

Friends of the Blue Hills

Trail Volunteer Work Report

Work date (mm/dd/yy): 5/25/16

Report date: 6/29/16

Your name: Barry Young

List Volunteers working with you:

None

Trail Name/description (one trail name only): Moulton Path

Section Name (select one from the drop down list): Neponset

Work Completed (Please be specific with location of work. Note hazards & potential hazards addressed if applicable):

Initial assessment by trail adopter Barry Young. Started at 6830 and headed south. This section of trail is in good condition, however, there are numerous beech trees starting to encroach the trail from the sides and overhead which need some careful pruning so as to not destroy the character of the path. I did some on this visit, but more is required so the trees don't get ahead of the maintenance. Beech trees tend to send out long horizontal branches which can overtake a trail and if not judiciously pruned can overtake the trail and then it can be too late to prune without creating a scarred effect. There is also a dead tree overhanging the trail in this section which has been there awhile which at some point should be removed. There are some unnamed spur trails off the Moulton path which head to Little Blue which were not reviewed at this time. Approaching trail marker 6880 is a granite bench in honor of Augustus Hemenway (SP?). When this bench was originally placed there, the view was significantly better and now trees have grown up obscuring the view. Consideration should be given to "viewscaping" this area to return it to the original look. Viewscaping is a term I have seen used by the National Parks where they go in and selectively remove trees to restore views in selected areas. I have personally seen this in Acadia National park over the last two years, and when done properly, really enhances the hiking experience. The section of trail from 6880 to 6891 is overgrown with high grass at this time, probably due to lack of use. It would require the use of a weed trimmer, or perhaps, just left alone for now.

Total Hours (# of people x hours worked. Use # of people x 3.5 for trail maintenance events): 0.75

Work Remaining:

30 minutes selective pruning beech trees

Other comments (areas of concern, wildlife sightings, trail markings and

Updated 1/18/13

signage condition, need for re-route, possible encroachment):
Consider "viewscaping" near granite bench.

Forward completed electronic form to: Dexter Robinson @ dexpdoc@gmail.com