

# Robinson Woods Public Access Plan FINAL

Language from the Robinson Woods I and II Conservation Easements:

## *Purpose*

*This Conservation Easement is intended to protect the natural, scenic and undeveloped character of the Protected Property, and to promote the conservation of its forests, shoreland and their associated wildlife habitat values. It is also intended to balance the community need for open land available for quiet daytime non-motorized public outdoor recreation, nature observation and study, with restrictions that will ensure that the experience of the public on the Protected Property will continue to be one, increasingly rare, of relatively unstructured quiet contemplation and reverence for the natural world.*

The Public Access Plan will be in effect for a one-year trial period, unless circumstances warrant further action. Evaluation factors will include compliance with the Public Access Plan, no incidents of dog biting and aggression, absence of pet waste, and preservation of sensitive habitat areas.

Based upon the existing conservation easements for Robinson Woods I and II, the public access requirements and informed by the public forums and community member input, CELT will be enacting the Public Access Plan outlined below on May 1, 2015. **The goal of this Plan is to ensure an enjoyable visit for all Robinson Woods Preserve users and to protect the natural habitat and wildlife.**

## **General public access rules on Robinson Woods I and II Preserve:**

**To ensure an enjoyable visit for all and to protect the natural habitat and wildlife**

### **PLEASE**

- Cherish and help to care for this beautiful nature preserve
- Carry out all trash
- Stay on marked trails
- Daytime use only

### **Please, NO**

- Foraging, commercial or personal
- Commercial use of property
- Motorized vehicles
- Fires
- Hunting on Robinson Woods II
- Camping
- Alcoholic beverages and illegal substances

**(1) Public access for dog walking:**

**Off-leash hours on Robinson Woods II trail from:**

Sunrise to 10 am

**Off-leash hours on Robinson Woods I Outer Loop trail from:**

4 pm to sunset

**Leashes required at all times:**

Shore Road parking lot  
Robinson Woods I Wildflower Trail  
Belfield dirt road in Robinson Woods II  
Canter Way Easement

**Dog owner rules:**

- Keep off leash dogs within sight
- Carry waste bags and leash
- Remove all dog waste (we will supply bags and trash can at kiosk)
- No dogs in ponds and vernal pools
- Three dogs per person limit
- No commercial dog walkers
- Reminder: Maine law requires dog license and rabies tag on collar at all times

**(2) Public access for bicyclists:**

- Bicyclists must stay on marked trails
- Bicyclists must yield to pedestrians
- No high-speed bike riding
- Trails may be periodically closed to bicyclists as needed to maintain trail integrity (indicated online and onsite)

**To facilitate compliance, CELT will provide clear signage that states public access rules and will provide educational materials and signage related to important and sensitive natural areas, including:**

- Signs at entrances and trail intersections
- Signs about hours and areas for off-leash use
- Dog waste signage
- Signage and possible seasonal fencing around vernal pools
- Sign system indicating when trails are closed to bikes to preserve trail integrity
- Interpretive signage to educate public about unique ecological features of Robinson Woods Preserve

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