

News from the Northwest Vermont Rail Trail Council

Trail : Tracks



Spring, 2014

New Signage!



This was the scene in the early part of April as J. Hutchins, a contractor hired by VTTrans, began work to install new signage on the MVRT.

The project involves improved signage on the trail as well as on roads at approaches to the MVRT. The Trail will have new mile markers like the one seen at left, new town boundary signs, directional and distance info signs, while the signage on roads at Trail approaches will be standardized. In some cases you will see mile markers at slightly different locations than they were previously. The distances are being remeasured to correct old positioning which over time got altered due to frost heaves and the difficulty of hand digging post holes in ballast.

Many thanks to VTTrans for undertaking this project to improve the experience for MVRT users.



Signs no longer needed are being removed.

Fit Family Day

The Council will again partner with several local organizations to host a Fit Family Day in Enosburg Falls. The event will take place in the Fall - stay tuned, date to be announced! The event promotes health and fitness to families with young children. Children can earn

prizes and get snacks when they use the Trail. Whether bicycling, walking, or pushed in a stroller, children who develop a love of exercise and fresh air will become healthier adults.

Trail Maintenance

The Northwest Vermont Rail Trail Council would like to extend a huge thanks to local snowmobile club, Northwest Riders, for their work on the Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail.

The ice storm in late December left many parts of the Trail littered with branches and broken tree limbs, leaving it unpassable in many places. Members of the Northwest Riders, all volunteers, spent 3 days cleaning up the Trail between Green's Corner and the Boston Post Road, a total of 105 man hours.



Thank you so much, Northwest Riders!
Winter trail users are very grateful to you
for making the Trail usable again.

Photo courtesy Northwest Riders Snowmobile Club

MVRT at Bike Expo

The first Vermont Bike Expo was recently held in Burlington with about 250 people attending. The event included speakers, workshops and displays, including one for the MVRT, at left, sponsored by the Council.



Mail Preferences

Let us know your preferred format for receiving the MVRT newsletter. We would be happy to send it to you by regular mail or by e-mail, your choice. If we do not hear from you, we will assume you are happy with the format you are presently receiving.

Contact us at (802) 524-5958 or
e-mail aadams@nrpcvt.com

Updates

Lamoille Valley Rail Trail

There will be some Trail construction this season!! Two portions of Phase 1 were put out to bid at the end of January. One part of Phase 1 is a 15-mile stretch from Mount Vernon Street in St. Johnsbury to Channel Drive in West Danville; the other part is a 17.5-mile stretch from Route 15A in Morrisville to Cambridge Junction. The construction of both parts was awarded to Munson Earthmoving of Williston at a total cost of \$2.7 million.

A bridge being erected just west of Morrisville is nearly complete.

Fundraising is an on-going endeavor as VAST is responsible for a 20% match of all federal grant funding for a total of \$3.5 million.

Richford Trail Extension

Plans continue in Richford to put in an extension of the Rail Trail. They are currently working on acquiring easements for the path which would run from Troy Street (across from the end of the MVRT) to the Sunoco station on Main Street. The path would be paved and is expected to be completed this construction season. The project is being funded by a grant from the Vermont Bicycle and Pedestrian program.

Friends of the MVRT

Thank You to all of our returning friends for your continued support of the Trail and the Council:

George & Virginia Lewis

David Plumb

Marie Brouillette

Jeff Young

Vaughn & JoAnne Rock

Jim & Sue Paulsen

Gary & Cindy Rutkowski

Paul & Grayce Anderson

Mr. & Mrs. John Bolog

John King

H. Wells French

Gail Benjamin

Marian Fritz

Dana Wolcott

Anne Bowers

Peter Perrino

John Chicoine

Marilyn Takefman & Stan Backman

Dolly MacNeil

Jane Williams

Dave Stanley

Don Mueller

Martha Smith

Edwin Holm

Lorraine Bertrand

Baird Morgan

Peter Backman & Annie Christopher Fund

Tom Smith & Anne McMenamin

Douglas Mason

Roy Neuer & Shirley Wolfe

Sue & John Martin

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The Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail

Farms, Forests, Fields, and Communities: Come Harvest Our Agricultural Heritage!