

Crooked Spring Conservation Reservation
(Margaret Robbins Mills Crooked Spring Brook
Reservation)
79 Crooked Spring Road, Chelmsford, MA



Ongoing/Routine Site Management:

1. Remove trash from parking area and near entrance.
2. Keep signs visible (cut back vegetation).
3. Clear obstacles on trails: remove downed limbs, etc.
4. Ensure trail markers are present and clear for new visitors.
5. Ensure accessibility parking sign in place.
6. Maintain kiosk postings. Ensure only approved postings are present.
7. Remove invasive plants per Chelmsford Conservation Commission invasive plant removal guidelines.
8. Cut grass/vegetation on sewer line trail to maintain full access for maintenance and emergency vehicles.
9. Clear stormwater run-offs near Crooked Spring Road and near Graniteville Road
10. Maintain Town dam (DPW/Stormwater to clear vegetation and sludge, every two years or as needed?).
11. Identify and report issues such as new beaver dams, encroachments, motor vehicle use on trails, vandalism, etc.
12. Identify improvement opportunities, review with conservation agent and Conservation Commission.

Non-routine Ongoing or Potential Projects:

- Organize and execute site educational walks.
- Coordinate projects with community groups (scouts, church groups, neighborhood groups, etc.)
- Create accessibility trail from parking area to dam, with sitting area.
- Create accessibility trail from Crooked Spring Road entrance to sewer line trail to big beaver dam; add viewing platform near beaver dam.
- Improve the lead-in to the new (2021 Scout) bridge near Crooked Spring Road and culvert.
- Re-route trail along Crooked Spring Road (between parking lot and sewer line) to avoid wet area.
- Re-route trail between lagoon (near Castlewood) and dam to avoid wet area.
- Invasive Management:
 - a. Japanese Knotweed:
 - i. along sewer line trail.
 - ii. along Graniteville Road.

- b. Oriental bittersweet:
 - i. along trail between parking lot and sewer line trail.
 - ii. Along trail between Crooked Street bridge (at culvert) and parking lot.
- c. Common Reed (Phragmites): along sewer line trail in small pond
- Rebuild boardwalk/bridge across Crooked Spring above the wetland near Graniteville Road.
 - a. Phase 1: use lightweight walkway design concept;
 - b. Phase 2 (~2030?): build a bona-fide bridge across this area depending on DPW/Stormwater plans for Graniteville Road.
- Investigate and fix (remove?) the Castlewood Drive drain that empties into the lagoon. (DPW)
- Update the Graniteville Road stormwater system to better protect Crooked Spring. (DPW)
- Update the culvert to modern stream crossing standards where Crooked Spring runs under Crooked Spring Road, heading toward Stony Brook. (DPW)