



Mount Agamenticus Conservation Program

2023 Stewardship Report

Ben Jankowski, Conservation Stewardship Coordinator

The 2023 field season began early, in the aftermath of a January ice storm that downed hundreds of trees and branches throughout Mount A's trail network. Volunteers and Staff joined forces to dedicate over 190 frigid hours cutting and clearing to re-open trails.

2023 is celebrated as a year of long-awaited progress at Mount A. What began as dust and debris from construction gave way to improved parking, storm water controls, and state of the art composting restroom facilities. Conservation staff worked diligently alongside contractors to detect and remove new invasive plants, install finishing details, and provide public outreach.

Record rainfall in early summer tested the durability of Mount A's trails, and field work centered around installing structures to improve water crossings, mitigate erosion and drain wet sections of trail. Noteworthy projects include two new ATV boardwalks and major gravel on Cedar, Notch, and Ring trails.

The continued success of the Conservation Program would not be possible without the invaluable support of volunteers and passionate staff. Those who dedicate time to care for Mount A have much to be proud of in 2023.

FIELD SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

PROJECT	QUANTITY
Invasive Species Removal	88 hours
Ring Trailhead Picnic Area	2 ADA tables, 10 tons of stone dust
Two Boardwalks Replaced	110 linear feet
Big A Trail Reconditioning	15 tons of stone dust
Summit Shrubland Habitat Management	5 acres cut/chipped
Trail Gravel Fill	25 tons
Sensitive Habitat Surveyed and Managed for Invasive Plants	20 acres
Visitor Use Surveys	Over 450 completed
Unsanctioned Trail Closures	1.2 miles
Trail Sign Update	20 new signs
COMMUNITY WORKDAYS	
Community Workdays	8 days
Work Day Volunteers	100 volunteers
Work Day Hours	234
ADOPT-A-TRAIL PROGRAM	
Total Participants	19 volunteers
Adopter Visits to Trails	76 visits
Trail Adopter Volunteer Hours	163
VOLUNTEER TOTALS	
121 Volunteers	622 hours



Above: Earth Day volunteers and Mount A staff sort trash collected at the bottom of Hedgehog Cliff.

Below: Trail Crew installing a new culvert on Hairpin Trail.



Below: A favorite project involved Crew and volunteers constructing an entirely new a 55-foot multi use boardwalk on Cedar Trail.



Community Workdays are open to the public, and hosted monthly, each with a specific hands-on focus. Projects include: shrubland habitat management, native plant bed rehabilitation, trash cleanups, trail maintenance workshops, boardwalk construction, invasive plant removal, and assisting with events and trail races. Properly caring for the Region's 4,400 protected acres and 40 miles of trail is a year-round, ever-expanding, effort and community participation is the essence of our success.



SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS IN CONSERVATION!

York Water District, York Land Trust, Great Works Regional Land Trust, Kittery Water District, Town of South Berwick, The Friends of Mount Agamenticus, and Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Ben Jankowski, Conservation Stewardship Coordinator, at bjankowski@yorkmaine.org