

Open Space Committee



Open Space is the Soul of the Community.

The Open Space Committee was established by our Board of Directors in February 2024. Our goal is to assist the BOD by gathering information and conducting analyses as we develop an Open Space Plan that utilizes our current and future open space to its fullest potential. Since the committee was formed, we have been busy examining our current needs and listening to the concerns of our residents.

Like pickleball courts, swimming pools, community docks and the clubhouse, open space is a desirable amenity for our community. Green areas bring character, charm and definition to neighborhoods while providing habitat for flora and fauna. Open Space bestows personality on a community, improves everyday living and increases property values.

We are working in conjunction with the Landscape Committee so that our ideas for the community are in sync with their landscaping plans.

What we're working on first:

- **Lot 17 Park** - We have begun to establish Lot 17 on Cotton Island as a park for community use. The Board cleared and cleaned up the lot earlier this year in anticipation of creating a sunset overlook on Battery Creek. The Board approved the purchase of four Adirondack chairs and a picnic table. Next steps include a spur path from the dock path to the sitting area, followed by swinging benches and kayak storage. ***Keep reading for information about a contest to name Lot 17!***



*Four Adirondack chairs and a picnic table on Lot 17 Cotton Island.
Placement of furniture and pathway is not final.*

- **Walking Paths:** Starting in 2025 we will mark pathways with foot path signs through Belle Grove park and other common space in Islands of Beaufort. A new map showing these areas has been put up on the IOB website. As you can see in the map below, red dots indicate pathways we have begun to outline for the community to use. We will be creating foot path signs at the head of each path.



New IOB map showing footpaths and updated legend. Red dots indicate pathways open to all members of the community. Note also playground, pocket parks and recreation area.

• **BACK TO OUR CONTEST!**

♦ **What should we call the Lot 17 Park on Cotton Island?**

We'd like to find a name that references the area or personality of the park.

♦ **How about helping us name the Belle Grove Footpaths?**

(refer to Orange boxes above to find footpath location.)

For the footpaths we'd like a name that refers to onset of each path or direction.

- Footpath 1 - Point B to Point D
- Footpath 2 - Point A to Point C
- Footpath 3 - Point E to Point F

Please send your "best" ideas to IOBOpenSpace@gmail.com. We will accept entries up to Sunday October 20th and will announce the final decision after we've tallied all the suggestions. We appreciate your input!

- ♦ To keep the community updated on our plans, note that we present monthly at the HOA meetings. We also plan to send out a quarterly newsletter like this one.