

The Jeff Marden Town Forest was originally created as the Belmont Town Forest at the 1994 Town Meeting. The Conservation Commission, in Jeff's spirit, has as a goal to make more trails within the JMTF universally accessible.





Jeff Marden was a native son, born and raised in Belmont. Growing up nearby, he and his brothers roamed the fields and woods that are now Belmont's town forest. In his early 20's, Jeff was paralyzed in a diving accident and confined to a wheelchair. While such an accident might discourage and cause bitterness in many, Jeff instead became an activist and a role model for civic involvement. He served on the Belmont Planning Board, the Master Plan, Capital Improvements Committee, Shaker Regional School District committees, and the Lakes Region Planning Commission. He chaired the State Architectural Barrier-free Design Committee and was an active member of the State Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Advisory Council. He had a wicked sense of humor, too.

Jeff had an abiding love of the out of doors and hunting. He attended many Conservation Commission meetings and was a vocal proponent of balancing development with the preservation of undeveloped areas. A defender of wildlife, he worked at preserving wildlife habitat and corridors in Belmont. And he cared deeply about the Town Forest.

Shortly after his death in 2007, the Conservation Commission met with Selectmen, the public and the Marden family. It was jointly determined that the Town Forest would be named after Jeff as a lasting memorial.





## Belmont Conservation Commission

Today's Stewards For Tomorrow's Generation

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