

TOWN OF PEPPERELL CONSERVATION LANDS

RULES AND REGULATIONS

WELCOME! Pepperell Conservation lands are open to all for hiking, fishing, picnicking, nature study, boating/canoeing, jogging, camping, ice skating, sledding, biking, cross country skiing, horseback riding and other pursuits that do not damage the land or impair enjoyment of it by others. **These are your lands.** Please enjoy and take care of them. The following rules are to ensure conservation of the lands' natural history values and to maintain enjoyable environments for all users. Except for management work authorized in writing by the Pepperell Conservation Commission, the following apply:

1. NO Motorized Vehicles: NO cars, trucks, ATVs, ORVs, snowmobiles or other powered vehicles or tools except in designated areas;
2. NO Dumping, No littering. Carry In, Carry Out.
3. NO Fires: Overnight camping and/or open fires may be permitted at the discretion of the Pepperell Conservation Commission to groups having an adult leader present at all times. Each group shall request written permission from the Pepperell Conservation Commission.
4. NO Hunting is allowed within **Keyes-Parker and Nissitissit Meadows Conservation Areas**. Hunting at Heald Orchard is by special permit and is restricted to archery and falconry. Hunting **in compliance with state regulations** is allowed on other town Conservation Lands.
5. NO cutting, breaking, removing, defacing, defiling, ill-using, or possessing any structure, fence, or sign, or parts of them.
6. NO cutting, breaking, removing, defacing, or possessing dead or growing trees, bushes, plants, flowers, or other matter living or non-living. However, picking ripe fruit such as cranberries, blueberries, huckleberries, or apples for personal use is allowed.
7. NO constructing dams or other structures, including, but not limited to, lean-tos, bridges, towers, or handrails.
8. NO digging. NO use of metal detectors.
9. NO harassing wildlife.
10. NO alcoholic beverages.
11. NO engaging in business, selling or exposing for sale, or giving away any goods, wares or circulars.
12. VIOLATIONS HEREOF shall be punished by a fine of \$25.00 for the first offense, \$50.00 for the second offense, and \$100.00 for the third or subsequent offenses.

In addition to the rules from the Conservation Commission, the Pepperell Police enforce state and town laws on Conservation Land, and apply fines listed in those laws independently of, and possibly in addition to, those of the Conservation Commission. State laws enforced on Town Conservation Lands include:

Dumping: MA General Laws Part IV, Title I Ch 270 Section 16 explicitly mentions fines for dumping debris on lands dedicated for open space purposes – offenders “shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$5,500 for the first offense and a fine not to exceed \$15,000 for each subsequent offense”.

(<https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartIV/TitleI/Chapter270/Section16>)

Off-road Vehicles: MA General Laws Part I, Title XIV, Chapter 90B. Secs. 20-35

(<https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleXIV/Chapter90B>)

Hunting: MA General Laws Part I, Title XIX, Ch. 131

(<https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleXIX/Chapter131>) and its regulations

(<https://www.mass.gov/hunting-regulations>)