

2018 Town of Middleton Budget Estimate for Natural Areas Management

Conservancy Work Area and Activity	Estimated Cost		Comments
	Maintenance	Development	
Goth Park			
Prescribed burn of prairies and woodlands to stimulate native ground layer establishment and facilitate invasive plant control.	\$1,140		Woodlands were not burned in 2017. Budget for northeast prairie burn shifted from development to maintenance.
Control invasive woody and herbaceous species in the woodlands and northwest prairie; interseeding; monitoring; coordination with Town staff, park commission updates	\$6,100		Minimize garlic mustard, dame's rocket, Japanese hedge parsley, wild parsnip, reed canary grass, and burdock while protecting present desirable species.
Interseed area west of grape arbor		\$1,800	Brush and non-savanna trees removed in 2016 and 2017.
Northeast grassland prairie establishment and overseeding	\$1,800		Budget for northeast prairie shifted from development to maintenance.
Conduct public programs and/or develop interpretive media		\$750	Interpret natural history of site, trail connections, coordinate volunteer trainings.
Maintain fire breaks along perimeter (Town Crew)			Mow 2-3x during growing season.
Goth Conservancy Total	\$9,040	\$2,550	\$11,590
<i>% change from prior year</i>	<i>2%</i>	<i>-14%</i>	
Settlers Prairie Park			
Maintain existing prairie and restore former fenceline to prairie/savanna		\$3,100	Proposed in 2013 Management Plan. Would add 0.3 acre strip adjacent to prairie area and along planted maples. Weeds present pose a threat to adjacent prairie restoration.
Burn and weed management in north woodland; monitoring, coordination with Town staff, park commission updates	\$2,800		Prescribed burn in north woodland and prairie to control woody resprouts. Not burned in 2017. Budget transferred from development to maintenance.
Conduct public programs and/or develop interpretive media		\$650	Interpret natural history of site, trail connections
Settlers Prairie Total	\$2,800	\$3,750	\$6,550
<i>% change from prior year</i>	<i>33%</i>	<i>53%</i>	

Hickory Woods

N/A	\$0	\$0	No management.
Hickory Woods Total	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>% change from prior year</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>n/a</i>	

Noll Valley Savanna

Control invasive woody & herbaceous species; monitoring, coordination with Town staff and TPE, park commission updates. (No prescribed burn this year)	\$3,900	\$0	Minimize reed canary grass, garlic mustard, Dame's rocket, and brush resprouts while protecting present desirable species.
Noll Valley Total	\$3,900	\$0	\$3,900
<i>% change from prior year</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>n/a</i>	

Cherrywood Forest

Control invasive woody and herbaceous species in the woodland; interseeding; monitoring; coordination with Town staff, park commission updates	\$3,500		Maintenance efforts in 2018 are essential to protect the investment made in restoration since 2013.
Implementation of management option 4, "Oak Woodland Restoration-Basic" per memo to Park Commission dated 5/29/15; recommended to Town Board @ July 2015 Park Commission meeting.		\$1,800	No burn in 2018. Mitigate seed-bearing weeds, coordinate volunteer efforts, applying for grant funding and/or soliciting donations for seed.
Cherrywood Forest Total	\$3,500	\$1,800	\$5,300
<i>% change from prior year</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>0%</i>	

Pope Farm Conservancy

Maintenance of South Prairie, North Prairie, and Ravine; coordination with Town staff and FOPFC.	\$12,100		See detailed budget for Pope Farm (attached).
Pope Farm Total	\$12,100	\$0	\$12,100
<i>% change from prior year</i>	<i>-6%</i>	<i>n/a</i>	

Total for all areas	\$31,340	\$8,100	\$39,440
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change from previous year (all areas)

110%

-28%

2018 proposed budget (\$39,440) is less than (-4%) our 2017 granted budget. This budget includes extension of the Settler's Prairie Park prairie to incorporate the central fenceline area.