

**SCITUATE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
Fiscal 2012 APPLICATION FOR FUNDING**

Project Name: Appleton Field Boundary Definition

CPA funding requested: \$ 300.00 (REQUIRED)

Total project cost: \$ 300.00 (REQUIRED)

Other Funding Sources Applied For/Obtained: None

Grants: \$ _____ Applied For _____ Obtained _____

Other (describe) \$ _____ Applied For _____ Obtained _____

Basis for project cost (i.e. appraisal, construction estimate, etc. – please attach all documentation supporting estimated project cost and basis)

Category (check all that apply): Open Space Historical Housing Recreation

Lot and Plat: 001-004R *

Assessors Map #: 018 *

Assessed Value NA (please attach copy of assessor's card)

Number of acres in parcel: 10 acres (4 acres fields, 6 acres wooded) *

Number of proposed housing units: _____ *

Current Zoning Classification _____ *

(* REQUIRED IF APPLICABLE TO PROPOSED PROJECT)

Title in name of : Town of Scituate / Conservation Commission

Title Abstract Date _____ (Attach copy current title abstract)

Survey Available Yes No (Attach copy of survey)

Name of Applicant: Scituate Conservation Commission

Contact Name: Allan Greenberg

Address: 122 Old Oaken Bucket Rd.

Phone: 781-545-8175 E-Mail: amayberg221@yahoo.com

By signing below, the Applicant represent he/she is duly authorized, agrees to the terms and conditions and all other requirements of this Application and agrees to be bound thereby if funding is granted for the Project.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: Frank Snow

Title: Chair, Scituate Conservation Commission

Appleton Field Boundary Definition

Appleton Field is a property that was purchased with CPC funds in 2003. The Field abuts the South Swamp and includes both field and woodland. The property was acquired as a significant addition to the Town's Open Space, enhancing protection of a major source of the Town's water supply (the South Swamp), additional protection of wildlife habitat, addition to abutting open space, forest land protection, among other things, and to create the possibility for establishing an operating agricultural property under Town auspices.

At present, the property is being managed by Vincent Bucca as an agricultural field and a woodlot on behalf of the Conservation Commission. These activities have enhanced the property's value as open space. The site will be enhanced further by the placement of several bird nesting boxes, including one for kestrels which, it is hoped, will function as part of the Audubon Society's and State's Division of Fisheries and Wildlife effort to revive the kestrel population

While the property has a plan, it was never finalized, and there are some questions concerning the definitive identification of the south and west sides of the Field. It came to the attention of the applicant that the Audubon Society had established an "Ecological Extension Service" (see Attachment 1) which, for a very reasonable rate, is able to provide a variety of services, including those that are appropriate for this project (see Attachment 2, specific services proposed by the EES). It will be significant for the Town to have these boundaries clarified on the Assessor's maps, which may be easily done after the GPS point shapefile is prepared. In this instance, the ultimate intent is to achieve definitive clarification of the southern and western boundaries of the Appleton Field, which will provide the Town with certainty about its property bounds. As part of his on-going responsibilities, Mr. Bucca will be working with the Audubon representatives on the implementation of the proposed project.

Timeline and Budget: The project is a simple one, and will be completed quickly, basically involving one site visit by the Ecological Extension Service, to be done at a mutually acceptable date in the autumn of 2012, and some in-house work by them. There are no costs foreseen beyond this one-time project.

GROUND TRUTH:



News from the ECOLOGICAL EXTENSION SERVICE



In This Issue:

- ◆ [What is EES?](#)
- ◆ [Who is EES?](#)
- ◆ [What Can EES Do For You?](#)



For more information on our services and how we can help you with your land protection and management needs, visit our website, or contact us [by email](#) or by phone at 781-259-2159.

June, 2011



Welcome to our first issue of *Ground Truth*, from Mass Audubon's Ecological Extension Service.

Please drop me a line if you would like to discuss a project or have any topics you'd like to see covered in future issues.

[Jeff Collins](#)

Director, Ecological Extension Service

WHAT IS EES?

Ecological Extension Service is Mass Audubon's technical assistance program, through which we share with conservation partners the considerable expertise we've developed in managing our own 34,000-acre sanctuary system.

We assist land trusts, towns, agencies, watershed associations, and private landowners with conservation prioritization, ecological inventory, mapping, trail design, management planning, restoration, research, and interpretation of open space.

We have worked with a variety of open space owners and partnerships on landscapes from 5 to 5,000 acres.

WHO IS EES?



Jeff Collins, Director, Ecological Extension Service

Jeff is a landscape ecologist and conservation planner who has developed his skills throughout New England.

His multi-disciplinary approach to landscape inventory and conservation planning has been applied on public, private, and institutional lands throughout the state. He holds a M.S. in Botany from the University of Vermont Field Naturalist Program.

[View Jeff's full resume >>](#)

Liz Newlands, Field Ecologist

Liz is a field ecologist with extensive knowledge of the diverse nature of Massachusetts. Her work has taken her from the rolling hills of the Berkshire to the outer reaches of Cape Cod, and she has conducted field work at over 100 sites throughout the Commonwealth. She holds a M.S. in Environmental Studies from Bard College

[View Liz's full resume >>](#)

James DeNormandie, Conservation Planner

James applies his extensive background with landscape analysis and modeling to projects that assist with identifying conservation priorities. As project manager for the 2009 update of Mass Audubon's Losing Ground report, he drew on a wide range of datasets and experts to create a quantitative snapshot of land use change over 30 years. He holds a M.S. in Wildlife Ecology from Utah State University.

WHAT CAN EES DO FOR YOU?

Natural resource inventories and land management planning



Whether it's a piece of land being considered for protection or a long-held parcel in need of a management plan, we use maps and time in the field to develop a thorough understanding of the plant and animal species present and then offer detailed recommendations for managing land to maximize its values.

>> [Nahanton Park, Newton:](#)
Natural Resource Inventory

>> [Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge](#)
Intensive Mapping of Invasive Species

Wildlife research and habitat restoration



We design and implement projects grounded in conservation biology and a vision of the potential for each landscape. Our restoration work incorporates an understanding of local geology and soils and how plants will respond to management. Our habitat restoration work includes unique experience creating grassland bird habitat on recently closed landfills.

>> [Lynnfield Marsh & Charles River Marshes:](#)
Wildlife Research

>> [Greenwood Street Landfill, Worcester:](#)
Habitat Restoration

Conservation restriction baseline reports and monitoring



We create baseline documentation reports for conservation restrictions (CRs) owned by towns, land trusts, and state agencies ranging in size from 1 to 3,000 acres. These reports detail the condition of the land in maps and photos and serve as a basis for future stewardship of the land. We also work with conservation land owners to perform annual monitoring.

>> [MassWildlife & DCR, Statewide:](#)
Conservation Restriction Baseline Documentation

GIS Mapping and Analysis



We use desktop, mobile, and web-based GIS software to create analyses, graphics, and data collection and visualization tools. We have developed custom mobile GIS applications and web maps for data collection and analysis from property scale to statewide.

>> [Losing Ground: Beyond the Footprint](#)
Statewide Land Use Analysis

Land records management (webLIS)



Along with the Mass Audubon Land Protection and Information Technology Departments, we developed **webLIS**, an online map-driven database for accessing important information about the land we protect. We can develop a custom webLIS for your organization, putting all of your land records, documents, and field photos a mouse-click away.

>> [**Mass Audubon Land Protection and Stewardship:**](#)
webLIS Map-driven Database of Property Information

In coming issues of *Ground Truth* we'll be highlighting some of our latest projects, talking in more detail about the services we offer, and giving you some insight into how we work with our clients and partners.

See you in the field,

Jeff Collins

From: [Jeff Collins](#)
To: vbucca@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2011 11:08 AM
Subject: Appleton Field

Vin,

Regarding our conversation this morning, I would be happy to work with you to gps the boundaries of the west side of Appleton Field. The scope of services, as we discussed, would include

- 1) Visiting the property with you to walk the western and southern portions of the boundary, as it is defined by stone walls and the wetland edge.
- 2) Collecting gps point information with a Trimble GeoXT gps unit, at ~20 locations *previously flagged by you*. To clarify, where the boundary is defined by the wetland edge, we will not be called upon to *locate* the boundary, only to collect gps points as directed by you. We will use point averaging to collect 100 signals at each point which are then combined by the gps unit to get a fix accurate to within 3 meters.
- 3) We will post-process the field data using differential correction to improve the accuracy to within 1 meter.
- 4) We will email to you a point shapefile for use in GIS mapping software such as ESRI ArcGIS.

The cost of these services will be \$300.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Jeffrey Collins
Director of Ecological Management
Regional Science • Ecological Extension • GIS

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