BullCreekCommonLands

Raymond Bemis Community Forest

The Raymond Bemis Community Forest, is a project of Bull Creek Common Lands (BCCL), a Vermont 501(c)(3) nonprofit. The Community Forest will conserve 36 acres of forest in Athens, Vermont to be an ongoing refuge for human and ecological communities.



Pool on the Bull Creek

Project Overview

The Community Forest land is along the Bull Creek, between Brookline Road and Valley Cemetery Road, and will be accessible via a small parking area on Brookline Road. It is currently undeveloped woodland with a rich history and a network of informal trails. Bull Creek Common Lands, working in partnership with the Vermont Land Trust and the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, is in the process of acquiring and conserving the land. We expect the Community Forest to be open to the public in the Fall of 2023 and have an expanded trail network in Summer 2024.

Ecological Protection

The property will be managed to protect and enhance its ecological communities, including the brook, wetlands, a vernal pool, glacial fluvial landforms, rock ledges, hemlock and northern hardwood forests, and a floodplain forest. Caring for this land will benefit biodiversity, water quality, flood resilience and wildlife corridors.

Public Resource

The community forest will be permanently open to the public for various low impact, non-motorized uses. In addition to being a peaceful place for folks to enjoy nature, it will be available as an outdoor classroom for education and programming. BCCL intends to maintain the network of trails that are on the property and a section of trail may be developed to be accessible for people with mobility limitations. Additional input from the local community will guide how the land is used.

Getting Involved

There are many ways to be part of the community! More information is on our website.

- Join a community forum and/or walk
- Share your knowledge and skills
- Contribute to our fundraising campaign
- Volunteer to help with trail maintenance and/or invasive plant removal
- Inquire about becoming a board member





← Scan the QR code to donate to our fundraising campaign or visit our website: www.bullcreekcommonlands.org