

EXHIBIT A: Autumn Hill Reservation Management and Use Agreement

I. Introduction

The Autumn Hill Reservation (Autumn Hill) is a 77-acre forested preserve on the eastern end of the Princeton Ridge bordered by Herrontown Road, where there is a small, paved parking lot for approximately 7 cars.

Autumn Hill has about two miles of unpaved trails and boardwalks winding through the preserve, which can be accessed from the parking lot at Herrontown Road, as well as from small spur trails at Cordova Road and Blue Spring Road in Montgomery. A map of Autumn Hill is provided as Exhibit A1.

Autumn Hill is owned by Princeton. It is the goal of this Plan to manage Autumn Hill to:

- (i) enhance opportunities for passive recreation, including walking and nature study;
- (ii) enhance natural and wildlife habitat and prevent invasive species proliferation;
- (iii) ensure public safety through the maintenance of walking paths and tree care; and
- (iv) avoid potential problems such as littering or unpermitted uses through regular monitoring and reporting.

Any activities conducted on the property are governed by all applicable Princeton ordinances (including regulations for parks and recreation areas as codified in Chapter T16 of Princeton's Code) and the requirements of subchapter 25 of the NJDEP Green Acres Program Rules – N.J.A.C. 7:36, including any revisions thereto.

II. Park Use

- A. Autumn Hill shall be open to the public for use of the trails. Any management of Autumn Hill shall only be allowed to the extent and in a manner that will not impair the park's natural and manmade features or the general public's access to, and use of, Autumn Hill.
- B. FOHW may provide and/or sponsor guided walks/talks and hold volunteer work sessions (e.g., clean-ups or invasives species removal). Any board members and FOHW volunteers participating in volunteer work sessions shall be required to sign the Adopt-A-Park Waiver Form approved by Princeton and attached as Exhibit B to this Adopt-A-Park Agreement. No other organized events shall be held at Autumn Hill.
- C. Autumn Hill shall be kept tidy with no personal effects, waste and/or other materials being allowed to accumulate within the park grounds.

III. Park Flora Guidelines

Autumn Hill shall be maintained with an emphasis on the conservation of natural resources, habitats and local wildlife. FOHW shall not engage in any habitat manipulation or restoration unless preservation of a particular habitat type or species of native flora or fauna is included in the FOHW Management Plan and FOHW has obtained Princeton's approval of a specific habitat manipulation or restoration plan. FOHW shall not employ any herbicide treatments for invasive species unless Princeton has approved the specific treatment(s) prior to use.

No plants listed by the State of New Jersey or on the New Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team's (NJISST) 'Do Not Plant List' shall be planted. The annual NJISST Do Not Plant List, updated and distributed by the Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space, is available on their website: <https://www.fohvos.info/invasive-species-strike-team/>

IV. Park Development Guidelines

- A. Creation of new permanent vehicular access and / or parking shall be prohibited.
- B. Construction of new structures in Autumn Hill shall be prohibited unless prior approval from Princeton has been sought and granted.
- C. All trails shall have a minimum width of 4 feet with brush removed at least one foot from either side of the trail. Vegetation encroaching onto this 6-foot-wide clearing shall be cut back at least twice during the growing season (mid-April to mid-October). Any further enlargement of trails shall not be undertaken except upon prior approval from Princeton.
- D. New trails shall be constructed only upon prior approval from Princeton. If surfacing is required, only wood chips or similar natural and permeable materials may be used. FOHW shall have the right, after receiving approval from Princeton, to close trails that prove to be too expensive or impractical to maintain to the required standard.

V. Management Responsibilities - Princeton

- A. The following tasks shall be Princeton's responsibility:
 - 1. Attendance at quarterly meetings with the FOHW;
 - 2. Removal of organic debris generated by FOHW volunteers (maximum three times per year);
 - 3. Provision of woodchips at request of FOHW, a maximum of twice a year;
 - 4. Maintenance of the parking lot;
 - 5. Installation and maintenance of park entrance signage.

VI. Management Responsibilities – Friends of Herrontown Woods

- A. The following management responsibilities shall be assumed by FOHW:
 - 1. Creation of a Management Plan for Autumn Hill, detailing e.g., plans and timelines for habitat restoration, potential trail modifications and public outreach. This plan shall be submitted to Princeton within sixty calendar days of the Adopt-a-Park agreement, and it shall be updated at least every five years;
 - 2. Control and treatment of invasive species, as indicated in the Management Plan;
 - 3. Maintenance of existing trails to ensure they are well marked and not encroached upon by vegetation - see section IV.C above for details.

VII. Prior Written Approvals Required

- A. Requests to conduct scientific research at Autumn Hill shall be submitted in writing to the Department of Infrastructure and Operations.
- B. Requests to remove trees shall be submitted to Princeton for approval by the Municipal Arborist.
- C. Requests to use chemical methods for the management of invasive species shall be submitted to the Department of Infrastructure and Operations for approval by the Open Space Manager. Proof of a licensed applicator certification shall be submitted with the request.
- D. FOHW shall submit to the Department of Infrastructure and Operations an annual list of proposed public outreach and tour activities sponsored at Autumn Hill, including the estimated number of attendees. FOHW shall submit updates as needed when changes are made to the proposed list.