

Atkinson Conservation Commission Minutes
Monday, October 1, 2018
Atkinson Town Hall

Approved November 5, 2018

Members Present:

Paul Wainwright, Chair
Denise Legault, Vice Chair
Dan Kimball
Scott Kukshel
Dennis Krause
Jeff Nenart, Alternate (Voting)
Peter Bradshaw, Alternate (Voting)

Others Present:

Russ Wolf, ACTV and Webmaster

1) Call to order, attendance

Chair Wainwright called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM, Monday, October 1, 2018. Present were Chair Wainwright, Vice Chair Denise Legault, Dan Kimball, Scott Kukshel, Dennis Krause, Alternate Peter Bradshaw (voting) and Alternate Jeff Nenart (voting).

Chair Wainwright declared a quorum was present, and appointed alternates Nenart and Bradshaw as voting members for the meeting.

2) Review and approval of minutes: September 10, 2018

Chair Wainwright requested a motion to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2018 meeting of the Atkinson Conservation Commission as amended.

Alternate Nenart made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2018 public session of the Atkinson Conservation Commission as amended. Member Kukshel seconded the motion. All members of the Atkinson Conservation Commission present at the September 10 meeting voted to approve. Vote: 6/0/1.

3) Treasurer's report and 2019 budget – Chair Wainwright

Chair Wainwright made reference to the attached 2018 Treasurer's Report and Proposed 2019 Budget.

The Conservation Commission has spent \$6,242.97 to date, which Chair Wainwright has detailed in the spent as of 9/1 and the spent in Sep 2018 columns.

For Care of Grounds, a new gate was installed at the back entrance to the Sawyer Town Forest for \$1,510. Another gate may be needed (next year) for the Chambers-Fila Town Forest after Mr. Ebner completes his driveway and the promised trail parking area.

Member Kimball suggested another gate similar to the one recently installed at the back of Sawyer.

In the yet to go column, the first line is recording clerk. There is \$305 remaining budgeted for the Recording Clerk. There is \$350 remaining in the Other Professional Services line. Tim Lavelle, Lavelle Associates, is preparing a lot consolidation plan for the piece of land at the end of Industrial Way to combine it with the Judge Marshall Town Forest. It was never officially recorded as part of the Town Forest. There is \$500 currently in the Special Programs line, but since there does not appear to be a need to fund an Eagle project this year this money may be spent elsewhere.

The proposed 2019 budget is shown in the last column of the attached spreadsheet. Chair Wainwright presented the proposed 2019 budget to both the BOS and the Budget Committee, and it was apparently well received. It is the same total amount as our 2018 budget, with the line item amounts distributed slightly differently based on current expectations.

Chair Wainwright also requested that the BOS shift some 2018 funds between lines in our budget to meet current spending needs, as shown in the first blue-shaded column. The BOS approved this request.

Under the yet to go – care of grounds column, Chair Wainwright has receipts for some things, including the chain. Another expense will be mowing. The dock needs to be repaired. Chair Wainwright will go to East Coast Lumber to see what parts are needed. Chair Wainwright will try to buy the parts this year.

New Equipment - \$500 for a new pole saw (to replace the one owned by Tim Dziechowski) is still a possible expense.

Education and Conferences - \$240 is currently earmarked for the NHACC Annual Conference, which would cover 4 members to attend.

Signs – Chair Wainwright just received the bill for the custom trail sign, which came to \$310. Including this sign, there are a total of \$557.50 in sign invoices not yet submitted.

If all gets spent as planned, there will be about \$200 left at the end of the year.

4) Unsealing of nonpublic session minutes – Secretary McVay:

Chair Wainwright distributed a copy of a table from Pete McVay showing all sealed nonpublic session minutes for the past 20 years – a copy of this table is attached to these minutes. Chair Wainwright and Secretary McVay recommend that most of the minutes be unsealed, as shown in the table. Vice Chair Legault agreed.

Chair Wainwright explained to those watching on TV why proposed purchases of Town conservation land are typically discussed in nonpublic sessions, and why the minutes from those sessions are usually sealed. The reason is that it is not in the Town's best interest to announce that we are in discussions with a landowner before we have a written agreement such as a Purchase and Sale Agreement, because competitors might bid up the price, making the proposed land purchase more costly to the Town. State law says that once the reason for sealing nonpublic minutes no longer exists (e.g., a P&S agreement is in place), then the minutes should be unsealed. The Atkinson Conservation Commission has a reputation, not totally undeserved, for being overly secretive in these matters, and Chair Wainwright stated that he hoped by unsealing this backlog of previously-sealed minutes it would help to decrease this perception.

Chair Wainwright requested a motion to unseal all of the minutes in the table that are checked in the column marked "Release."

Vice Chair Legault made a motion to unseal all of the minutes in the table that are checked "Release." Member Kukshel seconded the motion.

Discussion: The Atkinson webmaster agreed to post them on the web site.

All members and alternates of the Conservation Commission present voted in favor. Vote: 7/0/0.

5) Web site content ideas – Secretary McVay:

Chair Wainwright reiterated that he would like the Conservation Commission to be more open, and a website that is useful to Town residents would help.

Last week, Secretary McVay sent an email soliciting ideas for web content, and a number of the members replied. A copy of Pete's email is attached to these minutes.

A number of the ideas suggested are already on the website, such as names of members, meeting minutes, and the Commission's Mission Statement. Chair Wainwright stated that he did not think that "current projects" were good to put on the website because of the need to constantly update them. However, Chair Wainwright has made a public Facebook group, Atkinson Conservation, so any ideas about current projects can be posted there.

Webmaster Russ Wolf stated that he thought he could put the feed from the Facebook Group on the Conservation web page. He also stated that the Atkinson Public Television rebroadcast schedule of our meetings date could be put on the website. It is currently on the ACTV Program Guide.

Chair Wainwright asked the Conservation Commission to suggest useful links to put on the Facebook page and/or the web page. Vice Chair Legault sent the Homeowners Guide to Storm Water Management as a possible link.

Chair Wainwright is attempting to post Atkinson Trails on the LL Bean website.

6) Review and approval of hunting regulations – Dan Kimball:

Member Kimball reviewed the Frequently Asked Questions handout sheet that the Town gives to prospective hunters and found it confusing. He added some items and changed some others. He would like to insert the hunting blind policy. He also added the Federal migratory bird regulations.

Member Kimball asked if there were forests where gun hunting is allowed. Member Kukshel stated that gun hunting must be allowed on any land purchased with Federal funds. Gun hunting is occurring in the Sawyer Town Forest but it is not allowed. [Editor's note: some parts of the Sawyer Town forest WERE purchased with federal funds, so this policy needs to be reviewed.]

One issue is that the Town requires permits for bow hunting, but not for gun hunting. Member Kimball suggested that a permit be issued for all hunting, bow hunting and gun hunting. It was suggested that type of gun also be included in the permit. Member Kimball stated it would be easy to change the form. Chair Wainwright will speak to the Assistant Town Manager.

Member Kimball stated that Turkey hunting opened September 15 until December. Deer bow hunting opened September 15, and Waterfowl hunting is also open.

Member Nenart informed the Commission that there is a lot of hunting with firearms in the Sawyer Town Forest, but only bow hunting is allowed with a Town permit. The Commission discussed what to do about firearm hunting in Sawyer Town Forest. Chair Wainwright suggested another sign. Member Kimball stated that everyone who hunts relies on the information from the Selectmen's office. Chair Wainwright will discuss it with Barbara Snicer, Assistant Town Administrator.

Chair Wainwright agreed with Member Kimball's amendments to the hunting FAQs. There was general consensus among Commission members, and there was no vote.

7) Multi-Town Conservation News – Brent Ebner: not present

8) GPS trail mapping progress report – Peter Bradshaw:

Chair Wainwright informed Mr. Bradshaw that there are trail maps in the mail boxes at the trail heads that he can use to make a table to track progress with mapping, and he can use the Commission's license to Terrain Navigator Pro to map the trails. Mr. Bradshaw said he would coordinate with Pete McVay to get the TNP license.

9) **Brief Reports & Other Business:**

a. NHACC Annual Conference: Saturday, November 3, Pembroke

Alternate Nenart and Chair Wainwright will attend. Chair Wainwright asked if Doug Yoho, prospective alternate, could attend. While disappointed in this year's planned attendance, Chair Wainwright encouraged all members to try to attend future NHACC conferences because they are excellent learning opportunities. They are usually held the first Saturday in November

b. Sawyer gate has been replaced

c. Field mowing – Member Kimball's mowing machine is broken because of all the woody material on the Bonin field, and it will take several weeks to get it repaired. Member Kimball stated he has been able to begin mowing the Bonin field with his tractor, and there are a lot of large poplars and also the mower hit a rock and smashed one of the blades. Mr. Kimball stated that the \$900 in the 2018 budget should cover his expenses in mowing all three fields.

d. Sign update – Chair Wainwright got a router template for making wooden signs, in "competition" with Member Kimball. He showed his first attempt. The property id tags for equipment have come in, and Chair Wainwright passed around an example. The custom sign welcoming hikers to Atkinson Trails has come in and Chair Wainwright showed a sample. Also, Chair Wainwright bought hats for everyone (at his own expense).

e. Equipment Storage Update – Chair Wainwright looked at the Town Garage and there is no secure place there.

f. Map 9 Lot 29 (Blunts Pond) going to ZBA in October – The NH Association of Conservation Commissions guidelines state that when a Commission recommends that a variance be denied, they should include reasons for their recommendation in the denial letter. Chair Wainwright has sent a revised letter to the ZBA that included several pages of Commission meeting minutes that summarize our reasons for recommending denial.

g. Page Farm update: ZBA variance, Prime Wetland boundary, and Well Permit –

- The ZBA conditionally approved the variance (see last month's CC meeting) to place the proposed new road in the Dedicated Open Space adjacent to the Atkinson Conservation Land. The conditions were that if the road is put in, trail access with parking must be provided.
- Another issue from last month's meeting was the Prime Wetland boundary. Mr. Eben Lewis, NH Department of Environmental Services, will require the developer to flag and survey the portion of the West Sawmill Swamp Prime Wetland that abuts the Page Farm development. Mr. Lewis quoted state regulations that specify the

boundary of the Prime Wetland is the first upland boundary, and any pocket of wetland contiguous with a Prime Wetland is part of it.

Chair Wainwright requested a motion to affirm our commitment to protect the Sawmill Swamp Prime Wetland.

Alternate Bradshaw made a motion to request that Green and Company and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services accurately flag and survey the upland boundary of the portion of the West Sawmill Swamp Prime Wetland that abuts the Page Farm development, and that all Prime Wetland setbacks and vegetative buffer regulations be followed. Member Kimball seconded the motion.

Discussion: The Conservation Commission agreed that that is what the law states. Chair Wainwright suspects that the wetland next to the road is part of the main wetland.

All alternates and members of the Atkinson Conservation Commission present voted in favor. Vote: 7/0/0.

- Page Farm Large Groundwater Withdrawal Permit – for the well going in at Page Farm. Chair Wainwright attended the Public Hearing for Large Groundwater Withdrawal Permit, and stated that the study that was presented appeared to be carefully done, but he questioned what the long term effects would be on the Sawmill Swamp Prime Wetland.

Member Kukshel stated that large groundwater withdrawal issues have been discussed previously and has been a concern in the Town for quite a while. The well will not only be for the Page Farm development, but also for the entire HAWC water system. The permit is in the 45-day public comment period, and Chair Wainwright would like to write a letter to DES expressing concern regarding the long-term effects of wetlands. The permit did not mention that it is a Prime Wetland. There were no objections to such a letter expressed by Commission members.

Member Kimball stated that there could also be a quality effect. A few years ago after a large well was drilled near his property, the acidity of his water increased to such an extent that he had to replace all the copper pipes in his house.

Vice Chair Legault expressed concern about how Town residents were made aware of the process.

h. Industrial Way Judge Marshall Town Forest access update - Lavelle Associates are currently doing a lot consolidation plan, which will be filed with the County making the Town's small lot at the end of Industrial Way part of the Judge Marshall Town Forest.

i. Kutzelman conservation easement update - deferred

j. Dock repairs – need list of parts, and the floats need to be replaced. The Lions Club built the dock originally. The lake will be drained October 12th.

k. Stormwater runoff – Vice Chair Legault attended the Planning Board MS4 workshop. Mr. Stewart, the Road Agent, used to file a runoff report every year. At the workshop, Mr. Stewart gave a presentation concerning discharges from small construction activity and certain other public facilities. Drainage into Big Island Pond needs better “filtration” to minimize pollution from road salt. Prioritizing catch basin inspection is needed. Funding will be needed. Vice Chair Legault will give Chair Wainwright a link on what homeowners can do that she got from the Rockingham Planning Commission.

l. Chair Wainwright has been meeting regularly with Selectman liaison Greg Spiro, and the next breakfast October 6, 2018. He requested Vice Chair Legault attend, if not, another member.

10) Next Meetings: Monday, November 5 and Monday, December 3 (Paul away)

Vice Chair Legault will act as Chair for the December meeting.

11) Adjournment

Chair Wainwright requested a motion to adjourn.

Member Kimball made a motion to adjourn the October 1, 2018 public meeting of the Atkinson Conservation Commission at 8:46 PM. Member Krause seconded the motion. All members of the Atkinson Conservation Commission present voted in favor. Vote: 7/0/0.

Attachments:

- 2018 budget tracking report and proposed 2019 Budget
- List of outstanding sealed minutes, with recommendations for unsealing
- Pete’s email requesting web site content links
- Revised FAQ for hunting regulations

Town of Atkinson Conservation Commission 2018 Budget Tracking and 2019 Projection

Account number	Description	TM-approved Budget	Encumbered from 2017	Available as of 1/1/2018	Proposed realignment 9/17/2018	Available as of 10/1/2018	Spent as of 9/1/2018	Spent in Sep 2018	Yet to go	Unspent in 2018	Spent in 2018	Proposed 2019
40.46111.110.00	RECORDING CLERK	\$ 600.00		\$ 600.00	\$ 410.00	\$ 1,010.00	\$ 630.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 305.00	\$ -	\$ 1,010.00	\$ 1,000.00
40.46111.390.00	OTHER PROF SERVICES	\$ 2,500.00		\$ 2,500.00		\$ 2,500.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,550.00	\$ 350.00	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
40.46111.550.00	PRINTING AND BINDING	\$ 100.00		\$ 100.00	\$ (100.00)	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1.00
40.46111.560.00	DUES/SUBS/MEMBERSHIPS	\$ 400.00		\$ 400.00		\$ 400.00	\$ 363.00			\$ 37.00	\$ 363.00	\$ 400.00
40.46111.620.00	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$ 100.00		\$ 100.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 59.00	\$ 59.00		\$ 2.00	\$ 118.00	\$ 1.00
40.46111.625.00	POSTAGE	\$ 1.00		\$ 1.00		\$ 1.00	\$ -			\$ 1.00	\$ -	\$ 1.00
40.46111.650.00	CARE OF GROUNDS	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 3,900.00	\$ (845.00)	\$ 3,055.00	\$ 439.00	\$ 1,510.00	\$ 1,025.37	\$ 80.63	\$ 2,974.37	\$ 3,000.00
40.46111.740.00	NEW EQUIPMENT	\$ 500.00		\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 489.00		\$ 500.00	\$ 11.00	\$ 989.00	\$ 300.00
40.46111.820.00	MILEAGE	\$ 1.00		\$ 1.00		\$ 1.00	\$ -			\$ 1.00	\$ -	\$ 74.00
40.46111.840.00	SPECIAL PROGRAMS	\$ 1,225.00		\$ 1,225.00	\$ (725.00)	\$ 500.00	\$ -		\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00
40.46111.850.00	EDUCATION & CONFERENCES	\$ 100.00		\$ 100.00	\$ 140.00	\$ 240.00	\$ -		\$ 240.00	\$ -	\$ 240.00	\$ 250.00
40.46111.875.00	SIGNS	\$ 500.00		\$ 500.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,100.00	\$ -	\$ 468.97	\$ 557.50	\$ 73.53	\$ 1,026.47	\$ 500.00
	TOTALS	\$ 9,027.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 9,927.00	\$ -	\$ 9,927.00	\$ 2,580.00	\$ 3,662.97	\$ 3,477.87	\$ 206.16	\$ 9,720.84	\$ 9,027.00
											\$ 6,242.97	

Minutes Name	Seal	Release	Topic	Recommendation
2006-01		✓	Marylyn Matte lot: purchase; Currier lot: land swap	Both were purchased.
2007-01		✓	Busby Land Purchase	Land was negotiated in trade: sports field for prime conservation land.
2009-03		✓	Jane Jones lot, Map 12, Lot 1, purchase	Land was purchased.
2009-07		✓	Ruth MacPherson trust, via Carol Grant: purchase Chooljian land	Discussion with Carol Grant of use of MacPherson trust money for land purchase. Chooljian land was one possibility. Still open, but a remote possibility.
2010-08	✓		██████ land purchase	This is still an active project. Recommend not unsealing.
2010-09		✓	Essex Greenbelt Connector purchase possibilities	Swampland was eventually purchased, but Greenbelt purchases are still remotely possible.
2010-11		✓	Swampland Map 8 Lot 10 (Bryant Brook) purchase	Land was purchased.
2011-02		✓	Blunt's Pond, Gordon Brown Trail, Kinney Garage	None of these were purchased.
2011-03		✓	Purchase of Gary Witley lot?	Discussion with Carol Grant and lot was not purchased.
2011-04		✓	Blunt's Pond, Pettingill back lot Map 10 plot 8	Discussion with Carol Grant and lot was not purchased.
2011-06	✓		██████ Land, SE Passage, Ruth McPherson-Lang-Brown, Kutzleman greenway passage	██████ land purchase still possible.
2011-06-20			Duplicate of 2011-06	Remove
2011-09	✓		██████ land, Jane Jones Land	██████ land purchase still possible.
2012-07-02	✓		██████, Kinney, Brown(Page) land	██████ land purchase still possible.
2012-07-10		✓	Jane Jones lot	Lot was added to Slade Town Forest.
2012-07			Duplicate of 2012-07-10	Remove
2012-10	✓		██████ Land,	██████ land purchase still possible.
2012-12	✓		██████ meeting	██████ land purchase still possible.
2014_11_10		✓	Gordon Brown Backland	Sold to developer.
2015_06_01	✓		██████ land	Still pending

Minutes Name	Seal	Release	Topic	Recommendation
2015_07_06	✓		██████████ Land	Pending
2015_12_07		✓	Turner Brown/backland development (Page Farm)	Easement and land purchase issues have been settled.
2016_01_04		✓	Turner Brown/backland development (Page Farm)	Easement and land purchase issues have been settled.
2016_02_01		✓	Turner Brown/backland development (Page Farm)	Easement and land purchase issues have been settled.
2016_03_07		✓	Turner Brown/backland development (Page Farm)	Easement and land purchase issues have been settled.
2016_05_02		✓	Turner Brown/backland development (Page Farm)	Easement and land purchase issues have been settled.
2016_06_06		✓	Turner Brown/backland development (Page Farm)	Easement and land purchase issues have been settled.
2016_11_07		✓	Turner Brown/backland development (Page Farm)	Easement and land purchase issues have been settled.
2016_12_05		✓	Turner Brown/backland development (Page Farm)	Easement and land purchase issues have been settled.
2017_09_11		✓	Turner Brown/backland development (Page Farm)	Easement and land purchase issues have been settled.
2018_06_12	✓		██████████ Land	Pending
2018_07_02	Done already		Land swap with Charles Kinney	Deal is dead – minutes unsealed Aug 6, 2018

paul@paulwainwrightphotography.com

From: <p.mcvay@comcast.net>
Date: Tuesday, September 25, 2018 7:34 AM
To: "Atkinson Conservation Commission" <conservation@atkinson-nh.gov>; "Dan Kimball" <wilvalent@yahoo.com>; "Denise Legault" <denise_legault@uml.edu>; "Dennis Krause" <dennis_krause@msn.com>; "Jeff Nenart" <jeffmn1213@comcast.net>; "Karen Wemmel" <karenwemm@gmail.com>; "Mark Hertich" <mrhertrich@gmail.com>; "Paul Wainwright" <paul@paulwainwrightphotography.com>; "Peter Bradshaw" <dahdddit@gmail.com>; "Scott Kukshel" <scott@kukshel.com>; "Tim Dziechowski" <timd@winsurfer.net>
Subject: Proposal: Web Site Content and structure

Dear Commission Members;

We're asking for your help! Please respond, even if it's "I have to think about this".

Paul and I are looking at a revision of the Conservation Web Site. What follows is a set of topics (subcategories) that we think visitors would be looking for. Except for **Mission Statement**, all others are in no particular order.

1. Is there a missing topic?
 2. Is there a not-needed topic?
- **Mission Statement.** Town mission statement with a link to [RSA 36](#).
 - **Commission members.** Names, perhaps with pictures? **Contact information** would be our Town Hall mailing and email address (conservation@atkinson-nh.gov).
 - **Current projects and upcoming issues.** Particularly, any topics we know will be in the next scheduled meeting.
 - **ACTV Meeting Broadcast date/time.**
 - **Links to other information.** Suggested categories:
 - Minutes
 - Current Projects
 - Past projects (archive)
 - Atkinson Conservation Useful Links
 - Useful landowner information (landscaping and forest maintenance, planning resources, regulations)
 - Hunting regulations
 - Maps
 - Conservation-related outside links
 - Trail and outdoors apps
 - State trail links (GRANIT, NH Trails, Trails.com, Alltrails)
 - State parks and campgrounds web sites

Town of Atkinson

Frequently Asked (Hunting) Questions

Q: Is hunting restricted on Town lands in Atkinson?

A: In 2000, after incidents where some homes were struck by fired rounds, Town Meeting banned hunting on most large parcels of Town land. In 2012, concerns were raised over Lyme Disease and the increasing deer herd. Town Meeting voted to allow bow hunting by permit from the Selectmen's Office on most of the parcels where hunting was banned in 2000.

Q: How do I know where I can and cannot hunt?

A: Hunting is banned on Woodlawn Park, Collins Field and any other Town land with recreational fields. Hunting by Bow (with Town Bow Permit) and, in some cases by gun, is allowed on Town Forests. An up-to-date map of the major Town lands and the hunting rules for each parcel is available in the Selectmen's Office and on the Town web page www.town-atkinsonnh.com.

Q: Where is gun hunting allowed on Town Forests?

A: Presently, firearms hunting is allowed only on Stickney, Marshall, Sawmill Swamp, and Slade Town Forests. **Note:** The separate Marshall Trust Land is closed to firearms but open to bow hunting (with Town bow permit).

Q: Can I hunt from a blind on Town Forests?

A: For the purposes of public safety, proper forest management, and woodland aesthetics, it is the policy of the Atkinson Conservation Commission to prohibit the use of blinds above ground (tree blinds), at ground level, or below ground (pit blinds) constructed partly or wholly of manufactured material for hunting, observation, or photography of wildlife in town forests. This policy does not prohibit the use of camouflage garments, nor the use of temporary ground-level blinds constructed of dead natural materials found in the vicinity of the blind. Exception to this policy requires specific (when, where, purpose, duration, type of construction) written approval of the Commission.

Q: Who is in charge of the Town lands?

A: The Selectmen are in charge of recreational land and undesignated Town land. The Conservation Commission is in charge of Town Forests and other Conservation parcels. Either one may close hunting access to any Town parcel under its jurisdiction in case of hunting abuse. If we verify complaints about hunters discharging firearms within 300' of a resident's house, we will close that area to hunting.

Q: Is hunting on Atkinson Town land restricted to Atkinson residents?

A: No. Many of our Town lands were acquired with federal grants which do not allow restricting access to residents.

Q: Is there any charge for an Atkinson Bow Hunting Permit?

A: No. New Hampshire law exempts landowners who allow recreational use of their land from liability, providing they do not charge a fee to use the land. This applies to towns as well as individuals.

Q: What are the requirements for an Atkinson Bow Hunting Permit?

A: You will need to show your Driver's License or other ID and a current-year NH Fish and Game Archery or Crossbow License.

**Atkinson Bow Hunting
2018 FAQs**

Q: Why do I need to have a Fish and Game License?

A: The NH Fish and Game Archery and Crossbow Licenses require that you have completed a Hunter Archery Safety Course, which certifies to the Town that you are a safe archer who knows the rules.

Q: Is there an age requirement for the permit?

A: No. The only requirement is to have a valid NH State Archery or Crossbow License.

Q: Where do I get the Atkinson Bow Hunting Permit?

A: At the Atkinson Selectmen's Office, 8 AM to 4 PM Monday through Friday.

Q: How long is the Permit good for?

A: From the date of issue until the end of the calendar year.

Q: What can I hunt with an Atkinson Bow Hunting Permit?

A: You must still follow all NH Fish and Game hunting rules and seasons and Federal migratory bird regulations. The permit does not restrict you to deer only. The traditional quarry for bow include Deer, bear, and turkey but you may hunt anything Fish and Game says you can legally hunt with a NH Archery or Crossbow License.

Q: I have a Bow Permit and want to hunt on a Town parcel but access to it is posted "No Hunting". May I still hunt there?

A: Yes. NH law allows a landowner to post their land against hunting but still allow access by permission. You should carry your Atkinson Bow Hunting Permit, NH Hunting License, and ID with you while hunting and be prepared to show them on demand to Fish and Game or Police officials. The permit is your written permission from the town to hunt regardless of whether the land is posted.

Q: Will these parcels always be available for hunting?

A: We may close parcels temporarily due to trail maintenance or forestry, in which case we will post "CLOSED, NO BOW HUNTING" signs at the entrances. We try not to schedule such work during hunting season, but some game (eg. coyotes) are always in season.

Q: I am not sure of the exact boundaries of a Town Forest. Where can I get more information?

A: Consult the Town Tax Maps at the Selectmen's or Planning Office. As the hunter, it is your responsibility to know the terrain and not hunt on neighboring land where you do not have permission. These maps are also on the Town's website www.town-atkinsonnh.com under Tax/Assessor.