

East Montpelier Trails, Inc. Trail Maintenance Procedures – May 2018

Background information for trail stewards:

1. Trail stewards should be aware of safety concerns such as the risks they might encounter when cutting trees, using chainsaws, moving large rocks, or using other equipment. Trail users and stewards should wear safety orange or bright colors in hunting season.
2. Trail stewards should be aware of any relevant policies about biking, horses, pets, hunting, and Right to Roam on their sections of trail
3. Trail stewards should be aware of reasonable preferences of the landowners about being notified when healthy trees are down and blocking the trail.
4. Trail stewards should report trail conditions, maintenance and repairs, and any other issues to Dave Webb, EMTI Volunteer Coordinator, 279-2198 dhwebb67@gmail.com;
5. EMTI Board members will contact landowners when necessary.
6. Trail stewards should be aware that currently EMTI does not have liability insurance and is investigating options.
7. Trail stewards should only complete maintenance activities if they feel comfortable doing so. They are not obligated to perform maintenance or make repairs. Any maintenance or repairs needed or any maintenance or repairs completed should be reported to the EMTI volunteer coordinator, Dave Webb, 279-2198 dhwebb67@gmail.com

Regular trail maintenance:

1. Volunteer Coordinator will send an introductory email and reminders to trail stewards.
2. Trail stewards walk through trails a minimum of four times a year, this includes a winter walk through.
3. Trail stewards should keep the trail pruned of branches and small seedlings and brush that will grow to obstruct the trail.
4. Major issues should be referred to EMTI. Major issues would be things that create safety hazards or would necessitate involving the landowner like deciding how to harvest logs from a big blowdown or a large amount of water on the trail.
5. Minor issues may be addressed by trail stewards and reported to EMTI or addressed by EMTI. Minor issues would include things like minor erosion or a single downed tree.
6. Reports of walk throughs and trail problems go to Dave Webb, EMTI Volunteer Coordinator, Dave Webb 279-2198 dhwebb67@gmail.com. Trail stewards may also contact the Volunteer Coordinator when they need assistance with trail maintenance.

Trail maintenance after a big storm:

1. A major storm is a storm with 2 or more inches of rain and/or high winds.
2. The volunteer coordinator or another member of the EMTI board will try to send out an email to trail stewards when trails should be assessed for storm damage.
3. Trail stewards should do a thorough walk through and inventory of their trails after a storm as soon as it is safe and possible. Reports of walk throughs and trail findings should go to Dave Webb, EMTI Volunteer Coordinator, 279-2198 dhwebb67@gmail.com.

4. Trails that have limited or basic tree removal needs or limited erosion damage should be addressed soon thereafter by trail stewards and reported to EMTI or by EMTI.
5. Trails with substantial damage, and trails with leaning or otherwise unsafe trees should be temporarily posted and closed. Trail stewards should notify the volunteer coordinator about trails that should be closed. The trees will be removed by sawyers approved by EMTI after contact with the landowner has been made by an EMTI Board member.
6. Trail stewards should only complete maintenance activities if they feel comfortable doing so. They are not obligated to perform maintenance or make repairs. Any maintenance or repairs needed or any maintenance or repairs completed should be reported to the EMTI volunteer coordinator, Dave Webb, 279-2198 dhwebb67@gmail.com.
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Trail Stewards (May 2018):

1. Haggett to Templeton – Rick Hopkins 229-4375
2. Templeton to Center - Norman Carter Norman.s.carter@gmail.com 802-223-2324
3. Center to Dodge - Tom Schmidt tomschmidt55@gmail.com;
4. Johnson to Cherry Tree Hill - Becca Jordan jordan.becca@gmail.com (802) 522-3989; Sam Campbell-Nelson campbsa1@gmail.com (413) 325-7220
5. School House Rd./Wheeler Rd. to U 32, Nona Estrin and Charles Johnson nonaestrin@gmail.com, 223-7745, 839-9724 (c)
6. Sparrow Farm Rd. to Montpelier - Geoff Beyer 249-2424, geoffbeyer@gmail.com, Lauren Padilla (lauren.e.padilla@gmail.com) and as backup Dave Webb 279-2198 dhwebb67@gmail.com
7. Center Rd. to Powder Horn Glen Rd. - Jennifer Boyer vtputs@gmail.com 223-8926 (h), 522-3841 (m); Loring Starr LSTarrVT@gmail.com, 229-0007

Trail Resources from Timber and Stone (Josh Ryan, EMTI Board member):

These resources are included for reference and background information on trails generally and have not been adopted as standards by the EMTI board.

- Parker, Troy S. 1993. Open Space and Trails Program, Pitkin County, Colorado: Trails Design and Management Handbook. Boulder, CO: Natureshape.
- State of Minnesota, Department of Natural Resources, 2007. Trail Planning, Design, and Development Guidelines. Trails and Waterways Division, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN. Downloads available at **no cost** for non-commercial or educational purposes. Call the Division of Parks and Trails at 651-259-5600 or toll free 1-888-MINNDNR for more information. [Download Page](#) (need a password)
- Rails to Trails Conservancy, 2001. Trails for the Twenty First Century, 2nd Edition. Washington, D.C.: Island Press. <https://islandpress.org/book/trails-for-the-twenty-first-century>
- Access Board (search for Trails – Scoping Requirements F 247, Recreation Resources 1017) <https://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/buildings-and-sites/about-the-aba-standards/aba-standards/single-file-version?highlight=WyJvdXRkb29yYiwib3V0ZG9vcnMiXQ==>
- United States Department of Agriculture, Trail Construction and Maintenance Notebook, 2007 Edition <https://www.fs.fed.us/t-d/pubs/pdfpubs/pdf07232806/pdf07232806dpi72.pdf>
- Student Conservation Association, 2005. Lightly on the Land, The SCA Trail Building and Maintenance Manual, 2nd Edition. Mountaineer Books, Seattle, WA.