



# MISSISQUOI VALLEY RAIL TRAIL



Fall 2015

## New Parking Area at Green's Corner

It's finally happened, the MVRT now has a new and improved parking area on Route 105 very near trail mile 3, commonly known as Green's Corner! Those of you who have been following the progress of this project might recall that the Council was originally awarded grants in 1998 and 2001 to develop several parking areas and install amenities. Parking areas in St. Albans



Improved MVRT parking area on Route 105 at Green's Corner

and North Sheldon were completed, however many unforeseen details resulted in delays and insufficient funding to complete the Green's Corner parking area. In 2012 the Council voted to turn the project over to VTrans. Many thanks to the District 8 crew for making the parking area a reality last Fall! The relocated access greatly improves the line of sight so that exiting from the parking area is now much safer than it used to be.

## Seymour Rd. Crossing



New signs on Seymour Rd. draw attention to MVRT crossing

And more good news – crossing Seymour Rd. in St. Albans (which separates the MVRT parking area from the start of the trail) has been made safer with the recent installation of improved signage. High visibility pedestrian crossing signs are now located on both the north and south sides of Seymour Rd. and face both east and west bound traffic. Thank you VTrans!

## MVRT Mobile App



## 'Celebrating the Missisquoi'

This summer there was a lot of focus on the Missisquoi River and Franklin County due in large measure to the Upper Missisquoi and Trout Rivers receiving designation in the National Park Service's Wild and Scenic Rivers program. 'Celebrate the Missisquoi' brought



Bicycles in E. Berkshire wait for paddlers to become pedalers

together many events scheduled throughout the summer and located throughout the county to highlight the river and the vital role it plays in northern Vermont.

Among the many events which took place, the Council participated in the Wild & Scenic Designation Celebration held at The Abbey on



Council members Jane Williams, Cynthia Scott, and Carol Hickey helped out with the pedal part of the race

June 6 as well as the Paddle Pedal race held in Berkshire and Richford on June 27 where participants paddled the Missisquoi River from Davis Park in Richford to East Berkshire, then pedaled from East Berkshire along the MVRT back to Richford.

## Scouts Cycle the MVRT

Franklin County has a lot of good back roads for cycling but by far the safest is the

Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail. For this reason Boy Scout Troop 70 of St. Albans chose the Rail Trail for weekly summer rides with the younger scouts. The goal was to have the boys cycle on all parts of the trail from St.



A member of St. Albans Boy Scout Troop 70 bicycling the MVRT

Albans to Richford. In the process the boys increased their cycling stamina, learned about bicycle safety and etiquette on the trail, ate a lot of good ice cream at the various cremee stands along the way, and earned an MVRT patch donated by the Rail Trail Council. Both boys and parents enjoyed rolling along through corn fields and forests and seeing a variety of wildlife. The Troop would like to thank all those who keep the trail in such great shape. It is truly a great recreational resource for Franklin County.

*Submitted by John Chesarek*

### 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.

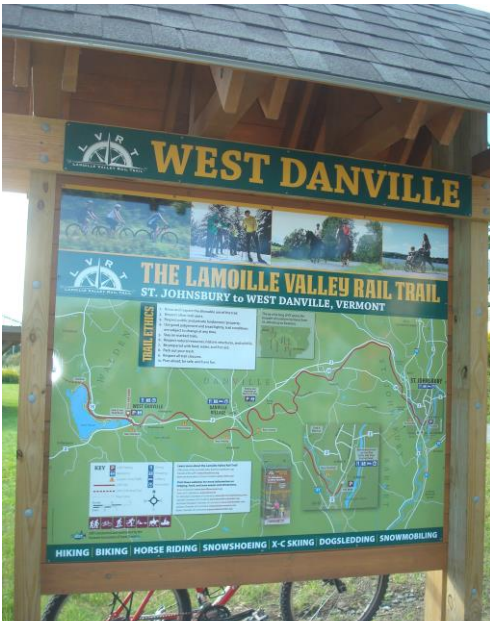
Contact us at (802) 524-5958 or  
e-mail [aadams@nrpcvt.com](mailto:aadams@nrpcvt.com)

## Update Lamoille Valley Rail Trail



Many happy Trail users attended the official opening of the LVRT between St. Johnsbury and W. Danville

On August 27, a 17-mile section of the LVRT was officially opened! Stretching from St. Johnsbury to Joe's Pond in W. Danville, this section has a crushed stone surface and trail users pass through several huge culverts. The



LVRT kiosk at Joe's Pond in W. Danville construction and is due to open soon, perhaps this fall.

The section we're most excited about, 11 miles between Swanton and Sheldon Junction, is next on the agenda. Next summer the engineering work will be done and several

views are stunning and the grade slightly downhill going from W. Danville to St. J.

The 17 mile stretch between Morrisville and Cambridge Junction is in its final stages of

FEMA sites in the Highgate area will be repaired. Construction of the trail is expected to take place in summer 2017. The LVRT will intersect with the MVRT in Sheldon Junction behind Bourdeau Brothers.

A capital campaign will be underway soon to raise the funds necessary to construct the remaining sections of the LVRT eventually creating a seamless 93-mile long recreational path in Vermont stretching from St. Johnsbury to Swanton.

## Trail Maintenance



The MVRT's surface requires regular monitoring and maintenance to prevent holes like this one

The Council and the MVRT's many users greatly appreciate the efforts of VTrans

in maintaining the Trail in

good condition. In addition to keeping the shoulders mowed, removing fallen trees and branches, and filling potholes, several culverts were repaired or replaced, and encroaching trees were removed this summer.



Dead trees and those overhanging the Trail surface are removed

## Friends of the MVRT

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

Grayce Anderson  
Bryant Andrews  
Carolyn & William Barnes  
Gail Benjamin  
Lorraine Bertrand  
John & Marguerite Bolog  
Steve & Debbie Bourgeois  
Anne Bowers  
Marie Brouillette  
Frances Casey  
Janet Cheffins  
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Tom Smith  
Chapin Spencer  
Carol & Dave Stanley  
Marilyn Takefman  
Marlene & Francis Thibault  
Jane Williams  
Shirley Wolfe & Roy Neuer  
Judith & John Zimmerman

**And a Hearty Welcome to our new Friends;  
we value your Friendship and Thank You!**

Donald McFeeters

Dana Poverman

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*The Missisquoi Valley Rail Trail*

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