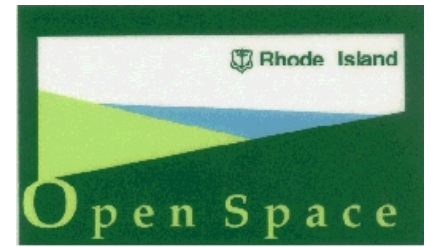




Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Open Space Grants Management Plan Guidelines



When writing the required management plan, the following points should be addressed. Where issues are not applicable, please indicate and explain why they are not applicable. A detailed property map with management actions keyed to their locations is required.

1. Property Maps

Each Management Plan should be accompanied by a **two maps** 8 ½ x 11 (or folded to that size)

- *Physical and natural features* including property boundaries, roads, streams, walls, existing and proposed trails, scale and north arrow, vegetation types (forest, forested swamp, pasture, etc), habitats, with locations of management activities clearly indicated
- *Topographic Map* including property boundaries

2. General Information:

General description of the property including vegetation types, habitats, physical features, historic land use.

3. General Maintenance

The following issues should be addressed

- Identify posted public access sites and hours of use (if applicable)
- Identify location and number of vehicular parking spots (if applicable)
- Describe the location of trails and outline their intended uses (if applicable)
- Describe planned trail maintenance activities (if applicable)
- Identify party responsible for scheduling public activities (if applicable)
- Describe litter pick-up and trash removal plan
- Identify party responsible for general surveillance
- Outline the cost of maintenance activities and identify the sources of funding

If the property has been protected via the purchase of development rights, please explain the conditions under which public access will be permitted and how it will be arranged.

4. Property Management

The property must either be maintained in its current condition or enhanced **for those conditions for which it was selected**. Properties with exceptional natural or scenic elements require management to protect these elements.

The Management plan must address the condition of the property and how it will be maintained.

- Describe the existing conditions of the property
- Describe the desired future conditions
- Identify each management technique, which area it will be used in, and how it will be used to attain desired objectives. Identify the responsible party for each technique and any special considerations.
- Describe the schedule of management activities over a 5 year plan. This should include an identification of each technique, how many acres it covers, and how often it will be performed (seasonally, annually, etc).
- Outline the cost of management activities and identify the sources of funding

5. Rare Species Protection

If the property was selected to protect of rare species, describe how the rare species will be protected from activities occurring on the property. For example, the management of a property with rare plants may entail determining where the plant populations are so that a trail system and use of the trails will not impact the plants. Issues to be addressed include:

- Restricting the collection or disturbance of plants
- Restricting the disturbance of nesting birds and other wildlife

6. Environmental Education

If the property is to be used for environmental education and/or research, describe how these options will be made available to the general public and designate a contact person who will schedule these events.

7. Department of Environmental Management Requirements

- Property boundaries must be posted by signs or blazed trees
- If public access is allowed, the entrance location, type of use, and hours of use must be posted on the property
- A permanent sign must be erected on the property acknowledging the use of Open Space Bond assistance