

# Monmouth Conservation Commission

## Annual Report

April 18, 2015

### Members:

	<u>Term Complete (October)</u>
Randy Schiller – Chair	2016
Herb Whittier – Vice Chair/Treasurer	2017
Cindy Parker – Secretary	2015
Bob Mulliken	2015
Larry Buggia	2016

### Activities:

Working from the 2007 Comprehensive Plan, we have been active in the following areas:

1. Mapping:  
Work has been ongoing to identify open space in Monmouth, including areas currently protected from private development. This information will then be used to create an up to date map of Monmouth, with color coding to show these properties. Later efforts will include mapping of properties that are of interest for conservation from development.
2. Bicycle Signs:  
To facilitate and encourage safe cycling, we coordinated with Public Works to erect signs reminding motorists that three feet of separation is required from pedestrians and cyclists.
3. Coordination with Established Conservation Groups:  
Working with Stanton Bird Club, Kennebec Land Trust, and others, we've become familiar with areas in Monmouth controlled by these groups. Some members have also gotten involved in various levels of stewardship for these lands. We've distributed pamphlets which include trail maps for the Woodbury Sanctuary, Monmouth's largest protected area and a great area for hiking.

4. **Maple Street “Coal Shed” Property:**  
We reviewed and recommended approval of Lloyd McCabe’s generous acquisition and contribution to the Town of Monmouth of the “Coal Shed” Property on Maple Street. This area is to be developed and used as a town park honoring the McCabes.
  
5. **Project Canopy**  
Worked with the Economic Development Committee in obtaining a Project Canopy grant for the Town of Monmouth to inventory street trees in the downtown areas of Monmouth and North Monmouth. This will lead to planning for maintenance, future plantings, and care with respect to maintaining and enhancing of the downtown environment.
  
6. **Community Garden Project**  
We have supported Bob Mulliken in spearheading the Community Garden Project, which will be located in front of Bates Mill, with services donated by Bates Mill.

**Future Plans:**

In addition to carrying on the above activities, we expect to work toward:

1. Developing and publicizing a network of hiking and biking trails in Monmouth, including Whittier Woods.
  
2. Continued interface with other conservation oriented groups both within Monmouth and nearby.
  
3. Producing a user-friendly map of Monmouth with areas significant for conservation highlighted.