

SEEKONK MEADOWS

Seekonk Meadows is a unique project that is creating a public gathering space atop a landfill. It is located on the nine acre site behind the Seekonk Public Library.

This project has two phases. Phase I is the typical landfill capping required of all abandoned dumps in the State of Massachusetts. Most landfills, once capped and seeded, are left alone and look like small grassy hills. Phase I was managed by the Town of Seekonk and the Department of Public Works, under the watchful eye of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), whose ultimate goal is to protect the cap. It includes fences around the parking lot and firmly established grass plantings to control topsoil erosion and runoff.

Phase II, which doesn't usually happen on a capped landfill, is to bring the Seekonk Meadows to life. The Seekonk Meadows Committee is currently working to implement Phase II, the creation of the Meadows.

Seekonk Meadows is a tranquil walking space in a year-round natural setting with paths winding through tall grasses and wildflowers in season.

The Meadows provide access to the Gammino Pond conservation area, a sixty-acre property that includes a five-acre pond and is managed by the town's Conservation Commission. The gardens will require minimal maintenance, the amphitheater will be mowed for summer events and the nine acre Meadows will be mowed once or twice a year.



A BRIEF HISTORY

The nine acres that the library sits on was the town dump from 1963 to 1978. It was then fenced off and abandoned. The new library was opened in 1981.

The concept of creating a meadow on top of an abandoned landfill began with Ken Lagerquist and Library Director Sharon St.Hilaire in 1993, when Ken was President of the Seekonk Library Trust.

In 2000, Marc Mazzarelli, Landscape Architect, was retained to design the meadows. In early 2008, the Town of Seekonk contracted with an engineering firm and a construction company to begin the work of capping and securing the landfill.

The Meadows Committee, which has been meeting since late July, 2008, has been working on fundraising and planning the landscape design implementation.

The town of Seekonk completed Phase I in early 2010 and the DEP granted final approvals of the design plans in April, 2011

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Phase II is funded entirely by private funds (not taxpayer dollars). Between the fundraising efforts of the Seekonk Library Trust, the Seekonk Meadows Committee and generous donors like you, we have raised \$130,000 to date. This represents 62% of the funds needed to implement Phase II of the design plans.

Seekonk Meadows is a joint project of the Town of Seekonk and town organizations including the Seekonk Library Trust, the Seekonk Board of Library Trustees, Friends of the Library, the Seekonk Land Conservation Trust, the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Conservation Commission.

For updates on Seekonk Meadows, please see the Seekonk Meadows link under Community Info on the Seekonk Library website. www.seekonkpl.org

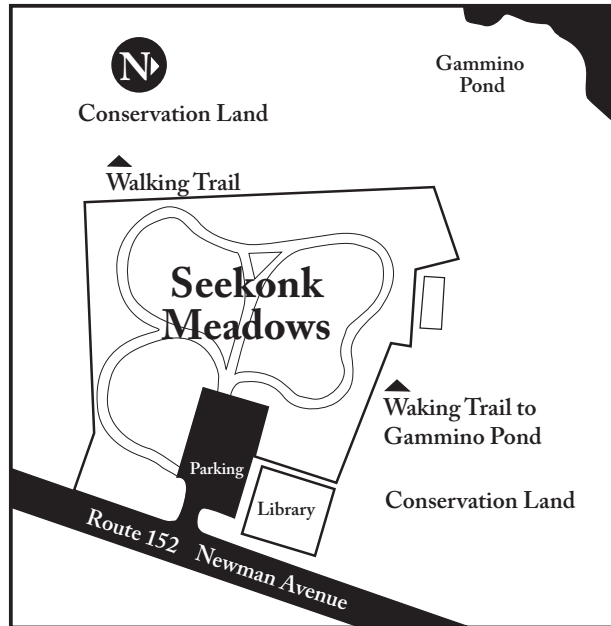
To support Phase II of this exciting project, the creation of Seekonk Meadows, please send your tax deductible gift, payable to the Seekonk Library Trust with a memo line designating the Seekonk Meadows project, to the Seekonk Public Library, 410 Newman Avenue, Seekonk, MA 02771.

Thank you for your support!



SEEKONK Meadows

Seekonk Meadows is a nine acre meadowland of tall grasses and wildflowers. When complete, it will have walking trails, picnic tables, benches, shrubs and bushes and an amphitheater and stage for outdoor summer concerts and events. It will serve as a year-round restful community gathering space for area residents and provide children with opportunities to explore and learn the joys of wildlife and plants.



Meadows Committee

Cheryl Faria, Chair
Dave Cabral, Vice Chair
Rob Emlen, Clerk
Cynthia Corbett
Larry Hindle
Bob McKenna
Dave Pinsonneault

