

Help Shape the Future of Carpenter's Woods

■ **Friends of Carpenter's Woods** and Friends of the Wissahickon are beginning the process of improving trail sustainability and trail experiences in Carpenter's Woods. The question is, how can we improve the physical sustainability of the trails while also (1) enhancing protection of wild birds (for which Carpenter's Woods was originally preserved) and (2) enhancing our ability to enjoy the birds, plants, wildlife and "sense of place" that make Carpenter's Woods so special? We also want to be practical and realistic about this.

■ **To Begin**, we have invited Troy Scott Parker, principal of Natureshape LLC (www.natureshape.com), nationally known trail planner and author of *Natural Surface Trails By Design*, to help us identify the natural and human context of Carpenter's Woods. Troy's expertise includes identifying the intangible as well as the tangible aspects of the context and making the context clear in a process he calls "trailshaping." The more we know about the context, the more that our understanding begins to generate trails and plans to exactly fit that context.

■ **Part of the Context is Intent**—our intents as to what we want from trails and from Carpenter's Woods, what we want to encourage and what we want to prevent, the feelings we want to experience, and the effort and resources we'll commit to that intent. Other human aspects of the context include our impact on trails and the site, our appreciation for the shape of nature and for "anchors" within the site, our sense of personal safety and expedience, our desired degree of contact with raw nature, and our sense of place and of being at ease in that place—our sense of everything being just right.

■ **This is Where You Come In.** Troy will be here for a few days and would like to meet with you to learn about Carpenter's Woods from your point of view. This helps us fill in the human aspects of the context and better generate plans to fit that context. Troy will ask a series of questions which will capture many intangible aspects of our human factors in a way that can be factored into the context of Carpenter's Woods. You'll probably learn some things, too.

■ **Meet with Troy.** So that he can meet with us in small groups and at your convenience, we've scheduled three meetings. Please choose the one convenient for you. All meetings will be onsite at Carpenter's Woods and will include some light hiking in the woods.

Please bring a pen or pencil and be prepared to be on your feet during the meeting and for some light hiking onsite, possibly off-trail.

Each meeting will be followed by time for questions and answers. You may leave early if needed, but please don't arrive late or we may be somewhere else in Carpenter's Woods.

■ For Information, please contact David Dannenberg; djdannenberg@yahoo.com

Meeting Location & Times

Meet at the Wayne Avenue and Sedgwick Street entrance of Carpenter's Woods

Saturday, May 21

● 3:15-5:00 PM

Sunday, May 22

● 2:30-4:15 PM

Monday, May 23

● 2:00-3:45 PM

