



Nantucket Conservation Foundation

Annual Meeting of Members

Notice is hereby given to members of the Nantucket Conservation Foundation, Inc. that, pursuant to the provisions of the Bylaws, the 53rd Annual Meeting will be held in the Studio Theater of the Dreamland, 17 South Water Street, Nantucket at 4:30 p.m. on **Thursday, August 10, 2017** for the following purposes: To elect Trustees, the Clerk, and Assistant Clerks of the Foundation; to receive reports; and to conduct such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Mary G. West
Clerk

2017 Race for Open Space

Our first year hosting the race at the Milestone Cranberry Bog was great success!

Thank you to all who participated in and supported this year's race!

The annual Race for Open Space, historically a road race, had a new location this year: the Foundation's own Milestone Cranberry Bog. Hosted together with the [Nantucket Conservation Foundation Associates](#), the new 5k cross-country style course and 2-mile walking course was well received by participants. It also offered an unusual and unique alternative to the island's race calendar, all while driving home the Foundation's important message: *to preserve, protect, and manage Nantucket's open space vistas*.

With **456 participants** (301 runners, 155 walkers) and a group of generous sponsors, the benefit of the race to both the Foundation's mission and its Land Fund is considerable.

[View the race results & find your time!](#)



Kevin Quinn, overall Men's winner, crosses the finish line



Racers set off at the start of the course



Milestone Bog offered gorgeous running views



The Foundation's Properties Maintenance staff have been busy re-mowing road edges and more than nine miles of firebreaks in the Middle Moors and at the Head of the Plains. Using large tractors pulling 15-foot wide mowers, it takes about five weeks to cut the vegetation that provides firefighters with access and a safe place from which to fight a wildfire. Mowing will also slow the advance of a wildfire as it encounters shorter, less flammable grasses rather than low scrub oak thickets. With Nantucket being a wildfire danger zone, mowing is a useful tool in combating what could become a catastrophic wildfire scenario. In addition, road edges are cut back for driver, walker, and bicyclist safety to provide better views of oncoming traffic.



At the Head of the Plains, significant damage was done by late winter storms which scoured parking sites and flooded out the dirt road system. Our crew rebuilt the extensive road system to reestablish visitor access to the area. Considerable effort was required to haul fill and road hardener to these out-of-the-way sites. Other work at the Head of the Plains involved disc harrowing – cutting deeply into the root system of brush-cut scrub oaks so that native grasses can be planted. This is to help restore the endangered sandplain grasslands that were so prevalent in this part of the island a century ago.

Encourage Good Stewardship

If you see something unusual or illegal happening on one of our properties, please give us a call: 508-228-2884!

Looking for More Ways to Get Involved?

- **Support us!** Join or renew a membership, make a memorial or gift donation, or make a gift to our Land Fund
- Check **Volunteer Opportunities** with the Science & Stewardship Department



Explore our Website

Visit our Science Blog

Nantucket Conservation Foundation | 508-228-2884 | info@nantucketconservation.org

Enjoying our properties? Let us know! Write or tweet at us and be sure to follow our Instagram!

