Spring/Summer 2021

A close-up view of our chapter's vibrancy and dedication.

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**Spring / Summer 2021** *Letter from the Editors* 

Spring has indeed sprung! Color is again dotting the landscape against the brown backdrop from the winter season. It's a wonderful time of the year with so much promise of the exciting seasons to come. As the daylight increases, routines from a few months ago are changing and expanding with seemingly more time to again become engaged in our favorite spring and summer activities and routines.

This edition of the *Wachusett Views* is primarily focused on National Trails Day and the Worcester Chapter's month-long celebration of the annual event with in-person and virtual events according to a weekly theme--environmental clean-up, restorative value of the outdoors, local land trusts, and trail maintenance. Participants will be entered in a weekly drawing to win fun prizes! Read more about how our Chapter will celebrate National Trails Day in the pages that follow.

We hope you'll join us in the engaging and interesting activities being offered by our volunteers and partners and help us to celebrate National Trails Day . . . whether you join in-person or virtually!

Enjoy your trail of choice in the coming season!

Janice and Chris

Janice Melchiore and Christine Pignatiello Worcester Chapter Communications Co-Chairs



**AMC Worcester Chapter** 

Stephen Crowe

Karyn Marciniec

Alexandra Molnar

Zenya Molnar

amcworcester.org Appalachian Mountain Club 10 City Square Boston, MA 02129



#### A Message from the Chapter Chair: Under the Red Felt Crusher May 2021

By Kim Beauchemin, Worcester Chapter Chair

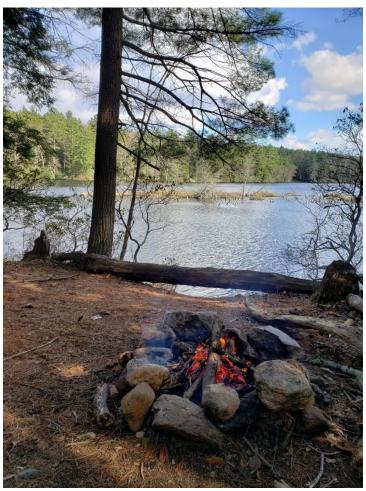
ello everyone! I hope you are all well and that you are starting to think about all the adventures that spring and summer will provide! As the weather warms and nature begins to emerge from its slumber, our leaders have been cooking up some wonderful activities that I hope you'll consider participating in.

Also, the TrailsFest Committee has come up with fantastic plans to celebrate <u>National Trails Day</u>. This year, we plan on having multiple outdoor trips in the weeks leading up to June 5<sup>th</sup> to celebrate all types of trails, whether they be hiking, paddling, or biking! To find these trips, please look for activities with the keyword "TrailsFest". Currently there are many trips of all kinds available!

Thank you again for your support and enthusiastic participation with our AMC Club.

Hope to see you on the trails soon!

All the Best, Kim



Bigelow Hollow State Park

Appalachian Mountain Club Worcester Chapter's

# 2021 TrailsFest!

May 15 - June 5, 2021

In the spirit of National Trails Day, we bring together Worcester Chapter's outdoor community & celebrate all trails – hiking trails, bike paths, waterways, climbing routes & more!

In-person activities and virtual events leading up to National Trails Day

## Weekly themes:

- Environmental clean-up
- Restorative value of the outdoors
- Local land trusts
- Trail maintenance

### **ACTIVITIES**

Hiking • Climbing • Paddling • Bicycling • Trail Maintenance • Virtual Speakers

Participants will be entered in a WEEKLY DRAWING!

FIND YOUR JOURNEY THROUGH ACTIVE <u>CONSERVATION</u> AND OUTDOOR <u>RECREATION!</u>



For more information, see <a href="http://amcworcester.org/localactivities.html">http://amcworcester.org/localactivities.html</a>
Questions? Contact <a href="mailto:programs@amcworcester.org">programs@amcworcester.org</a>

#### **AMC Worcester Celebrates National Trails Day with TrailsFest**

Join us for TrailsFest, a month-long celebration of all trails leading up to National Trails Day in June! Between May 15 and June 5, we will be offering in-person and virtual events according to a weekly theme—environmental clean-up, restorative value of the outdoors, local land trusts, and trail maintenance. Leaders and activity participants will be automatically entered in a weekly drawing to win great prizes from prominent outdoor companies, such as REI, Burgeon Outdoor, Athletic Brewing Co., and Fjallraven! Winners will be randomly drawn at the weekly virtual events. Search TrailsFest in the AMC Activities Database to register for all trips and events!

For more information, click <a href="here">here</a>!



2019 TrailsFest Event

#### We're excited about presenters for our TrailsFest Virtual Events! Please join us!

Search TrailsFest in the AMC Activities Database to register for these virtual events!

#### **Saturday May 15 – 6:30 PM–8 PM**

**Presenter / Topic:** Steve Ciras / Leave No Trace (LNT)

An avid outdoorsman, Steve Ciras is past Chair of the Worcester Chapter and former Chair of the AMC Conservation Committee. Steve is the recipient of the AMC Distinguished Service Award. He is certified in advanced wilderness first aid, a member of the 4000 Footer Club, a trail adopter in Maine and a Leave No Trace Awareness instructor. On most weekends, you can find

Steve in the woods or on the rivers and lakes of New Hampshire and Maine.

Ever wonder what LNT means? The Leave No Trace principles enable us to be stewards of our environment while participating in outdoor activities. The session will be eye opening and entertaining.

#### **Saturday May 22 – 6:30 PM-8 PM**

Presenter / Topic: Ben Cosgrove / New England Trail (NET) Artist-in-Residence (AiR)

Ben Cosgrove is a traveling composer-performer whose music explores themes of landscape, place, and environment in North America. His fourth studio album, *The Trouble With Wilderness*, was released this spring. In

2018 Ben served as the <u>artist-in-residence</u> for the New England Trail, and he has also held artist residencies and fellowships with other institutions. For more information, please visit <u>www.bencosgrove.com</u>.

#### **Saturday May 29 - 6:30 PM-8 PM**

**Presenter / Topic:** Kristen Sykes / Bay Circuit Trail and Greenway

Kristen Sykes is the Director of Southern NE Conservation Projects and Partnerships for the AMC. She joined AMC in 2004 and since that time, has worked extensively to advance land conservation, trails, and recreational access throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions. She sits on the board of the Mass Land Trust Coalition and The Venture Out Project and serves as the Chapter President for MassBike Connecticut River Valley Chapter.

The Bay Circuit Trail and Greenway is a 230-mile multi-use

trail from Plum Island to Duxbury-Kingston Bay. Since 2012, the AMC has led the Bay Circuit Alliance in the completion, enhancement, and long-term protection of the recreational trail and greenway. The AMC works with the Alliance to fulfill the vision of the Bay Circuit by closing the final gaps of the trail, recruiting and organizing volunteers, improving the trail experience through improved maintenance and signage, securing permanent protection for the trail corridor and the greenway, and encouraging the public to get out and explore the trail.

#### Saturday June 5 - 6:30 PM-8 PM

Presenter / Topic: Cristin Bailey, US Forest Service / Wicked Steep Trails

Cristin Bailey, aka "Bailey", has been working on remote, backcountry trails in the Northeastern United States since 1997. She became the Appalachian Mountain Club's Trails Supervisor in the fall of 2001 until 2006 when she accepted her current position as a Forestry Technician-Trails Manager for the White Mountain National Forest's Saco Ranger District in Conway, NH. This position allows Cristin to continue to work down in the dirt as she has for close to 20 years, alongside volunteers, partners and professional trail builders. In 2021 Bailey became part of

the USFS Chief's Trail Advisory Group, representing Region 9.

Wicked Steep Trails is a presentation Bailey has given locally and nationally. White Mountain trail work has evolved into a niche methodology over the past 200 years. In the White Mountains, trail workers are mostly performing reconstruction of historic trails as opposed to new trail construction. We will discuss these methods and have plenty of time for Q & A.

#### The MidState Trail by the Numbers

By Mike Peckar, Worcester Chapter MidState Chair

#### Did you know . . .

About one third of the MidState Trail is on protected land (State Forest, DCR watershed, town-owned and nonprofits like Mass Audubon or land trusts). About one third is on public roads and the remaining one third is private land.

The MidState Trail Committee has been working hard to obtain easements for the trail on some private lands and continues to do so. Most of the private land that the trail crosses are handshake agreements that the landowners can rescind at any time. This is why it is very important that trail users respect those landowners' interests and stay on the trail, leash their dogs and pick up after themselves.

There are 40 registered maintainers which manage 30 dedicated sections of the ~90-mile long MidState Trail. Dozens of other unregistered 'trail angels' regularly maintain the trail. Some State Forest Rangers, Mass Audubon staff, Land Trust staff and private landowners also contribute greatly to

Shelter in Douglas State Forest

trail maintenance. There are 5 certified chainsaw folk (Sawyers) and 6 certified chainsaw assistants (Swampers). Sawyers require AMC chainsaw certification, Wilderness First Aid certification and CPR which are renewed every two years; Swampers require Wilderness First Aid and CPR which are also renewed every two years.

MidState Trail Volunteers worked at least 500 hours in 2020. Please make sure to thank the volunteers when you seem them working on the trail!

There are five open-faced shelters along the trail. There is one primitive campsite with tent platforms and a second platform site being added in 2021.

The MidState Trail Guide is in its 7th edition since the 1980s and was last updated in 2020.



MidState Trail at RI / MA Boundary

#### **For More Information:**

Here is the <u>link</u> to the MidState Trail website.

Here is the link to the MidState Trail Guidebook and Patch upon completion of the entire trail.

#### **Leave No Trace: Campfires**

By Pete Lane, Worcester Chapter Member

Since the days of the cave man, campfires have been a part of our outdoor experience. However, it usually leaves some long lasting impacts.

The Leave No Trace Principles address this with 3 words: <u>Minimize Campfire Impacts</u>. It's an interesting choice of words. Although no campfires would be the ultimate of minimizing impacts, the principle recognizes that campfires are integral to the camping experience for many.



The lasting impacts from campfires include:

- A ring of rocks that would not otherwise be found in the natural world.
- A surrounding area that is devoid of deadfall and branches up as high as a person can reach, otherwise known as the human browse line.
- Remnants of the fires, namely partially burned wood and ashes.

A ring of rocks is an indication that others have camped there before. And it's going to continue to remind others of this for time immortal. For example, there are no established campsites along the Colorado Trail. So, when looking for a campsite, I looked for fire rings and frequently camped in those areas.

Assuming we do plan to have a campfire, we can minimize the impacts from campfires by using existing fire rings. If there isn't an existing fire ring, then please don't build (and leave) yet another.

Should we choose to have a campfire, then follow the five "D's" of firewood gathering:

We reduce the expansion of the human browse line if we gather firewood from well beyond the immediate area. Avoid the temptation to pick up the first branch that you find. Leave it, and go beyond to the next. Think **distant**.

Coupled with distant, we can reduce our impact by gathering firewood over a wide area rather than gather it all from one area. Take one branch from one area and then move to another for another branch and continue. Think **disbursed.** 

We can reduce the expansion of the human browse line by not breaking off branches, even when the tree is dead. Gather wood that is on the ground. Think **down.** 

We can reduce the impact resulting from partially burned wood by gathering only smaller branches. Smaller branches are more likely to burn completely to ash. Plus, there is no need for hand tools when we can break the branches with our hands. Think **dinky.** 

And most campers know that green wood does not burn well. Think dead.

## The Five "D's" of firewood gathering:

- Distant
- Disbursed
- Down
- Dinky
- Dead

Ash, the remnant of campfires, does not disintegrate. And with subsequent campfires, it only accumulates. We can reduce the accumulation by bagging the ash and scattering it later, away from the campsite, and away from trails—ideally, at least 30 minutes down the trail and 200 feet off the trail.

#### Finally, before building a campfire:

- Make sure it is safe to have a campfire. Use an area where it will not spread, either along the ground through dry grass and duff, underground through the root system, or overhead through branches and vegetation.
- Make sure it is legal to have a campfire. Campfires are prohibited in several areas, including alpine zones. And there may be fire bans in place.
- Have a means to put out the fire, such as water, or shovel for dirt.

#### Interested in learning more about Leave No Trace?

- Take the Leave No Trace online awareness course at: <u>Online Awareness Course Leave No Trace Center</u> for Outdoor Ethics (Int.org)
- Attend a Leave No Trace Trainer course. This is a two day course with overnight. Search on the <u>AMC</u> webpage for Leave No Trace or on <u>Leave No Trace</u> website.



Nancy Cahn with Smokey the Bear – TrailsFest 2019

#### Local Women's Cycling Group Hikes MA MidState Trail

A local women's cycling group, Worcester County Women's Cycling (WCWC) decided to 'switch gears' during the winter months and hike the entire MA MidState Trail as a challenge. The MidState Trail is a scenic footpath which runs ~92 miles through Worcester County MA—starting at the RI border and finishing at the NH border.

The idea for hiking the entire MidState Trail came from one of the active members of the cycling group, Donna Curboy (pictured below).



Donna challenged a few of the other members to join her—which they accepted! The hike started in January at the Douglas State Forest with a planned finish in May. The first hike had three others who joined Donna—but the excitement and enthusiasm grew with other WCWC members and they also decided to join in the fun. The weekly hikes were organized with the help of Kathleen MacNeil who purchased the MidState Trail Guide and determined the car spot locations and Lisa Canney who provided motivation. Hikes were done in mostly 8-10 mile sections through all of the typical winter and spring weather conditions and with the required gear including snowshoes.

The group said that their favorite section of the MidState Trail was Redemption Rock through Crow

Hill Ledges; they enjoyed watching the courageous rock climbers in action. Kathleen said she liked the section in the Douglas State Forest where she (and the group) does mountain biking when they're not cycling on the road. Another favorite section included the cow tunnel in Charlton.

Kathleen (pictured below) feels we are fortunate to have groups that create and maintain the trails, protect the habitat and conserve the open space. WCWC acknowledges and gives credit to the private landowners who provide access to the MidState hikers to traverse their land.



WCWC had never heard of the MidState Trail even though it is literally in all of our back yards! They enjoyed having access to nature close to home without a need to travel to another state. Kathleen said she now sees the 'yellow triangle' MidState Trail marker everywhere through Central MA and now knows what they represent.

Great job to the women of WCWC! There are now at least ten potential MidState end-to-end finishers who will be eligible to claim their <u>patch</u>!



MidState Trail - Cow Tunnel in Charlton MA



WCWC on MidState Trail

#### **Pine Hill Trail Work Volunteers Needed**

When: June 5 and 6

Hours (Both Days): 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

**Meet Location:** Behind the Wachusett Mountain Visitors Center by 8:30 am **Register:** Steve Crowe (508-450-1091) Steve@SunshineLandscapingCo.com

Reconstruction work continues on the Pine Hill Trail at Mt. Wachusett. The Trail was originally constructed by the CCC as a ski trail in the 1930's, however since it has become very popular, it has widened considerably into a steep, eroded trail.

Join the Trail Committee for the reconstruction and trail hardening work which consists of setting rock steps, building rock structures for drainage and waterbars and setting scree walls for trail definition. We will be splitting rock, quarrying rock with high line systems or building the trail treadway itself.





Join experienced leaders to learn the fundamentals of safely moving rock, trail stabilization and treadway protection. Learn the mechanical advantage of moving rocks with a grip hoist and highline system. Tremendous opportunity to be involved in a local project ... the results of which will be around for decades. Tools and training available, bring lunch, water, and work gloves. We will be working both days (June 5 and 6) rain or shine; rain often shortens the day but has never cancelled the work.

#### Two of Four Cornerstone Hikes of Worcester County Revealed

By Pat Lambert, Past Chair

In the spring newsletter, I asked for suggestions from you, our Chapter members, for your favorite places in Worcester County that you would like to experience during all 4 seasons. Two members stepped up to the plate and shared two wonderful places to discover. They are.....

With thanks to David Miller, the <u>Newton Reservoir and Bearsden Forest Conservation Area</u>. The loop around the Reservoir is gorgeous, and there are longer walks and two lean-to's for camping along the Miller River.

With thanks to Zenya Molnar, the <u>Midstate Trail</u> section between Redemption Rock and Crow Hill. The trail is diverse in that it meanders along an old stone wall, crosses a stream, runs through mountain laurel groves, and ends at the ledges of Crow Hill with beautiful views toward Wachusett Mountain and the ponds at Leominster State Forest. You can also extend this out-and-back hike past Redemption Rock to Wachusett on your way back. The Redemption Rock-Crow Hill section is a wonderful way to experience the Midstate Trail and gain some elevation (and possibly even see rock climbers if you go in the summer).



Wachusett Mountain from the ledges at Crow Hill

There is still time to submit your suggestions so that we can round out the suite of 4 hikes. Don't know if your hike is in Worcester County? Then check the <u>list of cities and towns</u> that comprise our county.

The 4 cornerstone hikes will allow us to build a series of 16 annual hikes that will enable our Chapter members, and those outside our Chapter, to experience the beauty and wonder of our cherished local area.

Please submit your suggestions to me at <u>plambert119@yahoo.com</u>. I will announce the 2 final hikes in the fall newsletter. Thank you!

#### A Soggy Paddler's First Thoughts Upon Capsizing

By David J. Miller, Worcester Chapter Paddling Leader, and Novice Paddler who wishes to remain Anonymous

<u>Novice Paddler's Inquiry</u>: I didn't think last weekend was the right time to ask questions, but you now hold some very valuable information for me. I want to know what goes through the mind of someone who unexpectedly gets thrown overboard, in this case by the wind. You've probably experienced this before, but I have not. Therefore, you hold the type of information I like to store away for the day I need it. It could have easily been me watching my boots float away...

<u>Old Timer's Answer:</u> My friend, you ask an interesting question and there is no simple answer because, in general, no two capsizes are the same. I've been in the water involuntarily on several occasions, and it all depends on the circumstances.

On Saturday, when a strong gust of wind threw me into the water on the Quaboag River, my first thoughts were along the line of "What happened? That was so quick! How did that happen? What did I do wrong? What do I need to do now? Is my gear going to be scattered all over the water?"

The circumstances of this capsize were relatively benign. The water was shallow, coming up to about mid-thigh, the air temperatures were moderate, the water was not bitter cold, there was little or no current, I was close to shore, and there were no dangerous fallen trees, boulder fields, or waterfalls downstream and nearby.

Other circumstances evoke other thoughts. If there is snow on the river banks and icy patches along the edges, the water will be ice cold. When one is suddenly plunged into that sort of water, the cold takes one's breath away. The diaphragm is paralyzed and one cannot breathe in. The first time this happens, one wonders "Good gravy, will I ever be able to breathe again?" After about twenty seconds (and it seems like forever), the diaphragm relaxes and one resumes breathing normally.

The second time this happens, one remains calm in the knowledge that normal breathing will resume shortly. In either case one is thinking, "This cold water is dangerous. I need to get to shore and get out of the water."

Sometimes the capsize happens abruptly and the paddler doesn't know what hit him / her. At other times there is that awful moment when one sees it coming and can't do anything about it. "Drat it, I've lost my balance and I'm going in the water again." Or, "Blast it, I've been looking back to see how my crew is faring, I haven't been paying attention and I'm on a course for disaster. It's too late to avoid that dangerous obstacle (tree branch, boulder, or whatnot), and I'm going in the water again."

If the capsize involves a tangle of tree branches, the paddler may be thinking, "If the current pins me in these tree branches under the water, I might drown." And if it is a kayaker who is sealed tightly in the hull of the craft by a spray skirt and isn't able to execute an Eskimo roll, the paddler will be thinking, "I need to detach the spray skirt from the hull quickly so I'm not trapped here upside down in the water."

Once, while running Zoar Gap on the Deerfield River, I managed to get broadside on a boulder. The current wrapped the canoe around the boulder and dumped me into the deep water. Calmly, I held my breath while thinking, "I'll soon float to the surface." And, after a few moments, "Woops! I'm not floating to the surface. The current has me pinned against the boulder. I'll have to push off with my legs and swim to the surface."

When capsizing in strong currents where there are obstacles in the water, safety becomes the paramount concern in one's thoughts. Then the paddler may think about the danger of being crushed between a canoe or kayak full of water (thus weighing several hundred pounds) and the next boulder or fallen tree. Then it is important to get away from the downstream side of the canoe or kayak and to get onto the upstream side or off one of the ends.

And when one capsizes upstream from fallen trees, raging rapids, or a waterfall, the paddler has to think about getting out of the current as quickly as possible.

In general, it is more important for the paddler to safeguard their own wellbeing and to worry about their gear later. Their paddling companions will tend to their watercraft and gear if possible, or if not, gear is replaceable.

The following paragraph from my Spanish River narrative adds to the picture:



David Miller running a rapid on the Spanish River

"Surveying the vigorous currents of a rapid from shore, one begins to imagine the power of the water and the effects it might have on a swamped canoe or a swimmer in the torrent. It is altogether another matter to be immersed in the river with a swamped canoe and to feel the current pressing on the hull and grabbing at one's legs, threatening to trip and carry one away, out of control. And I know from experience that damaging one's canoe by pinning it on the rocks in a rapid is an emotionally painful experience, not altogether different from having a fender bender with one's automobile. It takes a while to process the 'what ifs' and 'oh, how I wish that hadn't happeneds.' In the aftermath of Sunday's mishap, Brad said more than once, "We were so close to making it through!"

And if one capsizes in a rapid and must swim with the current until able to reach shore, two matters must be kept in mind. The paddler must be aware of the possibility of getting a foot wedged between two rocks on the river bed if one tries to stand up. Then, if the strong current knocks the paddler over, it may hold them under water until they drown, even in relatively shallow water. In that circumstance, safety first requires that the paddler float on their back with their feet pointed downstream until it is possible to reach shore. Feet up near the surface of the water will not get trapped in the rocks and will fend off collisions with rocks.

So, those are the kinds of thoughts that go through the mind of someone who unexpectedly gets thrown overboard. Let me know if you have further questions.

**Novice Paddler's Response**: I find it interesting that what you say in your first paragraph is what I was imagining if it had been me in that water. And I did indeed think, "What if it had been me?"

How did I get here? What do I do? How do I grab my stuff before it floats away, especially this kayak and paddle? And since I'm rather casual about my life jacket, I'd probably be thinking, is this thing going to slip off? But mostly, I think I'd worry about the stuff. That's if I wasn't drowning.

After that, I think I would realize how cold unfrozen water is . . . even if it wasn't cold enough to trick my diaphragm into taking a nap at the worst time possible. I'm always cold.

And I don't care if the water level was mid-thigh, there's no way I'm putting my feet down into that gook! Or would I if I had to?

All your words about the strong currents, the canoe wrapping around a rock, the current holding you down—well, I don't see that in my near future as I am still a novice. But I do very much appreciate these words of wisdom and will tuck them away, hopefully to be retrieved if / when those moments occur.

- The diaphragm will work again—worry about other things.
- If not floating to the surface—make it happen.
- Avoid obstacles or becoming sandwiched between obstacles. That sounds as if it involves fast moving water—so best to think faster.
- Toes up, pointed downstream. Check.
- Kayak with a spray skirt—I don't like the sound of that—too advanced for me—so that won't be happening for a while.

But here is where you have helped me the most . . . I have a mental image now of me in that water and of my plan. I will not worry about material items if this happens to me. I'll grab what I can, maybe even to help me stay afloat. My fellow AMC'ers will be trying to help me and get that stuff. My job is to prevent a drowning—mine! Get to shore or high land. And, actually pack a set of dry clothes, not just a jacket. Tip overs do happen, even to the most experienced paddlers. Many valuable lessons pondered from this.

Sincerely and with gratitude, Novice Paddler



Scenic View on Spanish River

#### A Note from our Conservation Chair

By Jon DiRodi, Worcester Chapter Conservation Chair

As we approach National Trails Day, we sometimes never consider what it takes to build, maintain, and protect trail systems. The Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) to most members when they first join the club is about recreating outside. As you become more engaged with the club, you begin to realize that Conservation plays a major role in almost every activity the AMC holds. For instance, the AMC is a large promoter in Leave No Trace (LNT) Ethics. You may ask yourself what is Leave No Trace;

sometimes when you walk or paddle, you notice trash along the trail or waterways, or you may see hikers going around a mud puddle and step on precious vegetation. All this can be prevented if we follow the 7 tips of LNT. As outdoor leaders and environmental constituents, we need to continue to help educate the public on LNT ethics as we get more people on our trail systems and waterways. It only takes a small handful of people to make a difference.



Another important aspect of conservation is partnering with local land trusts and profit/nonprofit environmental organizations. Local land trusts play a critical role in acquiring and protecting specific areas of land. These purchases of land could be funded by a grant or even collected through donations by the public that are interested in saving specific parcels of land before they get developed. Land trusts are usually built with a core group of both environmental constituents as well as several volunteers that have a strong passion for the outdoors. Volunteers usually assist in local projects whether it is building or maintaining a local trail system, assist in tree planting, or even general property maintenance. Land trusts also hold conservation speaker series aimed at land protection, ornithology and other exciting

conservation webinars. Another benefit of land trusts is that staff and volunteers lead local hikes, and even hold nature programs for adults and children. Nature programs are great for both adults and children, as its gets them thinking about why nature is so important to have in our everyday lives.

Overall, it is important for everyone to come together, especially now, and engage and educate one another in all aspects of conservation. Nature holds many esthetic values both environmental and human-alike. To us, being outdoors brings a sense of serenity, peacefulness, and gives us motivation to plan awesome recreational trips! Just remember, we are stronger in numbers, and together we can all help make a difference to protect our public lands and natural resources that we cherish each day.

## Call for Worcester Chapter Endowment Applications!

The mission of the Appalachian Mountain Club is to foster the protection, enjoyment, and understanding of the outdoors.

We envision a world where our natural resources are healthy, loved, and always protected, and where the outdoors occupies a place of central importance in every person's life.



#### **Application Deadline:**

July 31 for approval by September 30

We award grants of up to \$5000.

The application form can be found on our website:

https://www.amcworcester.org/endowment.html

Requests for funding must be aligned with the AMC Mission.



2019 TrailsFest Event