



SOUTHBOROUGH OPEN LAND FOUNDATION

Preserving and protecting open land and rural character in the Town of Southborough

Catching Up On SOLF News

November 2025



Beals Preserve

Beals Preserve has a new gate. The sagging metal gate at the entrance to the Old Farm Lane on Main Street has been replaced by a lovely new wooden gate. Walkers do not need to open it to gain access to the property as there is a pass through for pedestrians. Please remember that vehicles should not access the property through this gate nor should they park of either side of the gate.



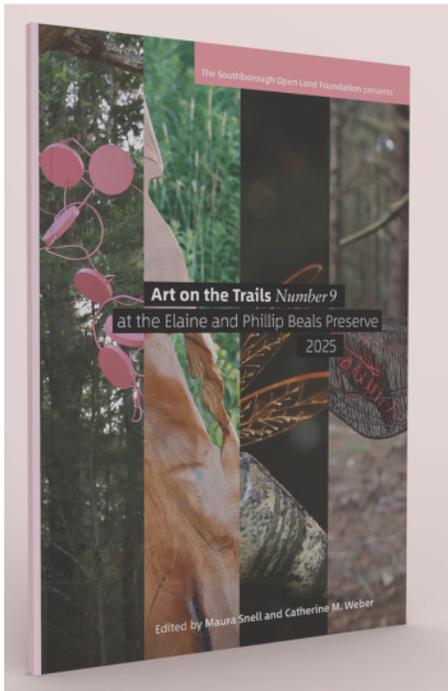
Whit Beals Pollinator Garden

The Whit Beals Biodiversity Through Pollination Garden continues to attract interest at Beals Preserve. On September 20, the third annual “Pollination Potluck Picnic” was held at Beals Preserve. The event was sponsored by Southborough’s Open Space Preservation Commission (OSPC) and Southborough Open Land Foundation (SOLF). Members of the MetroWest Conservation Alliance’s Bumble Bee Project celebrated efforts to protect native pollinators at the potluck picnic.

The Nature of Southborough

The Nature of Southborough is a special guest series in mysouthborough.com focusing on appreciating nature in Southborough, contributed by the Southborough Open Land Foundation (SOLF). Most of the articles, Southborough Open Land Foundation (SOLF). Most of the articles, covering a wide variety of nature related topics, have been written by Trustee Debbie Costine. After noticing a praying mantis on her deck, Debbie was inspired to write the most recent article which can be found at mysouthborough.com.





Art on the Trails

The popular Art on the Trails program was at Beals Preserve from June 15, when people had the opportunity to see the artists installing their work, until September 14 when the closing poetry reading event took place. The theme this year was Nine, marking the ninth year of the juried event. At the closing event poems inspired by the art installations were read by the poets who had written them. A chapbook of the poems and the installations was available to purchase. This year there were 13 juried installations. Special thanks to Catherine Weber who directs the program, and to the sponsors, the Southborough Community Fund, Middlesex Savings Bank, Southborough Cultural Arts Council, Mass Cultural Council, and Ginny Martins & Associates. Art on the Trails was featured on CBS News, Channel 4 this summer. <https://www.cbsnews.com/boston/video/unique-exhibit-invites-visitors-to-enjoy-art-on-a-walking-trail-in-massachusetts/>.

Be on the lookout for
SOLF's Annual Fundraising Letter.
We depend on your support.



SWCA Consultants Volunteer

On Thursday, October 23, a group from the Southborough office of SWCA Environmental Consultants volunteered their time at SOLF's Bigelow Wildlife Preserve. In September, Stumpy's Tree Service removed a large fallen tree blocking the path to the platform and extending into a neighbor's yard. The group worked to restore the area, moving and adding gravel along the path and leveling the fallen tree area. They also removed and bagged invasive plants, and dispersed some older compost piles along the property. Thank you SWCA Environmental Consultants.

Mushroom Walk

On Saturday, October 19, twenty mushroom enthusiasts explored the forested areas of Beals Preserve in search of decomposing wood! Jonathan Kranz, president of the Boston Mycological Club was our guide. We closely examined rotting logs on the grounds and peered up into dead trees, learning all about fungi.

