern (osmunda cinnamomea) and Christmas Fern (polystichum acrostichoides) as well as a combination of grass and wildflower seed mix (see item 4 above) Shrubs and ferns like these are native and grow throughout the property. Thus they are likely to be successful in this area with consistent care and regular physical control and removal of invasives in the first few years.

See next page for conceptual plan with relative positions.

Note: Next steps. Concepts in this proposal need to transferred to a request for proposals from landscape design professionals with NOFA Organic Landcare Professional Certification to work with the town's engineering firm to incorporate into an A2 survey stamped by the landscape professional and professional engineer who also will provide a detailed budget, construction notes, incorporated in documentation for bidding. When completed, the plans need to be reviewed and discussed by the town and appropriate town authorities, dog park organizers and other interested parties with standing.

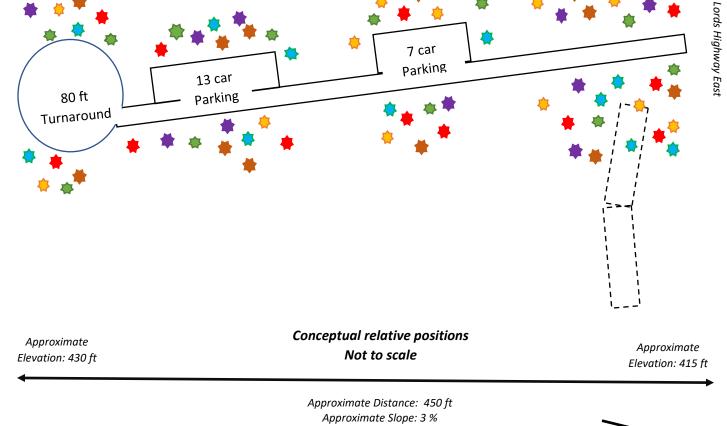
¹ Red Fescue (Festuca rubra), Little Bluestem (Schizachyrium scoparium), Switch Grass (Panicum virgatum), Virginia Wild Rye (Elymus virginicus), Big Bluestem (Andropogon gerardii), Indian Grass (Sorghastrum nutans), Partridge Pea (Chamaecrista fasciculata), Soft Rush (Juncus esus), Path Rush (Juncus tenuis), Upland Bentgrass (Agrostis perennans)

² Medley of blooms through summer season, annual wildflowers like Calendula and Cornflower; perennial varieties Wild Lupine and Echinacea provide many years of color starting in the second season.

³ Black eyed Susan, foxglove, joe pye weed, monkey flower, NY ironweed, yarrow, and swamp milkweed, source the Hickories in Ridgefield

⁴ Grass and Grasslike: Elymus virginicus - Virginia Wild Rye, Carex vulpinoidea - Brown Fox Sedge, Carex crinita - Fringed Sedge, etc.; Wildflowers: Echinacea purpurea - Purple Coneflower; Liatris spicata - Dense Blazingstar; Monarda fistulosa - Wild Bergamot, etc.

Up to 72 woody plants using a mixture of 6-8 varieties supplemented by wildflower/grass seed mixes Mountain Laurel (kalmia latiilia), ★ Silky Dogwood (cornus amomum), Summersweet Clethra/Sweet Pepperbush (clethra anifolia) ★ Common juniper (juniperis communis) Low bush Blueberry (vaccinium angustifolium), ★ Winterberry (ilex verticillate).





Field Visit to Property of the Town of Weston at Lords Highway East

Present Parties: Tom Failla (Tree Warden) and David Beers (Western District Service Forester) on 8/30/2021

Stewardship Objectives

- 1. Create a dog park
- 2. Improve forest health



Massive Red Oak

FOREST HISTORY

Between eighteenth century colonial settlement and the mid-nineteenth century, most of western Connecticut was cleared for farming, with only a few small patches of forest remaining by the mid-nineteenth century. Only 25% of Connecticut was forested then. Under these conditions, the biggest animal left in the woods was a muskrat. Turkeys, deer, moose, coyote, bobcat, beaver, and bear were either rare or entirely gone. Most of the land was used for livestock pasture, with only the best soils used for hay or tilled crops.

It was during this farming period that the stonewalls were built to keep livestock out of crops and the neighbor's property. Most of these walls were topped off with piled wood and stumps to make them taller. Stonewalls were also a depository for rocks removed from cultivated land. A stonewall with many fist-sized rocks means that one side of that wall had tilled crops, where the winter freeze of bare ground would push rocks to the surface. After barbed wire became widely available in 1875, many of these walls were supplemented with wire. Barbed wire was used to corral cows and goats, but not sheep (barbs did not hurt the sheep). Sheep pasture used smooth-wired rectangular page fencing.

Most of the western CT hill farms were abandoned between the mid-nineteenth century and early twentieth century. The farmers either moved west for better farming soils or headed to the cities for industrial work. Immediately after this farm abandonment, the forest began to take over again. Much of the young forestlands were then cut down to make charcoal that was used in metal blast furnaces and by blacksmiths.

Based on the 1934 air photo showing mostly fields, almost all of this property was farmed well into the 20th century and therefore was unlikely cut for charcoal production. The town acquired the property in 2003.



FOREST STANDS

Stands are separate natural communities that are distinct from each other. Dividing a property into stands makes it possible to logically describe the property. Keep in mind that while stands are distinct, stand boundaries are often indistinct, where one stand melds into the next stand over the course of 100 to 200 feet. Even within a single stand, there is a tremendous amount of variation. Like most properties in Connecticut, your property could be divided into an almost unlimited number of stands due to the tremendous variety that forests inherently possess.

Within all stands, the lower slopes have moister, richer, and deeper soils. This gradual change in site quality with slope exists on every hillside and causes a change is tree species and size composition with hillside slope position. Upper slopes tend to have more oaks and hickories, and shorter/smaller trees.

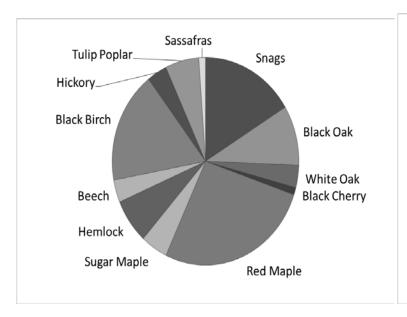
Each description begins with two graphs. The first shows the relative abundance of each species by percent. Not all species found in a stand will be included in this graph because some of the less common species did not fall within a measurement point. The second graph shows the relative abundance of different tree sizes based on the diameter of the tree measured at 4.5 feet off the ground. Please keep in mind that all this information is based on a very <u>brief</u> inventory of your forest. Please contact a consulting forester for a much more detailed and accurate forest stewardship plan that would include timber information and a much more precise stand delineation based on many more inventory points.

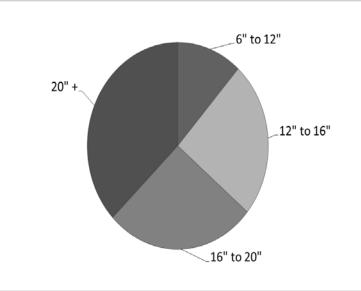
The CT DEEP Natural Diversity Database (NDDB) does **not** have occurrences of threatened or endangered species on or near this property. A map showing farmland soils on the property is attached to this report. There are no wetland soils.



Stone Pile

STAND 1: HARDWOOD FOREST (36 ACRES)





Other Species (not measured)

Insect/Disease/Disturbance

Understory

Exotic Invasives

A few red maple, sugar maple, and beech saplings

Black tupelo, chestnut oak, red cedar, red oak, scarlet oak

A few spicebush and mountain laurel shrubs Dead ash trees from emerald ash borer damage

Moderate black birch canker (fungus) Minor black cherry knot fungus

Beech leaf disease on lower canopy foliage Patches of thick barberry shrubs and stilt grass

A few Euonymus shrubs and patches of bittersweet vine sprouts

Canopy Closure 80% - dead white ash trees creates canopy gaps

Unhealthy/Poor Form 27%

History

Likely livestock pasture, hayfields and tilled crops 70+ years ago

-Patches of dead red cedar indicative of past pasturing

-Piles of small stones (see map) indicates past tilled crops Mostly fields, with a few patches of forest, in the 1934 air photo

This stand has a diverse mix of large trees growing on site conditions that vary with slope position, with most of the stand having moist rich soils and gradual slopes. There are some very healthy and impressive large black oak and tulip poplar trees. Most of the tulip poplar trees are in the southern two blocks. In the northeast corner is a rocky hilltop growing chestnut oak, with some steep ledges on the eastern slope. Just to the south of these ledges is an old stone chimney and a vine covered canopy opening along the road. The area to be cleared for parking in the northern block has red maple, sugar maple, and black

Recommendations

As part of building the dog park, any invasives in the park should be eradicated and any hazard trees felled, including the dead ash trees. With the increased use of the property, the property boundaries should be marked with signs.

cherry trees, along with some dead ash trees. The high number of snags is comprised of many dead ash trees.

After the dog park is built, the many informal hiking trails on the property could be mapped and displayed at an entrance sign, for the public's benefit. These trails connect to the trails on the adjacent Aspetuck Land Trust Elisabeth Luce Moore Preserve along the far southern border. I only mapped the major trails that followed old woods roads.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

FOREST PROTECTION

The property is in a residential area. The adjacent Aspetuck Land Trust Elisabeth Luce Moore Preserve is along the far southern border.

Forest protection also includes fostering a healthy forest. A healthy forest has a large diversity of native plant species, particularly trees, that supports a diverse array of fungi and wildlife (animals, insects, microbes). A healthy forest also has multiple layers of native vegetation to maximize biodiversity. This means having trees of different ages and heights. Lack of invasive exotic plants is also very important for maintaining forest health – see below.



North Entrance

INVASIVES/VINES

There are some exotic invasive shrubs on the property – see stand descriptions. Invasive species are typically from another part of the world and when established here they have no native enemies to hold their population in check. When left uncontrolled, they spread into natural landscapes and replace what would grow there naturally, including tree regeneration and other native understory vegetation. Native understory growth has many more native insects and arthropods that wildlife need to forage on. Exotic invasive understory growth can provide better habitat for ticks and associated pathogens while greatly reducing biodiversity.

Control methods include mechanical and chemical methods. In a shady forest, cutting a vine is enough to kill it. Invasive shrubs are not so easy. Pulling the invasives out by the roots can be effective, but extremely difficult and labor intensive. Yearly cutting back of the aboveground stems, during the growing season, will keep the invasives under control, and perhaps kill them after a few years. The most effective control method is to apply an herbicide to the green foliage.



Barberry in Dog Park Area

BOUNDARIES

Boundaries need to be well marked to protect the property from trespass and encroachment. Painted blazes are typically used to mark property boundaries. A blaze is a hand-sized shallow scrape in the bark. This scrape will last for decades and does not harm the tree if done properly. When painted, this blaze is quite visible and long lasting. Trees within arm's length of the boundaries are blazed, with the blazes facing the boundary line. Use only paint marks, without blazes, on the neighbor's side of the line. The blazes should be given a new coat of paint at least every 10 years. Custom signs can also be hung about every 100 feet to communicate anything the landowner desires. It is also recommended that understory vegetation and debris be cleared from boundary lines such that they can be easily traversed for inspection. I did not find any boundary markings. Please consider hiring a consulting forester to locate and mark property boundaries.

WILDLIFE

Your forest, and the State of Connecticut in general, is lucky to have a significant and diverse component of mature oak trees. Oak trees are considered a wildlife keystone species because of the large amount and diversity of life they support. Acorns, especially white oak acorns, provide the most nutritious plant-based protein for almost 90 species of wildlife. Oaks overwhelmingly host the most species of moths and caterpillars (over 500). Oak forests have more bird abundance and diversity compared to other forest types. For these reasons, it is important to preserve and encourage oak growth and health in your forest.

Parts of this forest have legacy trees, also known as old field trees or wolf trees. These trees were growing in open pasture, as a source of shade for livestock, before the current forest started growing. They are much older than the surrounding forest. Because they used to be open grown, they have large spreading crowns and large branches low on the trunk. When the pastures were abandoned, they became a significant seed source for the present forest. These large old trees are structurally complex, with many cavities, hollows, fat branches, and thick rough bark. They are also prolific seed producers, including acorns and nuts. This structural complexity and prolific seed production attracts an enormous number and diversity of insects, birds, and mammals. Underground, they are also the hub and source of the complex fungal soil mycorrhizal growth that all trees depend on for water and nutrients. To make them healthier and more vigorous, such legacy trees should be protected and perhaps even given more sunlight by cutting some of the surrounding trees.



Northeast ledges

CARBON SEQUESTRATION AND STORAGE

Forests remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere (called sequestration), create oxygen, and remove many pollutants from the air. Your forest contributes to these valuable services with carbon stored in the below-ground roots/soil and in the above ground vegetation and fallen leaves. These services are enhanced by having a diverse mix of native tree species of different sizes and varied arrangements. Sustainable, scientifically-based forest management to remove forest products and promote young forests or regeneration of desired species has no long-term negative effect on your forest's ability to provide these vital ecological services. When trees are young and growing fast, they sequester carbon at high rates and once they are large (over 18" diameter, and often older) they store the most carbon. Whether you choose to actively manage your forest or not, your forest does a great service to our planet's health just by being a healthy forest.



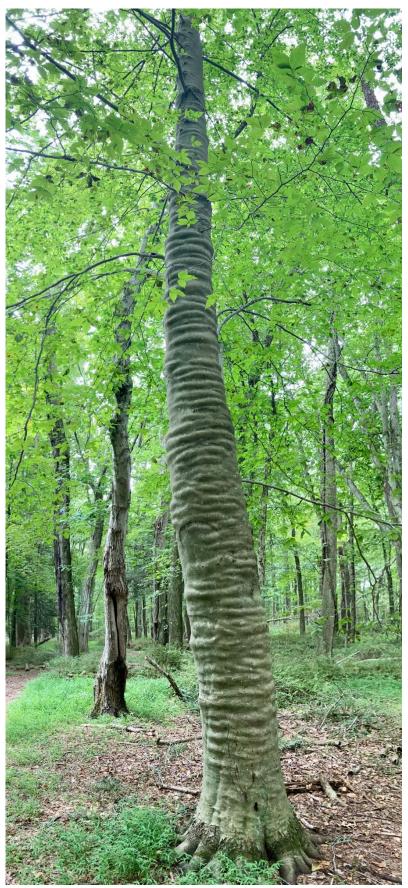
MAPPING

Attached to this report is a geo-referenced map that the landowner can use with the free smartphone app 'Avenza Maps'. This map shows the landowner where they are on the property. The landowner can also record tracks and waypoints on the property. These phone mapping features allows the landowner to locate/map property boundaries and trails.

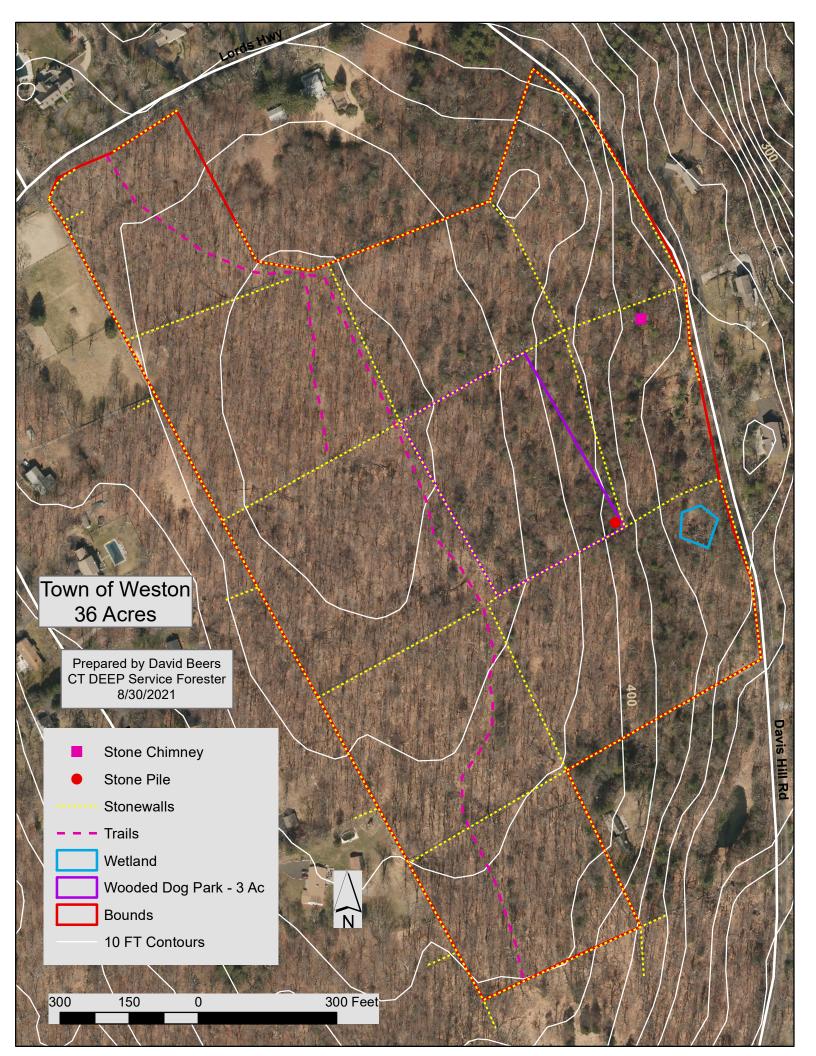
Please consider hiring a consulting forester to help you implement any of the recommendations in this report. Please contact me for a list of foresters working in your area.

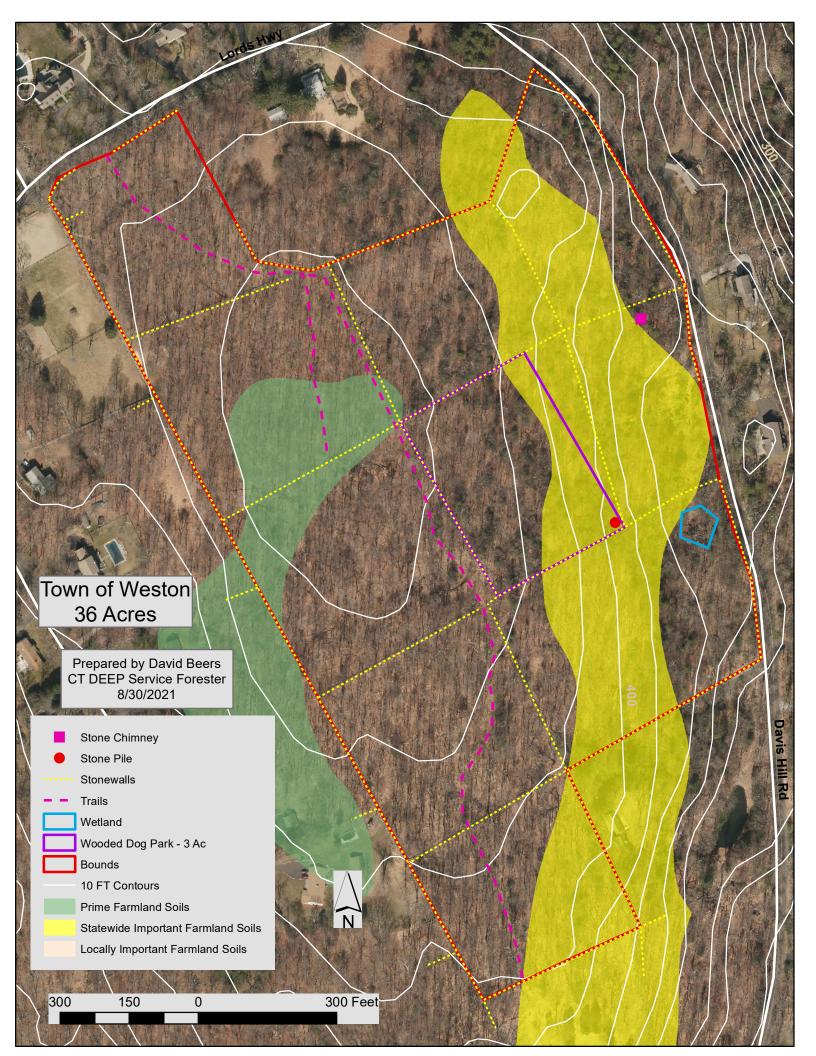
Please feel free to share this report.

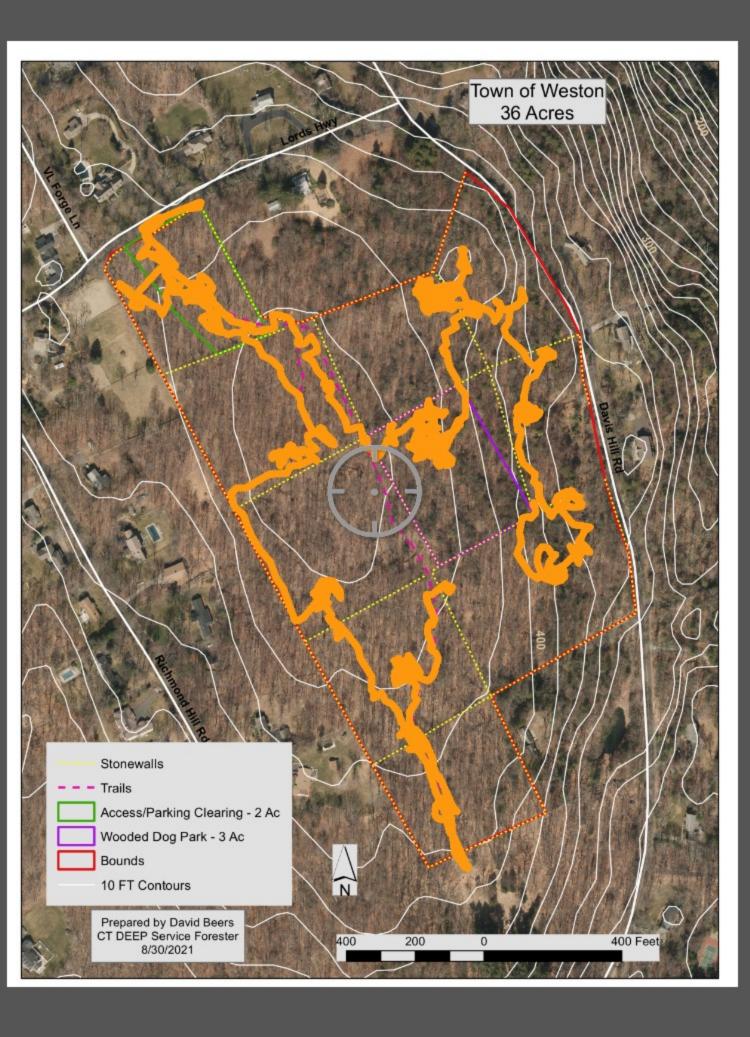




An Unusual 'Rippled Beech' along the main trail







500 ft 100 m