

**RULES AND REGULATIONS**  
**FOR USE OF CARLISLE CONSERVATION LAND**

1. HOURS, NIGHT USE BY PERMIT

All people are welcome to enjoy themselves on the conservation land of the Town of Carlisle. They do so at their own risk from sunrise to sunset provided such use is consistent with the Commission's rules and regulations and other applicable local, state and federal laws, rules and regulations. The conservation land and parking lots may not be used between sunset and sunrises except in accordance with a permit duly issued by the Carlisle Conservation Commission (the "Commission") or the Conservation Administrator, as applicable. Groups of eight or more people that wish to use conservation land must obtain a use permit. This permit may be granted by one Commissioner or by the Commission Administrator, except that if said groups wish to use the conservation land in excess of four (4) daylight hours, that use permit must be duly issued by a majority vote of the Commission.

2. FIRES BY PERMIT

Open fires are forbidden on conservation land except by permits duly issued by the Commission and the Carlisle Fire Department. Once a permit for an open fire has been issued, only wood lying on the ground or dead wood may be used for camp fires. The use of portable stoves does not require a fire permit, but the intention to use such stoves must be reported in writing to the Commission and the Carlisle Fire Department or noted on any use permit issued in accordance with Rule 1 hereinabove. The following fire safety measures shall apply on all conservation land: Stoves or open fires shall be at least three (3) feet from any combustible material; those making fires or operating stoves must possess an operable fire extinguisher rated consistent with the object fire and/or stove; those persons must also possess a spade, iron rake and water supply reasonably adequate to suppress the fire or the stove.

3. CAMPING BY PERMIT

The use of Town of Carlisle conservation lands for overnight camping is allowed in order to create a greater appreciation of the outdoors and the environment. All overnight camping shall follow the regulations described below:

- a. Applicants shall file an Overnight Camping Permit Application with the Conservation Administrator. For groups of no more than 15 persons for 1 or 2 nights, the Conservation Administrator at his/her discretion may either grant an Overnight Camping Permit, provided that the Applicant has provided all necessary information, or require the review and approval of the Conservation Commission. The Applicant may be granted alternate dates in order to avoid the need to re-apply in case of weather related cancellations. All applications for groups over 15 persons or stays of more than two nights shall have applications reviewed by the Conservation Commission at a regularly scheduled hearing. Review and issuance of overnight camping permits is at the discretion of the Conservation Commission.
- b. The Commission may designate an agent to work with camping groups to ensure proper use of Conservation land and to provide a site inspection following the camping event.
- c. Camping groups shall designate one responsible representative who will be present at all times and personally responsible for all clean-up and any issues arising from use of Conservation Land. The responsible representative shall read these Rules and Regulations for Use of Carlisle Conservation Land and agree to abide by these rules.
- d. All groups are to provide the Police Department with a copy of the issued Overnight Camping Permit.
- e. All groups are to provide the dispatcher / Police Department with vehicle information for any vehicles that will be left overnight in Town parking areas. Parking shall only be in designated areas. Cars, trucks, or other motorized vehicles or tools are not permitted on conservation lands except as specifically authorized in writing by the Conservation Commission.
- f. Specific camping site locations shall be described on the Overnight Camping Permit Application and reviewed and approved by the Conservation Administrator or the Commission's designee. In general, camping sites should be located: (a) out of view of any residence, (b) to not disrupt other activities on the conservation land, (c) at least 20 feet from any trail, and (d) at least 40 feet from any private property.

- g. Where the camping party contains two (2) or more minors, there must be at least two adult chaperones of majority age present at all times, and there must be one adult chaperone of majority age for every eight (8) minors in the camping party.
- h. For groups of fewer than 15 persons and 1 or 2 nights:
  - I. Camping is permitted on all conservation lands subject to review of specific locations, dates and times.
  - II. Camping sites must be at least 100 feet from any stream, brook, or major water source.
  - III. Camping groups shall follow the “Leave No Trace” standards for all waste including human body waste. These standards can be found at [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org).
- i. For groups of 15 or more persons or more than two nights:
  - I. Camping is permitted on larger conservation lands such as Foss Farm, Town Forest, Greenough, Towle Land and Benfield Conservation Land, subject to review of specific locations, dates and times.
  - II. Camping sites must be at least 200 feet from any stream, brook, or major water source.
  - III. Provisions must be made for off-site disposal of human body waste. This may include such methods as portable toilets or “Porta-A-Johns”.
  - IV. For all waste except human waste, camping groups shall follow the “Leave No Trace” standards. These standards may be found at [www.lnt.org](http://www.lnt.org).
- j. All camping events led or sponsored by organizations, including non-profits, must provide the Conservation Administrator with their Certificate of Liability Insurance naming the Town of Carlisle as the certificate holder, and the amount of coverage.

#### 4. ARMS/FIREARMS BY PERMIT

Arms/firearms, ammunition, bows, arrows and all other projectile weapons or devices are forbidden on conservation land, except that a majority of the Commission may issue an Arms/firearms permit for such use at Foss Farm, but only for non-hunting activities. Historically, the activities which have received permits include the colonial musters and dog training.

#### 5. SPONSORED EVENTS AND CONCESSIONS BY PERMIT

No one shall engage in business, sell or expose for sale or give away goods or circulars without a permit from the Commission. Applications for sponsored events will be accepted only from non-profit organizations. No admission or parking fees may be charged, but donations to the organization may be requested by posting a sign at the entrance to the event. Registration fees may be charged to participants but not to spectators in events organized by the sponsoring group. The Commission will ordinarily authorize only concessions for food to be consumed on the premises. In limited circumstances, when the Commission deems it in the public interest, additional concessions may be permitted. Although primary use of the land may be reserved for a specific event, other regular activities on the land shall continue on any given day.

#### 6. TRAILS

Any person may not install new trails or extensions of existing trails unless duly authorized by majority vote of the Conservation Commission at a public meeting.

#### 7. PETS/ANIMALS

All animals, including dogs and horses, must be kept under control at all times.

#### 8. NO DAMAGE

No trees, shrubs, flowers, grass, or other flora shall be picked, removed, cut or otherwise damaged.

#### 9. PENALTIES

Without limiting any other available remedies or penalties, any person or group who submits false information in connection with any documentation or application required under these Rules or

Regulations, or that leaves the Town of Carlisle Conservation land in unacceptable condition, or who otherwise violates these Rules and Regulations may be punished by a fine of not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each violation hereof and/or barred from receiving future use permits. Each day or part thereof during which such violation occurs or continues shall constitute a separate violation.

### **CARLISLE CONSERVATION LAND USES**

**1. Uses allowed on all Conservation Land.**

Walking, hiking, jogging, running  
Picnicking  
Kite-flying  
Horseback riding  
Snowshoeing  
Cross country skiing  
Nature study (observation)  
Other uses of a passive recreational nature

**Uses prohibited except by permission from a majority of the Commission**

Camping (may be permitted by the Conservation Administrator, as described above)  
Discharge of firearms  
Fires (Fire department must also issue permit)

**Uses prohibited on all Conservation Land**

Hunting, trapping  
Swimming  
Driving motorized vehicles (except by special permit and as regulated on Foss Farm)

**Use by large organized groups**

To be scheduled through the Conservation office

**2. Additional uses allowed on specific parcels of land**

**Greenough Land**

Ice skating  
Fishing, ice fishing  
Canoeing

**Foss Farm**

Pony Club activities  
Dog shows  
Dog field trials  
Dog sledding  
Dog training classes  
Horse show  
4-H Club activities  
Fairs  
Colonial Minutemen Historical Muster  
Plot gardens

**Towle Field**

Bill Koch Ski League

Adopted: September, 2013