



Milan Trail Huggers

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Maintaining Trails in Milan, Stark, Dummer, Success and Cambridge

Milan Trail Huggers 2022 Trail Summary

It was another busy summer with our club completing several major trail projects.

In Dummer we created a new trail that connects Dummer Pond Road with the recreation area at Pontook Dam. This gives riders access to restrooms, a picnic area and fishing. We also created a new summer-only parking area across from the recreation area for trucks, trailers and ATVs to park in. This new trail is multi-use with snowmobiles able to use it in the winter for access to the Pontook recreation area for winter parking of trucks and trailers or access to the Pontook Reservoir where there are usually lots of bob houses for ice fishing.

The big hill coming down to down from Cedar Brook Road to Dummer Pond Road was rebuilt with rocks removed, the surface re-crowned and ditches dug out. Once this was completed, this entire section of trail was coated with 37 truckloads of clay gravel that was compacted with a vibrating roller and a new gate was installed at the bottom of the hill to keep 4WD traffic off the hill.

In Milan, we rebuilt the northern 2 miles of the Head Pond Connector trail which runs along an old logging road. This involved cutting back the brush on both sides of the road, then rebuilding the road and restoring the ditching. Finally a total of 191 loads of clay gravel was applied to this surface of the rebuilt road. This clay gravel should keep the road surface from getting chewed up by the thousands of ATV's and UTV's that use it every year.

In Berlin we brought in 226 truckloads of new clay gravel for the northern part of Head Pond Road. This resurfaced a total of 2.13 miles and means that the entire 7-mile length of the Head Pond Connector Trail is now coated with clay gravel.

Sunset Riders ATV Club and the Success Trails

As many of you know, the trail master for the Sunset Riders ATV Club, David Baldassara, passed away in early June. Shortly after this tragic event, our club was approached to take over the trails that David had been maintaining. Our club met with the officers of the Sunset Riders Club and voted to take over their trails. We very quickly did a trail assessment and we were able to submit a Federal RTP grant before the June 17, 2022 deadline securing \$80k for trail work on the Success trail system. We are planning to match this grant with a state grant of \$122k providing over \$200k of funding for repair of the Success trail system during the summer of 2023.

Other Success Trail Work Completed

We have some more good news to report. The Bureau of Trails and the Androscoggin Valley ATV Club spent over \$40k working on the Success Trail system during the summer of 2022. Brushing along 2.8 miles of trail was completed and excavation work/culvert repair along 3 miles of trail was done. In addition, a 35-foot bridge was rebuilt right after the trails closed for the season.

New Signing initiative being planned

Many of you have probably ridden the ATV trails north of our area in Pittsburg, Colebrook, Errol and Millsfield and have noticed the brown and white road signs along trails in that area. These road signs help you pinpoint your location along very long trails like Corridor A, Corridor B or Corridor C.

Our club in coordination with the NH Bureau of Trails and the Coos County Sheriff's Department is working on a similar plan for the trails in Milan, Dummer, Success and Cambridge.

We are in the process of applying for grants that will pay for the brown and white road signs, the wooden sign posts and cover the costs of renting the equipment to install the posts. These brown and white signs will identify roads that cross the ATV trails.

To complete the road identification process, the sheriff's department has secured funding to install road signs along the access roads leading into the trail system. This will help first responders, tow operators or riders find their way into the trail system using the gravel access roads.

As an example, let's say you are driving north on Corridor A1 and you break down along the way. You can use your GPS location to tell people where you are, but if you do not have a GPS, then you will be able to tell them the nearest road crossing. (As an example, there are 5 road crossings in the first 7 miles of the Corridor A1 trail after you leave Success Pond Road.)

Let's say the nearest road crossing to your location is Alder Brook Road. You can now direct someone with a trailer to follow Success Pond Road north to Alder Brook Road and then take Alder Brook Road west into where it meets the trail system so you can get your broken ATV out of the woods.

Without these road signs, finding your way into or out of the trail system via unmarked gravel roads just about impossible. You can also imagine the time savings for first responders or tow operators. Work on this project will start June of 2023 and we hope to have it completed by the fall.

In Summary

Thanks a lot for your past support and we hope you will decide to join our club again in 2023. For those of you who are members of the Sunset Riders Club, that club is being dissolved at the end of 2022. We would be honored to have you join our club in 2023 and help us to continue the great work done by David Baldassara and the other officers and members of the Sunset Riders Club.

For those of you who can afford it, we ask you to add a \$15.00 donation to your membership cost to help us with grant matches. Please click on one of the links below to join or donate.

Best Regards,

The Officers and Directors of the Milan Trail Huggers

Join the Milan Trail Huggers:

<https://members.nhohva.org/milan-trail-huggers-atv-club>

Donate to the Milan Trail Huggers:

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