

What is the Mill Brook Task Force?

The Mill Brook Task Force (MBTF) is a volunteer group of dedicated Concord citizens that meet once a month to discuss Mill Brook issues.

Mission:

To restore and protect Concord's Mill Brook and its watershed by developing, championing, and participating in the implementation of a Master Plan.

Goal:

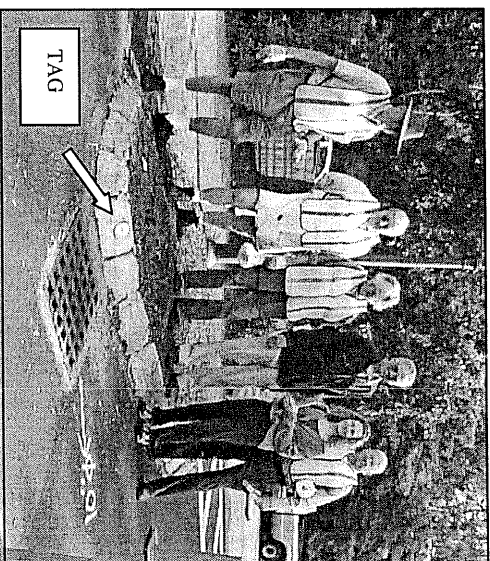
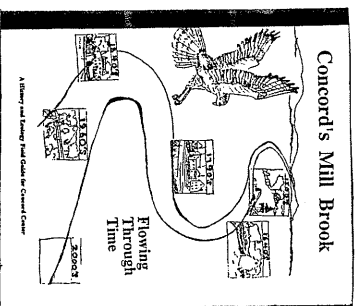
An ecologically sound and scenic stream with clean water and a protected watershed which will provide for passive recreation and will be aesthetically appealing.

Current projects include:

- the catch basin tagging project
- annual Mill Brook clean-up days
- water quality data collection

For more information:

Call the Division of Natural Resources at 978-318-3285 or visit the MBTF web site at www.concordnet.org/dpfn/millbrook.html. An excellent guide, *Concord's Mill Brook*, is available for purchase at the DNR office.



MBTF members tagging basin in front of Town Hall.

Tasks of the Mill Brook Task Force:

1. Describe the natural history and cultural history of the Mill Brook and its watershed.
2. Evaluate and synthesize the information.
3. Draft a Master Plan for the practicable restoration and protection of the Mill Brook and its watershed.
4. Review and revise the draft Master Plan based on feedback from the NRC and others.
5. Pursue funding through grants and other sources.
6. Champion the restoration and protection of the Mill Brook and its watershed.
7. Evaluate the progress toward the goal.
8. Repeat tasks 4) through 7) until the goal is achieved.
9. Celebrate!

Mill Brook History

Perceptions of Mill Brook have evolved as the ways humans have used the brook has markedly changed over time. Mill Brook has been used as Concord's earliest Mill Site, a waste-disposal site, an invisible stormwater-drainage channel, an aesthetic resource, and a biological treasure chest. Various development and the use of Mill Brook as a flood control instrument has had an adverse impact to the brook. To restore and protect the brook, the Mill Brook Task Force was formed in 1995.

MBTF Activities

The Force has worked to enhance the brook by increasing public awareness, monitoring water quality, performing annual clean ups and shoreline surveys, and obtaining grants. A field guide of Mill Brook has been developed, and a high-tech catch basin installed which filters out pollutants from stormwater runoff.



Current Project: Catch Basin Tagging

The Catch Basin Tagging Project is designed to increase public awareness that pollutants dumped into catch basins drain into Mill Brook. The MBTF is in the process of permanently affixing blue and white tags which state "No Dumping—Drains to Mill Brook" to the road adjacent to each basin. Tagging basins will also help the Town meet the new federal stormwater requirements.