

Recreation at The Res: Public Survey Results

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Project Description

The Hallowell Conservation Commission (HCC) is creating a management plan focused on trails and recreational uses at the Hallowell Recreation Area, also known as the Hallowell City Forest, or simply as The Res. This plan will improve the partnership between the city and trail user groups, establish a framework for decision making, and recommend improvements to the trail system and other facilities on the property.

The HCC created and distributed a public survey. Survey responses will be combined with more targeted feedback from the planning committee who represent some user groups that frequent The Res. All of this information will help form the basis for a management plan for the property, and the opinions and recommendations of people who use The Res will help inform recommendations made by the planning committee.

Survey Development and Distribution

The purpose of the public survey was to find out more about how people use the trails and facilities at The Res. It was not intended to yield statistically significant data on which the planning group could take specific actions, but rather to inform the planning process by providing general information about recreation user preferences and opinions about how the property should be managed. Ultimately, answers submitted by respondents to the survey will be combined with other information obtained by The Res Planning Group – which includes both members of the HCC and representatives of various user groups at The Res – to help form the basis for a management plan.

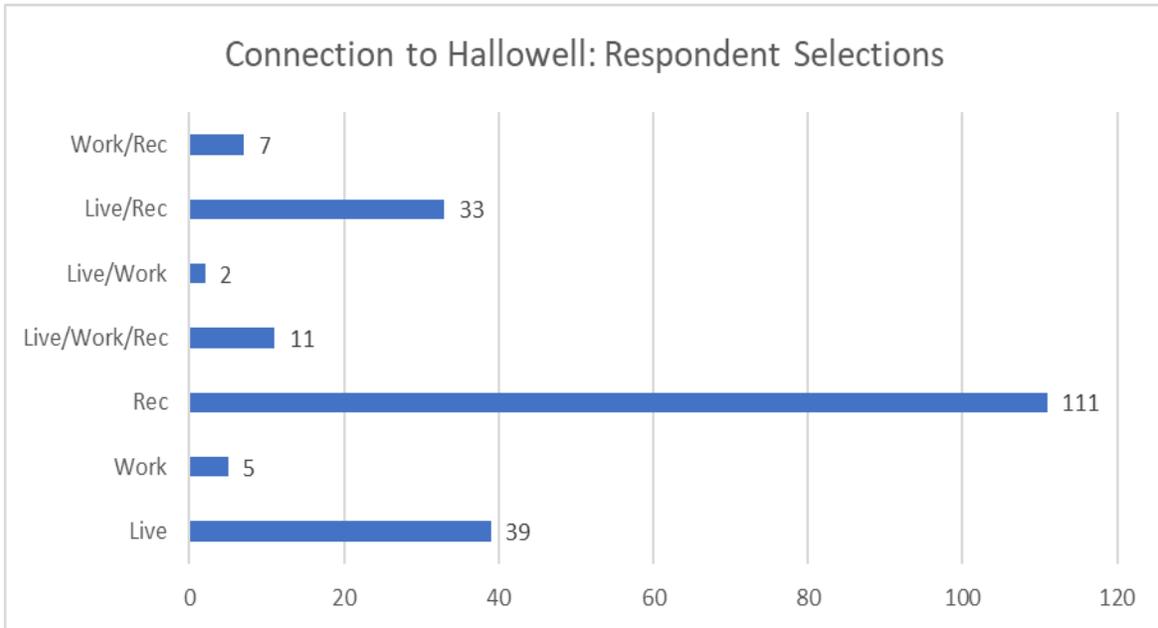
The survey was open from May 24, 2018 – August 29, 2018, and was distributed primarily on the web through the HCC Facebook page and e-mail list, and through the City of Hallowell's e-mail list. It was also sent out to specific user groups such as Central Maine Regional Chapter of the New England Mountain Biking Association (CENEMBA), Augusta Trails, and the Augusta Birding Club, and was generally forwarded to anyone who was interested by members of the planning group. Some signs were posted in publicly visible places in Hallowell, including at The Res in the beach/picnic area and at the roadside parking area. A link to the survey was also available on the City's website. In addition to gathering responses online, on June 29, 2018, volunteers conducted interviews at the picnic/beach area on the property.

Who answered the survey?

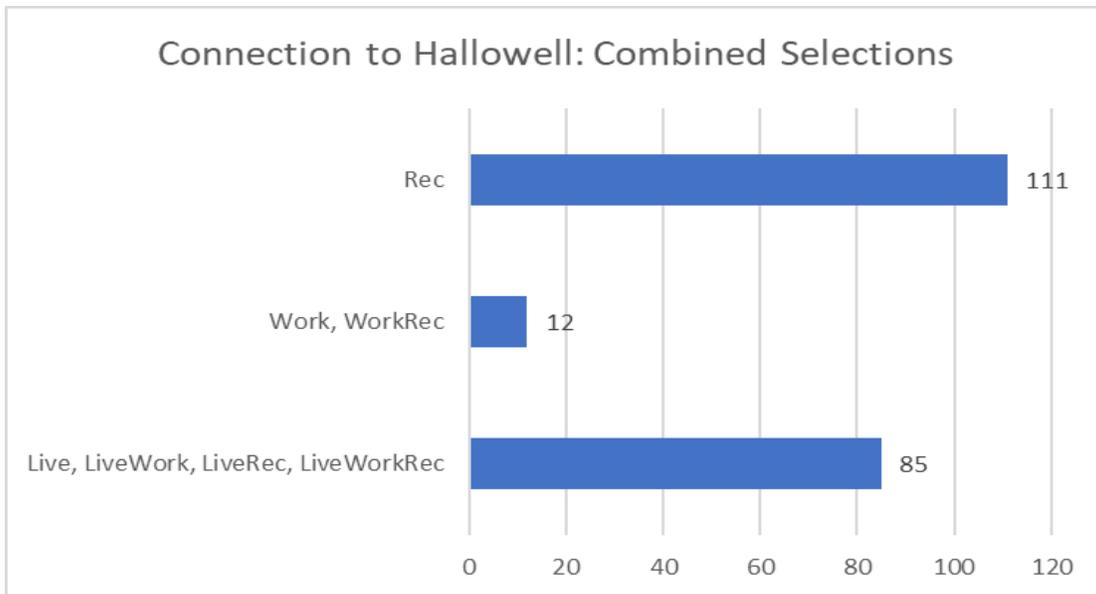
A total of 208 people completed the survey. Respondents ranged in age and in their connection to The Res, but generally expressed appreciation for being able to access the property for recreation. From reading through the responses, it was obvious that people care about what happens at The Res and had lots of ideas about how recreation activities on the property could be improved.

Connection to Hallowell

Most respondents do not live in Hallowell. Of the 208 respondents, 85 said they lived in Hallowell, 25 said they worked in Hallowell, and 162 said they recreated in Hallowell. Those who said they lived in Hallowell sometimes also indicated that they recreate or work in town as well. Respondent's selections are shown below:



Respondents who indicated they: live; live and recreate; live and work; or live, work and recreate in Hallowell are shown below alongside those who: only recreate; work or work and recreate in town. While more people indicated that they live somewhere else but recreate in Hallowell (123), 97 or 46% indicated that they live or work in town and also recreate in town.



The Res public survey results

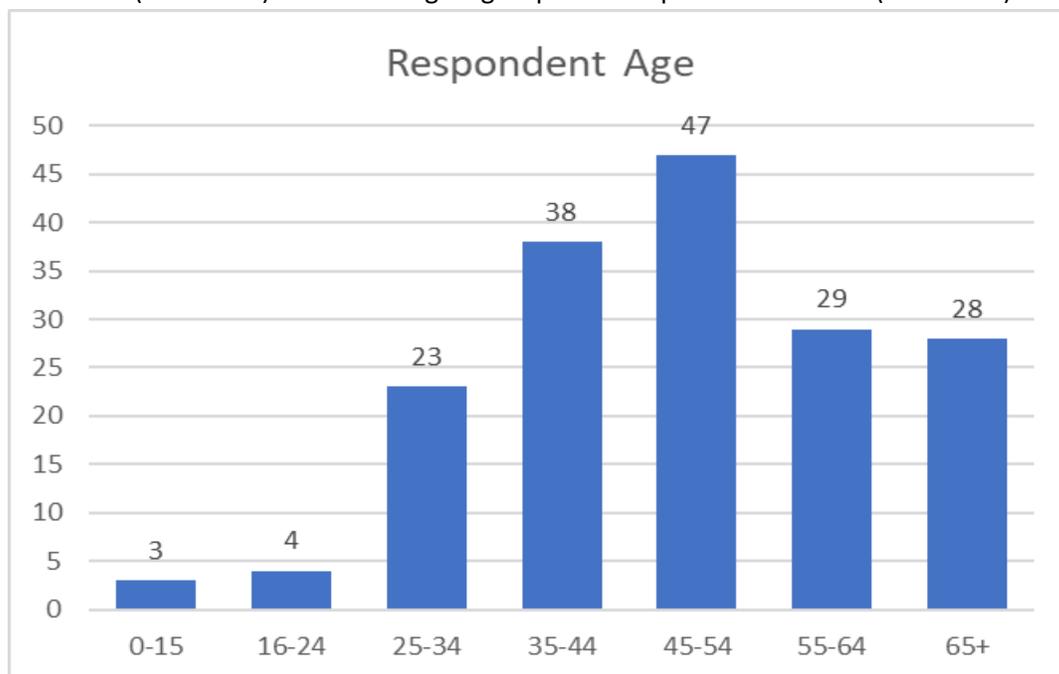
Most of the people who answered the survey recreate at The Res, but a few do not. Of the 208 total respondents, 181 (87%) said that they recreate at The Res, and 27 (13%) do not. Of the 27 respondents who did not recreate at The Res, 22 provided additional information about why not. Some people were unaware the property was there or open to the public, or thought that it was not open to non-residents of Hallowell. Others talked about poor water quality, trash in beach/picnic area, or that they were unsure what the property had to offer.

Membership in Recreation Club or Organization

Of the 164 respondents who completed Question Twelve, 113 (69%) indicated that they were not members of a club or organization. Respondents who are members of a club or organization sometimes identified the club. Some of the clubs that were mentioned most frequently include: Central Maine New England Mountain Biking Association (CENEMBA); Augusta Birding Club; and Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) chapters.

Age

Of the 208 total respondents, 172 answered the question about age. The majority were between the ages of 35 and 54 (85 or 49%). The next largest group were respondents over 55 (30 or 17%).



How do respondents use The Res?

Activities

Respondents were able to identify multiple activities that they pursue at The Res. For example, someone may have indicated they like to walk or hike, and mountain bike, and swim. Of the 153 respondents that answered Question 8, walking or hiking (67%), mountain biking (50%), and swimming (34%) were selected the most often. The following table shows each activity, the number of respondents who

selected the activity, and the percentage of those who answered question eight that selected each activity.

Recreational Activities at The Res

Recreation Activity	# that selected activity	% of total that answered Q8
Walking or hiking	103	67%
Mountain biking	76	50%
Swimming	52	34%
Wildlife watching	51	33%
Dog walking	48	31%
Snowshoeing	48	31%
Cross-country skiing	40	26%
Fat tire biking	33	22%
Picnicking	32	21%
Running	31	20%
Other (specify)	11	7%
Fishing	6	4%
Snowmobiling	3	2%
Using the ballfields	3	2%
Hunting	1	1%

Eleven respondents selected “other” when answering question eight. They listed activities that include: birding, geocaching, basketball or other field sports, plant watching, winter biking, and others. There are undoubtedly many people who enjoy each of the listed activities at The Res. These results only reflect the preferences of people who completed the survey.

Favorite activities

Respondents were asked to rank recreational activities in order of preference, where 1 = their most preferred activity, 2 = their second most preferred, and so on. The following table shows the number and percentage of respondents who ranked each activity as 1, 2, or 3. For example, 130 people chose to assign a rank to walking or hiking, and of those 130 people, 101 ranked it either as 1, 2, or 3. Activities ranked in the top 3 the most often were walking or hiking (66%), mountain biking (47%), and swimming (26%).

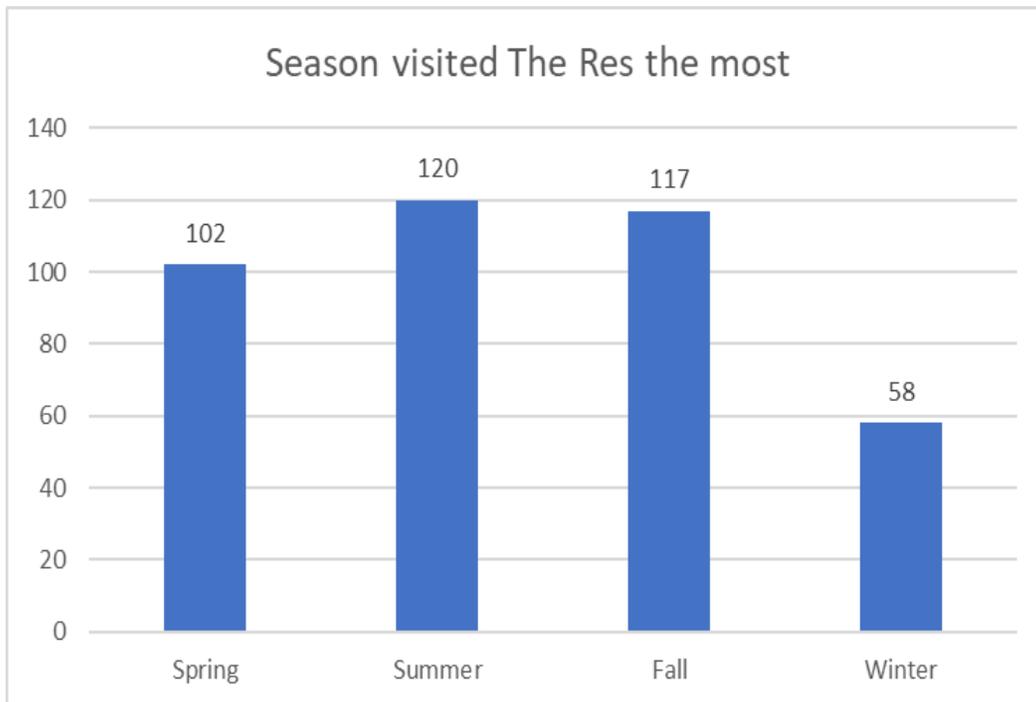
Activities ranked in Top 3

Activity	Total # of commenters	# of commenters who ranked as 1, 2, or 3	% of commenters that ranked as 1, 2, or 3
Walking or hiking	130	101	66%
Mountain biking	132	71	47%
Swimming	118	39	26%
Dog walking	112	34	22%
Wildlife watching	107	33	22%
Snowshoeing	109	25	16%
Fat tire biking	111	25	16%
Running	113	21	14%
Cross-country skiing	111	17	11%
Picnicking	107	16	11%
Hunting	95	7	5%
Fishing	95	4	3%
Snowmobiling	99	2	1%
Using the ballfields	99	2	1%

Visits to the Res: When, with who, and How often

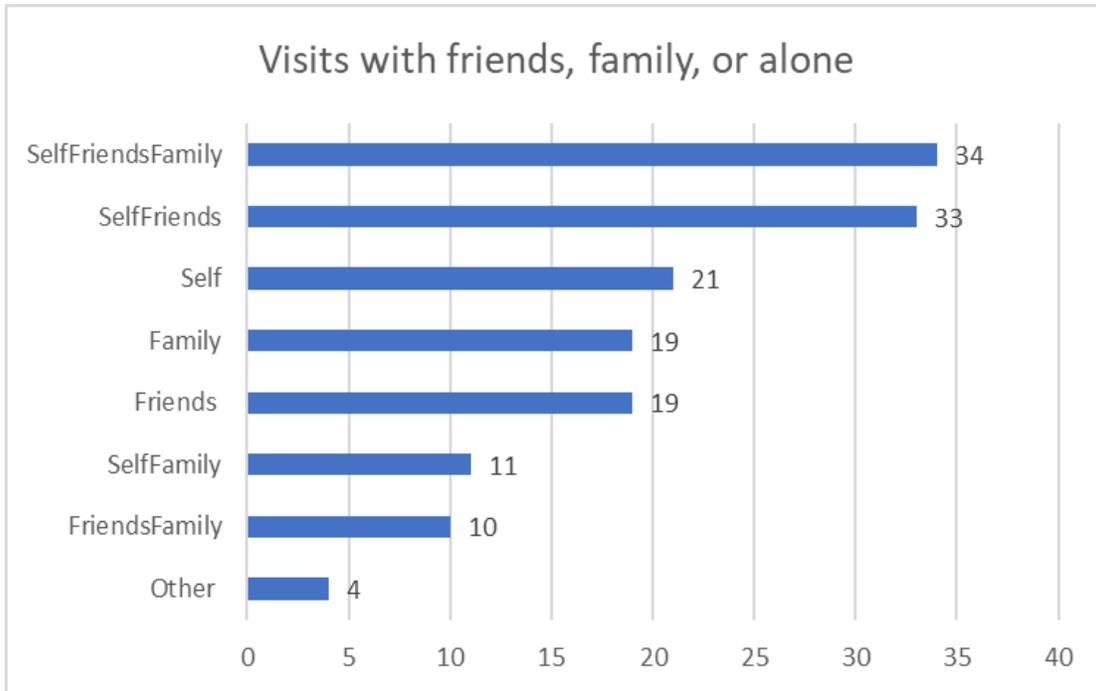
Seasonal use

Of the 152 respondents who answered Question 5, which asks “During which season do you visit The Res the most,” the majority of respondents selected spring, summer, or fall. However 58 respondents said they visit The Res the most in the winter, 49 of which also indicated they visit during other seasons.

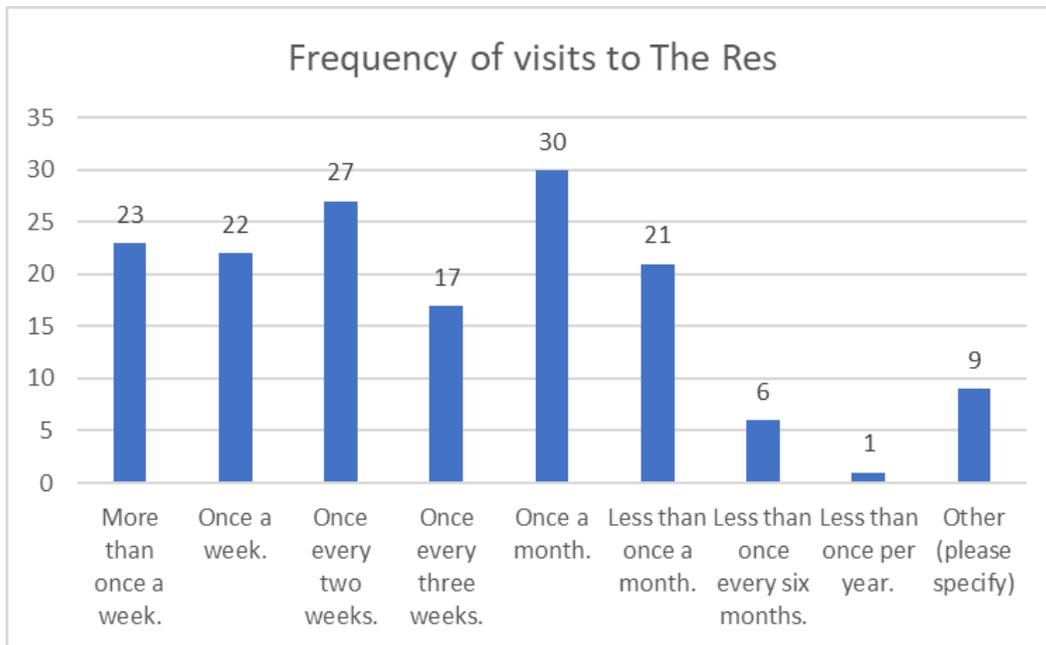


The Res public survey results

151 respondents completed Question 6 and indicated that they visit The Res by themselves, with friends, or with family. Respondents could make multiple selections if likely to visit with multiple groups (e.g., by themselves, but also with friends/family).



Of the 156 respondents who answered Question 7, 30 indicated that they visit The Res “Once a Month,” and 119 respondents or 76% of the total, indicated that they visit The Res “Once a month” or more.



What do people like about recreating at The Res?

Respondents listed many things that they like about The Res including recreational activities that they do on the property, historical or cultural characteristics, and things about the recreational experience on the property that they value (e.g., feeling of being in the woods, natural scenery, quiet, access to water, kid friendly atmosphere, etc.).

Some common themes or concepts mentioned by respondents are listed below in no particular order:

- The quality of the swimming opportunities and beach area
- The peace and quiet; one can “get away” and have a private or solo experience
- Convenience of the location, and proximity to nearby towns like Augusta and Gardiner
- That dogs are allowed on trails and at beach/picnic area
- Trail options for mountain biking, snowshoeing, skiing, hiking, walking, fat biking, and other activities
- The quality, design, variety, and condition of the mountain biking trails
- Natural beauty of the property (woods, water, and wildlife)
- Value as habitat for plants and animals
- High quality birding area and bird habitat
- Good place for kids that is safe and clean

The Complete list of answers from all 153 respondents to this question are included below in Appendix B.

What should change at The Res?

Respondents to question 4 (139 responses), which asked what should change to improve people’s recreational experience at The Res, and question 11 (127 responses), which asked what recreational infrastructure should be improved, provided lots of ideas and suggestions for what be improved at The Res. These suggestions will be helpful in making management decisions about recreational use on the property, and so all responses to Question 4 and Question 11 are included in Appendix C.

Answers to questions 4 and 11 covered some of the same topics and themes, and so they have been analyzed together and are presented in Appendix C as one list of suggestions. In general, when answering Question 4 respondents talked about the facilities, negative interactions with other recreational users on trails or in the beach area, and issues associated with dogs or with parking. Responses to Question 11 were more about trails on the property, the beach/picnic area, parking, and other topics. Some concepts and themes frequently mentioned in answers to both questions are organized below by topic.

Conflict between recreational users

- Dogs off leash bother other dogs and people who are walking, hiking, or doing other activities
- Bikers going fast in multi-use areas can conflict with other users
- Some respondents thought that the beach/picnic area can become rowdy on crowded days and may not be kid-friendly

Trails

- Add more trails for mountain biking, hiking, and cross-country skiing,
- Establish interconnections with other local trail systems and the downtown area
- Add more difficult mountain biking trails; existing system has good beginner and intermediate trails
- existing trails should be better maintained
- town should work with mountain biking community to maintain trail system
- single-use trails should be established for certain uses like mountain-biking and hiking
- trail maps, signage (e.g., directional signage, route finding markings, etc), and trail names would make the overall system more user friendly
- add/designate/maintain winter biking trails

Beach, Picnic Area, and Ballfields

- should be kept clean, and could be made more functional for different types of uses
- bathrooms or changing rooms are insufficient, can be dirty, and generally need improvement
- the basketball courts should be restored
- things to add: playground, dog park, additional picnic tables and benches, no smoking signs, and a water fountain or faucet
- mow grass more frequently
- enforce leash law and no smoking policy

Parking Area

- the permit requirement is unfair and unfriendly to people who are not residents of Hallowell
- parking area by the road is insufficient (especially on the weekends, and in winter)
- open gate earlier in the spring

Other ideas

- remove invasive plants
- mark property lines clearly
- maps and rules should be easily accessible online
- The Res could be an event space

Appendices

Appendix A: Additional information provided at end of survey

Respondents answered this question in different ways. Some made specific recommendations about potential improvements or a change in policy, while others commented more generally about The Res, Hallowell and the surrounding area, or themselves. Following are all open-ended responses (37).

- Keep it open to non-residents. It's a healthy alternative activity for kids. We like having trash cans, makes the beach area cleaner. Need more cans.
- Need to fix up the basketball court, or maybe it could be turned into a skate park.
- The parking fees are not fair. If you live outside of Hallowell you end up parking out on the street (like second class citizens). Meanwhile, the parking lot next to the beach is always empty. Do away with the permit system.
- Some of the trails have been built up with stone from the old quarry.
- I believe that people enjoy the option for off leash dog walking at the res (not sure this is actually within the law, but it is the practice), but I find that there are a number of people who walk their dogs off leash without having control of them. I find this to be a challenge when walking my own dog on leash.
- The Res would be much more visited by families if people who spend all day every day there would clean up their mess and respect the property and people around them.
- My mountain bike is old. But not as old as me.
- Keep it dog friendly!
- Thanks for your hard work and consideration in making Hallowell better!
- Great place to swim and I like the quarry water would like to see you improve the dam to keep more water in higher during the summer make a catch basin to add water back later in july and august. Keep dog shit off the beach.
- The old quarry remnants, especially the pond are the best kept secret around, and they are wonderful. Maybe some educational and interpretive signage about what used to be there?
- Should be open to residence of Farmingdale if their child is enrolled at Hall-Dale.
- Please get rid of the parking permit requirement.
- Great place to take a wide range of riders and great early season riding. Dries out the quickest of mountain biking trails in the area
- Are you going to do an improvement fund?
- The Res is one of my favorite places. I'm happy to hear improvements are being considered.
- Please do not change dog policy. I've never seen dog poop and people whose dogs are free are responsible pet owners and have dogs under voice command. The litterers are not responsible users. I might suggest testing water quality. While a great little beach for kids, it's very shallow. Cons commission does a great job. Thank you for your work.
- Mt biking opportunities are huge there with more development and funding. This could be a big draw for the area. Land owned by Manchester that is adjacent to res should be utilized. Both towns should provide funding and support. Manchester BOS and conservation commission would definitely provide financial support for hiring professional trail developers if a partnership

w Hallowell were formed. Can't rely on volunteers alone if you want a robust and sustainable trail system.

- Hope the trail system continues to improve and stays open for Mt Bikes.
- The res is great! Don't change what is working now!
- I am concerned about illegal ATV use.
- I lived in Hallowell for about a year, and I only heard about the Res by word of mouth. It would be great to see more information accessible in town or online.
- Love the res
- I greatly appreciate the addition of roofed tables - but they might be washed during the season as they do get quite dirty and sticky over time
- Connecting recreational and natural spaces to the place that people live is very important, and cars and paved roads are the worst way to do that. Hallowell is rich in nature- and location-based resources, but they are all isolated by car-only zones. We need more non-motorized connectivity between resources in Hallowell.
- The Res is an awesome place!!
- people find the prevalence of ticks this year discouraging, but please don't spray
- I will be looking up the Res as I am always looking for new places to walk my dog.
- Connecting walking trails with Manchester
- I appreciate the trails at The Res and always have a great time riding there. It dries up early in the spring and is always the first place with trails ready to ride. It's a great central place to meet up with friends and ride.
- Thanks for providing great recreational opportunities!!
- I don't park at the Res. I park on the roadway outside. I would park inside but the parking permit fees are crazy. Either make it just a couple bucks (in order to keep tabs on vehicles for whatever reason) OR make it free. All it does is force vehicles to park on the narrow Town Farm Road. Many Hallowell residents use the Bond Brook Rec area and are not asked to pay \$25 for a permit. They are just welcome to come and enjoy their stay. For a City that claims to me welcoming and inclusive this feels as though you are trying to keep access to residents only or those that have the money to pay \$25 for the permit. Not cool - and certainly not welcoming. I'll continue to park on the street with the other vehicles until this changes. If you could consider changing this policy it would be greatly appreciated and really makes a lot of sense. I understand why and when they started the fees but its time has passed. Thanks for all you do!
- I think the Res is a outstanding resource. Since I don't have young kids I don't use some of the resources such as the ball fields. Although I don't use them having them there is great for the people who do. Along with the bathrooms.
- Thank you for taking the time to solicit input from all of us who care about the Rez.
- Thank you for the trail maintenance. I appreciate the leaf blowing of the trails so we know where to go. I love fatbiking our there in the winter!
- I am board member of Augusta Trails - it would be wonderful to plan a way to eventually connect the trails!
- I like having a place where I feel like I can let my dog off the leash. As opposed to Vaughn Woods or the Rail Trail.

Appendix B: Responses to Question 3 (Name two things you like about The Res)

clean maintained sandy beach
Secluded area, private
Nice clean water for swimming
Nice place to swim and picnic
Close to where I grew up (Augusta)
Bringing the dogs
Convenience
swimming
location
Beauty
The trails
Bringing my puppies
That it allows dogs
Dogs are allowed
Wooded trails
The singletrack biking trails
It's quiet
Convenience
Solitude
New location
Swimming
The water and quiet
Water
availability of hiking trails
birding
Walking the trails with my dog
birds
Bird watching in summer
the quiet of the deep woods with wild fauna and flora
the bird life
Birding
the wide road to walk along
The variety of bird species in Spring migration especially
It's a great fall out spot for birds in the spring
how they opened up the bathrooms and weeded out the people who trash the place
The water is nice
It's accessible early in the day as I like to take my dog there before work (7-730 am)
The proximity
the trails
The trails
Dog friendly
Quietness, view

The Res public survey results

Bike trails are very nice and well done
quietness
The water
The trails
easy access parking and location
The trails
the trails
Swimming
mountain biking
Flat, accessible trails
the water
Mountain Biking
great trails for early season mtn biking - dry early
The extensive trails
playing in the water
Miles of Trails
trails
Safe place for trail walking
the open area
mountain bike trails
Bike trails
Options. Trails, swim, picnic, field games, biking
Mountain biking
the bike trails
It's the only off leash place for responsible dog owners
Mountain bike trails
The single track bike trails.
Mountain bike trails
Off-leash dogs
Easy access
the natural feeling trails
Mountain Biking
The mountain bike trails
Beauty of the lake
The water quality, it's a great spot to swim close to home.
The locale. Forrest, well maintained trails
trails
Mountain biking
trails
Mtn biking
the convenience
the outer trail systems (away from the lake)
that it's within my community and easy to get to
the variety of landscape

The Res public survey results

Trails

Close to town

easy to get to...and drive into or walk...be in nature

The pond

Walking trails

swimming

swimming

Trails

To hike through the woods to the quarry

It's free to access

The beach

peacefullnes

the mountain bike trails

Trails

walking trails

Scenery

Mountain bike trails

combination of nice walks and swimming

The peacefulness once you get away from the pond area

Mountain Bike Trails

The beauty

The trails

The flowy trails for mountain biking. One of the smoothest places in Maine.

Early season easily accessible bike trails

MTB trails

post ride swim

Great mountain bike trails

mountain biking

the Mountain bike trails

Mountain biking

Mountain bike trails

The trails are well maintained

Length of trail network

mountain biking

Nice trails

easy access

Beautiful trails

Ride my Mountain Bike

It has good trails for mountain biking

The mountain bike trails

Great MTB trails

Mtn bike trails

Bike trails

Swimming

The Res public survey results

Mountain Biking
mountain biking trails
Mountain bike trails
Mountain biking
Interesting trail network
the combination of trails/terrain
Mountain biking
I love the quiet of the trails
It's local to Gardiner
Close to where I live
Biking
Mountain biking on the trails
The trails
Different skill level of trails
The trails dry early in the spring and are fun to ride
Trails
Quiet, no development
The peace of a walk in the woods.
the variety of trails and other activities
location/access
The lake
swimming
The sense of community - seeing others on the trails
picnic area with covers, minimal trash, big field for kids
good for kids
clean beach area
Lots of space for kids to play near beach area
Nice scenery, lots of wildlife
appreciating the scenery
cycling out to the res from my house
Walk my dog
not too many users
Swimming
That it's generally a relaxed place
Easily accessible
Trails that are wooded
The picnic table area near the pond
It feels safe
Natural beauty
Close to my home
Natural environment
Walking, swimming
Trails
swimming opportunities

The Res public survey results

cross-country skiing
Snow shoeing
plants and trees
Bird watching in winter
the good variety of birding habitat
the plant life
the very good birding opportunities
For the most part it is quiet and peaceful with not too many dog walkers to frighten the birds
The verity habitat
how they allow dogs there. one of the very very few places around here that isn't anti-dog
The shade is nice
The roadway is left accessible for a good chunk of the year (mid-May through mid-November usually, I think)
The ease of access
the old quarries
Nice snowshoe trails
nice trail layout
the trails
The sand shores
the length and number of trails
the water
Looking for things in the water
xskiing/snowshoeing
The wildlife and trees
the wildlife (except the bugs)
Swimming
variety of trails
Quietness
biking
Close to town
swimming
Great place to take grandson to swim
riding to the quarries
Close to home and easily accessible
Fat biking
getting outdoors
Trails - walking and cross country skiing
The snowmobile trails in winter for cycling
View of the water
Long loops
Spectacular single track for mountain bikes
the relative quiet compared to other local trail systems
Walking trails
The trails, great for a run with my dog.

The Res public survey results

Mountain biking is allowed
accessibility
ponds
Dog friendly
the walking trails
that you can be right in town but feel like you're way out of town.
that it's relatively undeveloped and often a quiet place to be
being able to snowshoe or ski at different levels of difficulty
Birds
Quiet
and observe seasonal changes up close.
The trails
mountain biking
having a picnic or walking around
To watch the water in the pond and its outlet
Proximity to home
the trails
outdoor activities
that my dog can run off leash there.
Solitude
nice plants and wildlife
Close to my home
Hiking with dogs
The challenging mountain bike trails
Swimming
The reservoir is fun to swim in in the summertime.
Dog friendly
great network of trails
Option to swim after riding
swimming
the pet friendly atmosphere.
walking on the trails
Swim
It is quiet
Challenging for mountain biking
good trails.
Peaceful
Walk my dog
It's a good place to ride in the winter
Mtn bike trails
Trail
Barbecue
more mountain biking trails being built!
Pond access

The Res public survey results

Trails are great for all abilities

the ease of getting there/proximity to Augusta

the fact that is multi-use - swimming, hiking, kids and adults

I love how well kept the trails in the woods are. Not just the main trail

I like the trails for mountain biking because they are easy enough for my kids to use

It has something for everyone

Hiking/running

The location

Natural features

The ability to picnic and swim

The network of trails, but it needs to be expanded a great deal.

The water

The lake.

Seeing others enjoying the outdoors.

close to home

trails

The easy trail hike

mountain biking

The woods and ability to get away from town

Appendix C: Responses to Question 4 (What should change at The Res) and Question 11 (What infrastructure should change)

Question 4 responses:

Needs to be open to more people. It feels like the Res is just for Hallowell residents.

Need to change the parking permit requirement, and open up parking area to all people not just Hallowell residents.

Bathrooms should be fixed. Don't like the port-o-potty

There are leaches in the pond. The Parking situation is the most important thing that should change. Bathrooms needs to be fixed (porto's are always nasty). Trash cans are overflowing all the time.

No changes

Cut down some of the older pine trees and use the funds to pay for improvements to facilities (e.g., bathrooms, maybe put in a playground)

The demographic of people. I have 3 small children and every single time I go there there are people smoking, drinking and using drugs. Loud music and party type of people. It should be more strongly enforced, and perhaps a park attendant or police officer should patrol every hour. I no longer go because the people who attend are so frustrating and disgusting.

signage

Could use a basketball court and a play ground, more kid friendly. Could be a nice place.

Allow set times for dogs to be off leash

The Res public survey results

No smoking at beach - with enforcement. Summer users smoke and litter more than the rest of the year.

Facilities

I've always enjoyed it as is

Moving it closer to downtown

Maybe better facilities, or more trails if possible

Safety phones along the trail like on college campuses

Beach area

General maintenance clean up. Rest rooms . Outdoor concerts .

Trails are not clearly marked - easy to get lost or feel turned around

Keep a dog and human in different spots and more trash cans and bags to get people to pick up dog poop

A map or trail markers

trail signage improvement

Have dog walkers keep their dogs on a leash and do a better job of waste cleanup (quite noticeable in late winter on the access road when the snow starts melting). Some dog walkers are very good at controlling their non-leashed dogs and others don't even see a need and think everyone loves their dog running up to you.

Trail maps

better trails

Separate as completely as possible bike trails from foot trails

I have had bad experiences with dogs that are free and jump on me or my companions, and with bike riders going too fast. It would be nice if we could reduce these problems.

I think it is important to maintain the bird habitat and access to all natural areas. It's a lively area to visit.

Better directional indications on the trails, a couple of times I got off trail by mistake and had to bush-whack back until I found the trail again. At least I could tell I was heading in the right direction by keeping the pond on my left

Leave like it is

i know there is a at least one trash can down there. maybe put a few more. maybe take care of the tree off the to right that's tipped over. i liked how the bathrooms were opened but this year they are. one huge thing would be to put those dog pottie dog poop bag holders there. it would be a huge help because sometimes i don't bring enough bags or i forget them.

New bathroom

The grass needs to be mowed more frequently, especially early in the year (ticks...) and the trash bin needs to be emptied more frequently (or add additional bins). The biggest issue is the trash left all over the place by some individuals using the park and the damage some of them do as well (graffiti, small fires, etc.). I'm not sure what can be done about this (I don't think it's Hallowell residents that are doing this...), but it's very sad to see how some people treat such a lovely little place. It would also be great to have the trails better marked -- simply spraying colored hash marks on the trees would be an easy fix.

Better/cleaner swimming

sometimes there's a bit of a rough crowd in the swimming area

The riff raff

The Res public survey results

Less trash

More bike trails, perhaps groomed trails for winter biking (its a thing)

trail markers

More Signs

Further trail markings

the lake is unsupervised and some of the people there in the summer do not behave in a family friendly way, i would never take my kids there

Get rid of the parking permit requirement, or at least allow people who work in Hallowell get permits.

Marked trails

The bathroom

The parking policy is annoying, during the weekdays when there are few locals there, having to park out by the road since I am not a resident and walk in the road just to get to the trails for a quick lunchtime walk in the woods feels a bit unwelcoming.

More garbage collection.

I wasn't aware of this resource until over a year after moving to the area, as opposed to something like Vaughn woods, which I learned about quickly. I think it needs more publicity / visibility .

More singletrack.

move the gate in about 50 yrds and allow much more parking along the dirt road. Parking can be VERY tight in early season.

The trails need to be marked and a trail map be displayed. Bathrooms would be nice too.

Better sanitary facilities. The porta potty available this year is a great improvement.

I would love a trail from the road - so I do not need to run in the dust - or to be able to park up closer to the trail head.

Keep it non-smoking. I see a lot of cigarette butts around sometimes near beach, which is discouraging.

Maintance,. Clean edge of road for safer walking (cut back brush). Clean/ add sand at beach.

Clean along shore dead wood etc. Mark trails, how far do they go, is there a short. Loop around the water etc

nothing just keep it open to all

build new/more trails

More bike trails

Fix the bathrooms and basketball court.

Nothing

TRASH is disgusting. Cigarette butts galore. Only one trash can land usually full.

Trail signage

More trails

Additional mountain bike trails

Winter parking safety (line of sight)

Signage and/or a trail map. Easy to get lost and sometimes difficult to find a section again.

Signs or map of trails.

Nothing

Restroom facilities

The Res public survey results

Maybe a restroom but it's great as is. It's a great spot to spend a afternoon

Don't change a thing!!!

trail linkage to Manchester, signage

It's great the way it is

better cross country ski trails without snowmobiles

Allowing CeMeNemba to do trail maintenance

informational and trail signs would be helpful

I think more monitoring of behavior around the lake on weekends. Otherwise, no changes needed that I can think of!

I'd like to see some trail markers and/or maps at intersections. I don't know the trails well and would like that assistance so I know where I'm going.

Perhaps raised walkways would be helpful near the parking area for use in mud season.

Less trash & dog poop along the way

Off-street parking

many allow dogs to run free & do not pick up poop unhealthy to other dogs but mostly to children playing

More parking? I really can't think of much. I love it there.

Groomed & well marked trails to walk & bike.

Bike/pedestrian trail connectivity between The Res and downtown.

Look more inviting

maintaining the grounds, sometimes people do not respect the land and there is trash or cigarette butts. I try to pick them up whenever I can safely do so.

No leash laws

The signs are misleading at the parking lot, implying a permit is needed to park there.

Safety and cleanliness

Allow mountain bikes on the trail now designated for walkers only along the west edge of the pond. We do not cause erosion or hurt any flowers. Thank you.

Dogs should be on leashes and police should patrol

Enforce sticker laws

Add additional single track mountain biking trails

dog behavior due to large number of dogs can be a problem with lots of barking and racing around people. Plus all the poop that is not cleaned up.

Better parking at the road

More multi use trails

More mountain bike trails!

Better monitoring of what goes on near the pond

Make all trails available for mountain bikes

Improve trail signage

Nothing

trail signage would be helpful

Keep the mountain bike trails maintained, maybe even add a little more single-track trail??

more mtb trails

Parking. As a non-resident, I drive in, unload, have to go out and park by the road despite their being plenty of parking available inside.

The Res public survey results

more trails

More trails.

More trails

I would like to see more trails. There is a ton of potential for hikers, runners and cyclists back there that is yet untapped.

More trail maintenance after leaf season

nothing

More parking in the winter

better signage.

Dog leash rules....especially for mt. bikers with dogs off leash. My old dog on leash was attacked several times by dogs running fast and uncontrolled by their owners.

Maintain the mountain bike trails

Make the parking lot at the road larger.

More mtn bike trails

More access to swim along the trail

Build more trails. Online parking passes

Better signs at trail intersections would be helpful. Just a small wooden sign nailed to a tree indicating the name of a trail (carved in or painted on) is sufficient.

Longer loop trail into Manchester.

Trail maps

Trailhead parking

Add more difficult trails for mountain bikers to allow progression of skills

For me- its great - maybe a little more double-track mountain bike trails, but that's minor and pretty self-serving.

More singletrack for running or bike riding

I like it just the way it is. But I'd also like to see Central Maine Mountain Bike Association also team up with the Res community because we could help maintain the trails and put money into the trails to make them better.

Build more trails for biking

Increased number of trails, varied trails

More parking for non-residents.

More mountain bike trails and SIGNAGE

Regular trail maintenance. Cutting back bushes, maintaining the integrity of the trails!

The trail network is too small and needs maintenance. There is no signage, and parking out on the road is dangerous. The gate should be open earlier in the spring.

Functioning bathrooms

Signs and information on uses

Better signage would help.

Better maps and signage

Question 11 responses:

The beach needs more sand.

Needs clean area to change and a playground for kids.

The Res public survey results

Bathrooms need to be fixed. It would be nice to have grilling options at beach area. More picnic tables. Bathrooms need to be fixed. There should be more trash bins. There should not be a fee to park if not a Hallowell Resident.

Should fix bathrooms and add a playground
signage

Restrooms updated and more kid friendly activities, basketball court and playground area.

Area for leash free dog walking

increased trails would be good esp if efforts are designed to increase users

I actually like that it's not over-improved or manicured

Make it bigger. Whether running or biking, you can run out of trail relatively quickly.

More maintained open space for games and such

Trail surfaces and entrance to the trail needs improvement

Trails, beach, signage, rest room and changing area.

Maps, signage, trail surfaces, and if you're planning on making changes a "grand opening" kind of day where people can get a tour and see where and how to use the facilities

Dog poop and a place for dogs to swim away from children and more trash cans

Maps and signage, shade for summer

hiking trail signage

Plowing quality in the winter is variable, for the parking area on Town Farm Rd.

Trail maps.

better sinage, parking and trails

Over use by bikers and most especially dogs off leashes have severe negative impact on bird nesting

clean functional restroom facilities would be number one. maps and low key signage for trails some signs pointing out natural or historical points of interest. we need more safe parking during the winter, once the gates are closed.

Signage, boardwalks to view the wetland areas, interpretive kiosks.

Maps, signage

Maps and signage; requiring dogs to be on leash at all times

Trail surfaces and up keep

maps would be a huge help there. trail markers/signs for people who dont go there as often

Trail markings

See prior answers

I would love for something to be done to make the water cleaner and less leech-y as a place for kids to swim/paddle/cool off in the summer.

marked trails, bathrooms

Signs on trails, trail maps on trail, more trails

trail mapping and bathrooms!

Maps and signs would be good. Also, get rid of the parking permit requirement.

Maps and signage, parking.

Better bathrooms, better swimming area

More singletrack trails for biking, friendlier parking policy for nonresidents.

More signs and maps for the trails would be great! More trash bins.

maps and signage

More singletrack.

The Res public survey results

Parking...move gate in about 50 yds...that would allow parking along dirt road and add many spots.

Weekend can be difficult to park

Trail maps and marked trails

Maps of the trails would be great! Also, improved sanitary facilities and maybe a potable water fountain or faucet.

Maps would be cool - it took me awhile to figure out the loops - still more trails out there I know I am missing :-)

Maps would help. Signage. No smoking signs in particular. "Hallowell residents only" signs.

Maps, signage

More flow trails. Great for bikes, runners and walkers

Trail map, fix bathroom and basketball court

I love maps

A trail map would be nice. A couple more garbage cans would be good. Ball field looks like it needs restoration.

Better signage and improved trail surfaces for mt biking

Maps

Just more trails

Remove industrail debris and gravel berms used as trail guides. Replace with bollards and lansdscape

Maps and trail signage to make navigation less difficult, especially for newer users.

Maps signs

Better parking, more access

Maps, signage, trail surfaces

Restroom

Maps and signage

already answered

Maps

trail maps

some trails just for walking and skiing

Maps would be great!

Maps and signage at trail intersections. More signs about people keeping dogs on leashes and picking up after them.

More maps/signage for clarity of seasonal uses

Bridge over a couple wet areas on the trails for both spring walking & winter skiing and snowshoeing

Maps, parking

Maps Trail surfaces

Off-road trail connectivity between The Res and locations closer to downtown. I would love to be able to get there without using a motor vehicle.

Improved signage

The trails could be a bit better now that I think of it - but seriously... people hunt up there?

Trail surface and signage

Maps and signs at trail junctions, and obvious demarcation of property lines

Trail maps, upgraded/up kept bathrooms

parking, signage

The Res public survey results

maybe send the snowmobile groomer around to make a loop for fatbiking that goes all the way around the pond and out to the parking on Town Farm Road. Otherwise it gets all pocked up.

Eliminate leaches in swim area

signage - we got a little lost once

Rest rooms , clear trails

parking

remove invasive plants

Better trail signage

Maps and signage and improved parking

Trail maps would be great

maybe a more packed down trail for the double track taken to get to the junkyard? I like the trail system how it is for the most part.

More single track mountain bike trails and signage

maps ans signage

Expanded single-track for mountain bikes and grooming single-track for fat biking in winter

maps and parking would be nice.

Parking. Some direction signs might be good (ie this way to pond)

More parking for those who do not live in Hallowell

Trail maps and trail name at head of trails

Trail surfaces are pretty good now. I guess it really depends on what it is for. I think the setup for mountain biking (I see a bunch of it here) could be greatly expanded.

Trail Surfaces

maps along the trail

More parking in the winter. A map at the entrance with a list of rules.

more trails with more variety. Better signage. Connectivity with other trails.

Signage, parking

More mixed use trails for biking, hiking and running.

Definitely maps and signage. I live and work at least 30 miles away so I am not able to make it to the Res every week. I usually ride with a group that knows their way around.

maps and signage

More mtn bike trails and maps

Maps Signs

Benches and picnic tables around the whole res

Signage, maps, parking pass available online

Trails designed specifically for mountain bikers. There is a certain incline variation, trail surface, and flow that is especially desirable for mountain bikers! Of course, all nature lovers would also be able to enjoy and appreciate these trails, too. Thank you! :)

Parking for adjacent towns. ABA trail around the pond. Signage and maps at intersections.

Spraying for mosquitos

Parking at the trailhead instead of on the road would be nice

more signage, more access to parking inside the park

some trail surface improvement to extend the season and less weather dependent

Single track signs for new users. It's a fairly small trail system. Not very challenging but it's nice for people to know where to go

The Res public survey results

Signage would be awesome!! And trail maintenance

Maps and signage for the bike trails. Add some bike trails.

Maps, signage, bathroom/changing facility, more road parking, more trails

Signage and restroom improvements

Signage, parking

Maps and signage. More parking for non Hallowell residents!

The Res is a great resource for beginners and novices but it needs some upgrades and maintenance.

Please look to the local mountain bike chapter for expertise and help; they are doing amazing work in Kennebec county and all your trail users will benefit from their efforts.

Maps and signage, bathrooms, no smoking signs

Signs, trail markings, controlled dogs

Better signage.

Maps and signage, parking, bathrooms

Lots of things - signage and maps!