

January 4, 2011

536 Beartown Lane
418 Beartown Lane
252 Beartown Lane
223 Beartown Lane

SUBJECT: Wildlife Travel Corridors in Williston

Dear Property owner:

The Town of Williston has retained the services of Arrowwood Environmental, LLC to research important wildlife travel corridors in Williston. Wildlife travel corridors allow for the movement of wildlife species between habitat areas. You are receiving this letter because your property has been identified as a potentially important link in this corridor (see enclosed map). As a result, we are asking for your permission to allow a Biologist from Arrowwood Environmental to track wildlife activity on your property on a snowy day sometime during January and February. Tracking wildlife in the winter months is the best way to learn if wildlife is using the suspected corridors that appear on the map.

Over the past 50 years the Williston landscape has experienced extensive changes as land use has switched from forest to agriculture to suburban development. This land use pattern has caused wildlife habitat in Williston to become fragmented. Fragmented landscapes significantly affect the ability of wildlife to move among different habitat types and disrupt the quality and distribution of breeding and foraging habitat.

However, significant areas of habitat in Williston are still intact and are essential for local biodiversity and support traditional activities such as hunting and fishing. The increase in development in Williston has led the town to explore ways to balance wildlife conservation with development. When completed, the data collected from this project will provide the basis for wildlife habitat management in Williston.

An informational public meeting on this project will be held on Thursday January 20, 2011 at 6 pm at the Williston Town Hall meeting room. I and a Biologist from Arrowwood Environmental will be present at the meeting to answer any questions related to tracking wildlife and wildlife management planning in Williston.

If you cannot make it to the public meeting or if you have any questions, please contact me if you have any questions at 802-878-6704 x4 or jandreoletti@willistontown.com.

Sincerely,

Jessica Andreoletti
Planner, Town of Williston