

# Volunteer Opportunities

## Readington Trails, Open Space and Natural Areas

***Our open spaces and trails exist due to the volunteer efforts of many community groups and individual volunteers!***

### **PLANNED VOLUNTEER SESSIONS November-December 2020**

*Time-limited Group Tasks, Generally Three Hours or Less, Led by members of the Readington Township Open Space Advisory Board to create, maintain, restore township trails, to plant trees and other vegetation along trails, clear invasive species, clean up debris and otherwise preserve the natural environment.*

*Now it is time to put tree seedlings in the ground to help control storm run-off and protect streams such as the Holland Brook, and several of the project days below are for this purpose. We also hope to complete blazing an exciting new trail from Dreahook/Indian Purchase Roads to the top of the Cushetunk Ridge, and work on several of our other trails.*

### **SUMMARY**

1. **Saturday, Nov. 7, 9AM – Noon: Trail Creation Session, Cushetunk Mtn. Dreahook Rd, Whitehouse Sta.**
2. **Thursday, November 12, 9AM – Noon: Trail Creation, Open Space off Rockafellow's Mill Rd, Flemington.**
3. **Saturday, November 14, 9AM – Noon: Tree Plantings, Lachenmayr Open Space, Pine Bank Rd, Flemington.**
4. **Friday, November. 20, 9:00AM – Noon: Tree Planting, Open Space Adjacent to Holland Brook, Whitehouse Station.**
5. **Saturday, November 21, 9AM – Noon: Trailwork and Tree Planting, The River Trail, Flemington.**
6. **Saturday, December 5, 9AM – Noon: Trailwork Session, Bouman-Stickney Farmstead, Stanton.**

#### **NOTES:**

**BEFORE COMING, PLEASE REGISTER OR EXPRESS INTEREST FOR ALL SESSIONS VIA EMAIL to John Klotz, Open Space Advisory Board, at [jwklotz@embarqmail.com](mailto:jwklotz@embarqmail.com). Include your preferred email address and cell phone number for notifications. Sessions are subject to cancellation or change and volunteers will be notified of changes.**

**WE VALUE YOUR PARTICIPATION AT ANY LEVEL OR LENGTH OF TIME. Any level of endurance and ability is helpful. If you cannot report at the start of a session or stay to the end, COME AND LEAVE WHEN YOU CAN. Try to bring your own tools, however you are not required to do**

so, we will have some sanitized that you can use. We request you wear masks when near other volunteers.

## ***DETAILS***

### **1. TRAIL CREATION, CUSHETUNK MOUNTAIN FROM DREAHOOK RD, WHITEHOUSE STATION.**

**Date:** Saturday, November 7, 9AM – Noon

**Session Leader:** Chris John

**Where:** Rocky Road Trail along Dreahook Road

**What we plan on doing:** Finish blazing and clearing the new trail back towards Indian Purchase road and to the top of Cushetunk Mountain (county/ state land). This will hopefully be the final session before opening the trail.

**Meet at:** the westernmost intersection of Horseshoe Road and Dreahook Road. (The second Horseshoe Road intersection if coming from Route 523, Horseshoe Road intersects with Dreahook in two places.) Park on Horseshoe Rd. The trail begins nearby, across Dreahook Rd from Horseshoe Rd. If you need directions, contact me.

**Tools that would be Helpful:** sledge hammers, thicker gloves, loppers, clippers, lawn mowers, string trimmers, an ax, small limb saws, masks.

### **2. TRAIL CREATION, OPEN SPACE OFF ROCKAFELLOW'S MILL RD, FLEMINGTON.**

**Date:** Thursday, November 12, 9AM – Noon

**Session Leader:** John Klotz

**Where:** New Open Space off Rockafellow's Mill Rd.

**What we plan on doing:** Blaze a new trail on the former Saums Farm both around an open field and in woodland. Cut back invasive autumn olive crowding more desirable native trees.

**Meet at:** the new trailhead parking lot across from #115 Rockafellow's Mill Rd, Flemington

**Tools that would be Helpful:** loppers, clippers, small limb saws, sledge hammers, string trimmers.

### **3. TREE PLANTING, LACHENMAYR OPEN SPACE, PINE BANK ROAD, FLEMINGTON**

**Date:** Saturday November 14th 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

**Session Leader:** Chris John

**Where:** Lachenmayr Open Space.

**What we plan on doing:** Planting Trees along the Holland Brook (2<sup>nd</sup> field), checking on tubes and cages of first and second field planting.

**Meet at:** The Lachenmayr Trail Information Kiosk on Pine Bank Road, at the small pull-off parking area on Pine Bank Road ¼ mi. east of Roosevelt road by the bridge over the Holland Brook.

**Tools that would be Helpful:** Shovels, pitchforks, lawn mower, weed whacker, wheel barrow, watering cans, empty five (5) gallon joint compound bucket (without holes), gloves, masks.

### **4. PLANT TREES, OPEN SPACE NEXT TO SILVER BIT AND SPUR HORSE FARM, WHITEHOUSE STATION**

**Date:** Friday November 20th 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM:

**Session Leader:** Neil Hendrickson

**Where:** Silver Bit and Spur Farm, 631 Route 523 South. Flemington

**What we plan on doing:** Planting over 400 trees along the banks of the Holland Brook. The site has suffered erosion due to runoff from the adjacent property, and this project, funded in part by the

11/4/20

Nature Conservancy *Roots for Rivers* Program, is intended to help stabilize the streambanks and riparian areas, reduce future runoff and erosion problems, and create a more pleasant walk to the rest of the trail. The planting site also connects a parking area with a hiking trail along Holland Brook.

**Meet at:** The parking area for Silver Bit and Spur Stables, 631 Rt. 523 South, Whitehouse Station.

Directions: From the north, take Rt. 523 south .8 mi. and turn right into the drive for Silver Bit and Spur. From the south take Rt. 523 north 1.7 mi. just past an "s-curve" and turn left into the drive for Silver Bit and Spur.

**Tools that would be Helpful:** Shovel, hammer, rakes, clippers, loppers, gloves, masks.

#### **5. TRAILWORK SESSION AND TREE PLANTING, THE RIVER TRAIL, FLEMINGTON**

**Date:** Saturday November 21th 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM:

**Session Leader:** Chris John

**Where:** The River trail.

**What we plan on doing:** Planting Trees between the trail and adjacent homes, blazing new and existing trail sections.

**Meet at:** The cul-de-sac adjacent at 9 Jacobus Lane, Flemington

Directions: From Route 523, take Woodschurch Rd to the "zigzag" Turn left on West Woodschurch Rd and go past the entrance to Deer Path Park and the Y.M.C.A. Turn Left on Deer Path road, go ½ mi, then left again on Newell Road. Turn Left on Jacobus Rd. and park at the cul de sac at the end of the road. There is a township access easement on the lawn between #10 and #12 Newell Rd to the main trail behind the residences.

**Tools that would be Helpful:** Shovels, pitchforks, weed whacker, wheel barrow, watering cans, empty Five (5) gallon joint compound bucket (without holes), lawnmower, rakes, clippers, loppers, gloves, masks.

#### **6. TRAILWORK SESSION BOUMAN-STICKNEY FARMSTEAD MUSEUM OPEN SPACE, STANTON**

**Date:** December 5<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM:

**Session Leader:** Chris John

**Where:** Bouman-Stickney Farmstead Open Space, 114 Dreahook Rd, Stanton. (GPS use Lebanon 08833)

**What we plan on doing:** Clear autumn olive and other invasive species from trail markers and adjacent to trails.

**Meet at:** Bouman Stickney Farmstead Museum main parking area, 114 Dreahook Rd. (gps use Flemington or Lebanon.)

**Tools that would be helpful:** Shovels, clippers, loppers, thicker gloves, waterproof boots, pruning saw.

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