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[SOLF: Volunteer contributions and opportunities](#)

by [BETH MELO](#) on [AUGUST 6, 2024](#)



*Above: Volunteers have been helping maintain SOLF trails for public access. You can still lend a hand this summer. (photos contributed and from Facebook)*

The Southborough Open Land Foundation shared news on recent volunteers who helped improve their trail access for public enjoyment.

It's a good excuse to remind readers that SOLF is actively seeking helpers to pitch in with volunteer work this summer. (Though, usually, that work won't involve carpentry!)

Volunteers will help with work that includes maintaining their trails.

In late July, volunteers Larry Samberg, Eileen Samberg, Colby Chase, and Vincent Valvo spent three days removing a footbridge in disrepair and building its replacement.

According to Eileen Samberg, the original wooden plank bridge was installed on the Hickory Trail in Beals Preserve as a Scout project over ten years ago. It was in need of replacement. (*Treads could no longer be secured to the rotting frame.*)

The volunteer crew hauled in the wood, built the new frame, and installed the planks. (See contributed photos below.)

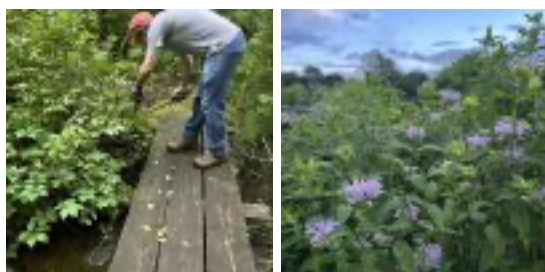


Beals Preserve is SOLF's largest open space property, but also just one of "[15 beautiful properties](#)" they maintain, "providing wonderful open space preservation and walking trails for all to enjoy."

Earlier this summer, I shared SOLF's call for volunteer help to lend them a hand with their property upkeep on Saturday mornings. They would appreciate even just an hour of volunteers' help.

The weekend activities are to help the open space preservationists "maintain trails, remove invasive plant species, restore native plants, and have fun meeting your fellow nature lovers!"

On that note, below are pics from Facebook of some trail pruning earlier this summer and of a thriving native Wild Bergamot in the Beals Pollinator Garden:



One of the three events SOLF had promoted is still coming up this Saturday, August 10th, 930 am at Lambert Corner. ([See Map](#). [RSVP HERE](#)).

In addition, they have scheduled work for the following three Saturdays. You can check out the schedule and look for *to be posted* registration links [here](#). (You can also find a survey link there to inform them about your volunteer preferences.)

If you'd like to join them to help, signup sheets advise:

Bring your energy, gloves, and tick spray, and meet your fellow nature enthusiasts.