Walking Trails near Riverwoods: A call for improvement

There are currently three beautiful trail systems within 1 mile of Riverwoods: the Riverwoods trail, the Merrick Trails, and the Town’s Jackson’s Landing Trails. The Merrick Trails are the most extensive but need some upgrades. Can you join a fundraising effort to build a new bridge across a wet section of the property, which will greatly improve public trail access from Bagdad Road?

The Land:

Tom and Mary Merrick conveyed a conservation easement on their 23-acre property to the Town of Durham in 2006. The Merrick family continues to own and manage their property, while the easement protects their land in perpetuity from further development. A network of trails connects the entrance off Bagdad Road with an entrance and small parking area off Canney Road, close to the Riverwoods complex on Stone Quarry Drive.

The Need:

The trail entrance off Bagdad Road runs through a wet section of the property. Despite several attempts to cross this wet section with wood bridges or stepping stones in the past, they have not lasted.

The Proposal:

Build a solid, decked bridge that would allow water to flow underneath and cross the approximately 150-foot wet, muddy stretch of trail. Volunteers have offered to build the bridge, but need materials to do this. Our goal is to raise $2,500 for the cost of materials by May 1, 2020 so that we can complete the project by September 1st.

Pledge your tax-deductible support for this project by donating to the Town of Durham’s Town Land Stewardship Patron’s Trust—Attn: Merrick Trail Bridge. Pledge forms can be downloaded from the Durham Town Office website at https://www.ci.durham.nh.us/trails.

Questions??

Contact Durham's Land Stewardship Coordinator, Ellen Snyder, at ellensnyder1@gmail.com