



**TOWN OF MARSHFIELD
CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

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Marshfield, MA 02050

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3/2/2012

Dr. Robert Hellstrom
Conant Science Building – Room 308
24 Park Ave.
Bridgewater State University
Bridgewater, MA 02325

Dear Dr. Hellstrom,

As Conservation Agent in the Town of Marshfield, acquisition and management of town open space is an important responsibility. Unfortunately, other priorities leave little time for anything but the most important land management tasks. The recent updating of our Open Space and Recreation plan highlighted the need to make our open space more accessible and better known to citizens. We hope that a Bridgewater geography student may be interested in an internship assisting us to develop trail maps based on field work and GIS programs.

Marshfield has more than 2500 acres of protected open space under the care and control of the Conservation Commission. Most of this land protects important wildlife habitat while allowing for passive recreation. Several of the larger parcels have extensive walking trails, some have improvements such as wooden walkways and pedestrian bridges. Many of the smaller parcels have limited walking paths.

We would like to develop trail guides for each of the larger parcels and for several of the smaller parcels in order to facilitate and encourage responsible use. A few trails are shown on existing maps, many would need to be

mapped using GPS tracking in the field. Our goal is to provide trail guides at kiosks at the trail heads / parking areas and on the town's web page.

We would also like to update our town-wide Conservation Map which shows all of the Conservation land and other open space such as Massachusetts Audubon sanctuaries, land trust properties, and other town department properties.

Marshfield has ESRI ArcMap 10.0 with most of the relevant data layers for the town and also has portable GPS units for field work.

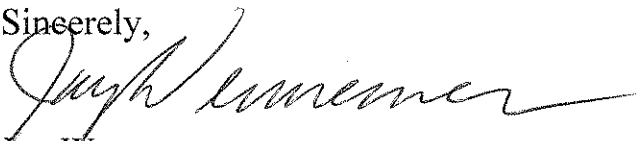
We are hoping that an interested student(s) would take on this project(s) for the town by completing the GPS recording of existing trails, creating attractive and user-friendly trail guides for selected parcels, and producing a town-wide map showing all Conservation and Open Space properties.

The Conservation Agent would work closely with the supervising faculty member at Bridgewater, would supervise students during their work on this project, and would provide any required evaluations at the conclusion. Town resources such as limited office space, computer work stations, portable GPS units, and ArcMap 10.0 software would be made available for student use.

We are hopeful that this project could provide a meaningful educational and practical experience for the student while accomplishing a useful and worthwhile project for the town.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Wennemer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jay Wennemer
Conservation Agent