

# TOWN LANDS AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

(Commission)

Town of Cumberland

290 Tuttle Road

Cumberland, ME 04021

Date: December 7, 2023

(\* = Chair; + = liaison TC; ++=Code enforcement officer; <sup>(T)</sup> = trails SC; <sup>(F)</sup> = forest SC)

Chris Bolduc; Bill Longley ++(abs); Mark Segrist +(abs); Tig Filson+;

To: Members:

**Commission**

David Cowan (abs), Denny Gallaudet (abs), Ellen Hoffman, John Jensenius <sup>vice\*</sup>, Riva Krut, Jesse Lamarre-Vincent (abs), \*Mike Schwindt, Joshua Steirman (abs), George Turner, Pete Wilson, David Young

**Forest Subcommittee**

Melissa Cott, John Leavitt, \*Gordon Lichter ✓, Todd Ontl, Linda Putnam, Sally Stockwell

**Invasive Subcommittee**

\*David Cowan

**Orchard Subcommittee**

Adam Blackwell, Michelle Gardiner, Betsey Harding, Will Harper, Jack Iveson, \*Jesse Lamarre-Vincent, Denise Thorrsen

**Sustainability Subcommittee**

Sukie Curtis, \*Denny Gallaudet, Riva Krut, Jesse Lamarre-Vincent, Meddy Smith, Dave Witherill

**Trails Subcommittee**

Shaun Breton, Paige Diamant, Stephen Fitzgerald, David Grimm, \*John Jensenius, Walker Newell, Adam Orellana, Brian Stearns, Don Stowell

**Note:** Only members of the Commission and voting members of the subcommittees need attend. “✓” indicates subcommittee member attended Commission meeting.

From: Ellen Hoffman

Re: Meeting December 6, 2023

- November minutes were approved as written. Riva moved to accept; David Y seconded; John and Pete abstained from the vote; rest unanimous; no discussion.
- Town Council report (Tigg)
  - Next scheduled Town Council meeting – December 25, cancelled due to holiday. Need to vote on extension of forester contract before the end of year.
  - Memorandum of Understanding between Town and Westbrook Development Corp – the entity that bid on RFP for the affordable housing project.
    - If Town Council decides to move forward, the Town will be working with this developer.
    - There will be three public hearings starting at end of January
    - There will be many steps to follow – need to decide if project is feasible
    - Riva was concerned that we are tying ourselves to one bidder
    - George asked why there were no other bidders
    - The community meetings will be held at Val Halla and will not be televised
  - Playground at Twin Brook – need to discuss next steps. Will be built with extra money from current fiscal year. This is something the community asked for. Not exactly sure



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where it will be built – probably near the bathrooms, Tuttle Rd side of Twin Brook. This is something the Rec Dept is looking into.

- Food Waste (Chris) – no update. It is up to the schools to decide how to sort, store and transport the waste to the brush facility.
- Bill Report (Taken from Bill L's email)
  - During the month of November 2023, Bill's office issued 18 permits for new buildings such as for pools, sheds, decks, houses, condos, barns, additions, renovations, commercial and solar installations.
  - Approve projects under construction:
    - Oceanview phase 2- 13/52 permits have been issued
    - Christmas Creek – Vining Way – 19 of 20 are completed
    - Orchard Road – Cortland Court – 8 of 10 building permits issued as of this date
    - Snowy Owl off Old Gray Road – 10 units approved; still blasting
    - The Mark off Route One – 45 units are now under construction
    - Ross Estates off Blanchard Road Ext. - 3 Units approved; pre-con complete
    - Yarmouth Vet at Heritage Village – pre-con complete. Blasting permit issued; work has started blasting usually two to three times a day
    - White Rock off Skyview Drive – 55 units of senior housing awaiting MSHA
    - Lot split of existing subdivision by amendment at 104 Foreside Road
    - LGC Clinical Diagnostic's Solar Field as approved in May with conditions; now under construction
  - Planning Board meeting scheduled for December 19, 2023 at 7pm:
    - Revision to Longwoods Meadow subdivision to adjust lots at the end of the street with access blocked by CMP power lines. To allow the owner to install a garage to meet sideline setback vs. front setback at 24 Sunset Ridge off Longwoods Rd.
  - Future Planning Board items:
    - Public Hearing for sketch plan for 72 units (36 will be "affordable") in Chase Pit at 77 Blackstrap Road with public water from the Portland Water District extended from the West Cumberland Fire Station.
    - Rusty Lantern- Food Mart and new bank at Gray Road
    - Town antenna and carrier cell towers off Range Way and the Gray Rd.
    - The Town Council has voted to seek a "Request for Proposal" at the area of the Little League fields adjacent to the old Drowne Rd School for new housing proposed to be mixed use family and senior housing. If a proposal is submitted,

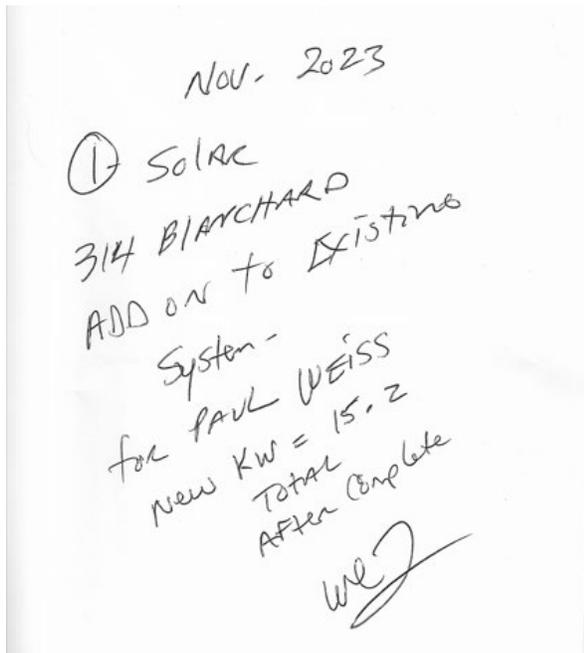


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the LCC will need to make a recommendation to the Town Council for use of Town property.

- Relocation of the Little League fields to a new location such as off Stiles Way or another location. The relocation will also require a LCC recommendation to the Council. No other location has been designated yet.
- Foleys Gym off Skyview Drive at Heritage Village (formerly Cumberland Foreside Village)
- Heat pump, solar, car charger permits (2022)
  - Heat pumps (homes) issued calendar YTD = 206
  - Solar issued calendar YTD = 055
  - Car chargers issued calendar YTD = 009
- Heat pump, solar, car charger permits (through Nov 30, 2023)
  - Heat pumps (homes) issued calendar YTD = 167
  - Solar issued calendar YTD = 053
  - Car chargers issued calendar YTD = 015

See below





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ELECTRICAL PERMIT ID	DATE ISSUED	DESCRIPTION	ELECTRICIAN	FEE	NOTES	OWNER	LOCATION
23-445	14-Nov-23	1 Heat pump	Design Concepts-Norman Bergeron	\$50.00		LYDEN MICHAEL & LESLIE	20 FORESIDE ROAD
23-462	22-Nov-23	1 Heat Pump	Shawn Laplante	\$50.00	One four zone heat pump system	PAINE ADAM & HOLBROOK HANNAH	20 STONY RIDGE ROAD
23-463	22-Nov-23	1 Heat pump	Charles Martz-Daves World Dave Perry-	\$50.00	One two zone heat pump system	ROBERTS ADAM	137 MIDDLE ROAD
23-467	29-Nov-23	1 Heat pump	Royal River Heat Pumps	\$50.00	1 three zone heat pump system	ROSENTHAL JULIE & DANIEL	7 HEMLOCK DRIVE
23-469	29-Nov-23	1 heat pump	Royal River Heat Pumps	\$50.00	1 three zone heat pump system	BOYD ANDREW & RAWLINGS STEPHEN	4 SEA COVE ROAD
23-468	29-Nov-23	3 Heat pumps	Dave Perry-Royal River Heat Pumps	\$50.00	3 single zone heat pump systems	TRANSIENCE, LLC	287 GREELY ROAD
23-461	21-Nov-23	Heat pump & Garage/adtn	Gary Webber	\$127.84		TONKS RICHARD & EVELYN	38 GLENVIEW ROAD
23-436	06-Nov-23	Heat pump reno	Shawn Laplante-Laplante Electric	\$50.00	Rewire 9 heat pumps.	PARIAN NICOLAS & MOSS XANTHE	53 MERE WIND DR
23-447	15-Nov-23	EV Charger	Joe Falcone	\$50.00		LAPLANTE THERESA & EZZIO DAVID	23 CUMBERLAND COMMON
23-456	20-Nov-23	EV Charger & subpanel	Matthew Flaherty-Casco Bay Electric	\$50.00		TRANSIENCE, LLC	287 GREELY ROAD
23-435	02-Nov-23	Generator	Shawn Laplante-Laplante Electric	\$50.00		LEBLANC, ROBERT	58 HARRIS ROAD
23-438	08-Nov-23	Generator	Roy Ingal;Is-Gowen Power Systems	\$50.00		KETCHUM DALE L - TRUSTEE*	18 ISLAND POND ROAD
23-450	20-Nov-23	Generator	Travis Aldrich / N-E Electrical Services	\$50.00		COOPER ROBERT R JR	3 SEA COVE ROAD
23-459	20-Nov-23	Generator	Mark Lincoln-Lincoln Enterprises	\$50.00		HERRING PETER & KAREN	9 CRYSTAL LANE
23-460	20-Nov-23	Generator	R W Googins	\$50.00		CHAMOFF DONNA & JON	9 LUPINE LANE
23-458	20-Nov-23	Generator	Davis Tassinary ESM	\$50.00		ESTES JESSICA & HORCH PETER	24 SUNSET RIDGE
23-466	27-Nov-23	Generator	R W Googins	\$50.00		HINKEL MCCORD & MARJORIE	54 TUTTLE ROAD

- Riva mentioned that there was some GPCOG money remaining and she proposed a good use of that money was to get more information out of the solar and heat pump data such as the KWh (kilowatt) hours generated or how much greenhouse gas mitigated from heat pumps. We can then put this information into a spreadsheet so can see progress against CAP. Riva will see what information is available from Bill L and make a motion to LCC to spend money to get help setting this up.

○ Commission (Mike)

- Forester Contract – three-year, new contract (below); exactly the same as current contract. Paul’s rates have increased \$10 both hourly and travel. Gordon said subcommittee is very happy with Paul and he is well worth the money. Gordon made



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motion to recommend Town renew contract with Paul L. Riva second; no discussion;  
motion passed unanimously.

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**207 Forestry Consulting Services, LLC**

*P.O. Box 181*

*New Gloucester, Maine 04260*

*207-431-6153*

*Paul L Larrivee, Jr. LF 3306*

Town of Cumberland  
William Shane-Town Manager  
290 Tuttle Road  
Cumberland, Maine 04021

November 13, 2023

Dear Bill,

207 Forestry Consulting Services is pleased to continue to have the opportunity to offer forest management and consulting services to the Town of Cumberland. In an effort to meet the current needs of Town personnel, managers, board and committee members and all residents of Cumberland, 207 Forestry offers this contract for services.

207 Forestry shall attend necessary meetings as directed by William Shane – Town Manager, generally once per month. Meetings may include field tours and presentations. 207 Forestry shall prepare and provide necessary and requested reports, letters and other technical documents to the town in conjunction with forest management planning work. Work performed under this contract shall be in relation to the town's current effort to discuss, draft and implement broad-based forest management concepts into a more detailed Forest Management Master Plan, which covers several town-owned properties and more clearly defines management priorities, goals and objectives in relation to forests and forest management. Should 207 Forestry be contracted to perform more detailed services associated with a specific project with a more well-defined scope, it shall be handled with a separate contract and not included in the terms hereunder.



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207 Forestry offers services under the following terms:

- Services rendered shall be roughly 6 to 10 hours per month on average. More necessary hours shall be billed accordingly. This estimate shall not be considered a guaranteed minimum.
- 207 Forestry shall plan to attend all regularly scheduled meetings of the Forests Subcommittee, generally scheduled for the last Thursday evening of each month, from 7:00 - 8:00pm.
  - o 207 Forestry requests at least two-weeks' notice in advance of meetings in which it is expected to attend.
  - o 207 Forestry may attend other meetings and events as requested provided advanced notice is provided; subject to staff availability.
  - o 207 Forestry reserves the right to cancel attendance at meetings under circumstances of emergencies, of other scheduling conflicts. Scheduling conflicts shall be discussed in writing and made within two-weeks of requested attendance.

- 207 Forestry shall communicate with authorized town personnel via phone, e-mail or written letter. Authorized personnel shall include William Shane and standing members of the Town Forests Sub-Committee. All communications shall be made directly with Paul Larrivee – Project Leader, contact information provided below.
- 207 Forestry shall provide paper and electronic copies of all maps, memos, documents, reports or other materials as requested by the town.
- 207 Forestry works on time and material basis under the following terms:
  - o Hourly rate for consulting services, field or office: \$95.00/hour
  - o Hourly rate for travel to required meetings: \$50.00/hour
  - o Hourly rate will be rounded to the nearest half hour.
  - o Invoices shall be sent every two weeks for services rendered.
  - o Payment terms for invoices are Net 10.

Any changes, additions or amendments to this contract shall be made in writing and agreed to by both 207 Forestry and the Town of Cumberland.

This contract shall be good through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026. If more work of a similar nature is required this contract may be extended by written agreement of the parties, or a new contract executed for an appropriate timeline given project goals.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul L Larrivee, LF3306  
Owner  
207 Forestry Consulting Services, LLC  
PO Box 181  
New Gloucester, Maine 04260  
207-431-6153  
[Paul.larrivee@gmail.com](mailto:Paul.larrivee@gmail.com)

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- Election of officers:
  - Mike was elected as chair – unanimously
  - John was elected as vice chair – unanimously
  - Ellen was elected as secretary - unanimously
  
- Website (John)
  - Pretty much up to date
  - Invasive Subcommittee should be updated next week
  - Sustainability Subcommittee wanted a higher (Departmental) level; still in the works
  - Orchard Subcommittee has a shell of a website which they using grant money to help design – eventually there will be links to and from this website and the LCC's.
  
- Trails Subcommittee (John – from John's presentation)
  - John noted that the abnormally wet conditions early in the year have created an unusual amount of wear and tear on the Town's trails. Gravel is being used to create a path even in areas that are not wet, to help keep people on a narrower part of the trail to help preserve the roots and organic matter.
  
  - Greely Woods
    - Compression and erosion have exposed the many small roots and root hairs that comprise the root mat leaving them vulnerable to breakage. Once the root mat becomes broken, the trail becomes much more susceptible to further damage from use. To minimize the impact of trail use, during the summer and fall, the Trails Subcommittee has been hardening the trails with gravel to limit compression and erosion and subsequent damage.
  
    - This past month, the Trails Subcommittee constructed a 46-ft walkway across a wet area on the Red Trail.



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- Knight's Pond – in early December, the Trails Subcommittee worked with North Yarmouth Parks and volunteers from the Royal River Conservation Trust to construct a 72-ft walkway across wet area on the white Trail in North Yarmouth. The two towns share responsibility and cost for trail work at Knight's Pond.



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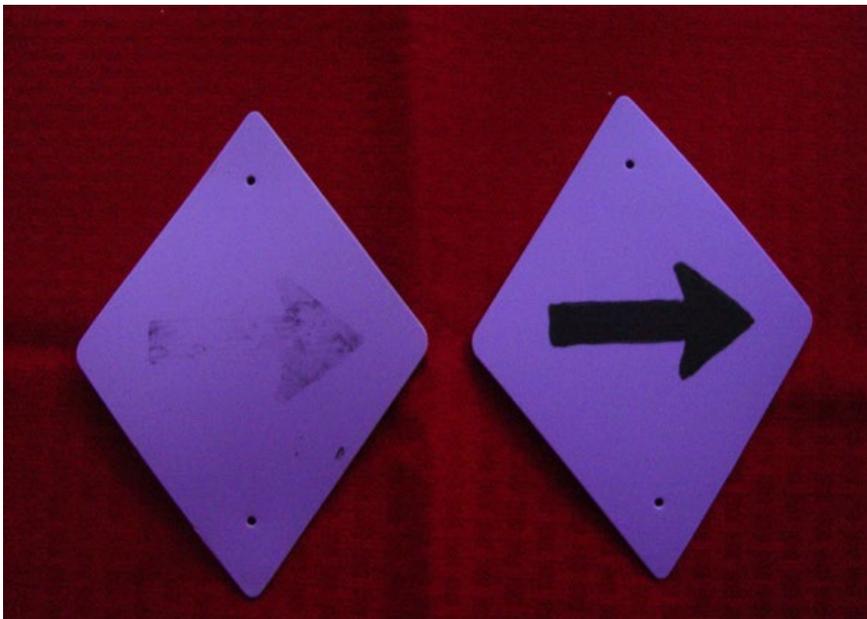
- Cumberland Crossing and Val Halla
  - The missing trail sign at the boundary between Crossing Brook and Val Halla has been replaced.
  - Cumberland Crossing has provided funds to build bridges over two wet areas along the Yellow (snowmobile) Trail in Crossing Brook. One of the bridges was recently completed and the other will be finished soon.



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- Rines Forest
  - Several trail markers were replaced due to faded arrows. “Arrow” trail markers were not available for some of the colors that were used so arrows were drawn on the markers with permanent magic marker last year. The arrows are now painted on.



- Public Works removed a large tree that had partially fallen on the Yellow Trail in Rines Forest.



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- Future plans
  - Greely Woods – Trail hardening will continue next year (purple shading) with an additional bridge (red shading) to be built on the Red Trail



- Rines Forest – a large section of the Yellow Trail (purple shading) has deteriorated significantly this year. Public Works will meet with John to discuss what can be done to improve the trail. We are currently awaiting information on wetland impacts before proceeding with work on the Red Trail (red shading) through the Godsoe property. Several small bridges are expected to be built next year along with additional trail hardening.





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- Twin Brook – no timetable has been set for improvements to the Wilderness Trail. Might need to get Pubic Works to put in budget.



- There was some discussion about the width of the trails. Chris said that some trails needed to be wide enough to get equipment on.
  - Trail signs in Twin Brook – in budget for next FY.
  - No update on Farwell Ave – trimming the roots or filling with gravel.
- Forestry Subcommittee (Gordon):
    - Grassland Management policy approved by Town Council.
    - Paul has almost completed the drafts of the invasive management plans for the Town Forest and Rines. Need to prioritize areas – plan of attack. Incorporate maps into plans.
    - Invasives
      - Need a town-wide priority list of invasive plans; where work is being done and where work is needed.
      - iMapInvasive training in the spring.
      - Rines – Richard Humphrey owns a small grinder that can get onto trails. Forest Subcommittee will walk Rines with Richard and get an estimate for cost. Need to follow with spray afterwards. Cost to spray/acre?



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- Broad Cove – walked with John Dawson to discuss the invasive plants. John is interested in doing a prescribed burn. Currently there are piles of invasive plants previously cut. Burn these piles so don't spread seeds.
- Sustainability Subcommittee (from Denny's email)
  - Denny was unanimously elected as SSC chair for 2024.
  - SCC Dec 27 meeting cancelled.
  - MSAD51 will convene a meeting in December with stakeholders re food waste recycling at the schools. The goal is to restart the single sort regime in the cafeterias and then divert the waste to composting either with a vendor such as Garbage to Garden or if feasible to the Town compost facility. Grants of up to \$40,000 will be open for application in February 2024 at Maine DEP for food waste diversion.
  - The SSC agreed to develop a FY25 budget proposal for hazardous waste pickup for town residents. The last pickup was 10 years ago.
- Community Orchard (from Jesse's email)
  - A hasp and lock has been added to the orchard shed for extra security. Mike and Jesse have keys. It was mentioned in the meeting that perhaps a lock box could be installed so others can get into the shed. George has volunteered to provide one.
  - The Orchard website is live. It is still under construction and hope to have a fully operational design by springtime. Jen Lopardo has been contracted to assist with the website, and templates for educational materials. The subcommittee will be meeting with her in January to review her work and update the website/host materials. Site URL: [www.cumberlandorchard.org](http://www.cumberlandorchard.org)
  - Tools have been ordered and hopefully be here in time for the January 13<sup>th</sup> tool talk at the library. A seed exchanged is planned for the end of the tool talk. Folks are encouraged to bring seeds to share.
  - The Orchard Subcommittee has been in contact with Silvan Shawe, the Executive Director of Cultivating Community in Portland about a potential partnership. They were approached by ReGenerative Roots (another garden/orchard non-profit) to be part of a regional pilot project to plant 100 apple/pear/pawpaw trees. We are hoping to partner with Cultivating Community to split the 100-tree order, giving us another 50 trees for the orchard. Partnering with like minded organizations is a win-win; raising the profiles of both organizations.
  - Aaron Parker has agreed to let us refine and host the educational material he presented as part of the Lawns Gone Wild presentations. These materials will be put into the format developed by Jen Lopardo. The information will then be hosted on the Orchard website. Aaron also added a blurb on how low input, low maintenance landscaping helps to protect Casco Bay (thereby fulfilling the Casco Bay grant requirement).



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- Planning has begun for the Sunday education sessions at the orchard. Aaron Parker has agreed to present in April, May, August-November of next year. The idea is to get folks to come to the outdoor educational sessions followed by some work in the orchard. Rough outline – details TBD:
  - March (Aaron – food forest design @ PML)
  - March (Aaron – grafting workshop with rootstocks from Fedco and scion woods from Cumberland residents)
  - April (Aaron – Water wise workshop, sheet mulching, wood chip mulch, Town water truck)
  - May (Aaron – Establishing an orchard, planting bare root trees, protection from deer/voles)
  - June (Jesse – Oil free orchard maintenance – how to use scythes to mow paths and deal with saplings. Soil aeration without rototilling)
  - July (Jesse – Trellising Berries/Grapes)
  - August (Aaron – pollinator support)
  - September (Signage – how to make low-cost signs for identification and education)
  - October (TBD)
  - November (TBD)
- Invasive Subcommittee (from Dave C's email)
  - Charter adopted by LCC at November 1 meeting.
  - The Invasive Subcommittee hosted a presentation by Amanda Devine of Maine Coastal Heritage Trust on invasive plant identification and control at Val Halla. The presentation was well attended and well received. An appeal for volunteers to be subcommittee members was made and an interest level was requested at sign-in. Follow-up email sent December 3 (below):

Hello Everyone,

If you're in the "To" field of this message it's because you expressed an interest at some point in either volunteering or receiving info about controlling invasive plants in Cumberland. As you may know we've recently chartered the new Invasives Subcommittee of the Lands and Conservation Commission and are looking for people who would like to help out.

The Invasives Subcommittee is brand-new which means we are still in the early stages of putting together plans and priorities. In keeping with our recently adopted charter, we'll be focusing on strategies for managing invasive plants on Town-owned as well as private lands, including providing outreach, education and assistance to private landowners. Members will learn hands-on how to identify invasive plants, document where they are, help to develop plans and strategies, and help with control efforts.



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If this all sounds half as exciting to you as it does to me and you'd like to join the Subcommittee, please respond to me directly to let me know. Then also please be sure to complete the application linked [here](#) and return to Brenda Moore at [bmoore@cumberlandmaine.com](mailto:bmoore@cumberlandmaine.com).

And of course, if you have questions about what may be involved or how you might participate, feel free to email me at this address or give me a call at 207-712-8271.

Thanks for your interest!

Dave Cowan

- An advertisement seeking volunteers has been published in the Crier for the past three weeks or so. (See below) No forms have been submitted as of yet.

### Volunteers Needed

Interested in doing something about invasive plants in our Town? The newly created Invasives Subcommittee of the Lands and Conservation Commission is inviting interested residents to join in this new effort. Participants will actively learn to identify invasive plants, document where they are, and help with control efforts.

If interested, please complete the application linked [here](#) and return to Brenda Moore at [bmoore@cumberlandmaine.com](mailto:bmoore@cumberlandmaine.com). Questions? Please contact David Cowan at [dcowan01@maine.rr.com](mailto:dcowan01@maine.rr.com)

- Dave also used the Cumberland/NY Residents Facebook group to advertise the presentation. Have not posted for volunteers yet.
- Provided John with a draft blurb introduction of the subcommittee to be posted on the Town's website.
- Dave has reached out to existing programs including CCLT, RRCT, York Conservation commission, Falmouth Sustainability, and others looking for an interest in collaborating.
- Currently focusing on plans and priorities.
- Dave suggested a representative from Forestry and Trails subcommittees as well as from Public Works be appointed as standing members.
- New Business/coming attractions (Mike)
  - Future for composting – see earlier discussion under Sustainability Subcommittee
  - Tree City designation – Riva will look to GPCOG for help
  - New Member documentation – no update, should be put on web. Help with orientation and new council members.
  - Pull Farm Land from agenda item
  - Subcommittee chairs should start working on FY 25 work plans, need drafts by February.

Next meeting – January 3, 7 PM.