



In 2009, the Department of Land Acquisition and Management, along with Planning Department and Natural Resources Department employees, began active management of the meadow on the Hands Creek Farm Nature Preserve (SCTM #300-118-1-12.67). Hundreds of pitch pines and scrub oaks had been growing into the open area for a number of years. The rare grassland habitat was in danger of being lost if the pines were allowed to continue to grow up; therefore, with the help of the above departments, we cut and removed many of these trees to protect and restore this parcel (a number of the established pines were left intact). A management plan for the property is now being proposed. This plan will outline future mowing of the grassland for maintenance purposes.