



CITY OF CONCORD
New Hampshire's Main Street™
Community Development Department
Planning Division

TRAILS SUBCOMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2024

2024 Officers elected:

Fran Philippe, Chair; Mark Cheever, Vice Chair; Aaron Monier, Secretary

New Trails Subcommittee members approved by Conservation Commission:
Rik van Riel, Andrew Gould, Nick Holmes

Resignations:

- Aaron Monier
- Gail Page (honored by Conservation Commission for her service)

Trails Subcommittee Bylaws:

VI. Objectives and Responsibilities

The objectives and responsibilities of the Trails Subcommittee shall include:

- Preparing an annual report to the Conservation Commission identifying accomplishments and tasks completed in the prior year, an estimation of the number of volunteer hours spent on trail work by Subcommittee Members, Trail Stewards and Trail Volunteers, and identifying priorities and tasks for the coming year. The annual report shall include a current list of the appointed Trail Stewards and their assigned trails, and a list of Trail Volunteers.
1. Accomplishments and Tasks Completed in 2024
 - Member Rik van Riel assumed responsibility for trail stewards and proactively engaged with trail stewards to ensure every trail is checked, ideally twice per year; and ensured there are Trail Stewards for all trails.
 - [List attached](#)
 - Continued monthly community hikes, partnering with local hiking organizations as needed, ensuring that hike leaders are trained and appropriate to lead.
 - The Merrimack River Greenway Trail, sunflower segment, was added to the City trails network as an All Persons Trail.
 - Discussed adding ½ of the Sewalls Falls trail as an All Persons Trail.
 - Interpretive sign made for the old winter recreation area on Swope to Carter Hill Connector Trail, but not yet installed.

- New Trail at Broken ground constructed by the New England Mountain Bike Association (NEMBA); named the Ghost Pipe Trail.
 - Bench in honor of Beth Fenstermacher’s work with the Trails Subcommittee built and installed at the Batchelder Mills Falls.
 - Sign at the former winter recreation area on the Swope to Carter Hill Connector Trail completed in partnership with AARP. Installation - Spring 2025.
2. Revised/updated documents recommended for approval, with subsequent approval by the Conservation Commission and adoption by the Planning Board:
 - Criteria for a New Trail or Trail Network
 - Procedure for Approval of a New Trail or Trail Network
 - Criteria for Discontinuance of a New Trail or Trail Network
 - Procedure for Discontinuance of a New Trail or Trail Network
 - New Trail Maintenance Guide for use by trail stewards completed.
 3. Estimated number of volunteer hours spent:
 - Trail Work – 100 hours
 - Guided City Hikes – 35 hours
 4. Trails Subcommittee 2025 Goals
 - Increase public awareness of invasive species in Concord and promote best land management practices.
 - Continue community hikes, partnering with local hiking organizations as needed, ensuring that hike leaders are trained and appropriate to lead.
 - Continue with the Mountain Goats group to conduct community hikes as long as they are available.
 - Proactively engage trail stewards to ensure every trail is checked- ideally twice per year.
 - Continue review and updates to the trail guide and City website.
 - Install interpretive sign at winter recreation area, and complete and install signs at cellar holes on Curtisville Rd and Frost Rd trails.
 - Ensure there are Trail Stewards for all trails.