

**TOWN OF HOLLIS, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Board of Selectmen Ordinance**

**ORDINANCE FOR THE USE OF TOWN LANDS**

**1. PURPOSE:**

- a. To prevent damage to public ways, cemeteries, recreational trails, forest lands, wetlands and conservation lands owned by, or under easement with the Town of Hollis and;
- b. To prevent soil erosion, destruction of wildlife habitat and other injury to the environment on all Town lands and;
- c. To facilitate appropriate public use and enjoyment of such lands.

**2. AUTHORITY:**

- a. The within ordinance has been adopted by the Town of Hollis, Selectmen, Conservation Commission, Town Forest Committee, Heritage Commission, Cemetery Trustees and Recreation Commission, pursuant to the authority set forth in RSA 41:11-a, RSA 31:112, RSA 36-A, RSA 215-A:15, RSA 289:7, RSA 160-C:6, C.F.R. (Code of Federal Regulations) 27 Ch.1 §55.11 and RSA 35-B:3
- b. Nothing herein shall, in any way, contravene or supersede any more restrictive or additional regulation that may be applicable to any particular town property to the extent that the agency having jurisdiction of the same has established the same.

**3. DEFINITIONS:**

Town Lands shall mean all lands within the Town of Hollis owned by the Town of Hollis, or under easement with the Town of Hollis, whether managed by the Selectmen, the Conservation Commission, the Town Forest Committee, the Heritage Commission, the Cemetery Trustees or the Recreation Commission.

**4. ORDINANCE:**

- a. Unless specifically prohibited by deed or easement agreement, the following activities and uses are allowed within Town Lands:
  - i. Pedestrian uses, including hiking, walking, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing
  - ii. Horseback riding and dog sledding
  - iii. Non-motorized bicycles on established trails
  - iv. Snowmobiles operated on established trails and in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire, provided the snowmobiles are propelled on snow by tracks and steered by skis and there is sufficient snow cover.
  - v. Hunting and fishing in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire.
  - vi. Timber harvesting conducted on behalf of the Town of Hollis under the supervision of the Town Forest Committee, Conservation Commission or the Heritage Commission, whichever has jurisdiction over the land, and in accordance with Forestry Laws (RSA 79) of the State of New Hampshire and Best Management Practices for Erosion Control on Timber Harvesting Operations in New Hampshire, January 2001, as amended
  - vii. Trail maintenance on established trails under the supervision of the Trails Committee, provided the Trails Committee has received permission from the Board of Selectmen and from the Town Forest Committee, the Conservation Commission, the Cemetery Trustees, the Heritage Commission or the Recreation Commission, whichever has jurisdiction over the land.
  - viii. Parking in designated areas only.
  - ix. Signs for events sponsored by the Town of Hollis.
- b. Unless specifically prohibited by deed or easement agreement, the following activities and uses are allowed within Town Lands. These activities and uses require written approval from the Board of Selectmen, and from the Town Forest Committee, the Conservation Commission, the Cemetery Trustees, the Heritage Commission or the Recreation Commission, whichever has jurisdiction over the land:
  - i. The laying out and/or construction of any new hiking or snowmobile trail.
  - ii. The erection of any structure, including a bridge, permanent sign or information kiosk.
  - iii. Vehicular access for persons with disabilities

**TOWN OF HOLLIS, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Board of Selectmen Ordinance**

- iv. Event-specific signs for non-profit organizations in accordance with Section XIV of the Hollis Zoning Ordinance
- c. The following activities are prohibited:
  - i. Camping
  - ii. Fires
  - iii. Consumer Fireworks, as defined in 27 C.F.R. Ch. 1 §55.11 and formerly known as class C common fireworks.
  - iv. In accordance with RSA 163-B, Litter Control Law, littering is prohibited within Town Lands and in or along all public ways. Littering shall also include the disposal of leaves, branches, stumps, grass clippings and other yard waste.
  - v. The removal of trees or plants, the removal or filling, or other disturbance of soils, the disturbance of wetlands or natural habitats
  - vi. Motorized vehicles, with the exception of snowmobiles as referenced in **Section 4.a.iv** of this ordinance
  - vii. The possession, consumption, and use of controlled substances and/or alcoholic beverages
  - viii. The placement of political signs that display information about political candidates or ideologies. These signs shall be removed from Town Lands in accordance with RSA 664:17.
  - ix. The discharge of any firearm, including but not limited to, target shooting, gun sighting, recreational shooting, or shooting competitions. This prohibition does not apply to the discharge of firearms relative to lawful hunting, justifiable self-defense, and shall not otherwise impact a citizen's right to lawfully possess any such firearm.

**5. EXEMPTIONS:**

The following activities are exempt from the prohibition of travel by motorized vehicles on Town Land.

- a. Any emergency vehicles operated by or under the direction of the Hollis Police, Fire, and/or Emergency Management Departments, or under the direction of similar state or federal government agencies conducting similar activities
- b. Construction and/or logging equipment operated by, or on behalf of, the Town of Hollis, and authorized by the Board of Selectmen, the Town Forest Committee, the Conservation Commission or the Heritage Commission, whichever has jurisdiction over the land.
- c. Lawnmowers, trail maintenance vehicles and vehicles used for monitoring purposes, as authorized by the Board of Selectmen, the Town Forest Committee, the Conservation Commission, or the Heritage Commission, whichever has jurisdiction over the land.

**6. WAIVERS:**

The Board of Selectmen, the Town Forest Committee, the Conservation Commission, Cemetery Trustees, Heritage Commission or the Recreation Commission, whichever has jurisdiction over the land may grant waivers on a case-by-case basis if the applicant shows that granting this waiver would not conflict with the purpose and intent of this ordinance. Copies of all waiver applications shall be kept on file in the Selectmen's office.

**7. ENFORCEMENT:**

The provisions of this ordinance shall be enforceable by designees appointed by the Board of Selectmen and by police and law enforcement officers, including but not limited to: State Police officers, sheriffs, deputy sheriffs, fish and game officers, policemen, constables, and all persons empowered to make arrests in criminal cases.

**8. PENALTIES:**

No person shall use or occupy Town Lands, as defined in **Section 3**; in a manner that violates this ordinance. Any person determined to be violating this ordinance shall be subject to such penalties, as the court shall impose, which may include restoration and/or restitution and/or fines not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1000) for each offense.

**TOWN OF HOLLIS, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Board of Selectmen Ordinance**

**9. ADOPTION AND EFFECTIVE DATE:**

This policy is effective immediately upon adoption by the Board of Selectmen.

Date of Adoption

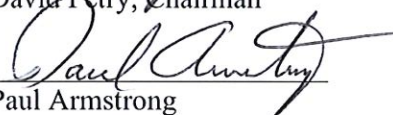
**September 8, 2008**


**Amended September 27, 2010**

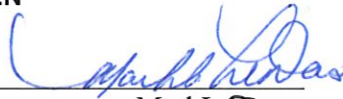
**Proposed Amended June 21, 2021**


**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David Petry, Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Armstrong

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Benz

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marl LeDoux

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Peter Band