

An Ordinance Governing Uses of the Gilmanton Town Forests

Effective October 16, 2006, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Gilmanton ordains the following:

Section I: Purpose

The purpose of this ordinance is to govern the uses and activities in the designated Town Forests in Gilmanton.

Section II: Management

Pursuant to RSA 31:112 and to the legislative vote of March 15, 2003, the Town Forests shall be managed by the Conservation Commission under the direction of the Board of Selectmen.

Section III: Conduct in the Town Forests

A. The following activities are allowed within all Town Forests:

1. All pedestrian uses.
2. Horseback riding and dog sledding.
3. Non-motorized bicycles.
4. Hunting and fishing in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire.

B. The following activities are allowed only where permitted:

1. Snowmobile use only on designated, signed trails; such signs shall be conspicuously posted and permit the use of snowmobiles specifically. Snowmobile trails maintenance vehicles shall also be allowed on any signed snowmobile trails. Snowmobile use in all Town Forests shall occur only from December 15 when any applicable gates shall be opened, subject to sufficient snow cover, until early spring when ground conditions require that the gates be closed.
2. ATV use only on designated, signed trails; such signs shall be conspicuously posted and permit the use of ATVs specifically. ATV use in all Town Forests shall occur only when suitable ground conditions are present and any applicable gates are opened.

C. The following activities require written approval by the Board of Selectmen at a posted regular meeting and the approval must be recorded in the minutes of that meeting. The decision by the Board of Selectmen must be made after consideration of the recommendation of the Conservation Commission.

1. Camping. Approval by the Gilmanton Fire Chief is necessary in addition to approval by the Board of Selectmen.
2. Fire building. Approval by the Gilmanton Fire Chief is necessary in addition to approval by the Board of Selectmen.
3. Erection of any structure including a bridge.
4. The laying out and/or construction and/or maintenance of any trail.
5. Trapping. No trapping activities shall occur in any Town Forest, unless a "Permit to Trap" has been signed and issued by the Board of Selectmen or their designee. Any trapping activities shall be done only in strict accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire.

- D. The following activities are prohibited in all Town Forests:
1. The construction and/or erection of any permanent deer stand.
 2. Littering (RSA 207:36-b).
 3. Removal of/or damage to any structure, trail, natural feature, plant or wildlife. Wildlife may be removed only in accordance with legal hunting, fishing or trapping activities.

Section V: Applicability.

This ordinance applies to all Town Forests in Gilmanton. Under RSA 31:110, a vote at Town Meeting is required to make a forest into a Town Forest. As of October 16, 2006, there are the following Town Forests:

FOREST	MAP/LOT	LOCATION AND ACCESS
Ayers Brook II	60/15	Gilman Rd. Access from Bingham Farm Conservation Area and Snowmobile trail.
Ayers Brook III	60/17	Off of Gilman Road. Abuts Foss Family Forest which can be accessed at the intersection of Stone Road and Meetinghouse Road.
Ayers Brook IV	60/23	Gilman Road. Access from Potter Road to Gilman Rd.
Elizabeth R. "Betty" Smithers	27/53	Located off of Howard Road. Can be accessed from end of cul-de-sac of Willowgrass Lane.
Nelson Brook	13/15	Sargent Road just north of 174 Sargent Rd. Access from Sargent Road, but no trail.
Pine Hill	64/12	Formerly Pine Hill I & II. Located on Pine Hill Road. Access from Parking area on NH Rte 107 at the Gilmanton Barnstead town line.
Thompson	15/02	Gale Road. Access from Class VI portion of Gale Road.
Schoolhouse	63/26	Off of NH Rte. 129. Access from Sanborn Hill Rd.

Section VI: Penalty

The penalty for the violation of this ordinance shall be a fine of up to \$1000 per offense.

TOWN OF GILMANTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

By: _____
Name:

By: _____
Name:

By: _____
Name: