



Hudson Highlands Land Trust

Granite Mountain Preserve
Management Plan

The Why, What, Who, and When



Granite Mountain Management Plan

The Why:



Management plans ensure the land and conservation values will be protected as intended, even as staff or board members change over time.

Our Goals include:

- To have Granite Mountain Preserve be a community resource –
 - ☐ Environmental Education
 - ☐ Outdoor Recreation. Improve recreational opportunities for passive recreation
 - ☐ Scenic Enjoyment
- Enhance the natural resources on the property & protect drinking water



Granite Mountain Management Plan

The What:

According to the Land Trust Alliance Standards & Practices a Management Plan should



- Identify the property's conservation values, including any significant cultural and natural features or those that have significant community value
- Identify the overall management goals for the property
- Identify activities to achieve the goals and to reduce any risks or threats to the conservation values



Granite Mountain Management Plan

The What:

According to the Land Trust Alliance Standards & Practices a Management Plan should:

- Specify the uses that are appropriate for the property, in keeping with the property's conservation values, any restrictions and donor or funder requirements
- Provide public access opportunities as appropriate to the property and the land trust's mission





Granite Mountain Management Plan

The What:



Further, a management plan is a dynamic living document.

It should be reviewed, improved and updated as necessary



Granite Mountain Management Plan

Specifically, What:



Granite Mountain Preserve Management Plan considerations/Items to be Addressed:

- Access
- Parking
- Trails
- Other Structures or Improvements
- Permitted Uses
- Natural Resource Management
- Contacts



Granite Mountain Management Plan

The Who:



Input from the:

- Community
- Neighbors
- Natural resource consultants/volunteers
- Board

Drafted/Developed by

- Staff...
- ...and possibly a consultant



Granite Mountain Management Plan: HHLT Board & Staff





Granite Mountain Management Plan

The When:



1. Data Collection to identify specific conservation values and threats to them. This includes:

- Natural Resource Inventory
- Map Existing Trails
- Community Interest

2. Planning

- Maintenance of Existing Improvements
- Additional Improvements required
- Mitigating threats to the conservation values
- Defining Permitted & Restricted Uses

...some of which is already articulated in HHLT Policy



Granite Mountain Management Plan:

HHLT Policy that articulates:

Boundary signs: Each preserve will have its boundary marked with HHLT signage.
(We have already started boundary posting.)

Entrance signs: For those preserves where we wish to encourage broad public use, a entrance sign will be put in place.

Parking: Parking areas may be provided at the preserves most suitable for public use, but will be constructed in the least environmentally impactful manner.





Granite Mountain Management Plan:

HHLT supports public access to its fee owned properties for passive recreation uses, which include hiking, observing nature, and other natural pursuits that do not jeopardize the conservation values of the preserve.

Camping & Campfires: are not allowed on HHLT property, except by written permission.

Recreational Trails: There is an existing network of trails. We need to map and blaze them, as well as identify those that need improvement.

Rock Climbing: Rock climbing is prohibited on Land Trust property.

Snowmobiles: Use of snowmobiles on Land Trust property is prohibited, except under certain circumstance, such as a medical emergency or property maintenance.

All-Terrain Vehicles, Dirt Bikes, and Four-Wheel Drive Vehicles: The use of all-terrain vehicles, dirt bikes and four-wheel drive vehicles is prohibited on Land Trust property, other than for emergencies.

Horses, Mountain Bikes and Hunting: TBD





Granite Mountain Management Plan

The When:



3. Develop & Adopt Draft Committee & Board Review with the intention to complete the Management Plan by the end of the year.
4. Implement the Plan
5. Monitor and Assess the Results
6. Adapt & Update the Management Plan & Review Financial and Personnel Implications