

Vermont Town Forest Recreation Planning

Leverage Partnerships

Goal #:



Estimated Cost:

\$

Timing:

Short-Term

The Town of Middlebury is fortunate to have many organizations and groups around conservation, education, and recreation in the community. These organizations provide stewardship, promotion, and programming in the town forests, but their efforts are not always coordinated.

The Middlebury Area Land Trust (MALT) is an important partner for the town forests. MALT conserves many acres of land in and around Middlebury, constructed and maintains the TAM, and hosts forest programming on the TAM and conserved lands. MALT also has a strong network of trail maintenance crews and other volunteers that the town forests should work with for other trails on the town forests.

Middlebury College also presents many opportunities for successful partnerships. Middlebury College students and faculty could conduct biological studies, staff trail maintenance crews, and partner with the forests for events and programming (i.e., professors leading tree identification walks, posting forest events on the college calendar).

The trustees should also work with the Middlebury Parks and Recreation Department for programming in the forest. These programs would make forest-based recreation more accessible, bringing children and adult participants into the forest. The trustees would also benefit from the Parks and Recreation staff expertise.

Other potential partnering organizations include: Otter Creek Audubon Society, Middlebury Mountain Club, and the Addison Bike Club.

Responsibility:
Trustees & Town

Partners Involved:
All

Planning Required:
Meeting facilitation

Funding Opportunities:
RTP, NPCB

Toolkit Resources

Programming Partnerships Toolkit

Mapping and Promotion Toolkit

