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**To:** Trustees



A couple of years ago Tom Clayton and I put in two plank bridges in the Hermitage area. Last week as I was preparing for volunteer help in transplanting tree seedlings, I was surprised to see that the bridges had disappeared, along with adjacent concrete stepping stones. They were too heavy to easily remove (two 2x12x12 bolted to cross pieces of 4x4.), so I doubted the vandals had carried them out, or moved them on dirt bikes or ATVs.





On searching in the woods, I found that the vandals had used a chain saw or other saw to cut them into smaller pieces, then carried them and the stones into the woods and heaved them into the bushes. The volunteers helped me carry back the pieces we could find, and relaid them. They are not as good as they were before, but still usable.







Fortunately we have not yet put in an expensive structure like an observation deck, and maybe unless we can stop this type of vandalism, we should rethink putting in such a structure.

I reported the incident to the police. The officer who came out suggested that trail cameras might be useful to watch the area.

Do you PMC folk or hunters have any experience with these or heard of their usefulness? A regular visitor at the Hermitage mentioned that a friend had a camera that watched a trail for deer, and sent the pictures wirelessly to his phone. Cabela sells one such for \$250. <https://www.cabelas.com/product/hunting/optics/cameras/trail-cameras-accessories/pc/104791680/c/104752080/sc/104243580/i/103867380/spypoint-link-evo-mp-cellular-trail-camera/2494281.uts?slotId=4> Any thoughts? (We'd have to mount it high in a tree. Maybe carry a ladder in on the Gator to install it?).

Jim