

## TRAILS OF ANTRIM

Peter Beblowski

Six action items were identified at the Antrim 2020 community profile event that took place last October. One of the action items identified as a need or benefit to the community at this community visioning event was to know more about and to promote local area trails. At the first follow-up planning meeting in November, a group of enthusiastic citizens banded together with several veteran conservation commissioners to form **Trails of Antrim** as one of the action groups to come out of the Antrim 2020 project.

Since that initial planning meeting, several small group meetings and hikes to trails in town were conducted to prepare and plan trail rehabilitation and revitalization activities. Rehabilitation is envisioned to consist of providing new blazing, some tree and shrub cutting, and providing signage and trail information at the trail heads. The initial trail chosen to be revitalized is the Meadow Marsh Trail. This trail is north of Gregg Lake, a moderate stroll from the town beach in the riparian woodland along Craig Road and Hattie Brown (a thrown down/discontinued) Road. The trail, on town land maintained by the Conservation Commission,

is approximately 0.6 miles long. A pleasant stroll on a nice day. It is the intention of Trails of Antrim to have this trail fully rehabilitated with a grand re-opening on June 3, 2017, which also coincides with National Trails Day (<http://nationaltrailsday.americanhiking.org/>).

Trails of Antrim has started a Facebook group page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/trailsofantrim/>. It is a public group, so join and visit frequently to see what is new with the group. Another initiative of the group will be to place a number of the trails on the Trail Finder website ([www.trailfinder.info](http://www.trailfinder.info)) once they are fully rehabilitated with new painted blazes and signage. Trail Finder is a free interactive mapping site designed to assist people in both New Hampshire and Vermont to get outside by finding trails to hike, ski, or snowshoe. Trail Finder is overseen by a consortium of groups headed by the Upper Valley Trails Alliance. The

other outdoor groups who collaborate with Trail Finder are the UNH Cooperative Extension, the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation and the National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program.

We are very excited to share our knowledge of hiking places in Antrim through Trails of Antrim. Please feel free to join us on a hike or help on a trail work day. You can find out more information at the above Facebook Group page. ❁



Griffin DeLisle enjoys a hike along the Meadow Marsh Trail.



Annabelle DeLisle explores the Lily Pond Trail.

Photos:  
Joan Gorga

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