



Partnering with Scouts BSA for Service Projects

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Introductions

- Terry Gray
- Catherine Campbell
- Andrew Oldmeadow, Eagle Scout



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What is Scouts BSA?

- Scouts BSA is the traditional Scouting experience where boys and girls can have their share of adventure in the great outdoors. Develop a love of service by volunteering in your community, boost your leadership skills through fun and exciting challenges
 - **Ages: Youth 11-17**
 - **Youth-led local organizations- troops (packs, ships, crews)**





Conservation is Core to Scouting/So is service

Since 1910, conservation and environmental studies have been an integral part of the Boy Scouts of America. Scouts have rendered distinguished public service by helping to conserve wildlife, energy, forests, soil, and water. Past generations of Scouts have been widely recognized for undertaking conservation Good Turn action projects in their local communities

- Leave No Trace
- Outdoor Code
- Life Scout requirement





Eagle Scout requirements

The **Eagle Scout Service Project**, or simply **Eagle Project**, is the opportunity for a Scout to demonstrate [leadership](#) of others while performing a project for the benefit of their community. This is the culmination of the Scout's leadership training, and it requires a significant effort on his or her part. The project must benefit an organization other than the B.S.A., and it cannot be performed for an [individual](#) or a [business](#) or be [commercial](#) in nature.

- What it is
- Who is involved
- What is required—Subject Matter Expert (SME)



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Why would a Land Trust want to work with Scout Troops

- Opportunity to get large service projects requiring many hands completed
- Scout can provide all materials
- Develop partnership with local troop for future projects
- Eagle Scout Projects
- Other Service Projects





Expectations/Caveats of working with Scouts

- a. Timeline for Eagle Project –
proposal, approvals, etc
- b. Working with youth, parents,
troops
- c. Fundraising for project
- d. Not used to communicating with
adults they don't know





Sample Projects

- Whale Rock Trail
- Beaver River Preserve



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Whale Rock Trail: Bog Bridges & Trail Maintenance



Andrew Oldmeadow, Troop 152

The Nature Conservancy, RI Chapter

Point of Contact: Cheryl Wiitala, Preserves Manager



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- Whale Rock Trail
- 5 bog bridges
- The bog bridges would help prevent erosion and provide better access to the trail
- The trail is becoming overgrown and is in need of some trail maintenance
 - This would include weed whacking, cutting small branches with shears and larger branches with a handsaw
- The trail maintenance will allow easy access along the trail





Design:

3 evenly spaced supports on the bottom

3 planks on top

Materials:

3x(6"x6"x36") supports on the bottom

3x(2"x10"x8') planks to walk on

All pressure treated wood

Deck Screws

Cost: \$198.82

15 of 2x10x8' (\$161.55), 1 of 6x6x12' (\$33.27).

(12 6x6x36 on site)





Day of Action

- Two shifts (6-10 scouts per shift)
 - 1st shift- preparing the locations of the bog bridges and moving the materials to the locations, begin trail maintenance
 - 2nd shift - continue trail maintenance, assemble bog bridges and level them
- Each 2x10x8 weighs about 44 pounds
- Each 6x6x36 weighs about 32 pounds
- The bog bridges are going to go about 0.3 miles in the trail
- Tools
 - Shovel
 - Drill
 - Shears
 - Cordless weedwacker
 - Hand saw





Shift 1: Moving Materials to sites



Shift 2: Installation and Trail clean up

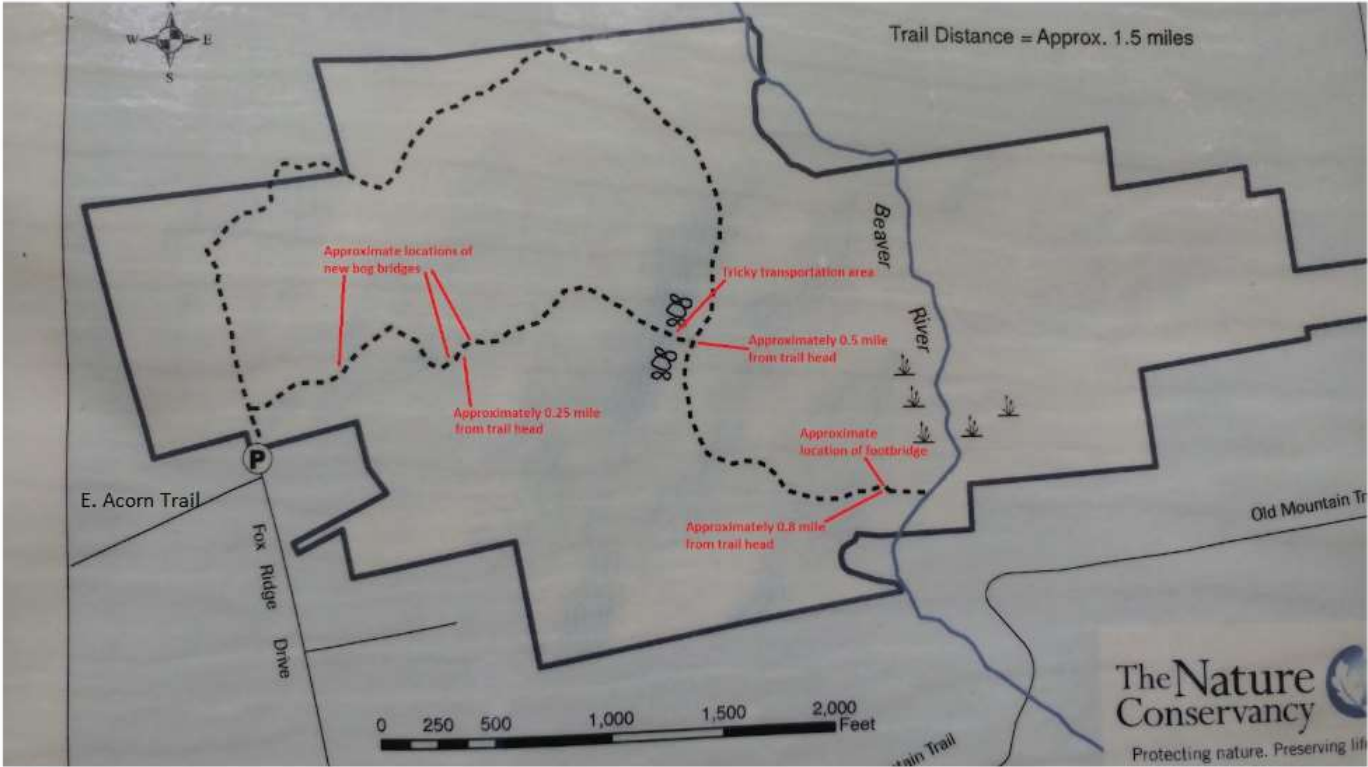


Youth Safety

- 2 Deep leadership
- TNC sample Youth Safety Plan
- Certificate of Insurance from BSA



Where are the Bridges Located?



Beaver River Preserve Bog Bridge Project



Beaver River Preserve



Other Conservation Awards

- National Distinguished Conservation Service
 - plan, lead, and carry out at least two significant projects in different categories.
 - Energy conservation
 - Soil and water conservation
 - Fish and wildlife management
 - Forestry and range management
 - Air and water pollution control
 - Resource recovery (recycling)
 - Hazardous material disposal and management
 - Invasive species control
 - Pollinator Habitat Conservation
- Narragansett Council Unit Conservation Award





How to find a troop near you

<https://beascout.scouting.org/>

Click on Troops

Add zip code





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