

Policy Regarding Research, Teaching, Management and Construction Activities on University Forests

The UMass University forests are managed by the Department of Environmental Conservation (ECo). Anyone wishing to conduct teaching activities, research projects or other management/construction activities on a forest should be in contact with the Department prior to the proposed activities.

Anyone proposing an activity on a University forest must agree to the following:

- All teaching and research infrastructure (tags, flags, posts, fences, signs, etc.) must be removed at the end of the activity or project. Anything found remaining on the forest after the end of the project will be removed, and the contact person and/or his/her home department or company will be billed for the removal. If, during a project, any infrastructure is found on the forest which is not associated with an approved project, it will be removed and the contact person will be billed for the removal.
- The ECo Department receives no state funds to maintain infrastructure. Anyone conducting a project that results in damage to, or unusual wear and tear on roads, gates, bridges, culverts, etc. will be expected to repair those affected items prior to the end date for the project. Failure to address these items before the end of the project will result in the contact person and/or his/her home department or company being billed for repairs.
- For any research project that is performed on University forests, one reprint of any publications resulting from the work is to be provided to the Department Head of ECo as soon as available. The Department wants to ensure that the use of the properties is well documented should it be asked to provide evidence for the value of the forests at any time in the future.

Activities not involving disturbance of vegetation, water, soil, or existing infrastructure should be cleared with the Department at least one week prior to the proposed activity to ensure that there is no conflict of the proposed use with ongoing management or research activities. Request for this clearance can be made by email, and should include the proposed date(s), the location of the activity, the number of people involved, and the name and contact information of the individual in charge of the activity.

Activities which involve disturbance of plants, animals, water, soil, or existing infrastructure require an application that is to be completed and submitted for approval to the Department Forest Committee at least 2 months prior to initiating any activities. The proposed activity will be reviewed by the committee promptly.

Application to Use University Forests

This application must be completed for any project or activity that may involve disturbance of plants, animals, water, soil, or existing infrastructure.

Name of applicant _____ Date _____

Department/Institution/Company _____

Project Title _____

Location:

Cadwell _____ Mount Toby _____ Ross Lot _____ Adams Brook _____

Savage Hill _____ Knight-Sabin _____

Project Description: Attach a description that includes details of the proposed project, including proposed start and end dates. Indicate what, if any, manipulation or disturbance of vegetation, soils, wildlife, or roads is planned. Where permits are required (IACUC, collecting permits, building/demolition, DEP, NHESP or others), provide evidence that these permits have been acquired before initiating work on the forest. Include a map showing the exact location of the proposed project, and how the area will be delineated on the ground.

Personnel from the Department will make a site visit with the applicant before the project begins and after the project has been completed.

I agree to follow all requirements of the Policy Regarding Research, Teaching, Management and Construction Activities on University Forests.

Signature of applicant _____ Date _____

Signature of ECo Department Head _____ Date _____