

PRELIMINARY CUTTING IN PARKING LOT AREA – 4/1/2019

On April 1, 2019 at 10:00 am, five members of the Loudon Trails Subcommittee, which was formed under the Loudon Conservation Commission, were eager to start to work on improving the existing trails on the Town's property off of Lovejoy Road. After they'd scouted the Hunting Swamp and the western area of the Towns of Loudon's property on March 20th, they had assessed what work would need to be done and brought with them everything they'd need for working in the forest that morning.

It was a bitterly cold day when Bob Lyon, Denis Proulx, Deb Eastman Proulx, Sandy Blanchard and Martha Butterfield met at 10:00 am and set out to do some cleaning up. But they soon found out that the icy conditions further down the trails were too slippery for working that morning, making it likely they'd have to quit their plan.

Yet, here they were together, ready to work, and they were reluctant to leave the area without getting some productive work done. So on the spur of the moment, they made a decision to do some clearing of where they felt an ideal spot for the future parking lot should be.



their work at noontime.

It wasn't until a day later that they were made aware by Jules Robinson, Conservation Commission Chairperson, that they should have communicated their plans with her first and that such work should have been pre-approved by the Board of Selectmen, as that is the standard procedure that all trails cutters must follow whenever they are planning on working on a town property.



Thus began the proper procedure for initiating trails work on the Town's property on Lovejoy Road. In due time, the Board of Selectmen gave their approval of the project, and each Trails Committee member signed a volunteer work agreement that was filed



room for several vehicles.

with the Town, a form that was similar to the one they'd previously filled out that had been designed by the Trails Committee.

Fortunately, the spot the group had chosen for the parking lot turned out to be an ideal one, and it all worked out very well for everyone. Later that year, the parking lot was nicely completed, thanks to the help of several volunteers, and it now holds enough

Martha Butterfield - December 4, 2019