The Connecticut Trails Program

Provisioning data, tools, and education for trail users and managers.

Emily Wilson
University of Connecticut
Center for Land Use Education & Research (CLEAR)
College of Agriculture, Health & Natural Resources, Dept. of Extension
emily.wilson@uconn.edu

CT Trail Census
Trail use counts recorded by infrared counters, trail user surveys, and public education.

CT Trails Program Impacts
- data informed decision-making
- reliable tools to inform trail access
- outreach to all audiences

CT Trail Finder
cttrailfinder.com
The go-to website for discovering trails.
- All trail postings are manager-approved ensuring accurate information for authorized uses
- Trail connections by location
- For ALL audiences

Active Living (PATHS)
People Active on Trails for Health & Sustainability
Educators and outreach professionals connecting communities to their environment through active living.
- provides tools and resources to achieve equitable communities and a sustainable landscape
- informed by research and engagement to respond to environmental concerns, opportunities/barriers to outdoor activity, and community health risks

GOALS
- understand who is using trails when, why, and how
- educate about trails and their impacts
- collect multi-year information about trail use, user demographics, economic impacts
- promote participation in monitoring to understand the value of trails

Aaron Budris
Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments
Senior Regional Planner
abudris@nvcogct.gov

Kim Bradley
CT Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection
CT Trails and Greenways Program Coordinator
Bureau of Outdoor Recreation
Division of State Park and Public Outreach
kimberly.bradley@ct.gov

Term partners
University of Connecticut
Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments
CT Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection
CT Greenways Council
CT Forest and Parks
and over 80 more

Partners
- understand who is using trails when, why, and how
- educate about trails and their impacts
- collect multi-year information about trail use, user demographics, economic impacts
- promote participation in monitoring to understand the value of trails

GOALS
- 225 postings and growing
- 1300+ trail miles and growing
- Coming Soon: Trailside services, Badges

BONUS
Statewide trails GIS layer
Accessible trail segments, parking, and amenities.