



FINAL REPORT

NEIWPCC Job Code: 0995-004-001
Project Code: LS-2019-015
Contractor: Friends of Saranac River Trail
Prepared By: Jesse Feiler, President
Project Period: 3/26/2019 to 6/30/2023
Date Submitted: 6/28/2023
Date Approved: 7/17/2023

SARANAC RIVER TRAIL PHASE 2 EXPLORATIONS FINAL

CONTACT INFORMATION

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This project was funded by an agreement awarded by Friends of Saranac River Trail to NEIWPCC in partnership with the Lake Champlain Basin Program

**Note: Please see your executed MOA/contract/subaward with NEIWPC for exact appropriate language to be included. Sample language below:*

This project was funded by an agreement awarded by NEIWPC in partnership with the Lake Champlain Basin Program

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Saranac River Trail Phase 2 Explorations project introduces people to the new bridges across the Saranac River Trail, providing a new pedestrian-friendly opportunity to explore the river. This project included several walks. Dr. Michael Burgess, Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, SUNY Plattsburgh, led a walk focusing on trees along the new bridge segment of the Trail. Downtown walks covered the Bridge Street area both before the Covid pandemic, and after as we were able to add a new Downtown walk in June 2023 that highlighted not only the Trail but also two new downtown businesses. Brochures were distributed to appropriate venues, including, but not limited to, visitor kiosks, events such as the World Water Day celebration hosted by LCBP and the Champlain Centre Mall, and SUNY Plattsburgh community outreach events sharing updates on the Saranac River remediation project.

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1. PROJECT SYNOPSIS

To create the downtown walks along the Saranac River, Friends of the Saranac River Trail (FSRT) updated the Saranac River Trail brochure (in both French and English) to reflect the new trail. Brochures were distributed to appropriate venues, including, but not limited to, events such as the World Water Day celebration hosted by LCBP and the Champlain Centre Mall, a SUNY Plattsburgh community outreach event sharing updates on the Saranac River remediation project, and visitor information locations at the City of Plattsburgh as well as the local Amtrak depot. The Saranac River Trail Phase 2 Explorations project was delayed by the Covid-19 pandemic, but FSRT has recovered to finish a final Downtown trek in 2023. During the pandemic, FSRT was able to update the website to inform people of the NYSEG – Plattsburgh – Saranac St. site remediation project. (See saranacrivertrail.org). During the early days of the pandemic, people were advised to stay inside, and many businesses and schools were closed but the remediation site continued and was documented on the website.

2. TASKS COMPLETED

Task #	Task Title	Objective	Deliverable or Output	Timeline
1	Update SRT brochure	Add map of trail to brochure and translate to French	Provide new brochure to Chamber and local businesses, present at education engagements and Mayor’s Cup/ Battle of Plattsburgh	completed
2	Community Outreach Supplies	Table City events (Mayor’s Cup and Battle of Plattsburgh) Local school district, SUNY Plattsburgh, Plattsburgh Senior Center; Produce and distribute print materials.	Present speaking engagements, table events, produce social media and print marketing materials, schedule trail walks	completed
3	Quarterly Reports	Complete Reports	Completed Reports	completed
4	Final Report	Complete Project	Approved Report	completed

3. METHODOLOGY

N/A

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE TASKS COMPLETED

N/A

5. DELIVERABLES COMPLETED

Friends of Saranac River Trail completed brochure design and printed and distributed updates to website during Covid. Several outreach events were attended to share the material with the public. See details in section 2.

6. CONCLUSIONS

The pandemic hit nonprofits extremely hard in terms of being able to complete outreach events. One on one contact with area residents is a crucial element of building an organization's base of supporters. Though Friends of Saranac River lost several longtime supporters and volunteers during the pandemic, FSRT participated in the local partner-driven World Water Day event and several other events as Covid cases dropped. The organization connected with five interested people who wished to discuss available volunteer opportunities during the World Water Day event. FSRT also held an important walk along the Saranac River. Bridge reconstruction was a key part of the City's strategy for enhancing the downtown as discussed in the original application but had the added benefit of helping to showcase the river system. A group of residents completed a public walk with the FSRT to enjoy a nice viewing point for the end of the river system as it winds through downtown Plattsburgh. The new brochure helped the Friends of Saranac River Trail reach new audiences.

7. REFERENCES N/A

8. APPENDICES

- Brochure (see page 7)

Photos:



Electronic Data: N/A

Email your Project Officer with any electronic datasets you have generated through your project.

Saranac River Trail

Be a Friend of the Trail

Friends of Saranac River Trail, Inc. is a non-profit corporation chartered in the State of New York. It is a grass-roots group formed to develop and promote the tourist, recreational, commercial, historical, and natural opportunities of Saranac River Trail by providing public information, coordinating volunteer opportunities, as well as developing and purchasing trail amenities such as signs, benches, and the universally accessible Max Moore Memorial Treehouse.

The IRS has certified it as a 501(c)(3) organization, and it is registered with the New York State Attorney General's Charities Bureau.

More information at:
 VISIT saranacrivertail.org
 EMAIL info@saranacrivertail.org
 MAIL Friends of Saranac River Trail
 32 MacDonough Street
 Plattsburgh, NY 12901

FRIENDS OF SARANAC RIVER TRAIL

Les amis du sentier
de la rivière Saranac

Être ami du sentier

Friends of Saranac River Trail, Inc. est une entreprise sans but lucratif détenant une charte dans l'État de New York. Elle comprend un groupe de base créé pour la conception et la promotion du tourisme, des activités de récréation, commerciale, historiques et naturelles du sentier de la rivière Saranac et qui fournit de l'information au public, coordonne les activités des bénévoles ainsi que le développement et l'acquisition de nouvelles commodités pour le sentier comme des panneaux, des bancs et la maison dans les arbres commémorative en l'honneur de Max Moore.

L'Internal Revenue Service a certifié l'organisme comme étant 501(c)(3), enregistré avec le procureur général du bureau des registres de l'héritance de l'État de New York.

Pour en savoir davantage:
 VISITEZ saranacrivertail.org
 COURRIEL info@saranacrivertail.org

About

Saranac River Trail (SRT) runs through the heart of the City of Plattsburgh. It opened in May 2012 to walkers, runners, strollers, rollerbladers, anglers, tourists, residents, historians, and people who welcome the opportunity to watch and listen to the river.

Saranac River is the heart of the City of Plattsburgh and the surrounding region, winding down from the foothills of the Adirondacks to Lake Champlain. The multi-use Saranac River Trail and a citizens committee is a three-way partnership among the City of Plattsburgh, State University of New York College at Plattsburgh and a citizens advisory committee (Friends of Saranac River Trail, Inc.). Its construction has been made possible with funding and in-kind services from New York State, (including the Department of Transportation), the City of Plattsburgh, SUNY and SUNY Plattsburgh, several grants from Lake Champlain Basin Program, as well as donations and support from individuals, volunteers, and groups including Sunrise Rotary.

À propos

Le sentier de la rivière Saranac traverse le cœur de la ville de Plattsburgh. En mai 2012, il a été inauguré aux marcheurs, coureurs, promeneurs, amateurs de patin à roues, pêcheurs, touristes, résidents, historiens et ceux qui regardent et écoutent la rivière.

La rivière Saranac est au cœur de la ville de Plattsburgh et de la région avoisinante, coulant des pentes des Adirondacks jusqu'au lac Champlain. Le sentier multimodal de la rivière Saranac est un partenariat avec la ville de Plattsburgh, State University of New York College at Plattsburgh et un comité consultatif des citoyens (Friends of Saranac River Trail, Inc.). Sa construction a été réalisée grâce au financement et aux services en nature de l'État de New York (comprenant le Département de Transport), la ville de Plattsburgh, SUNY et SUNY Plattsburgh, plusieurs subventions du Lake Champlain Basin Program, ainsi qu'à des dons et soutien de particuliers, bénévoles et groupes, incluant Sunrise Rotary.

History

Phase 1 of the Trail opened for 1.5 miles in May 2012, and Phase 2 with another 0.5 miles and three new pedestrian bridges over the river is now open providing new access to downtown. The Trail has become an integral part of the City serving residents and visitors alike with opportunities for non-motorized transportation, recreation, exercise, fishing, and more.

The impact of the Trail was demonstrated during the opening event in 2012. Signifiers and other speakers had to step aside to make way for runners training for a race. Within a few weeks, the Trail started to be featured in real estate ads as an attraction for buyers and renters.

Friends of Saranac River Trail sponsors Treks along the Trail focused on photography, bird-watching and natural history, edible and medicinal plants, invasive species, and visits to important points along the Trail such as the Plattsburgh Water Resource Recovery Facility (which makes so much of the recreation and sporting uses of the Trail possible), historic places, and more.

Histoire

La première partie du sentier pédestre de 2,4 km a été inaugurée en mai 2012. La deuxième partie du sentier pédestre ajoute un peu moins d'un kilomètre au sentier, trois ponts piétons qui ouvrent la rivière et donnent ainsi accès au centre-ville. Ce sentier pédestre est un élément important pour la ville, car elle donne aux résidents et visiteurs la possibilité de profiter du plein air, faire de l'exercice, de la pêche et plus encore.

L'impact du sentier a été démontré lors des célébrations d'ouverture en 2012: les signifiants et autres invités ont dû faire place à des coureurs qui entraînaient pour une course. En quelques semaines, le sentier a été mentionné dans des annonces immobilières comme étant une attraction pour les futurs acheteurs.

Les amis du sentier de la rivière Saranac commanditent des randonnées sur le sentier avec un accent sur la photographie, l'observation des oiseaux, l'histoire naturelle, les plantes comestibles et médicinales, les espèces envahissantes et les visites des points clés du sentier comme la Plattsburgh Water Resource Recovery Facility (qui est responsable pour l'utilisation du sentier à des fins récréatives et sportives), les lieux historiques, et plus encore.

Events Événements

Keep up with events along the Trail with the Friends on...
Renseignez-vous sur les événements du sentier avec les amis sur...

[facebook.com/SaranacRiverTrail](https://www.facebook.com/SaranacRiverTrail)
[saranacrivertail.org](https://twitter.com/saranacrivertail.org)
[@friendsOISR](https://www.instagram.com/friendsOISR/)

Our annual events include National Trails Day, the first Saturday in June, and Jane's Walk (in memory of Jane Jacobs) on the first Saturday in May.

Other annual events include tours of the Water Resource Recovery Facility, invasive species along the Trail, birds, and the Bridge Street residential, food, music, art, and business neighborhood.

Nos événements annuels comprennent National Trails Day, le premier dimanche de juin et Jane's Walk (en mémoire à Jane Jacobs), le premier samedi de mai.

Les autres événements annuels sont des visites du Water Resource Recovery Facility, la découverte des espèces envahissantes près du sentier, l'observation des oiseaux, le quartier de Bridge Street, de la gastronomie, la musique, les arts, le centre de création et commerces du quartier.