

November 2,  
2014

# Trails at McCourt

Hiking, Biking, Nature,  
Education, Sports, Walking  
& Horseback

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# McCourt Trails Purpose

The trails at McCourt Middle School were created for the enjoyment of the natural beauty of our community.

## Planning & Creation

Planning started in the Fall of 2013 from a vision of a possible cross country trail by Chris Fernandez, teacher and coach at McCourt who contacted Councilman Kearns with idea.

# McCourt Trail Uses

## Community

- Walking, Running
- Hiking
- Cross Country Ski
- Education
- Horseback
- Nature
- Bird Watching
- Picnic

## Sports

- 1.8 mile Cross Country Trail (outer loop)
- Other configurations to extend as needed up to a multi-mile course

# McCourt Middle School Trail Maps



1.8 Miles Trail

Alternate Trails

Trail Public Access Points

# Community Volunteers

## Cumberland

- Chris Fernandes (Teacher)
- Jay Masterson (Principle)
- Dawn Masterson (Jay's Wife)
- Chris Nichols (Parent)
- Jeff Kearns (Councilman)
- David Conklin (Parent)
- Dave Lamoureux
- John McNeil (Teacher)
- Darlene
- Jerilyn DeLuca-Hawk
- A.J. Cournoyer (Student)

## Friends of Cumberland

- Up With People
  - This group helped kickoff our trail rough cutting in August 2014

# Trail Status



## Actual Trail Markers

- Section 1 (Connector)
  - Rough Cut and Trail Marked
    - Needs bobcat pass and Stone Dust
- Section 2 (Wetlands)
  - Rough Cut and Trail Marked
    - Needs bobcat pass and Stone Dust
- Section 3 (The Climb)
  - Rough Cut and Trail Marked
    - Needs bobcat pass and Stone Dust
- Section 4 (Bamboo Hill)
  - Rough Cut, Widened and Open. Trail is Marked
    - Needs Stone Dust
- Section 5 (Highland Turn)
  - Trail is open and Marked. Another build up of Stone Dust needed.

# Trail Status (cont.)



Actual Trail Markers

- Section 6 (Home Stretch)
  - Trail is open and Marked. Another build up of Stone Dust needed.
- Other
  - McCourt Multi Purpose Field
    - This has been expanded. All undergrowth removed, leveled and grass has been planted.
  - Yellow Connecting trails from McCourt to Ball field Complete
    - Needs finish coat of Stone Dust
  - Yellow Connecting trail from Park Street to Main Connector for EMS and access
    - Complete and open
  - Yellow Alternate trails are marked and passable along the stream.
    - Need bobcat pass and Stone Dust.

# Trail Status (cont.)



## Actual Trail Markers

### Next Steps

- Remove felled tree logs from trails
  - Town workers and volunteers needed to drag to egress points
- **Plan clean up**
  - There has been some dumping of items over the years in woods in a few areas. Need cleanup teams to haul items to egress points for removal
  - Need "No Dumping Signs" posted on Park Street along the road.
  - Trees and branches from the installation of the emergency generator in rear of McCourt School were left behind and must be removed. Is this a charge to the contractor who left them there?
- Paper road for Park Street that extends to High Street is being blocked by property owner.
  - Opening this access point for folks with bikes to use trails needs to be addressed.
- Need trail signs at public access points
- Need Stone Dust Sidewalk for students accessing Highland Avenue ASAP

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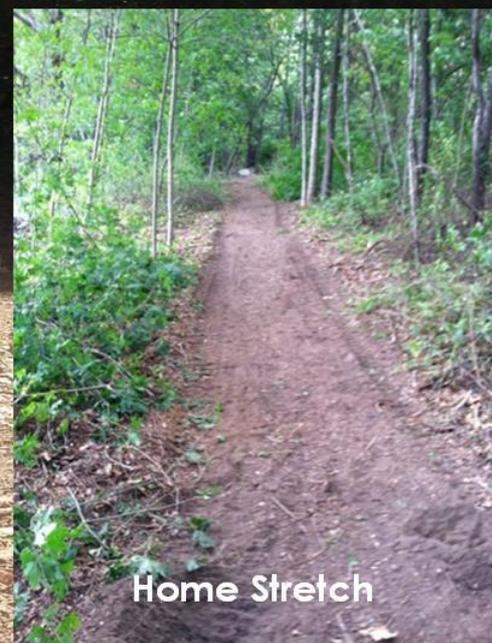
# McCourt Trail Views



Highland Turn



Home Stretch



Home Stretch

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# McCourt Trail Views



Entrance the Wetlands Trail Section



Land Bridge 12 inches High Needed



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# McCourt Trail Views



Stream Area Cleaned Out



Just Down Stream

# Future Planning

- Create Classroom area in Woods in Bamboo Section
- Create Picnic area in open flat area off main Connector Trail
- Place Park Benches to sit/rest at various points
  - Along stream, at Highland, Park and High Street entrances
- Find Grant money to enhance existing
- Identify existing plant life and other items as identified in Cumberland Comprehensive Plan – Natural Resources Element. (Town Council adopted August 2003, State adopted June 2004)

# Appreciation

- Special Thanks to Mayor McKee for his Support
- Extra Special Thanks to Town Employees who have made great contributions to the project
- Special Thanks to Lynch Construction for Supporting our community