



Trail Adopter Program

Overview

Trail Adopter volunteers assist the UVLT stewardship staff in managing, maintaining and caring for our trail systems in our Upper Valley communities. Activities include keeping the trail surface free of sticks, rocks and other debris, pruning small limbs from the trail corridor and clearing debris from bridges and drainage areas. Other responsibilities include litter clean-up, maintaining the trailhead area including parking lot, bulletin board and trail signs, and reporting vandalism, trail hazards or safety issues.

Responsibilities

- Sign and submit the Adopter Agreement, which will be sent to you upon acceptance into the program.
- Meet with UVLT Stewardship staff or other volunteers for a Trail Maintenance Skills Session to learn about your trail and useful methods for maintaining it.
- Meet the landowner to discuss trail use objectives and an owner-approved work plan for your trail.
- Volunteers are asked to provide their own trail maintenance tools, but with prior notice we may have loaner tools available.
- We ask that volunteers carry loppers and/or a shovel and trash bag during maintenance visits.
- Submit a brief written update to the UVLT Stewardship staff after each work visit so that we can keep track of your efforts and the condition of the trail.

At least four times a year, (dependent on popularity and usage of trail), volunteers are asked to:

- Clean out existing drainage structures (waterbars, ditches, and dips).
- Cut brush, mow and/or weed-whack.
- Paint blazes/check signage where appropriate.
- Notify UVLT staff if you encounter an erosion problem, trees down on the trail, missing or damaged signs, vandalism, or other issues that cannot be handled on the day of a trail visit.
- Enjoy your trail and the benefits that your efforts create for the environment and the recreational experience on our scenic conserved properties and communities!

Adopter Guidelines

- Stay on the trail and use only designated trailhead parking areas.
- Close farm gates behind you.
- For your safety during hunting seasons, wear blaze orange.
- Always follow and encourage Leave No Trace guidelines.