

Kuzmeski Conservation Restriction, Cushman Road  
Report to the Rattlesnake Gutter Trust Board, December 7, 2006

Annual Conservation Restriction Walk, Friday morning, September 1, 2006  
Present: RGT Board members: Gwyn Mitchell and Shelia Seaman. Property committee member, Mary Alice Wilson. Sheila is also an abutter.

As has become our custom, we walked through the Kuzmeski Conservation Restriction, checking for trash. We collected some along the road, but none elsewhere. Everything seemed fine. We spent some time trying to re-locate the stone posts at the meadow edge. (They disappear into the grass every year.) Two more trips later in the month by Mary Alice and Bill Wilson were necessary to locate the two meadow-side stones and to mark the lines with tape so that next year we can spend our time walking the boundaries rather than re-finding them.

The area continues to be a haven for birds. On spring evenings, American Woodcock display in the open grassy area that borders on the Seaman-Williams property. In the spring, nesting birds near the meadow edge included Eastern Kingbird, House Wren, Gray Catbird, Blue-winged Warbler, Baltimore Oriole, and possibly Field Sparrow (heard but not seen). A Cooper's Hawk was seen a number of times in the area. During fall migration, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Palm Warbler, and White-throated Sparrow were all seen near the meadow edge. At the beginning of December there were the usual Downy Woodpecker, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Blue Jay, Tree Sparrow, Song Sparrow, and Dark-eyed Junco flocks moving around. There were also 10 Eastern Bluebirds and 8 American Robins.

Mary Alice Wilson, Gwyn Mitchell, Sheila Seaman for the Rattlesnake Gutter Trust  
12/07/2006