

SETH HILL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT PLAN



Spring and weir at Seth Hill property, circa 2014. Photo credit: David Brynn

LINCOLN, VERMONT

DRAFT for SB Approval August 2026

Prepared by:

Bristol Conservation Commission

Approved by Bristol Selectboard, xx Month xxxx

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A. Existing Conditions

1. General Description of Property

The Seth Hill waterworks property occupies a 113-acre parcel located east of Downingsville Road in the northeastern corner of Lincoln (Figure 1). The property is owned by the Town of Bristol and is jointly managed by the Bristol Selectboard, the Recreation Department and the Conservation Commission.

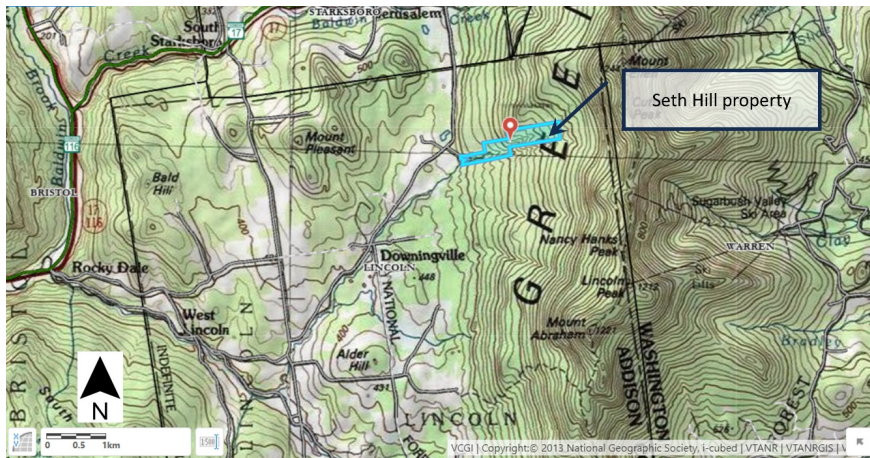


Figure 1. Vicinity map for Seth Hill property, Lincoln, Vermont.
Source: VT Natural Resource Atlas.

The Seth Hill parcel is fully forested and moderately to steeply sloping. On north, east, and south boundaries, the parcel is surrounded by lands of the Green Mountain National Forest; on the west end it is bordered by private residential parcels (Figure 2). Water Works Road (Class 3) provides access to the westernmost end of the property from Downingsville Road and two truck road segments and historic skid trails extend access eastward to the parcel interior.

The parcel (also known as the Bristol Water Works) was acquired by the village of Bristol circa 1905 to secure a spring water source that was piped to the village, and was in use until the mid-1990s (St Albans Messenger, 21 Nov 1906; Burlington Free Press, 25 April 1995). “Elements of the 1905 water system are still in place, but the spring house was damaged by Tropical Storm Irene in 2011 and has been removed” (VFF, 2024a).

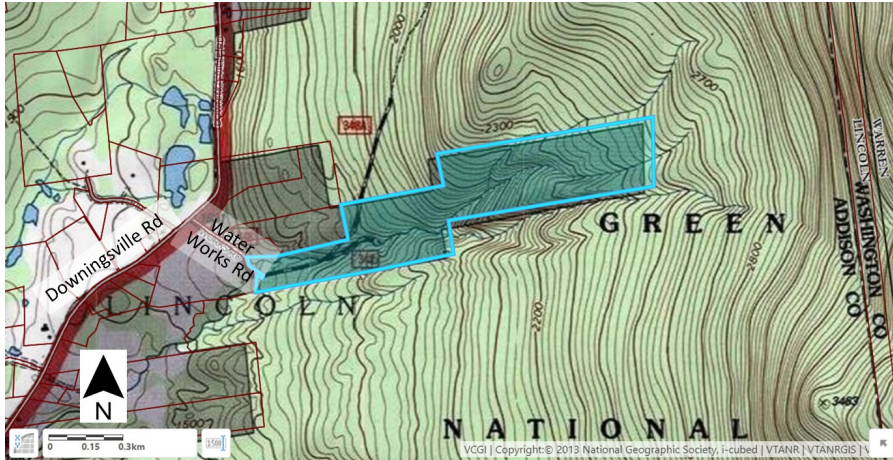


Figure 2. Approximate boundaries of the Seth Hill parcel highlighted in teal, accessed off the Downingsville Road in Lincoln. (Property boundaries, approximated from Lincoln Tax Parcel Maps, are for planning purposes only and do not represent actual surveyed boundaries).
Base map: Mount Ellen, VT USGS 7.5 Minute Topographic Map, 1997.

2. Recent History

While the Seth Hill property original served as the Water Works for the village of Bristol, this role was suspended in the middle 1990s, when giardia impacts caused Bristol to replace this water source (Burlington Free Press, 25 April 1995). Since 1 April 2011, the parcel has been enrolled in the Use Value Appraisal program¹; this state program administered by the VT Division of Forestry allows a reduced tax rate for lands in active forest (or agricultural) use if the owner agrees not to develop those lands. Enrollment in the program requires a forest management plan renewable on a 10-year basis, and the Seth Hill parcel has had a plan in place since at least 2014 (VFF, 2024a).

In recent years, Don Gale of Lincoln, owner and operator of Twin Maple Sugar Works, has entered into a lease agreement with the Town of Bristol to maintain maple sugaring taps and lines on the Seth Hill parcel (Town of Bristol, 2025). Twin Maple Sugar Works maintains approximately 800 taps on the Seth Hill parcel; they also use Forest Road 348A that bisects the Seth Hill property to access Green Mountain National Forest lands to the north where they maintain approximately 4800 taps (D. Gale personal statement, 16 Dec 2024, Bristol Selectboard meeting).

¹ <https://fpr.vermont.gov/forest/UseValueAppraisal>

3. Ecological Setting

The forested parcel is surrounded on three sides by the Green Mountain National Forest, and is bisected by an unnamed tributary to the Beaver Meadow Brook, itself draining to the New Haven River and ultimately to Otter Creek and Lake Champlain. General habitat types include:

- Riverine: the stream itself and its bedrock, cobble and gravel, step-pool and riffle-pool substrates;
- Riparian: the slopes and vegetation immediately adjacent to the river; and
- Upland forest.

The Seth Hill parcel is located within a high-priority forest block of regional and state significance (weighted score of 8 out of 10) (Sorenson and Zaino, 2018). During forest inventories in 2024, Vermont Family Forests identified four natural community types on the parcel: Red Spruce – Northern Hardwood Forest; Montane Yellow Birch – Red Spruce Forest; Northern Hardwood Forest; Hemlock- Northern Hardwood Forest (VFF, 2024a; Thompson, Sorensen, and Zaino, 2019).

The parcel has been identified as a Biodiversity Conservation Area under a state of Vermont Conserved Lands Inventory conducted in response to the Community Resilience and Biodiversity Protection Act or “CRBPA.” (Act. 59, relating to community resilience and biodiversity protection, effective 1 July 2023).

4. Wildlife Resources

While a detailed wildlife inventory is not known to have occurred at the property, past forest inventories have noted evidence of bark stripping by moose and browsing by white-tailed deer (VFF, 2024a). Evidence of black bears, moose, bobcats, white-tailed deer, and coyote has been sighted within the contiguous forest blocks to the north and south of the parcel (iNaturalist.com, 2025).

5. Historical and Cultural Resources

The Seth Hill property was acquired by Bristol on or about 1905 during exploration of a replacement water supply for the village (Appendix A). In the spring of 1905, Bristol village contracted Lloyd & Mann, civil and hydraulic engineers, from Concord, NH to investigate multiple possible water sources in vicinity of Bristol. The Seth Hill property was selected, due to its high yield of spring water sufficient to sustain the needs of Bristol village and its high source elevation (that would allow for a smaller-diameter delivery pipe) (Bristol Herald, 4 May 1905).

A four-inch-diameter delivery pipe conveyed water under gravity forces from the Seth Hill spring intake approximately 5.5 miles downhill to the storage reservoir above Bristol village, a vertical drop of 948 feet (Bristol Herald, 11 May 1905).

6. Archeological Resources

To date, no official archeological evaluations are known to have been completed on the property.

7. Topography and Geology

The Seth Hill property is located wholly within the Northern Green Mountain physiographic province. Parcel elevations range from 2520 feet at the eastern boundary to 1600 feet at the western property boundary, with slopes ranging from 10 to 60% (VFF, 2024a).

Soils at the parcel are mapped predominantly as Berkshire and Marlow very stony soils (Soil Survey Staff, 2025) that have developed on glacial till sediments (Wright, 2022; Stewart and MacClintock, 1969). Smaller pockets of Salmon very fine sandy loams and Colton gravelly sand loams are also present (Soil Survey Staff, 2025). Bedrock underlying the parcel is approximately 500 million years old, and consists of schists of the Underhill and Fayston Formations (Stanley et al., 1995). Calcium-rich albite and dolomite members account for rich soils that support the maple and basswood trees on the lower elevations of the parcel (VFF, 2024a).

8. Hydrology and Geomorphology

An unnamed tributary to the Beaver Meadow Brook (aka Downingsville Brook) drains the property including the western slopes of Mount Ellen and Cutts Peak. Beaver Meadow Brook joins the New Haven River just west of Lincoln village, and the New Haven River ultimately drains to the Otter Creek and then to Lake Champlain.

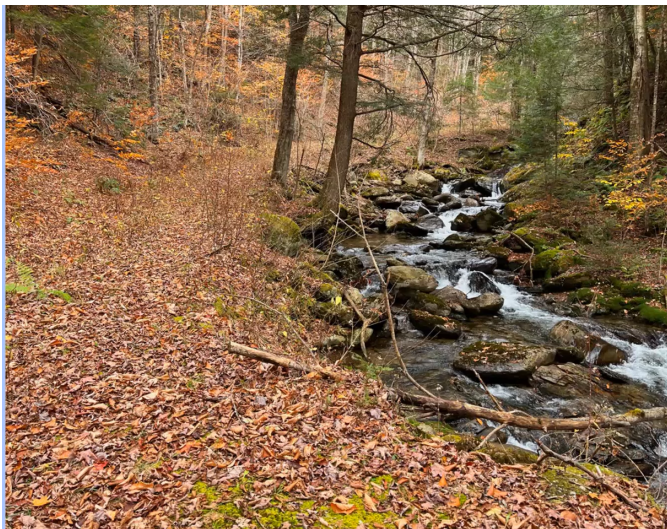


Figure 3. Spring Road leading from the gate to the spring, follows closely along an unnamed tributary to Beaver Meadow Brook. Photo credit: David Brynn

The upstream drainage area of the tributary at the western property boundary is 1.4 square miles. The bedrock spring which was used as a water supply for Bristol village from 1905 to the mid-1990s, is located next to the stream, approximately 0.3 mile uphill from the western property boundary (Figure 4). Given the historic use of the spring as a public water supply, the spring and its upstream drainage area (1.3 sq. mi.) are classified as a Class A2 waters in the Vermont Water Quality Standards (VTANR WMD, 2017, App. F, page 73).

A very limited geomorphic assessment of the stream was conducted in 2014 as part of a bridge and culvert inventory that included a stream crossing by the Spring Road extension of Water Works Road. The structure span was found to be undersized, measuring 8.1 ft, or 32% of the bankfull channel width (25 ft).²² As such, the structure is susceptible to clogging by large woody debris and sediment, and the structure could be compromised during flood events. No inventory data were found for other crossing structures at the property.

B. Current Uses

Current uses of the Seth Hill parcel are divided according either to the level of activity or type of use, and include Active and Passive Open Space.

1. Active Open Space

There are no active open spaces (e.g., recreation areas, parking lots) on the Seth Hill parcel other than a very modest parking area at the end of Water Works Road.

2. Passive Open Space

The full Seth Hill parcel acreage is classified as passive open space. This classification describes an area where the natural condition of the land provides the setting for human activities. Relevant activities at Seth Hill include bird-watching, hiking, snow-shoeing, cross-country skiing and hunting. Additionally, maple trees on the parcel are actively tapped each year to support a maple sugaring operation under a lease from the town of Bristol to Twin Maple Sugar Works of Lincoln.

C. Current Issues

Along with all the beneficial uses described above, public land may be subject to occasional conflicts of use, inappropriate use or other conditions that pose concerns. Current issues related to use of the Seth Hill parcel include the following:

²² <https://anrweb.vt.gov/DEC/SGA/datasets/structures/data/sStep2.aspx?sid=9690&option=view&phid=3&did=185>

1. Erosion and stormwater runoff

A legacy of logging has left a road and trail network on the Seth Hill property that contributes to erosion and stormwater runoff (Figure 4).

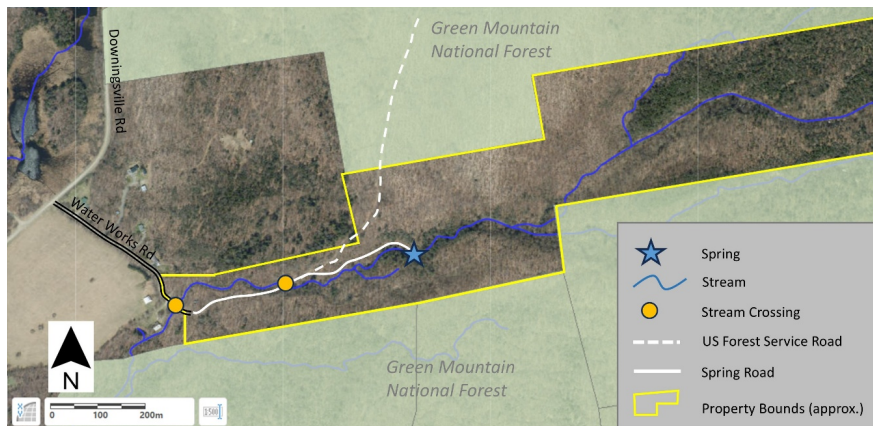


Figure 4. Forest road network on Seth Hill parcel, western half of parcel.

Erosional impacts from past floods on the property have been concentrated along the logging access roads – including the so-called Spring Road leading from the gate to the springhouse and the Forest Service Road 348A (Figure 4). The Spring Road was installed circa 1905 when the waterworks was first developed. Forest Road 348A was a temporary truck road installed by the US Forest Service to access timber for harvest on GMNF lands to the north of the Seth Hill property.

Improvements to these truck road segments have been implemented recently to address erosion and associated nutrient loading to Lake Champlain, and to bring the road segments into compliance with Acceptable Management Practices (AMPs) for logging³. Previous to this work, only two water bars functioned properly to drain the road segments, while a much higher density of drainage structures was required under the AMPs (D. Brynn, personal communication, 14 Nov 2024). During the summer of 2024, thirty-five erosion control structures were installed along 2,625 feet of logging road segments (Both Spring Road and Forest Road 348A) on the Seth Hill parcel under direction of VT Family Forests (VFF, 2024b). Structure design was contingent on road grade: <10% grade – broad-based dips; 10-12% grade – stone-lined broad-based dips (Figure 2); and >12% - deep water bars. Funding for this work was provided by a Clean Water

³https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wsm/wetlands/docs/wl_AcceptableManagementPracticesForMaintainingWaterQualityOnLoggingJobsInVermont.pdf

Service Provider (CWSP) grant secured by the town of Bristol from the Addison County Regional Planning Commission.



Figure 5. Seth Hill road segment of 10-12% grade, treated with broad-based dips containing 4-6" crushed stone. Photo credit: David Brynn.

Source: https://familyforests.org/when_rewilding_isnt_enough/

A network of historic skid trails also exists on the property (VFF, 2024a and 2024b). These are trails that were formed during logging to access harvested timber and drag logs downslope to landing sites. Recent assessment by VFF (in 2023) revealed that this historic skid trail network does not conform to the AMPs (having insufficient density of drainage structures). The skid trails are essentially “dugways” that serve to concentrate stormwater runoff to the stream network, contributing to downstream flood stages and streambank erosion. The trails are deeply incised from past erosion, but because of minimal use in recent decades, they have “healed over” with vegetation and no longer exhibit raw, eroding surfaces. VFF has a plan for installation of drainage structures (water bars, and broad-based dips) along these skid trails; however, these were ineligible for the CWSP cost-share program at this time, because they had sufficiently rewilded and were not serving as an active source of sediment (VFF, 2024c).

2. Access for Maple Sugaring

Twin Maple Sugar Works maintains a lease with the Town of Bristol for tapping red and sugar maple trees, concentrated in management areas 4, 5, and 6 (Appendix B) (VFF, 2024a). They also lease about 100 acres of sugarbush from the US Forest Service (approximately 4800 taps) and use Forest Road 348A to access these lands through the Seth Hill parcel (D. Gale, personal communication, 16 Dec 2024 Bristol Selectboard meeting).

In the recent years since the erosion control work was completed, Twin Maple has encountered some issues accessing their leased sugaring lands.

- **Along the Spring Road.**

Some of the broad-based dips – while effective for diverting, slowing, spreading, and sinking stormwater runoff to reduce erosion and nutrient mobilization to the stream – have presented challenges for access to maintain maple sugaring taps and lines on the property by the leaseholder. During the winter of 2025, some of the deeper dips were temporarily filled with small-diameter branches by Twin Maple Sugar Works to lessen the depth of the dips and facilitate vehicle passage (Figure 6). This practice has the effect of reducing the capacity of the dip to convey stormwater flows and may constrain the intended effectiveness of these erosion control structures.

- **Along Forest Road 348A**

This road (used by Don Gale to access additional maple taps on the Green Mountain National Forest lands to the north) has grades of 16 to 25%. Therefore, deep water bars (aka “tank traps”) were implemented to divert stormwater off the road. These deep water bars now make it difficult for Twin Maple to pass their vehicles to maintain taps and lines north of the parcel. These concerns were brought to the attention of the Bristol Selectboard at a 16 December 2024 meeting and again in August 2025. Representatives from USFS, leaseholder Don Gale and the town of Bristol are in agreement that the number of water bars on the forest road should be reduced by half, and that the height of the remaining bars should be reduced (11 August 2025 Selectboard meeting minutes). The parties are in continuing discussions around how to afford and implement this remediation work (25 August 2025 Selectboard meeting minutes).

As part of the erosional control work that was completed in summer 2024, the town of Bristol has signed a 10-year contract (running 11/10/24 to 11/10/34) to maintain the erosion control structures, including agreeing not to “promote road uses that compromise the effectiveness and longevity of the erosion-control structures” (VTDEC, 2024). The Operation & Maintenance Plan contained in this agreement calls for ‘debris removal as needed’ and “cleaning out erosion control structures to ensure unfettered flow of stormwater” (VTDEC, 2024).

While it is understandable that the maple lease holder would modify the broad-based dips on Spring Road in winter months to facilitate access to the sugarbush, the added branches should then be removed following the sugaring season to ensure unfettered flow of stormwater during the non-winter season. At present, the maple lease agreement between Don Gale and Town of Bristol does not specifically reference maintenance of the newly-installed drainage structures. More generally, it states that the leaseholder “shall maintain all roads or fences in the same or better condition than as the initial lease.” The current lease agreement runs for calendar years 2025 through 2029; and was thus implemented after completion of the erosion control work.

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Figure 6. Broad-based dips along the Spring Road have been filled with small-diameter logs / branches to facilitate truck passage. Note overhead sap main lines. As viewed on 22 May 2025 during field site visit with Bristol Conservation Commission led by David Brynn. Photo credit: Aidan Lenihan.

3. Use After Dark and Unsanctioned Activities

No evidence of property use after dark or other unsanctioned activities was noted by Bristol Conservation Commission members during a field site visit on 22 May 2025.

4. Invasive Plants

Based on a 2023 inventory conducted by Vermont Family Forests as part of the update to the Forest Conservation Plan, no substantial indications of non-native, invasive plant species were noted (VFF, 2024a).

5. Trash Dumping

No evidence of trash dumping at the property was noted by Bristol Conservation Commission members during a field site visit on 22 May 2025.

6. Motorized Vehicle Use

The property sees only very occasional use by All-Terrain Vehicles and other motorized vehicles. Motorized vehicle access is largely incompatible with the conservation objectives for the parcel including supporting wildlife habitats, protecting water quality, and protecting rare natural communities. Limited motorized vehicle use is anticipated for maintenance of maple sugaring equipment.

7. Accessibility

Access to the Seth Hill property is challenging for those who are differently abled, given the steep terrain and access roads that have been restored with intentional dips to slow, spread and sink stormwater runoff. Goals for enhanced accessibility should be balanced against the property's remote location and flood resilience / water quality goals that necessitated the installation of broad-based dips on truck road segments for erosion control. Other parks exist in Bristol, where improved accessibility is being actively pursued including Eagle, Sycamore and Memorial Parks.

D. Management Objectives

1. Objectives

Seth Hill Waterworks property is a town-owned open space that has potential for a combination of uses and conditions, under the designation of passive open space.

Management objectives and related management practices must be carefully balanced with the natural and cultural resource concerns. Accordingly, listed below are overarching objectives that address both active uses and conservation:

- Access to the parcel by hikers, snow-shoers, cross-country skiers, wildlife trackers, anglers, bird-watchers, and hunters is integral to the recreational functions of the passive open spaces and should be enhanced as best practices allow.
- The use of the parcel for educational purposes should be pursued and enhanced whenever possible.
- Enhancements to accessibility at the parcel should be pursued whenever possible, and balanced against the parcel's limited size and a recognition that several larger town parks provide greater opportunities for accessibility.
- Public access to the parcel should be weighed against the protection of sensitive natural and cultural resources.

2. Activities by Management Area

To accomplish these objectives, possible activities by management area include the following:

- Active open space: Not applicable.
- Riparian zone: a zone approximately 50 feet landward from the outermost edge of the stream channel.
- Passive Open Space: land areas not included in the above two zones.

Activity	Riparian Zone	Passive Open Space
Photography	X	X
Mammal Identification / Wildlife Tracking	X	X

Birding	X	X
Plant & tree identification	X	X
Prevention/ management of invasive plants	X	X
Hiking / Snowshoeing	X	X
Cross country skiing	X	X
Hunting	X	X
Historical & Cultural Education	X	X
Maple Sugaring (under lease agreement)	X	X
Geo-caching		X
Fishing / Fish & invertebrate identification	X	
Wading	X	
Hunting	X	

The Seth Hill parcel is a day-use site open from dawn to dusk. No public access is allowed between dusk and dawn. Trespassers between dusk and dawn will be handled according to the Town's Trespass Ordinance. Motorized vehicles are not permitted at the parcel outside of limited road and trail maintenance activities and access to the maple sugarbush by the leaseholder. Horse-back riding and mountain biking are not permitted at the parcel due to the steepness of the roads and trails and the objectives to minimize erosion and enhance flood resilience. No clearing of vegetation is permitted except for dead or damaged trees that may pose a safety hazard.

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E. Management Roles

Management of the Seth Hill parcel will be achieved through cooperative actions of several groups.

1. Conservation Commission

The Bristol Conservation Commission is a town board with a mission to conserve Bristol's natural and cultural heritage for present and future generations, raise public awareness for these resources and provide opportunities for greater involvement by the community (<http://bristolvt.org/boards-commissions-committees/conservation/>). The Commission has developed this management plan for the parcel in keeping with implementation actions outlined in the Bristol Town Plan (2020). Along with the Selectboard and Recreation Department, the Commission is charged with maintaining existing public facilities and outdoor spaces that encourage social and leisure time activities among town residents. The Commission works closely with the Recreation Department on maintenance of town parks and town-owned parcels.

2. Recreation Department

Bristol Recreation Department (www.bristolvt.myrec.com) is committed to offering lifelong learning opportunities through a wide range of quality recreational and performing arts activities to people of all ages. The Recreation Department has contributed to this management plan for the parcel, and oversees periodic inspection activities.

3. Selectboard

The Bristol Selectboard is ultimately responsible for recreation and healthy living in the town of Bristol and at town-owned parcels, with support from the Conservation Commission and Recreation Department. The Selectboard reviewed and approved this management plan for the parcel, and works with the Conservation Commission and Recreation Department to secure the necessary resources to maintain and improve town parks and town-owned parcels.

4. Department of Public Works

The Department of Public Works could potentially be called upon for maintenance tasks at the Seth Hill parcel, ~~in consultation with~~ the Selectboard and/or Recreation Department.

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5. Bristol Trail Network

The Bristol Trail Network operates under the auspices of the Bristol Recreation Club, Inc., a non-profit (501(c)3), volunteer-run, membership organization, open to all in the community. The mission of the Bristol Recreation Club is to maintain outdoor recreation space for the amusement, enjoyment, and recreation of the residents of Bristol (www.bristolrecclub.org/). The Bristol Trail Network is a project of the Bristol Recreation Club launched in 2017 (www.bristolrecclub.org/bristol-trail-network). In addition to the main focus of building a loop of interconnected trails around the Bristol village, BTN volunteers are also improving and expanding trails on other town-owned properties. This network of volunteers could potentially be available for ongoing maintenance tasks at the Seth Hill parcel.

6. Other Volunteer Organizations

Other volunteer organizations that may contribute to future maintenance and improvements at the Seth Hill parcel include the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, as well as student groups from Mount Abraham Union High School. The Bristol Historical Society maintains photographs, manuscripts and documents pertaining to Bristol's history including its parks and town-owned parcels. New Haven River Anglers Association is a regional group dedicated to the protection and enhancement of the New Haven River and its tributaries.

F. Recommended Actions

1. Actions by the Conservation Commission

- Continue active involvement as overseers of the protection and enhancement of the natural and cultural resources at the parcel.
- Continue ongoing maintenance at the parcel to achieve objectives of improved water quality and habitats, and enhanced flood resiliency – balanced against improved site access for recreation and maple sugaring.
- Consider co-hosting educational or recreational activities at the parcel in collaboration with the Lincoln Conservation Commission.
- Coordinate with experts, watershed groups, and/or academic groups to conduct inventories of invasive species as well as bird, plant, mammalian, fish and invertebrate species at the parcel.

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- Develop management plans for prevention, control and eradication of invasive plant species, where appropriate.
- Continue to work cooperatively with Bristol Selectboard, Recreation Department and others for the protection and enhancement of the parcel, including improved recreation opportunities.

2. Actions by the Recreation Department

- Continue to perform periodic inspections of the parcel.
- Consider signage and other online notifications that clarify the day-use nature of operations from dawn to dusk.
- Consider signage and other online notifications that clarify that motorized vehicle use is prohibited except for the leaseholder to maintain maple sugaring taps and lines, and except for maintenance of the road and trail network.
- Initiate and support educational and recreational activities associated with the parcel.

3. Actions by the Selectboard

- Work with the Conservation Commission on items involving the protection and enhancement of natural and cultural resources at the property.
- Continue to administer the leaseholder agreement(s) for maple sugaring activities at the parcel – including amending the agreement to clarify responsibility for maintenance of the drainage structures and subject to operation & maintenance requirements under the agreement between Town of Bristol and Addison Country Regional Planning Commission (Clean Water Service Provider).
- Continue to work with US Forest Service and the maple leaseholder to secure resources to remediate deep water bars along the segment of Forest Road 348A that traverses the property.
- Continue to ensure compliance with the Use Value Appraisal program.
- Closely monitor any actions by the Bristol Recreation Department concerning unsanctioned or overnight activities at the property.
- Closely monitor any actions by the State Police relating to illegal activities at the property.
- Provide oversight of the activities of all municipal boards and public groups at the property.

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Appendix A. Historic Newspaper Clippings

BRISTOL'S WATER SYSTEM.

The Committee Purchase Land and Engage an Engineer.

The construction committee got busy last Thursday and closed the deal for the land in Lincoln surrounding the springs from which this village is to take its water supply. The lot contains 25 acres and the price paid was \$135.

The committee has closed a contract with Lhoyd & Mann, engineers, Concord, N. H., to act as engineers of the system. A room has been secured in the Drake-Farr block for the joint use of the committee and engineer.

Following is a summary of the report made by I. S. Lhoyd, of the firm of Lhoyd & Mann, at the village meeting held, May 3d:

Three different sources of supply were investigated, namely:

1. Seth Hill brook in the town of Lincoln.
2. Phillips spring and Baldwin creek in the town of Bristol.
3. Cold spring on the bank of the New Haven river at the creamery below the plant of the Bristol Manufacturing Co. in the village of Bristol.

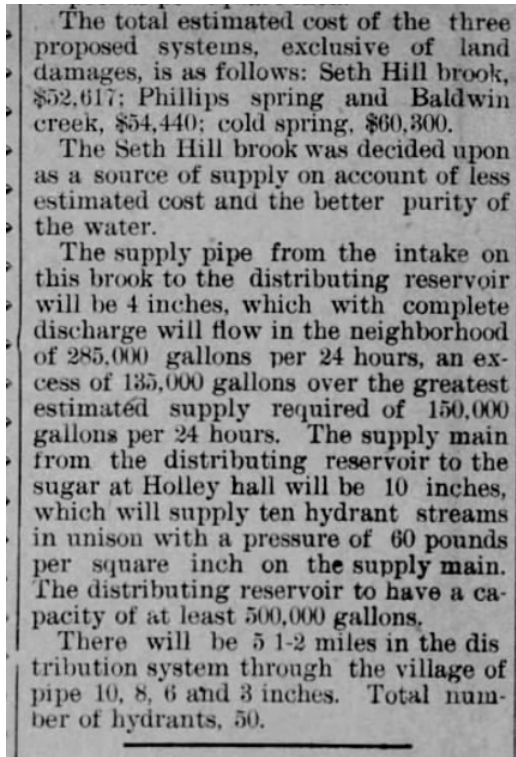
The two former would be gravity and the latter a pumping system, the water being conducted in each of the three to a distributing reservoir on the pinnacle hill near the village.

Weir measurement of the Seth Hill brook gave a flow of 2,026,620 gallons per 24 hours; of the Phillips spring, 51,840 gallons; the Baldwin creek is a large stream of water flowing immediately past the Phillips spring and could be used as a feeder for a supply from this source. The weir measurement of the cold spring gave a flow of 803,520 gallons per 24 hours with considerable water not passing through the weir.

The intake on the Seth Hill brook would be 948 feet above the distributing reservoir on the pinnacle hill, the distance being 6 1-2 miles; intake of the Phillips spring 190 feet above, a distance of 4 1-2 miles; the cold spring, 370 feet below Pinnacle hill, a distance of 1 1-4 miles.

The distributing reservoir on Pinnacle hill would be 231 feet above the square at Holley hall, a distance of two-thirds of a mile. This would give a static pressure of 100 pounds per square inch on the supply main at the square at Holley hall.

The supply pipe from the intake to the distributing reservoir has been figured large enough to supply 150,000 gallons per 24 hours, which amounts to a domestic supply for 2000 people of 75 gallons per capita for 24 hours, which is considered ample for the future needs of the village. The supply main from the distributing reservoir to the square at Holley hall has been figured large enough to conduct sufficient water to supply at least seven hydrant streams in unison at a pressure on the main of 60 pounds per square inch.



Bristol Herald, 1905 (11 May), vol. 27, no. 2, page 1, imaged at *Newspapers.com*
<https://www.newspapers.com/image/355410125/?match=1&terms=Bristol%27s%20Water%20System>

THE WATER HAS COME.
Arrived Tuesday Evening via the Pipe
Line from Lincoln—Everybody
Happy in Consequence.

Water was turned on at the intake of the village water system in Lincoln Tuesday afternoon and between 8 and 9 o'clock that evening it arrived at the reservoir on the pinnacle east of this village. Yesterday the water was let into the village mains and the hydrants given a partial test. Everything so far has worked satisfactorily.

It is putting it mildly to say that the advocates of the village water system feel like shouting the glorious fact that Bristol now has a water system that will furnish an abundant supply for all purposes. The construction committee are happy because the cost of the plant is inside the appropriation of \$55,000. This also pleases the taxpayers. Another reason for rejoicing over the arrival of water is that it proves beyond a doubt that the 137 persons who voted May 3, 1905, to construct a gravity water system were correct in so doing.

Work began on the new system the morning of July 6, and but for the unfavorable weather during July, August and a portion of September the plant would have been completed by the middle of October.

Many of those who opposed the village water system in May now see that they were mistaken in the views then held, and acknowledge the fact that the expansionists were right.

In a few days the system will be in working order, and the 50 hydrants in the village are so placed that every house is less than 200 feet from one, thus providing fire protection for all.

The construction committee, engineers and contractors celebrated the completion of the system last evening, setting off rockets and dynamite from the pinnacle and ending with a lunch at the committee's room in the Drake-Farr block.

Bristol Herald, 1905 (23 November), vol. 27, no. 30, page 4, imaged at [Newspapers.com](https://www.newspapers.com/image/355411031/?match=1&terms=village%20water%20Lincoln)
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