



Essex County

Trail Association

NEWS

Volume 22 Number 3

Fall 2003

From the President's Desk

Don Curiale

Whether you are out jogging, walking, or riding on one of our local trails, hazards are inevitable. Depending on the mode of transportation, the uninvited hazards can be dangerous to life and limb. The question, of course, is how can we make the trails as safe as possible in spite of surprise run-ins?

For years, the Essex County Trail Association has worked out a set of courtesy rules and etiquette to educate and to promote safety and common sense for trail users. ECTA has even posted various signs throughout the countryside to try to eliminate a crash between a jogger, biker, baby carriage, or rider. Our newsletter continually encourages politeness, safety, and respect on the trail network.

Lately, ECTA's membership has been introduced to several new situations - namely, a sculpture in Bio Labs, cows in Appleton Farms, and new plantings in Scott Field off Mill Road. The new work of art rises from the ground and is certainly lifelike, the cows can be explosive, and the new plantings are large and mystifying.

I do not mean to make light of this precarious situation, but I am obliged to ask our members to have patience

and do their very best. I must remind everyone that we are guests enjoying someone else's property and we must try to be reasonable in our reactions to a new environment. Our landowner does have a right to do what a landowner would like to do on his property - whether it is planting a cornfield, grazing animals, or putting up a sculpture.

Please do your best and try not to be out there alone. Be aware, be cautious, and learn from professionals how to deal with the above situations. Thank you.

Trail Talk

Pescosolido Property - Ipswich

I have asked Chip Cheston, our maintenance person, to reopen the trail along the driveway. We strongly request riders to stay off the driveway and please use the trail. Manure droppings are not attractive and are unwanted on the driveway.

Appleton Farms - Ipswich

ECTA would like to thank The Trustees of Reservations for opening yet another trail along Waldingfield

Road. You can enter this short new trail from the driveway opposite Waldingfield's gate onto Waldingfield Road.

Bio Labs - Ipswich

Please be aware that a new and temporary (about three months) drainage pipe has been installed in the lower field of the Barowy Trail. As a result, the trail is wet. Please use caution and judgement.

Beal Easement - Wenham

Please be cautious when using the small bridge on the trail. ECTA is trying to find a solution to the erosion on the edges of the bridge.

Muddy River Trail - Ipswich

ECTA is cleaning up the debris of sofas, motors, glass, shingles, etc. from the Muddy River trail that runs from Paradise Road to Mitchell Road.

Ipswich Country Club Trail

ECTA has helped to open the new

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The Essex County Trail Association is dedicated to the preservation and maintenance of open trails in our local communities for the purpose of passive recreation and the benefit of the environment. The ECTA works to build coalitions with national and local associations, to serve as liaison between membership and landowners, and to encourage responsible trail use.

Visit www.ectaonline.org.

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From the President's Desk

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walking trail behind the Ipswich Country Club. This new trail connects to Prospect Hill in Rowley.

Bradley Palmer Trails

At our last ECTA board meeting on July 29th, 2003, a heavy discussion on the issue of trail abuse by equestrians took place. The point was raised that some equestrians are abusing the trails leading to the moon in Bradley Palmer. They are particularly abusing these trails during the spring rainy season.

ECTA would like to thank Tom Catalano, a Hamilton biker, for helping us realize that these trails should be roped off and temporarily closed to horses during the muddy spring months.

ECTA would like to thank Randy Ayer and Peter Britton for mowing the fields and Moon Hill in Bradley Palmer. We couldn't do it without you. Thank you so much.

Waldingfield Driving Event

The Waldingfield Driving Event took place on July 13, 2003 at Waldingfield in Ipswich. The Myopia Driving Club put the entire event together for a beautiful, fun, and exciting competition. Our Area Reps sold food and represented us at the event. The Club donated \$1200 to ECTA. I would like to thank Holly Pulsifer, her volunteers and the competitors for their generosity and support. Let's do it again!!!!



The ECTA Cafe during the Waldingfield Driving Event. Shown in the picture: Abby Jackson, Arlene Mcginn, Sue McLaughlin. Also working: Kay Jospeh, Karen DeNoia, Rolanda Dane.

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www.ectaonline.org.

Upcoming Events

Poker Trail Ramble

Sunday, September 14, 2003

Cost: \$15 members - \$20 non-members

Includes Lunch

CASH PRIZES

All entries must be received by September 7, 2003

Checks Payable to ECTA

Equestrians, Bicyclists, Walkers
Routes for All

No raindate - entry returned

For Entry Form

Contact Kay Joseph at 978-768-6275 or by email at kljoreo@aol.com

or

Sue McLaughlin at 978-468-7715

Fall Trail Ride

The annual Waldingfield Trail Ride will take place at Waldingfield on October 19th, 2003. Hope you plan to ride in the countryside with us. Look for your invitation in the mail.

Essex County Trail Association
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