

The Lincoln Conservation Commission Report 2009

The Lincoln Conservation Commission has been inactive for much of 2009 while remaining available to the Selectboard and other town bodies for consultation. However, in the last two months of 2009, we began to meet again and several people are interested in becoming new members.

In the coming year we plan to get involved in a few projects including:

Taking action on the red oak seedlings on the Colby Hill property that have been protected with tree tubes. The tubes have not been particularly effective and we'd like to remove them and replace them with fencing. The reason we are trying to protect the seedlings is that deer are browsing heavily on them and preventing the regeneration of oaks. As many of you know, oak trees are not common in the town of Lincoln, and yet their acorns are an excellent food source for many species of wildlife. We will be looking for partners to help us with this, perhaps from the Lincoln Community School or the Hannaford Career Center. If you know of a willing group, please contact Tina Scharf.

Working with Audubon Vermont to protect and enhance habitat for migratory birds. The majority of Lincoln's breeding habitat for forest birds, such as Canada warbler, and grassland birds, such as bobolinks, is privately owned. Audubon and the Conservation Commission would like to be a resource to private landowners interested in bird-friendly management in their forests and/or fields. We are planning a presentation and discussion about this project in May. Details will be announced at a later date.

We also have made contact with the Ripton Conservation Commission and others about *ancient roads and trails* and are interested in being involved in these initiatives. Again, if you have an interest, we encourage you to participate! The Lincoln Conservation Commission is dedicated to involving the entire community in conservation-minded activities.

We are always looking for persons who would like to join the Commission. Please contact Tina Scharf or Jackie Tuxill.

Tina Scharf
Jackie Tuxill