

July 8, 2011

Topsfield's Rail trail is chugging along

WHAT The southern part of Topsfield's rail trail is nearing completion. As of this date the trail is finished from Washington Street to Summer Street with the remaining sections going south to the Wenham town line being a compacted dirt surface.

Numerous trail walkers and bikers have been enjoying the trail with some through-riders going all the way over the steel bridge crossing Route 114 into Danvers, says Chairman Joe Geller.

WHO The Iron Horse Preservation is building the trail with support from the Topsfield Rail Trail Committee including members: Roy Baessler, Katherine Carlson, Gregg Demers, Dave Read, Kathy Tremblay and Joe Geller, Chairman.

THE LATEST The Rail Trail Committee met

Wednesday night to talk about the progress of the Rail Trail and discussed an enforcement order that has been issued by the Topsfield Conservation Commission regarding a wetlands issue.

FUNDING All financial funding has come from donations and grants. No Town money has been used for this project.

FUTURE The northern section of the trail is owned by National Grid. The Topsfield Rail Trail is working on a license with National Grid to clear and improve the trail.

HOW TO HELP The www.FriendsOfTopsfieldTrails.Org is raising funds to continue the work. Your donations can be made on the website or by check and will be much appreciated.



An appreciative trail user left this sign on the Topsfield Linear Common this week. The sign acknowledges both the Iron Horse Preservation Society that is building the trail as well as the Topsfield Rail Trail Committee that has been working for years developing the trail including raising funds, which has come from donations and grants (no town money). COURTESY PHOTO