

## Boxford Rail-Trail – ready for enjoyment

The Boxford BtoB Path Committee announced recently that the rail-bed-trail thru Boxford is now open to the public and ready for your passive recreation enjoyment.

The committee invites Boxford residents to enjoy walking, running, and biking on this former rail-bed and being close to nature.

National Grid's license to Boxford provides for the following uses: walking, running, biking, snow shoeing, cross country skiing. Carriages and wheelchairs with large wheels are welcome. Boxford is permitted to do minor maintenance.

Saturday, June 27, several committee members mowed the rail-bed and cleared some of the brush on either side. Narrow board walks down the middle of the rail-bed will be installed over wet areas.

The Boxford rail-trail sections that are open are: from Georgetown Road, north to Camp Denison and Nelson Street; from Georgetown Road south to the entrance of the side trail through the Kelsey Arboretum to Kelsey Road; from Kelsey and Hemlock corner thru the wooded lot to the rail-bed south to Pond Street. This wooded lot is privately owned and is now For Sale. The current owners gave permission to use this trail.

Parking is permitted parallel on both sides of Pond Street and Georgetown Road at the R-T entrances. Parking at Kelsey Road intersection is on Hemlock Road, north side.

An additional half mile of the Boxford rail-trail starts on Pye Brook Lane and joins the Topsfield Linear Trail to Washington Street in Topsfield. Parallel parking is on Pye Brook Lane at the R-T trailhead.

The Boxford Rail Trail is part of the 2,900 mile East Coast Greenway (ECG). The ECG runs all the way from Calais, Maine to Key West, Florida. This trail is now more than 30% complete off road. Please investigate the finished trail from Washington Street in Topsfield almost the entire way to the North Shore Mall in Peabody. We encourage you to check it out to get a feel for how nice our Boxford Rail Trail will be.

Submitted by

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