

Regulations for the Use of Sherborn Conservation and Town Forest Land

Unless otherwise specified for a particular parcel of land, property under the control of the Sherborn Conservation Commission and property under the control of the Sherborn Town Forest Committee is open to the public for peaceful enjoyment and use compatible with the natural environment and consistent with the purposes for which the land was acquired, but subject to the following regulations. Violation of these regulations may result in a fine not to exceed \$200 and in prosecution to the full extent of the law, as well as civil liability for damage to the property.

1. Unauthorized cutting or removing any plant, tree or other natural features, killing or trapping any animal or bird, carrying or discharging of firearms, explosives or other projectiles, defacing or injuring signs, trees, trailmarkers, buildings, walls or other property, and littering is prohibited.
2. A written permit for overnight camping must be obtained in advance and is available at the Sherborn Town Offices.
3. A written permit for open fires must be obtained in advance from the Sherborn Fire Department.
4. In those areas in which agricultural crops, including trees and fields of hay, are being cultivated, any act resulting in damage to such crops is prohibited.
5. Except as permitted in this regulation, no motor vehicle is allowed on Conservation Commission or Town Forest property. Motor vehicle, as used herein, includes, without limitation, a car, truck, jeep, tractor, motorcycle, motorbike, trailbike, and snowmobile. Only the following motor vehicles may be operated on said property:
 - a. Motor vehicles of the Fire Department, the Police Department, the Highway Department, or the Land Management and Development Department of the Town of Sherborn (or of others officially requested to assist any of these Departments), but only in connection with the performance of official duties.
 - b. Motor vehicles of the Shell Oil Company and public utilities, their agents or contractees, but only to the extent reasonably necessary to inspect, maintain, repair or replace the pipeline or utility lines or to prevent injury to property adjacent to the pipeline or utility lines.

- c. Motor vehicles the use of which has been approved, or which are used in connection with a project which has been approved, by the Town Forest Committee or Conservation Commission or their respective authorized designees with respect to land under the control of each or by the Board of Selectmen, but only to the extent reasonably necessary to undertake and complete such project. Included, without limitation, in the foregoing is the reasonable use of motor vehicles to haul wood cut pursuant to a Town Forest Committee or Conservation Commission permit.
 - d. Snowmobiles, when they are operated on existing trails in areas previously designated by the Conservation Commission or Town Forest Committee. Snowmobiles may be operated only on at least six (6) inches of snow or ice between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 10:00 P.M. and only at reasonable speeds and with due regard to pedestrians and other users of the property.
6. All users of the property shall comply with any posted regulatory sign (including, without limitation, signs closing certain areas to all use) and with the verbal directions of a police officer or other agent of the Town of Sherborn. Disorderly conduct, disturbing the peace, and any action illegal under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or By-Laws of the Town of Sherborn are forbidden on the property.
7. Any group activity involving twelve (12) or more persons is requested to notify the Sherborn Police Department in advance of its intended use of the property, and all persons are strongly urged to respect the boundaries of private property and not to trespass thereon without the express permission of the land owner.