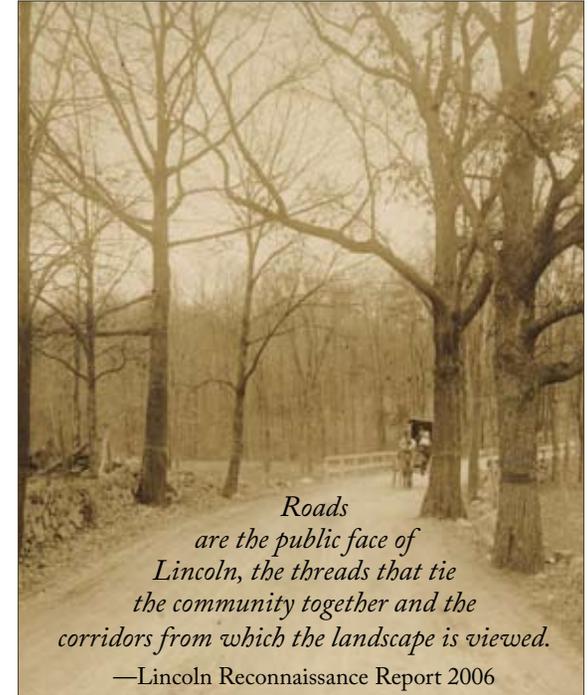


Preserving Our Lincoln Roadsides

www.lincolnroadsides.org



*Roads
are the public face of
Lincoln, the threads that tie
the community together and the
corridors from which the landscape is viewed.*

—Lincoln Reconnaissance Report 2006

Lincoln's roadsides contribute significantly to the Town's rural, historic character. Many roads date from colonial times. Some of these roadsides have become overgrown and unsightly, and the Town and residents can join together to restore and preserve their rural character.

To raise public awareness of the problems and how residents can help, the Lincoln Garden Club offers this brochure with information, suggestions and links to additional resources.

Our full report to the Town can be found online at www.lincolnroadsides.org/report.

Lincoln Garden Club
www.lincolngardenclub.org

Lincoln Garden Club
P.O. Box 385
Lincoln, MA 01773

ECRWSS
Postal Customer
Lincoln, MA 01773

Pre-Sorted
Standard
Postage Paid
Permit #40
Lincoln, MA
ECRWSS

Resources and Regulations

- ↳ Lincoln Garden Club's Roadsides Report:
www.lincolnroadsides.org/report
- ↳ Relevant regulations: www.Lincolntown.org/bylaw.htm
- ↳ Lincoln Scenic Road Bylaw: Lincoln General Laws Article XVII
- ↳ Mass. Public Shade Tree Act: General Laws Chapter 87
- ↳ Lincoln Fence Bylaw: Lincoln Zoning Bylaw Section 18.5
- ↳ Lincoln Historic District Bylaw: Lincoln General Laws 1982
- ↳ Lincoln Dark Sky Guidelines: contact Planning Board



Who to Contact?

Roadside tree questions and care

Lincoln Dept. of Public Works (DPW): 259-8999

Lincoln Tree Warden: call DPW for contact info

Right-of-way & Town road maintenance questions

Lincoln DPW: 259-8999

Plant identification and questions

Invasive species

Lincoln Conservation Commission: 259-2612

www.lincolntown.org/Invasives.htm

New England Wildflower Society

www.newfs.org/protect/invasive-plants

Native plants

Lincoln Garden Club Roadside report website

www.lincolnroadsides.org

New England Wildflower Society website

<http://www.newfs.org/grow/why-grow-native-plants.html>

Fences, signs, lighting regulations

Lincoln Planning Board: 259-2610

Utility lines and poles

NSTAR: (800)592-2000

Lincoln Garden Club

Questions about the report's recommendations and guidelines: MH Lorenz 259-9544

How can we improve our roadsides?

To preserve and enhance our roadsides' historic, rural character, we can:

1. Reveal and maintain stonewalls by removing plants that are damaging their integrity
2. Remove invasive plants that choke native trees, shrubs and ground covers
3. Open up views into agricultural and historic landscapes
4. Protect the rural road character when dealing with traffic and utility needs
5. Use native plants materials along roadsides and when replacing street trees



What does the Town do?

The Town maintains our roadsides by mowing, plowing and removing invasive species and dangerous plantings within the public right-of-way (ROW).

The Town is responsible for maintaining safe intersections; installing and maintaining drainage, pedestrian paths, crosswalks and guardrails; and enforcing regulations related to roadsides. The Town also removes dead or dangerous trees, except those near utility lines that are managed by the utility companies.

A program of new tree plantings for the public ROW and Pierce Park is managed by the Tree Warden.

What type of road is yours?

Lincoln's roads are not all alike. We have five different types of roadsides, each with different characteristics and maintenance needs.

Natural: stretches of road bordered by woods

Agricultural: roads bordering fields used for farming or conservation, often with mature trees and farmers' stonewalls at the roadside

Historic: roads alongside historic buildings with associated stonewalls, fences and mature trees

Suburban: roads in newer residential areas with more lawn and less mature trees at roadside

Commercial: Lincoln Road at Lincoln Station, from Lincoln Woods to Codman Farm

Within each road type there are two zones:

The public right-of-way (ROW): the pavement and a strip of land on either side, which can vary in width. The Town is responsible for the ROW. Property owners can maintain lawn and ground covers in the ROW.

The bordering landscape: the landscape beyond the public right-of-way which impacts the rural character of the roadsides and is the responsibility of property owners

Lincoln Garden Club
P.O. Box 385

Lincoln, Massachusetts 01773

www.lincolngardenclub.org

email via: www.lincolngardenclub.org/contact

What can you do?

As a property owner in Lincoln you can help to restore and maintain your roadside and bordering landscape.

The Lincoln Garden Club report and website on roadsides can help you identify your road type and its needs. It also includes guidelines for stonewall maintenance, plantings, fences and lighting.

Recommended actions:

- Clean up invasive plants and trash
- Clean out and repair stonewalls
- Use native plants and replant any ground disturbed by clean up
- Work with your landscape and home contractors on appropriate maintenance
- Meet with your neighbors and work together to improve your neighborhood roadsides



And remember to contact the listed Town departments if you have questions, particularly if you are unsure about how to treat the public right-of-way.

Suggested roadside plantings

Property owners and the Town share responsibility for roadway plantings. The Town plants and maintains trees, shrubs and ground covers within the ROW.

Property owners can plant grasses, groundcover and perennials in the ROW, subject to town mowing and plowing effects. No-mow grasses and hayscented ferns are examples of good ground covers and perennials.

Property owners can plant in their bordering landscapes such native trees and shrubs as winterberry, common witchhazel, red maple, swamp white oak, and white spruce.

See the Roadside Report and website for a detailed list of plantings.