

## Trails Committee Budget 2015/2016

The Trails Committee continued the slow and steady progress on the Charlotte Town Link Trail. We spent the year fundraising, grant writing, and doing on the ground trail maintenance. We received a VRTP (Vermont Recreational Trails Program) grant for the second time, allowing us to complete construction on the Co-Housing section of the Link Trail. The Link Trail is now ready to be connected to the Melissa and Trevor Mack Trail via the Route 7 underpass. The Trail was completed by a professional trail builder and is very well done, hopefully allowing for fewer maintenance requirements in the future.

We also received a signage plan from a local design firm as part of the Regional Byways grant. We will use this information to design and place signs along the Link Trail and at other trail heads in Charlotte as our budget allows.

We had many work days throughout the year, maintaining trails at Pease Mountain, Plouffe Lane, and the Co-Housing section of the Link Trail. These trails are in good shape. There are two areas which could use more maintenance: the Barber Hill area and the 250 Loop. We will try to prioritize these areas for our work days next year.

We have started preliminary efforts on State Park Road which is the next section of the Link Trail to be completed. We will likely be applying for a planning grant for this section in January 2015.

We have a web site for the Charlotte Link Trail fundraising efforts at [charlottetrailsvt.org](http://charlottetrailsvt.org)

We have beautiful video of the Link Trail on Facebook: [facebook.com/CharlotteTrailsVT](https://www.facebook.com/CharlotteTrailsVT)

Community support for the Link Trail continues to grow, improving with each new completed section of Trail.

Our operating budget is one of the smallest committee budgets in town. The \$1,000 budget is used partially for fundraising efforts, including printing and mailing costs. We buy small equipment, signs, and wood and materials for making signs. We have also covered occasional mowing expenses. We will be starting on permitting for State Park Road and will have associated expenses.

Trails Committee requests \$1,000 for operating budget and \$5,000 for matching funds for grants and fundraising to continue building the Charlotte Town Link Trail