

## **Stewardship 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. The Stewardship Department directs the management of fee-owned properties known as Reservations and conservation restrictions known as CRs. Management of these properties must be consistent with SVT's mission, uphold legal responsibilities and meet Land Trust Alliance (LTA) standards and practices. The stewardship and management of these properties is in perpetuity and is critical to SVT's mission and success.

### **Charge of the Committee:**

The Stewardship Committee works with SVT's Stewardship Department to lead the organization's efforts in best stewardship and management practices to preserve the integrity of habitat and wildlife on our properties, manage public access and uphold the public trust. The Stewardship Committee performs the following functions:

1. Develop strategies for resolving public use and public relations issues
2. Review proposed habitat management plans and provide advice on potential alternatives
3. Review, and as needed, recommend, stewardship policies to the Board of Directors for its consideration and approval.
4. Help to identify stewardship management priorities.
5. Provide input on the Stewardship elements of SVT's Strategic Plan and review progress on stewardship strategies.
6. Communicate the role and mission of SVT's stewardship to the public.

See also the Roles and Responsibilities of Committee Members.

### **Committee Composition**

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

- At least three members from the Board of Directors
- At least two with a background in conservation biology, biology, ecology or similar
- At least two with a background in recreational trails management and visitor services, land management and public use or similar
- At least one attorney

The Director of Stewardship will be the staff liaison.

### **Committee Meeting Schedule**

The committee meets at least five times a year.