

Rock, Root & Trail



FEBRUARY 2019



REI Grand Opening 2018



Work Parties



Best Group Photo



CT Trails Day 2018



*Lily & Clara
Conservation Champions*



Summer Trails Crew



Insider Update



CFPA Rambles



Why Support CFPA?

Our Conservation Champions

It is said that the holidays are a time of thankfulness and hope for the future. At CFPA it is no different. This past December, we were visited by some of our favorite conservation champions, Lily and Clara.

Every few months, Lily and Clara will come to CFPA and give us the contents of their “give jar” because they love being outside and playing. Their parents, Adam and Fabricia, are teaching Lily and Clara to split their money into four categories: Save, Spend, Give, and College.

Lily and Clara have been donating to CFPA for several years, as their parents encourage them to save, spend and give with different, brightly labeled mason jars. The girls have chosen to donate their yellow “give jar” to CFPA because they love to run and play outside.



Seeing Lily and Clara in December was a great reminder of why we are protecting forests, parks and trails in Connecticut. They represent the next generation that will be able to raise their children with time outdoors because you helped to protect the land we all love. Be like Lily and Clara. Please consider supporting CFPA today.

A Simple Act Protects the Future

CFPA is alive today because it received bequests over its long history from supporters who valued its mission. Legacy gifts have been critical to CFPA's – and your – ability to protect land and trails in Connecticut. Without an endowment, CFPA would not have the freedom to be a strong, independent voice at the legislature. Nor could CFPA maintain the trails, and protect the parks and forests you enjoy.

You are the ultimate beneficiary of legacy gifts to CFPA. We are grateful for what past leaders have done to secure the future of your trails, forests, and parks. You can be a leader and protector of the future.

Protecting the future of land and trails is as easy as making a simple beneficiary change to your IRA or 401 plan to include CFPA as a partial or single beneficiary. You can protect the people you love and the land you love.

Think about your legacy and the ability to pass on the land and trails you love to future generations.



YOU Helped CFPA Grow

YOU
passed
Question #2 in
November
With **85%** voter support!



Education

600 Students reached

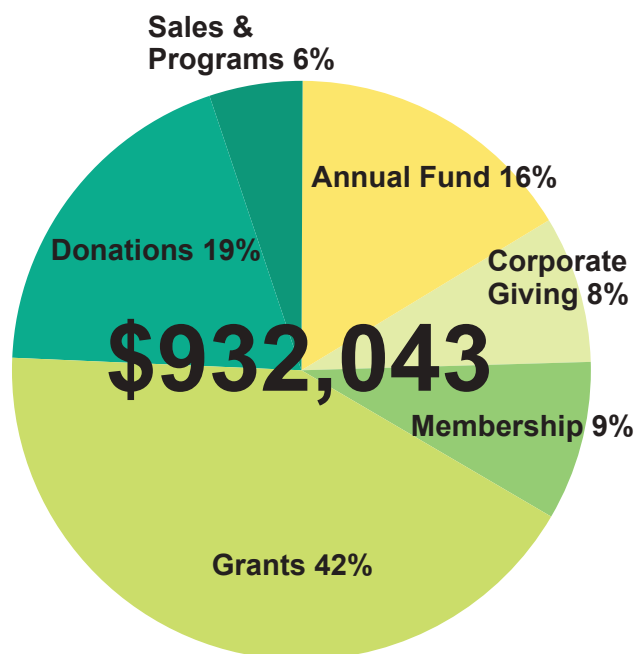
20 Schools reached

337 NEW supporters

1796 donors

300 volunteers reported

18,000 hours of work



Land & Trails

825 miles of Blue-Blazed Trails
maintained by volunteers

2390 protected acres in
Connecticut

2000 feet of bog bridging built
by the Summer Trail
Crew

253 Connecticut Trails Day
events in 2018

Cheshire Cat Grin?

Winter provides a unique opportunity to change perspective and experience the land anew. The cold sharpens the senses and the uncluttered woods give glimpses of landscape not seen when the forest is in full leaf. Cross country skiing, snowshoeing, or walking with micro-spikes on familiar trails should be on your winter bucket list.

It's important to be prepared before you head out for your winter adventure. Layer up, and bring water. Even when you aren't sweating you should stay hydrated! The ice and snow along the trails make for a beautiful trek, but also a potentially dangerous one. Microspikes or hiking poles are always a good idea for steeper, rockier trails in winter.

Recently, a local volunteer trail manager, Doug Clark, captured a photo of a circumzenithal arc while hiking on the Mattabesset section of the New England Trail. The arc was formed by the reflection of sunlight on ice crystals in the clouds. If you're out on the trails in winter, keep your phone close to your body. This will limit the draining of your battery, and allow you to capture shots like this one. Thanks, Doug!



To stay warm, check the weather forecast before you head out, and bring fatty snacks like chocolate, nuts, and cheese to provide energy for your body.

Enjoy your winter hikes and take in the stunning silence that so often accompanies freshly fallen snow. Have you had a winter hike experience you want to share? Or a photo of something you saw on your hike, like Doug's? Send it to us and help motivate others to get outside and enjoy this chilly season.

CT Trails Day

It's an implausible idea that happens every year. It's Trails Day.

Trails Day is an event where hundreds of people, towns, and organizations volunteer to organize a trail event – just so YOU can discover and enjoy their favorite place or activity. It is the most unique, statewide event in Connecticut. And it's free.

Yup, the requirements to host an event are to work hard, organize an event, have fun ... and give it all away. That really is the American way.

Fortunately, there are super organizations that help by writing sponsor checks so everyone else can have free fun. They cover the costs of the event. Often, their employees will then also work hard, organize an event, have fun, and give it all away. These sponsors, and all the volunteers who organize events are Trails Day heroes. Check out last year's group and thank them.

We need more sponsors so more free fun can happen. Please call Jim Little at 860-346-2372 – and ask him how your organization can sponsor Trails Day. You will feel much better after doing so.

Sponsors make CT Trails Day happen!

The collage includes logos for: Loureiro (Engineering • Construction • EH&S • Energy Waste • Facility Services • Laboratory); LYNCH MANCHESTER, CONN. (TOYOTA, SCION); Horst Engineering (Precision Machining & Assembly); Robinson+Cole; BURNS & McDONNELL; Webster Private Bank; cnc software, inc.; aetna; Crosswicks Family Foundation; AQUARION Water Company; HINCKLEY ALLEN; REI coop; and others.

Visit us at www.ctwoodlands.org



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