

Land Protection Committee Charge

Approved by the Board of Directors: October 14, 2020

Sudbury Valley Trustees (SVT) works to protect natural areas and farmland for wildlife and people in the 36 communities that surround the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers. SVT manages both fee-owned properties known as Reservations and conservation restricted properties known as CRs for habitat, wildlife and public access. Acquisition of new properties, both Reservations and CR's, must be consistent with SVT's mission, uphold legal responsibilities, and meet Land Trust Alliance (LTA) standards and practices.

Charge of the Committee

The Committee works with SVT's Land Protection Department to lead the organization's efforts to protect natural areas and farmland throughout the region.

The Land Protection Committee performs the following functions:

1. Reviews prospective projects and recommends strong project candidates to the Board for its consideration and approval.
2. Considers and provides advice on practical problem-solving strategies with Land Protection staff to ensure sound transactions.
3. Reviews, and as needed, recommends land protection policies to the Board of Directors for its consideration and approval.
4. Provides input on the Land Protection elements of SVT's Strategic Plan and reviews progress on land protection strategies.
5. Serves as a sounding board for Land Protection staff on non-project-related issues, such as outreach.
6. Communicates the role and mission of SVT's land protection to the public.

See also the Roles and Responsibilities of Committee Members.

Committee Composition

The ideal committee would number between eight and ten members comprised of the following:

- At least three members from the Board of Directors
- At least two attorneys who practice or have practiced land use or conveyancing law, or environmental law
- At least one with a background in ecology, geology, or another natural science
- At least one with a background in engineering
- At least one real estate professional

The Director of Land Protection will be the staff liaison.

Committee Meeting Schedule

The Committee meets at least six times a year.