



# Town of Orleans

19 School Road Orleans Massachusetts 02653-3699  
Telephone (508) 240-3700 – Fax (508) 240-3388

## COMMUNITY PRESERVATION PROJECT APPLICATION

**Project Title:** ORLEANS OUTDOORS - Storybook Trail

**Submission Date:** 11/19/2020

**Applicant (note if Town, individual or non-profit):** Orleans Recreation Advisory Committee & Snow Library, town  
**Contact:** Morgan Stewart  
55 Skaket Beach Road  
Orleans, MA 02653

**Co-Applicant, if any (note if Town, individual or non-profit):** Orleans Conservation Trust - non-profit  
**Contact:** Steve O'Grady  
203 MA Rt. 28, Orleans, MA

**Project Contact Person:** Morgan Stewart

**Telephone:** 508-221-6749

**E-mail:** stewartmb@comcast.net

**Federal Tax Identification Number (if non-profit):**

**Project purpose (Check all that apply):**

Open Space       Historic Preservation       Community Housing       Recreation

**Project Location/Address:** Ice House and Reuben's Ponds Trailhead, Tonset Road, Orleans

**Community Preservation Funding Request:** \$7,000

**Brief Project Summary, Including Justification of Project Category Checked Above:**

### ORLEANS OUTDOORS

The Orleans Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC) had completed a survey of residents in 2019 to evaluate and rank the opportunities for enhancements to the recreation offerings within the town. Over 500 residents of all ages completed the survey. The survey results were sent via email to participants in the town recreation programs and a follow-up Zoom meeting was held. The survey and follow-up communications provided RAC with a roadmap for applying for CPA funds under the Recreation Category.

Of the ranked ideas that fall within the CPA guidelines, applications will be submitted for:

- Bike Racks
- Bike Paths (Bike & Pedestrian Committee will be submitting)
- Kayak Racks and Waterways Education
- Enhanced Trail Signage
- Storybook trail
- Picnic Area
- Design and engineering services for basketball court
- Pickleball Court

Each topic will have its own specific application with the supporting documentation and contact person. Tracy Murphy, Chair of RAC, can be contacted on any application.

## Storybook Trail

### Detailed narrative:

A Storybook Trail provides the fun of the outdoors with learning and promoting literacy. A permanent Storybook Trail combines the best of Orleans can offer to families with young children - promoting reading, a healthy lifestyle, and connecting with nature. The trails are designed to be accessible to all families, with a focus on children aged nine and under. The trails can also be used by school groups for education and physical fitness purposes.

Storybook Trails have become popular around the country, with both permanent and temporary trails being built. Snow Library has temporary Storybook Trails over the past few years, but these trails needed to be installed and then taken down at the end of the day. A permanent Storybook Trail is a destination that can be used all year.

Working collaboratively, RAC, the Orleans Conservation Trust (OCT), Snow Library Youth Services Librarian Ann Foster and Library Trustee Board Chair Steve Gass have selected a 1/3-mile trail that starts at the One House & Reuben's Ponds Trailhead as the location for the Storybook Trail. The trail is a well-maintained path and weaves in and around a variety of flora and a vernal pool.

The books featured will be selected by Snow Library Youth Services Librarian Ann Foster and the stations will be maintained by the OCT. The books will be rotated various times throughout the year. Additionally, the featured books will be available for sale at Sea Howl Bookshop on Main Street.

We are still exploring the the optimal design for the stations but expect them to be similar to the ones below. Wood, with plexiglass coverings, posted on a tree log or wooden post.





**Action Plan and Timeline:**

Building to begin as soon as the project is approved and funding is allocated (July 1, 2021). Ideally a “grand opening” would be planned for September 2021.

**Financial Data:**

Estimated costs

	each	total
20 stations	\$225	\$4,500
Installation	\$125	\$2,500
total		\$7,000

We have contacted the Boys Scouts to see if there is any interest from an Eagle Scout in making this a service project. The OCT has confirmed that they will fund the upkeep of the stations, and the Friends of Snow Library will fund the continued purchase of the storybooks. Cost for building the stations and installation was from Jeff Norgeot of \$325 each. We added in an additional \$25 per sign just in case costs change by 2021.

### **GUIDELINES FOR PROJECT SUBMISSION**

Please submit **one paper copy** of the application materials to the Community Preservation Committee, c/o Town Administrator, Town of Orleans, 19 School Road, Orleans, MA 02653 by Nov. 23, 2020. **Applicants must also email complete applications in PDF** to Myra Suchenicz, Administrative Assistant, at [msuchenicz2012@gmail.com](mailto:msuchenicz2012@gmail.com). A single PDF file which appends materials described in item 3 to the application form is preferred.

1. Applications must be received by Monday, November 23 to be considered for recommendation at the Annual Town Meeting.
2. Funds will be available on July 1<sup>st</sup> following the Annual Town Meeting.
3. Applicants may include any maps, diagrams, and/or photographs pertaining to the project. Letters of Support for the project from community organizations or other sources may also be submitted.
4. The Community Preservation Committee may require additional (or more detailed) information or further clarification to a submitted application.
5. Prior to submission of funding applications, applicants should review the Community Preservation Act (MGL, Chapter 44B, through the Community Preservation Coalition Web site), the Orleans Community Preservation Plan and the Orleans Community Preservation Bylaw, copies of which are available on the Town Web site at <https://www.town.orleans.ma.us/community-preservation-committee>. Nonprofit organizations applying for historic preservation funds for historic structures should obtain a sample copy of an acceptable historic preservation deed restriction (available from the Town Administrator's office) since this type of document will be required. Applicants other than the Town of Orleans should also obtain a sample copy of the Agreement with the Town of Orleans that all successful nonprofit applicants will be required to sign. Please contact the Administrative Assistant by email with any questions.
6. Eligible projects must address one or more of the uses outlined in the Community Preservation Act, Sections 2 and 5 (2), as follows:

#### **Open Space**

Acquisition, creation and preservation of land to protect existing water supply/aquifer areas, agricultural and forest land, coastal lands, frontage to inland water bodies, wildlife habitat, nature preserves and scenic vistas.

#### **Community Housing**

Acquisition, creation, preservation and support of community housing defined as housing for low and moderate income individuals and families, including low and moderate income senior housing. The Community

Preservation Committee is required to recommend, wherever possible, the reuse of existing buildings or construction of new buildings on previously developed sites.

**Historic Preservation**

Acquisition, restoration, rehabilitation and restoration of historic structures and landscapes that have been determined by the local historic preservation commission to be significant in the history, archeology, architecture or culture of the Town or that are listed on the State Register of Historic Places.

**Recreation**

Acquisition, creation, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of land for active and passive recreational uses, including land for community gardens, trails and noncommercial youth and adult sports and the use of land as a park, playground or athletic field and for preservation and restoration of recreational facilities. (Community Preservation funds cannot be used for a stadium, gymnasium or similar structure or for the acquisition of artificial turf for athletic fields.)



*October 5, 2020*