

# *Department of Conservation and Recreation Greenways and Trails Program*

## *2009 Recreational Trails Grants; Project Summaries*

### *Diverse / Non-Motorized*

#### **Bike to the Sea, Inc.**

##### **Northern Strand Community Trail Project**

This project involves the construction of 1,500 feet of stone dust path along the Northern Strand Community Trail in Everett and Malden between the Madeline English School in Everett and Medford Street in Malden. The trail will eventually extend 10 miles from the Amelia Earhart Dam along the Mystic River in Everett to beaches in Lynn and Swampscott. Bike to the Sea, Inc. requests this grant to purchase materials, and will provide a project manager to oversee the project on behalf of the Cities of Everett and Malden.

*Grant*            \$39,000    *Match*            \$10,000

#### **Franklin Land Trust**

##### **Ashfield Trails Enhancement Project**

This project will enhance two of Ashfield's trail links by constructing a boardwalk over a swampy area and the establishment of educational signage. One trail connects Sanderson Academy (public school) to the Bear Swamp Reservation (TTOR). The other connects the Chapel Brook Reservation / DAR State Forest to the Lost Farm en route to the town center. These improvements will enable school children and other hikers to access these trails throughout the year, to gain physical exercise, and appreciate the native plant life and natural beauty of the open land.

*Grant*            \$3,531    *Match*            \$7,446

#### **Town of Sturbridge**

##### **Grand Trunk Trail - Westville Section Surface**

This project will complete 1.5 miles of the Grand Trunk Trail in Sturbridge from the current trailhead on Wallace Road to a point 1500 feet past the Ed Calcutt Bridge. Trail construction will involve work along the Grand Trunk rail bed from removal of stumps to the final crushed fines application.

*Grant*            \$35,600    *Match*            \$61,400

#### **DCR West Region**

##### **Mahican-Mohawk Trail Development**

This project will move 7 miles of the Mahican-Mohawk Trail off road on to permanently protected State Forest Land in the Mohawk Trails and Savoy Mountain State Forest. The project will primarily move the trail on to existing trails with some new trail creation while implementing sustainable trail design and construction techniques.

*Grant*            \$36,382    *Match*            \$11,104

## Wachusett Greenways

### Mass Central Rail Trail - Oakham (Route 122 to Coldbrook Station)

Wachusett Greenways proposes to construct .83 miles of the Mass Central Rail Trail (MCRT) in Oakham. The trail section in Oakham will run from the Route 122 crossing west to Coldbrook Station. With completion of this section, Wachusett Greenways in partnership with the Commonwealth and others, will have completed nearly 15 miles of our planned 30-mile midsection of the 104-mile MCRT.

*Grant*            \$50,000    *Match*            \$50,000

## Goshen Open Space Committee

### Tilton Town Farm Trail Project

This project is the first step in improving the existing but under-utilized Tilton Town Farm Trail so that it can be used year-round as an educational and recreational resource for both Goshen residents and trail users of the adjacent DAR State Forest. This first phase includes rehabilitation of the degraded trail bed of the South Trail Loop, which has been severely affected by erosion; construction of two bridges wide and strong enough for use by hikers, horse riders, snowmobilers and mountain bikers; installation of signage and blazers on both the North and South portions of the trail so that hikers will know where they are at key points; and installation of an informational kiosk on the trail at the Goshen dump, where one can pick up an interpretive trail guide. In the future, we propose to enhance the educational value of the trail through mapping and signage to illustrate land values such as wetland care, wildlife diversity, and forest management; and to restore the portion of the trail North of Wing Hill Road in order to establish the Tilton Town Farm Trail as a link in a long distance trail that leads from Williamsburg through Goshen, Ashfield, and Conway.

*Grant*            \$6,209    *Match*            \$6,425

## East Quabbin Land Trust

### Mass Central Rail Trail (MCRT) Bridge and Trail Improvements in Hardwick and New Braintree

The East Quabbin Land Trust is working to open a 2-mile section of the MCRT within the next few years. This project will advance the stabilization of a historic lateral truss bridge crossing the Ware River, install decking and railings on a trestle bridge and I-beam bridge, and improve trail conditions by facilitating tie removal and trail improvements.

*Grant*            \$50,000    *Match*            \$37,260

## *Motorized*

### SAM - Harvard Snowmobile Club

#### Trail Improvement and Groomer Purchase

This project proposes to improve a 22-mile trail system by the purchase of a groomer. As part of the match, the club proposes to increase the frequency of maintenance on the system and include grooming over the next year. These improvements are intended to enhance both motorized and non-motorized trail use year round.

*Grant*            \$7,000    *Match*            \$5,726

### SAM - Coldbrook Snowmobile Club

#### Otter River Trail Reclamation Project

This project will purchase a flail/boom mower, reclaim several trails in Otter River State

Park and install several gates. These trails have not been maintained for at least a decade.

*Grant*                      \$9,500                      *Match*                      \$3,918

**SAM - Conway Snowmobile Club  
Community Trails Maintenance and Grooming Initiative**

Conway has over 3,400 acres of state land (Poland Brook WMA, Conway State Forest and South River State Forest) that have trails primarily maintained by volunteers. The Conway Snowmobile Club proposes to coordinate with state agencies to improve these trails, making it possible for all winter recreationalists to better use these trails. The club will use volunteer labor and a track driven groomer with a planer drag to maintain and groom trails used by a variety of winter recreationists.

*Grant*                      \$39,259                      *Match*                      \$15,630

**SAM - Berkshire Snow Seekers Club  
Berkshire County Snowmobile Trail Restoration Project**

This project will restore badly eroded sections of snowmobile trails in 1) October Mountain State Forest and 2) Pittsfield State Forest and Balance Rock State Park. Benefits of this trail restoration, including removal of large rocks, water bar installation, and blowdown removal; will allow for increased user safety, more sustainable trails, and longer seasonal use. These trails, also used by skiers and hikers, provide links to other trail systems and local restaurants and services.

*Grant*                      \$9,600                      *Match*                      \$8,625

**DCR - West Region  
West Region Trail Crew**

Guided by the DCR 2007 Motorized Trail Recreational Facility Assessment Policy outlining standards for trail siting, construction and maintenance; the West Region Trail Crew will provide 16 weeks of intense trail work on motorized trails in the region. This project not only helps to satisfy a growing recreational demand for OHV use, but helps to protect the environment as well as other public and private land by providing legal and sustainable riding opportunities.

*Grant*                      \$24,570                      *Match*                      \$24,570

**SAM - Goshen Highlanders Snowmobile Club  
Trail Stabilization and Preventive Maintenance Project**

This project will involve trail stabilization and erosion control along with annual trail maintenance including brush cutting and removal of fallen trees and hazards in the trail way. Ongoing trail work will allow uninterrupted enjoyment for the recreational user.

*Grant*                      \$19,670                      *Match*                      \$4,905

**King Philip Trail Riders  
Trail Enhancement and Maintenance Tools**

This project will allow KPTR to purchase trail maintenance tools and supplies including chainsaws, shovels and wheelbarrows for the purpose of improving and repairing multi-use trails throughout Wrentham, Foxboro, and Franklin State Forests, better known as F.

Gilbert Hill State Forest Region.

*Grant*                      \$6,432      *Match*                      \$1,303

**Western Mass ATV Association**

**Pittsfield State Forest Off Road Vehical (ORV) Trail Resurfacing Project**

This project will improve ORV trail surface conditions primarily in Pittsfield State Forest (or alternative in Berkshire County) dependant on new DCR ORV trail criteria. The project will include bulldozer work to regrade trails to improve drainage, installation of water bars and culverts, and bringing in soil to fill low spots. These multi-use trails are in dire need of major maintenance that has been neglected for over 30 years.

*Grant*                      \$40,000      *Match*                      \$8,000

**Boys and Girls Club of Greater Westfield, Inc.**

**Boys and Girls Club ATV Facility**

This project will develop an ATV training facility on 40 acres of land donated by the City of Westfield, for youth and families. The facility will consist of a variety of riding trails, a mandatory safety training course taught by nationally certified trainers, and the use of onsite ATV vehicles to be utilized for training and recreational riding.

*Grant*                      \$14,000      *Match*                      \$60,960

***Non-Motorized***

**Essex County Trail Association (ECTA)**

**Trail Maintenance in Bradley Palmer State Park Project**

The ECTA has been working closely with Bradley Palmer officials to develop a detailed Trail management Plan for the park. This is completed and this project will improve those top priority trails that are in most need of repair and will bring them back to excellent condition.

*Grant*                      \$30,000      *Match*                      \$10,712

**DCR - Urban Parks South Region**

**Appalachian Mountain Club Trail Crew - South Region Project**

The Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) provides trail crews that assist parks in improving the accessibility, sustainability and safety of their trails. With the assistance of the park supervisors and assistant forester, a crew of six individuals will work on improving trails throughout the South Region during the summer months. Trail improvements will include rock steps, bridges, culverts, ditches and water bars in several sensitive areas of the South Region. Funds will be used for both trail crew and permitting expenses.

*Grant*                      \$48,800      *Match*                      \$11,536

## **Appalachian Trail Club**

### **Appalachian Trail Restoration on Jug End Project**

This project will result in drainage and soil retention work on the Appalachian Trail on Jug End. The project will include rock staircases, retaining walls, waterbars, and other needed trail repair. It will be completed by a combination of AMC's staff-led volunteer trail crew and professional trail crew.

*Grant*            \$14,240    *Match*            \$9,760

## **Town of Brewster - Natural Resources Department**

### **Wing's Island Trail Restoration Project**

This project will restore an eroded trail to Cape Cod Bay, which is used by approximately 150 visitors per day. This will also include replacing a small footbridge (12-feet long) crossing a stream in the salt marsh. Finally, the project will provide some interpretive signs for a coastal field restoration project.

*Grant*            \$4,318    *Match*            \$8,382

## **Town of Upton, Land Stewardship Committee**

### **Stefans Farm Parcel; Trail Construction Phase II Project**

This project will initiate phase II of trail construction on the former Stefans Farm Conservation Parcel in Upton. The project will include the purchase of a brush cutter for continued maintenance on an existing loop trail; construction of additional trails; purchase of signage materials; purchase of a kiosk with map box and seating; creation of a trailhead area; printing of maps; and purchase of gravel to complete the trailhead parking.

*Grant*            \$2,233    *Match*            \$2,290

## **New England Mountain Biking Association (NEMBA)**

### **NEMBA's Massachusetts Trail Care Series**

NEMBA's Trail Care Series provides 57 days of volunteer stewardship and care for natural surface trails on 22 different public open spaces in the Commonwealth. This project will train crew leaders and members of the broader trails community in the science of trail design, construction and maintenance. The proposal requests material funding for projects in three state parks in eastern Massachusetts and the Berkshires to improve trail opportunities and protect natural resources on DCR properties.

*Grant*            \$16,080    *Match*            \$16,080

## **DCR - West Region**

### **Appalachian Trail Ridge Runner Program**

This project will fund the Appalachian Trail Ridge Runner who will work exclusively on the AT in Massachusetts. The AT Ridge Runner provides education and information to trail visitors and works closely with numerous volunteers to maintain the trail and associated overnight facilities. The AT Ridge Runner also helps monitor trail conditions and use, and responds to emergencies as needed.

*Grant*            \$7,687    *Match*            \$7,687

