



SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps 2014 SCA Trail Award Application



department of
Conservation and Recreation

dcr



Project Site Information

Site Name: Riverbend Bridge & Boardwalk CPA Project	Date Form Completed: Feb 4, 2014
Project location (trail or specific area): Indian River Dam Ruins and Easement at 47 Coffin Street	
City/Town where project is located: West Newbury	

Partner Contact Information

Project Contact Name and Organization/Agency: Steve Greason, West Newbury Open Space Committee		
Street Address: 381 Main Street		City, State, ZIP: West Newbury, MA 01985
Phone: 978-363-2299	Cell: 978-518-1078	Email: sgreason@site-lab.com

Overview

The SCA Massachusetts program provides the agencies and communities of Massachusetts with highly skilled and motivated crews to complete vital conservation and resource projects throughout the state.

What SCA Massachusetts

Provides:

- One crew of five or six members
- A self contained work crew: equipped with a van, tools, food, and camp equipment to complete the agreed upon project.
- Five or ten days of work at your site: crews typically work an eight hour day.
- Professional Staff Support: SCA Massachusetts Staff provide technical consulting, member supervision/support and project oversight.
- 24-hour emergency response system and Risk Management
- Complete Liability and Worker's Comp insurance for the crew
- Administrative support
- Reporting and evaluation of the crew's service and performance

Crew Training

SCA Massachusetts crews are trained and supervised to complete high-priority, technically advanced conservation projects. In order to serve partners effectively, crews receive the trainings listed below. Custom trainings may be provided to prepare crews for additional alternative projects.

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| • Rustic Timber Construction (bridges, steps, walls, and more) | • Trail Maintenance |
| • Rock Construction (steps, retaining walls, waterbars and more) | • Erosion Control |
| • Griphoist and Rigging | • Basic Carpentry |
| • Trail Survey, Design and Construction | • Chainsaw Certification through NE Woodland Training |
| • Restoration and Re-vegetation | • Wilderness Medical Training and CPR |
| | • Leadership Training |
| | • Leave No Trace Education Training |

What Agencies and Partner Organizations Provide

- Appropriate Projects. See details below.
- **All necessary permits obtained and in place prior to the start of work. See details below.**
- Specifications for the project.
- All necessary materials for the project (lumber, gravel, etc.)
- A written evaluation of the crew's performance.
- A camping area or housing for the crew to stay in while working on the project.
- While SCA provides crew supervision, your involvement is encouraged if you have designs or methods specific to your project.

Cost Share

SCA Massachusetts is pleased to be able to offer a reduced cost share to our partnering organizations in 2014. Agencies provide a cost-share to assist with the cost of fielding a crew. SCA Massachusetts Corps covers the remainder of the total program cost through our AmeriCorps partnership, donations and corporate sponsorships. SCA Massachusetts crews can be requested for five or ten days. If your project requires more time to be completed, you can request a crew for a longer period of time. Travel time to and from the project site is included within the five or ten day period.

Number of Days	Cost Share Amount
Five Days	\$3,500
Ten Days	\$7,000

The 2014 SCA Trail Award will total five days of crew time or \$3,500 within a ten day project. Recipients of this award will receive ten days of crew time for the price of five days.

Examples of Appropriate Conservation Service Projects:	Inappropriate Projects:
Timber bridge and boardwalk construction Rock staircase construction Retaining walls Restoration and plantings Historical preservation Remote campsite restoration/maintenance/expansion	Shelter construction Erosion control Blowdown removal Boardwalk construction and repair Trail clearing and brushing Trail construction Environmental education
	Road work Mowing Poison ivy removal Graffiti removal Janitorial/facility main. work

Permits

You will be required to obtain all necessary permits before work begins. Typically there are three different permits that may or may not be required depending on the location and nature of the work you are proposing.

- 1. Wetland Protection Act Permits:** If the project you are proposing is within 100' of a wetland or 200' of a perennial stream it may be under Conservation Commission jurisdiction. You are responsible for determining whether your proposed project will require conservation commission approval as well as obtaining permission prior to the start of work.
- 2. Natural Heritage Endangered Species Protection Program:** All projects must be reviewed to ensure that the project location is not within priority habitat. SCA Massachusetts staff can assist in this process if your agency requests it. With the help of DCR partners, we will use the map you provide with your Crew Request Form to determine if your proposed project falls within designated priority habitat zones. We will contact you if your project is located within a priority habitat zone.

2014 SCA Trail Award Selection Process:

All 2014 SCA Trail Award applications will be reviewed and rated by SCA staff on the following criteria:

AmeriCorps and Safety Compliance: SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps projects must be on lands accessible to the public. SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps cannot provide service to a for-profit entity. All projects must meet SCA safety guidelines and cannot include AmeriCorps Prohibited Activities. Please contact SCA Staff with compliance questions.

Benefit to the Community: Demonstrate how your proposed project benefits the larger community.

Project Need and Priority: Demonstrate how your project meets the needs and priorities of your organization.

Likelihood of Success: Outline scheduling preferences, plans for obtaining permits, plans for obtaining funding, and other necessary information regarding project logistics.

SCA Massachusetts AmeriCorps member development: SCA Massachusetts members are highly trained and should be utilized for the jobs your seasonal staff or volunteers aren't trained for or don't have the time to complete: technical timber bridge building, remote projects, rock work, large scale trail building and maintenance.

Community Support: Demonstrate ways in which this project will be supported by the larger community.

Project Proposal

Please describe conservation project(s) here. Please be specific and demonstrate how your project meets the criteria listed above. Please provide a map with the project location clearly marked. This can be sent via mail or scanned and sent electronically. If possible, please include photos of the project site.

The Town of West Newbury will be constructing a bridge and two boardwalks to improve the Riverbend trail network on the 129 acre town-owned land below the Page Elementary School. The project was approved for \$40,100 using CPA funds in 2013. The Town has partnered with Essex Country Trails Association (ECTA), to help obtain the proper permits and designs necessary. The structures are 50', 45' and 30' long and are built strong enough to support horses.

This project will benefit the community by improving public access to the Riverbend trail network for passive recreation use. Riverbend has become a popular place for hiking, mountain biking, cross-country skiing, horseback riding and for wildlife observation and links to trails in Mill Pond, Pipestave and Dunn Field. OSC's goal is to connect town-owned parcels together, along with newly established easements, to form an 'emerald necklace'. This goal is outlined in the 2009 Open Space & Recreation Plan. The Page School too will directly benefit and teachers have expressed interest in participating with the construction of this project. Beginning in 2012, 6th grade elementary students have set up several scientific study areas near the Indian River site as part of their long-term Placed Based Learning Project.

AmeriCorps crews would assist the bridge contractor and local volunteers with construction and heavy lifting activities. Tasks include moving lumber to the bridge site, digging post holes and installing supports and decking for bridges. Using AmeriCorps to assist with this effort will save money in the contractor's labor costs, which are estimated to be \$20,600. In addition, the project will be completed much more quickly using AmeriCorps's skilled and qualified work force. This time and labor savings, plus savings in potential overrun costs, should help keep this project at or below the \$40,100 budget.

Please include project specifications here (blue prints, sketches, materials to be used, and dimensions). SCA Staff are available to provide assistance with project design. Attach additional documents if necessary.

Site plans, bridge designs, photographs and additional information provided with this application can also be found at: <http://www.westnewburyopenspace.net>

Is the proposed project within an existing trail bed or on a previously impacted site? Yes No
If not, please describe the project site (current land use, adjacent to water/wetlands, terrain)

- The proposed project **will** require Conservation Commission Approval. Mass DEP file numbers 78-613 and 78-612 Order of Conditions approved on January 8, 2014. See copies of WPA Form 5s included with this application.
- The proposed project **will not** require Conservation Commission Approval
- The need for Conservation Commission Approval has not yet been determined

What is the trail or area classification?

- Campground Foot Travel Mountain Bike ATV
- Snowmobile Multi-Use Nordic Skiing
- Other: Elementary School study area, Horseback Riding

Number of days required for a five-person crew to complete project: Five Days Ten Days

Campsite and Housing

Please describe the area where the crew will camp or the house they will live in during the work period. Appropriate campsites include: group sites in a campground, semi-private dispersed camping, remote camping. Placing the crew away from restrooms and high-use areas is appreciated.

Mill Pond Cabin and grounds. Located off Route 113 near site in the Mill Pond Recreation Area.

Distance to potable water: Water and bathrooms available in cabin.

Distance from the campsite to where their van can park: Parking available at cabin.

Distance from the campsite to the work site: 1/4 to 1/2 mile.

Is there cell phone coverage at the site? Yes No
If not, what options are available for emergency communication?

Is funding confirmed for this project? If yes, what is the source of funds for the project?
No.

If funding is not available currently, when might it be available? What assistance might be needed to obtain funding for the proposed internship?

This \$7,000 project will be funded thru the Town of West Newbury's Community Preservation Act (CPA) account. See CPA application included with this submittal. Funding must be approved at the Spring Town Meeting on April 28, 2014.

Scheduling

- Our Conservation Work season runs from April 28 – August 1, 2014.
- Work crews consist of five members, including the crew leader.
- One work "Hitch" consists of five or ten days in the field. Crews can work for a minimum of one five-day hitch. The first and last days include travel time from/to Hawley as well as tool clean-up and gear pack-in. Typically crews leave Hawley at 9:00 am on the first day of a hitch and return to Hawley by 1:00 pm on the final day.
- A typical workday is 8 to 10 hours.

Please tell us your preference of dates for your project. Let us know how flexible you are, and if there are specific constraints in your scheduling.

Schedule and work dates will be dependent on when ECTA and the Town of West Newbury's bridge contractor is ready and available (estimated to be in Spring/Early Summer 2014).

Other

Please list any other logistical concerns, project details or other information that will help us understand the scope of the project.

Permits with Conservation Commission (WPA Form 5 - Order of Conditions) were approved on January 8, 2014; Mass DEP File No. 78-612 and 78-613. Stamped engineering plans by Weatherall Designs, Inc. will be available this month. The plans and permits will then be submitted to the Town and the project will go out to bid in March and April. If ECTA's contractor, Weatherall Designs, Inc., is selected as the contractor, they do not have a conflict of interest partnering with SCA AmeriCorps.

Please return the completed Crew Request Form as an email attachment to:

Melissa Patterson
Program Director
mpatterson@thesca.org

SCA Massachusetts
466 West Hawley Road
Plainfield, MA 01070
413-339-6631

Applications received by **February 7, 2014** will be considered for the award. Application received after this date will be eligible for receiving crew time at the cost share described above in 2014 Cost Share Information.