



Vote YES on Warrant Article #10

Voting **YES** on Warrant Article #10 will change the designation of the Page Pond Forest from town owned property to town forest, putting responsibility for the management of the property with the Meredith Conservation Commission.

- 🦋 The Page Pond & Forest was **identified** over 30 years ago in the Town's first Master Plan **as the most important parcel of land deserving protection through conservation**. Following an unprecedented public/private campaign the 565 acre Page Pond Forest was acquired by the Town of Meredith in January 2009.
- 🦋 The property **abuts the 20 acre Page Pond**, a state designated "Great Pond" and serves as one of the **most important water sheds** on the northern end of Lake Winnepesaukee.
- 🦋 The property contains 475 acres of upland forest and **supports a broad diversity of wildlife**.
- 🦋 Page Pond Forest is located within **a mile of the center of Meredith**, even closer to the schools with access from Quarry Road and Blueberry Hill Road. The property is an extraordinary asset of the town and **provides recreational, historical, cultural and educational opportunities** for the people.
- 🦋 The **Meredith Conservation Commission** will build out an extensive **trail system** utilizing pre-existing woods roads providing **year-round recreational opportunities**. There will be a parking area with a kiosk at the Quarry Road trailhead and a similar set-up at the Blueberry Hill Road trailhead.
- 🦋 **Permanent protection of these values** is achieved through designating the property as a Town Forest. Under RSA 31:112 the legislative body can place management of the town forest in the hands of the conservation commission.
- 🦋 This **designation helps fulfill commitments made to all the contributors to the acquisition of this land**; the towns people who voted overwhelmingly for a \$400,000 warrant article, the State of New Hampshire through its \$400,000 LCHIP grant, the towns conservation commission through its open space ETF contribution and the 475 individuals, foundations and businesses that generously donated towards the permanent protection of this land.
- 🦋 The **Meredith Conservation Commission** has the **proven experience, knowledge, manpower and willingness to manage the stewardship** of this magnificent and critically important property for the benefit of the town.

The MISSION of the **Meredith Conservation Commission** is to protect and preserve wetland, agricultural lands, unfragmented tracts of forest, species diversity, lake water quality, view scapes, and scenic roads in Meredith.

Tel: 279-4538 x222

E-mail: conservation@meredithnh.org

Web: www.meredithnh.org (Government page)

