

StewardMRV

Lovett Park & Bridge Street Marketplace

Site Stewardship Plan - 2021

Site:

Lovett Park and Bridge Street Marketplace Parking Lot

Location & Description:

Waitsfield -44.1891, -72.82434

Introduction

This popular recreational access point is at the heart of the Historic Bridge Street area of Waitsfield. The Big Eddy Covered Bridge is the focal point. This is one of the stewardMRV flagships sites.

This site is popular for swimming and is busy throughout the warmer months especially on hot days. It provides access to the Mad River Path and sees significant visitor walking traffic from folks exploring the Bridge Street retails shops.

Ownership:

Lovett Park (Pocket Park)

- Owner
 - Town of Waitsfield
- Contact
 - Annie Decker-Dell'Isola, Waitsfield Town Administrator

Bridge Street Marketplace Parking Lot

- Owners
 - Historic Waitsfield Village Association (*majority portion of parking lot*)
 - Chris Pierson (*southern portion of parking lot*)
- Contacts
 - Kellee Mazeur, Historic Waitsfield Village Association
 - Chris Pierson, Owner of southern portion of parking lot

Current Site Use & Parking

Private parking lot across two parcels, municipal pocket park (information panel, benches, two trash receptacles), river access, Mad River Path segment (Heart of the Valley Trail), trailhead kiosk, seating and picnic tables, porta potties (seasonal).

Stewardship Management Issues

High level of use, resulting in parking crunch at high use times. Trash/debris left on site, cleanliness of portalets, individuals walking across property instead of along path segment. Private property, but is used as public.

Management Status, Goals and Objectives

Signage

There is a MRV Unified Trailhead Kiosk located at the trailhead towards the southern end of the parking lot.

Interpretative display panel in Lovett Park

Private Property Signage

Dog waste station & signage

Trails

Hosford Heart of the Valley Trail segment, connecting Bridge Street sidewalk at covered bridge to Main St. Sidewalk at Maclay Architects.

Restroom Facilities

Over the past few years the Town of Waitsfield paid for the rental and servicing of a single Portalet located at the northern end of the tree island in the parking lot. It had been serviced once a week and it was not meeting the traffic needs of the site

For the summer of 2021 stewardMRV funds will allow for the additional rental of a second (ADA compliant) portalet along with the construction of a wooden screening structure that will house both portalets as well as the trash receptacles. The program funding will pay for the construction materials while the construction labor will be donated by Mad river Path volunteers. See attached design drawing.

In addition to adding the second portalet, funding will be spent on adding a second additional weekly servicing for the portalets. The schedule will be dictated by the operational plans of the vendor, Wind River (formerly Hartigan).

Refuse Plan

Do we want to incorporate the trash receptacles in the library park into this plan or designate it as a separate site?

Over the past few years there were two trash receptacles in Lovett Park. There was not a designated recycling receptacle which is required by [VT law](#). These two trash cans were emptied once per week by the Town of Waitsfield's road crew. For the summer of 2021 stewardMRV funds will allow for the addition of "recycling" signage to as to retrofit one of the

cans - resulting in one trash and one recycling container. In addition, creation of some sort of lids for each container (they are currently open tops, which allow them to fill with rain).

There were also two additional stand-alone trash cans located in the Bridge Street Marketplace parking lot. These trash cans were emptied once per week by the Town of Waitsfield's road crew. For the summer of 2021 stewardMRV funds will allow for the addition of one set of dedicated trash and recycling receptacles in the parking lot area replacing the existing stand-alone cans. They will be securely housed in the wooden screening structure that will also encompass the portalets.

The program funding will be paying for trash and recycling collection to be performed by A&J Recycling, a local trash hauler. They are scheduled to pick up three times per week. As the season progresses, will explore amendments to this schedule (could be more or less).

Trash & Recycling Pick-up Schedule

3X per week: Monday, Wednesday (prior to Round Up Event), Friday (prior to weekend)

Dog Poop Bag Dispenser

The Mad River Path has installed and maintained a bag dispenser. The stewardMRV program will fund additional signage regarding the dog poop waste issue on this site and fold it into an on-going community-wide public information campaign.

Refill dispenser weekly(?)

Parking Plan

Status - Limited parking on busy days

The grading of the southern part of the parking lot has been an ongoing issue between the town of Waitsfield and the property owners. The stewardMRV program is contracting with a local firm to grade the parking lot prior to the 2021 summer season.

Safety & Liability

Improper River Access

Current Situation(?)

Water Quality Testing & Public Health

Friends of the Mad River performs bi-weekly testing

Friends of the Mad River checks for improper river access trends

Friends of Mad River takes note of any issues and contacts Site lead

Invasive Species

Volunteer Plan

(Multiple volunteers check the site on scheduled days including weekends and weekdays; they pick up trash, check the condition of the port-o-lets and trash cans and report any problems to _____).

Site Management Supervision

Site management will be coordinated by the stewardMRV Program Coordinator intern under the supervision of the MRV Chamber Director and the Trails Collaborative stewardMRV working committee.

The stewardMRV Program Coordinator will provide several weekly site visits to ensure that the site is clean, rest rooms are serviced and trash/recycling has been picked up.

The Coordinator will recruit and manage a site volunteer.

The Coordinator will connect on a weekly basis with the Site Steward Leads and report to the various stakeholders as necessary.

The Coordinator will track data and provide reporting on trash picked, status of the site and pass along any problems/issues as needed. The Coordinator will be present at the working committee meetings for periodic reports.

Site Steward Leads – Adopt-A-Site

Mad River Chamber of Commerce – Eric Friedman

Mad River Path - Ross Saxton

Sweet Spot (Round-up Organizer) - Sarina Gulisano

Site Stakeholders

MR Path, MRV Chamber of Commerce, Town of Waitsfield, Friends of the Mad River, Historic Waitsfield Village Association, The Sweet Spot

Adopt-A-Site Sponsor

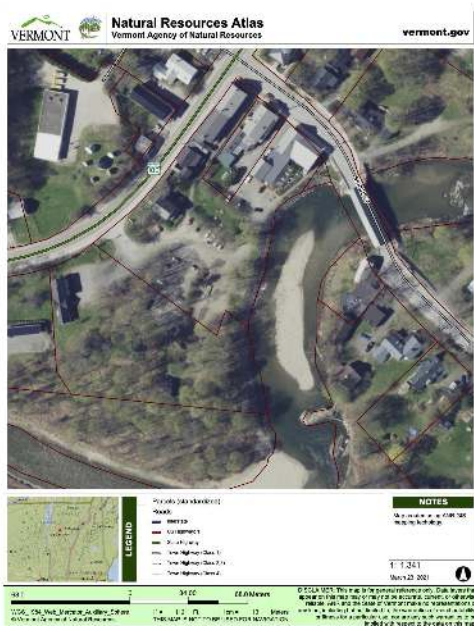
Available

Site Notes, Recommendations & Improvements

One year pilot agreement from Abend family.

Issues of multiple owners and for the site

Site Map



Potential additional plan sections

Geography

Geology

Hydrology

Natural History

Land Use History

Surrounding Land Ownership

Access

Visitor Use

Land Conservation

Management Goals and Objectives

Overall Management Goals

A. Parking

B. Trails

C. Litter

D. Safety

E. Public Health and Water Quality F. Neighboring Land Uses

1. Management Supervision

2. Visitor Management

V. Management Issues

VI. Management Recommendations

- Parking

- User Behavior
- Safety • Litter

C. Site Management

- Site Improvements
- Public Health

D. Information Management

- Signage
- Public Information Program **VII. Implementation Plan**

A. Maps

B. Species List