

MAD RIVER PATH ASSOCIATION 2015 Report

The vision of the Mad River Path Association (MRPA) is for a network of public pathways throughout the Mad River Valley. The organization is governed by a 12-member board of directors and employs a full-time Executive Director.

In 2015, the MRPA had an operating budget of approximately \$78,000, 9.2% of which came from the Mad River Valley Recreation District, which is, in turn, funded by the towns of Waitsfield, Warren and Fayston. The remainder is funded through events, philanthropic donations, membership dues and grants.

A few highlights of 2015 include:

- The MRPA successfully applied, on behalf of the Town of Warren, for funding to create a feasibility study for a path along the Sugarbush Access Road. Work on the study will begin in early 2016;
- Work continued, in conjunction with the Mad River Riders, to plan for new trails and a parking area at Fayston's Marble Hill Farm;
- The MRPA took a leadership role in the new Mad River Valley Active Transportation Plan, now under development. The plan will guide the future of trail development in the Valley by creating a vision for trails, identify specific infrastructure needs, and address long-term management. For more information, check out www.mrvmoves.org;
- The MRPA continued to work to acquire the permits necessary to build a new ½ mile trail behind Waitsfield Elementary School. The new trail will be built in 2016;
- Planning began for the replacement of the Irasville boardwalk. It is planned for replacement in mid-2016;
- Regular mowing of the beautiful Kingsbury Farm Trail was started in 2016. The mowed path opens access to the bank of the Mad River, around the southern and western edges of the Kingsbury Farm in Warren;
- With our friends, the Mad River Riders, served as grand marshals of the Warren 4th of July Parade;
- Continued to advocate to make the last piece of the Waitsfield village sidewalk network the best project it can be for pedestrians, landowners and everyone else;

- Hosted StoryWalk® on the Warren Path and, for the first time, at the Revolution Trail, behind American Flatbread's Lareau Farm;
- Hosted a successful Sugarbush Mad Dash, with nearly 350 registered runners and over 80 kids fun run participants.

The MRPA extends its deep appreciation to its partners, including Friends of the Mad River, Vermont Land Trust, Mad River Valley Planning District, Catamount Trail Association, Mad River Riders, Waitsfield Elementary School, Mad River Valley Recreation District, Mad River Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Valley Rotary Club, the Towns of Fayston, Waitsfield and Warren, approximately 65 local business supporters, 300 individual members, volunteers, friends, and supporters.

To learn more about the organization, or to subscribe to our monthly newsletter, visit www.madriverpath.com

Respectfully submitted by:
William E. Flender, Executive Director



Mad Dash 2015

Photo: Will Flender