

We Need Your Help

The Assabet River Rail Trail, Inc. (ARRT) is a non-profit organization formed for the purpose of designing, building and maintaining the trail. Your membership dues or tax-deductible contribution will help make the trail a working part of the community.

For information on monthly meetings and events, please visit our web site at www.ARRTinc.org. You can also call Michelle Ciccolo, ARRT Municipal Coordinator at 978/562-9963 or contact one of the community coordinators below:

Marlborough: Duncan Power 508-485-8394
Hudson: George Mongeau 978-568-3390
Stow: Mike Duclos 978-897-5124
Maynard: Patrick Cleland 978-897-2950
Acton: Tom Kelleher 978-264-9022

Volunteer Opportunities

Every year the ARRT enlists the help of hundreds of volunteers to develop, improve and maintain the trail. Volunteer opportunities include letter writing, office work, trail clearing, trail clean-up, community outreach, and event coordination. The support and participation of volunteers is key to the success and progress of the trail.



Assabet River Rail Trail, Inc.
246 Essex Street
Marlborough, MA 01752
A Non-Profit Organization



Assabet River Rail Trail, Inc.

"A link between communities, nature, and history in central Massachusetts"

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Benefits of the Trail

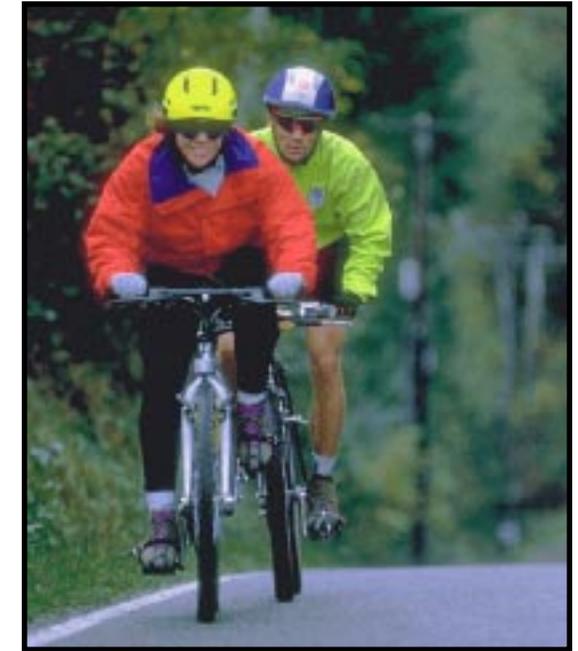
The trail provides benefits to users, local businesses, neighbors, and the towns:

- ◆ A greenway corridor will be created by reclaiming the abandoned rail bed and by the removal of accumulated trash, debris and overgrowth.
- ◆ Users will have a peaceful area for recreation and appreciation of nature, separated from motor vehicle traffic, improving safety for all.
- ◆ The trail offers a healthy commuting alternative for local workers and students.
- ◆ By connecting the five towns and their residents, the trail will help to provide a greater sense of community.
- ◆ Where the trail goes through town centers, business will increase and new businesses will open up.

Trail Activities

Trail activities include biking, walking, running, and rollerblading. In winter, the path can be used for X-C skiing and snowshoeing. The rail trail provides a safe and well-maintained area away from motor vehicle traffic for these recreational activities.

Because of its key location and access to community businesses, schools, parks and playgrounds, the rail trail can also be used as a commuting alternative for local residents which will have the added benefit of relieving congestion on major roadways.



using the recreational rail trail

Trail Overview

The Assabet River Rail Trail is being designed and constructed as a multi-use recreational rail trail which will pass through the communities of Marlborough, Hudson, Stow, Maynard, and Acton. The trail will be built along the existing rail bed of the former Marlborough Branch Railroad, which was active between 1850 and 1980.

Conceived in 1992 by local residents, construction of some sections of the trail in Marlborough was begun in early 2000. The planned 12 mile trail has received active approval and support from all of the five towns along the corridor.

The trail follows the winding path of the beautiful Assabet River. It offers the chance to observe freshwater river and marsh habitats as well as many opportunities to explore the downtowns and attractions along the trail.

Bringing the Past into the Future

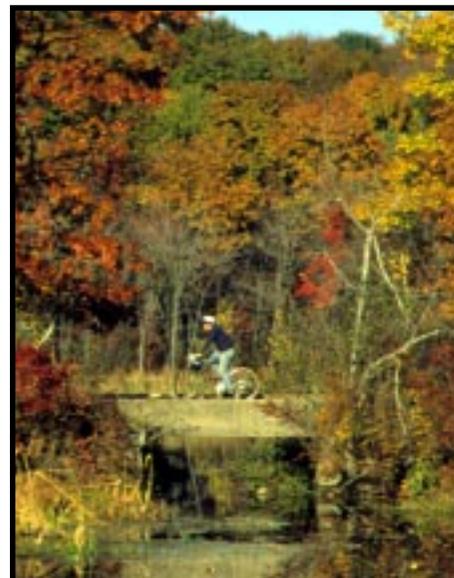
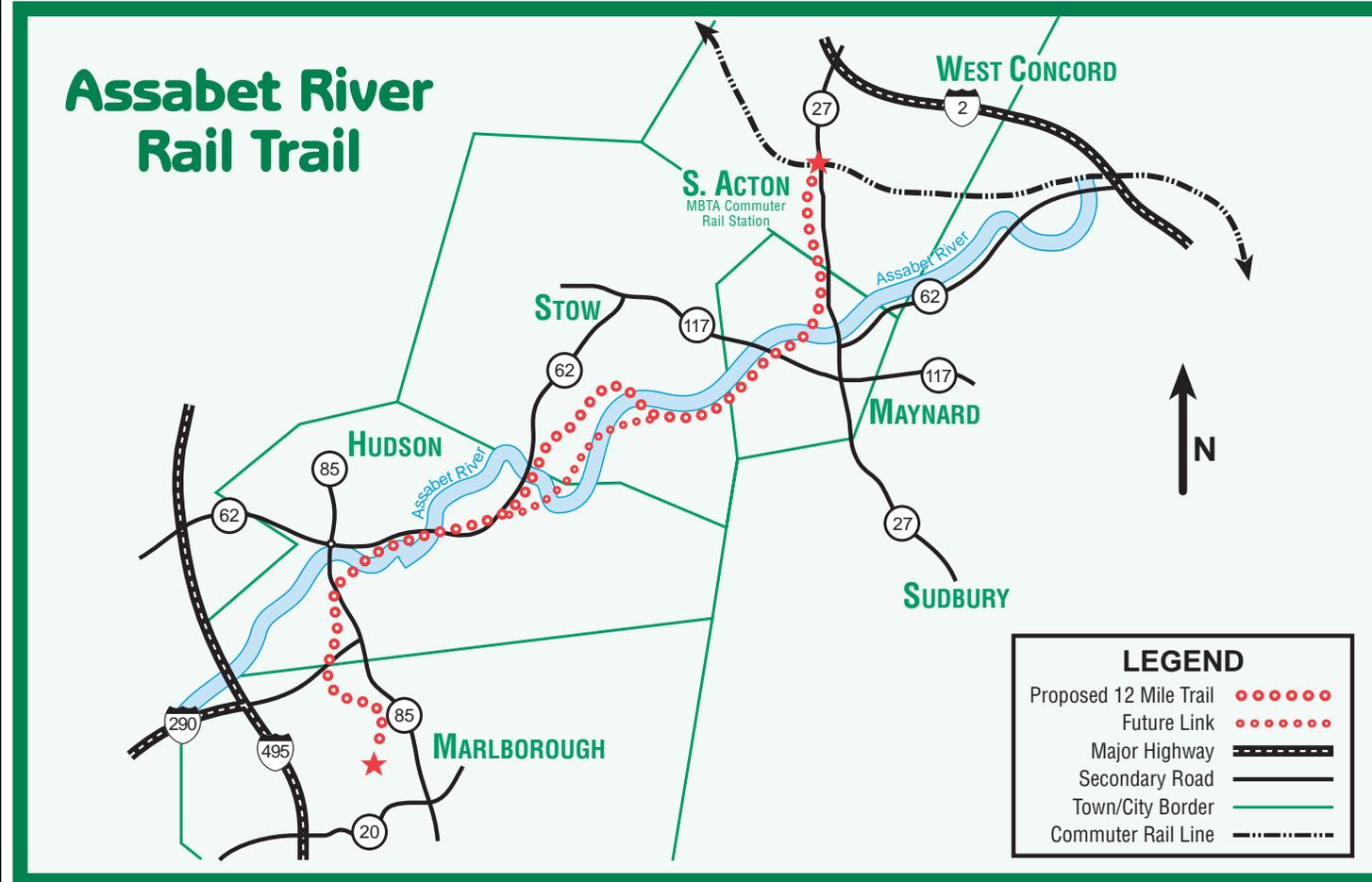
The Assabet River and the railroads played key roles in the history and development of central Massachusetts. The railroads provided a connection between the communities that has in many ways been lost as a result of the use of cars. The link between the river and local industry is also visible in the canals and dams built along the river to harness its power.

Along the river trail, you can see old mills which were major sources of employment and prosperity in the 1800's. Many of these buildings are now being restored as offices and apartments, just as the railbed itself is being reused as a recreational trail.

Natural Beauty: Highlights of the Trail

While following the meandering path of the Assabet River, the trail passes through a variety of natural habitats from forests to fields to bogs and emergent wetlands. In addition to passing through town owned conservation land and a section of wildlife refuge, the trail also includes urbanized and suburbanized sections.

Whether you wish to enjoy nature or the thriving commercial centers along the trail, the ARRT provides something for everyone.



Thanksgiving Pond in Maynard



cross-country skiing in winter



a forested section of trail

Membership

YES! The Assabet River Rail Trail is important to me. Please sign me up as a supporter of the ARRT, Inc. and add my name to your mailing list.

- Individual \$20.00
- Family \$30.00
- Friend of the Trail \$50-100
- Sponsor \$100-250
- Patron \$250-500
- Founders Club \$500 or more

Name _____

Street _____

City/State/Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

e-mail address _____

Please make your check payable to ARRT, Inc. Your donation is fully tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. No goods or services are provided in return for your gift.

Mail this form to:
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