

Westford's East Boston Camps Conservation Restriction Fact Sheet

The most definitive document for the future management of the East Boston Camps is the Conservation Restriction (CR). It prescribes the purposes for town ownership, permitted activities and facilities, and prohibited uses and actions. Major elements are summarized below. Note, the Athletic Fields are not part of the Master Plan effort

Purposes

- Protect Water Supply
- Provide Open Space
- Provide Land for Recreation
- Preserve Historic or Archeological Resources
- Rehabilitation or Restoration of
 - Open Space
 - Water Resources
 - Land for Recreation
 - Historic Resources
- Protection of Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
- Accommodate all or some of the following uses
 - Conservation
 - Protection of Water Recharge Areas and the Quality and Quantity of Surface and Groundwater
 - Active and Passive Public Recreational Uses
 - Operation of an Existing Camp for Outdoor and Environmental Education, and
 - Possible Future Municipal Water Supply Well

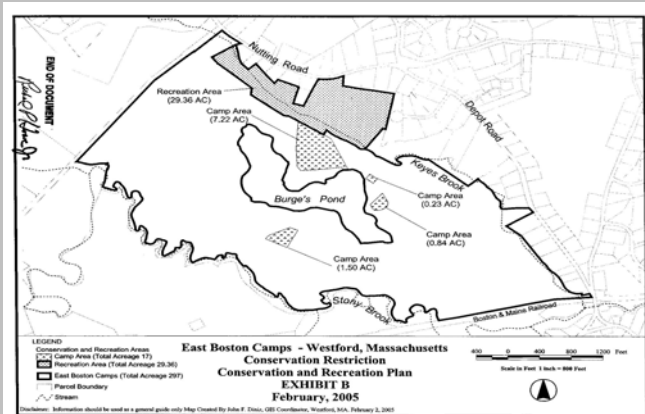
Permitted Activities and Facilities

Passive Recreation Activities – as Appropriate

- Fishing

- Boating, limited to use of non-motorized boats. Electric watercraft allowed for certain management activities and to accommodate disabled individuals
- Hiking
- Horseback Riding & Biking When Areas are Clearly Marked and Designated
- Cross-country Skiing
- Swimming, and
- Other Non-motorized Outdoor Recreational Activities that do not materially alter the landscape or degrade environmental quality.

Athletic Fields Limited to a specific delineated area. Structures are subject to approval by the Westford Land Preservation Foundation, Inc. (WLPF). Use of fertilizers or pesticides, in accordance with an integrated pest management plan, in delineated area is subject to approval of the Westford Integrated Pest Management Committee.



Parking Lots for Athletic Fields The construction, use, and maintenance of a parking area in the Recreation Area shall be controlled by environmental protection concerns.

Trails The construction of new trails or expansion of existing trails is subject to approval by the WLPF.

Roadways Maintenance of existing roadways is allowed. Construction of new roadways, expansion of existing roadways, or paving of unpaved roadways is subject to approval by the WLPF.

Signs A reasonable number of signs are permitted.

Fences Construction of new fences and expansion of existing fences are subject to approval by WLPF.

Parking Areas for Visitors Location and construction of pervious parking areas to serve trailheads and campsites is subject to approval by the WLPF. Parking capacity shall be determined by environmental protection concerns rather than solely by use demands.

Forestry Selective cutting allowed for:

- Forest fire prevention or management
- Unpaved trails and maintenance
- Control or prevention of hazards
- Control or prevention of disease
- Control and removal of invasive or exotic species
- Provision of firewood for camp use
- Preservation of the present condition of the site, including vistas, woods, roadways, and trails

Limited timber harvesting, in accordance with a forest management plan, approved by the WLPF., that is consistent with the purposes of the CR and not for the sole purpose of generating revenue, is allowed.

Wildlife Habitat Management and Improvement Management actions are subject to approval by the WLPF.

Nuisance Vegetation Management in Water Bodies Management actions developed in accordance with an integrated pest management plan approved by the Westford Integrated Pest Management Committee are subject to approval by the WLPF. Mechanical removal of nuisance vegetation along existing beaches on Burge's Pond shall not require approval for a distance of 75-feet from the waterline into the Pond.

Camp Uses and Activities The use, repair, and maintenance of camp structures and utilities within the designated Camp Areas are allowed. Expansion or relocation of camp and educational structures requires the approval of the WLPF. Repair or replacements of septic systems servicing the camp are also subject to their

approval. No alteration of the shoreline of Burge's Pond for expansion of the beach is permitted.

Municipal Water Supply The construction and maintenance of wells for municipal water supply along with an access roadway, parking and accessory buildings, and the installation and repair of associated underground utility lines are allowed. An administrative office building or water treatment facility is not permitted. Any permitted above ground structures shall be kept to the minimum size necessary.

Miscellaneous Activities The construction, maintenance, repair, and replacement of environmental education and passive recreation structures for use by the public, including but not limited to interpretive signs, exhibits, and benches is allowed. Any new environmental education or recreation structures shall be limited in size and number and designed and located so as to be consistent with the purposes of the CR and must be approved by WPPF.

The stockpiling and composting of stumps, tree and brush limbs, and similar biodegradable materials originating on the site is allowed in locations where the presence of such materials will not have a deleterious impact on or interfere with the purposes of the CR.

Incidental maintenance activities including excavation, removal or placing of soil, gravel, or other mineral resources or natural deposits incidental to the maintenance of good drainage, soil conservation, or other permissible uses is allowed provided that such activities follow generally accepted soil conservation practices and that disturbed areas are re-vegetated with native plants, provided, however, a mixture of native and non-native plants may be used in the Field Area and Camp Area and, in other areas, for erosion control.

Use and maintenance of legal, temporary, portable, self-contained public facilities and alternative sewage disposal systems is allowed subject to the approval of the WLPF.



For more information see the Westford East Boston Camps web page at www.ebcwestford.net/.