



# New Hampshire Horse Council

The Equine Community Working Together  
 Winter/Spring 2020 Newsletter

## Upcoming Meetings

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### Bear Brook State Park Management Plan Committee

Next Scheduled Meeting  
 When: Thursday, January 23, 2019, 5:30pm (verify often, sometimes changes)

Location: DNCR Headquarters, 172 Pembroke Road, Concord.  
 Bear Brook Management Plan, December 2019 (DRAFT)

<https://www.nhstateparks.org/about-us/commissions-committees/bear-brook-state-park-management-plan-committee>

The recreation section is coming soon. NHHHC recommends to keep checking the NH State Park website.

### Members are Important

When NHHHC approaches state and local government bodies, membership numbers count. NHHHC undertakes to be the voice of the horse owners of New Hampshire and to make our voice heard, we need to have the numbers to back us up. Your membership gives us the clout to make our voice mean something – to make sure that those who make the laws, listen to us.

Please use the attached application to renew your membership. Then, share this application with a friend or horse neighbor and ask them to join NHHHC also. A PayPal payment option is available on our website. We won't pretend that the dues money isn't important. It takes cash to be able to print and distribute information and forms, but more than that, we NEED YOU!

### NHHHC Officer Nominations for 2020

We are looking for a new president for NHHHC. Step up and help us further the work of this Council. Submit your name to the current officers to be put on the ballot at the annual meeting on February 29th. We are also looking for members of the Board of Directors. We welcome all the help we can get. New ideas, new methods, new outlooks are beneficial to any organization.

## ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING 2/29/19

Our Annual Members Meeting will be held on Sat. Feb. 29, 2020. Location will be UpReach Therapeutic Riding Center 153 Page Hill Rd., Goffstown NH.

The day will begin at 9:30 am with a welcome and sign-in. Following will be the members meeting to include Council activities report, a Treasurer's report and Committee Reports.

We will break for a light pot luck lunch with a chance for members to relax and catch up.

After lunch we are planning some interesting educational items to include:

*UpReach demo*

*Barn Safety—How to Prevent Barn Fires  
Presented by Roger Lauze, Manager of Equine Rescue and Training at MSPCA*

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### MARK YOUR ANNUAL MEETING DEMONSTRATIONS

#### CALENDARS NOW

Lets Talk Trails, NHHC

Roundtable Discussion

Feb 1st, 2020

NHHC Annual Members

Meeting Saturday,

February 29, 2020

Bad Weather date

March 7, 2020



**UpReach**

Up Reach Therapeutic Equestrian  
Center

[www.upreachtec.org](http://www.upreachtec.org)

UpReach is a Premier Accredited Center by the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International (PATH Intl.) since 2006. They have served individuals with a wide range of physical, emotional, and psychological abilities since 1992 through year-round, equine-assisted activities and therapies, including: therapeutic riding, therapeutic driving, equine-assisted learning, equine-facilitated mental health, and hippotherapy.

They will give a demonstration of what is involved in the work they do.



Mass Society for the  
Prevention of Cruelty to  
Animals

<https://www.mspca.org/adoption-centers/nevins-farm-adoption-center/>

Roger Lauze, Manager of Equine Rescue and Training Center at MSPCA will present a talk and power point presentation on fire and barn emergency prevention. As the national authority on equine emergency response and rescue, this team travels thousands of miles annually to train veterinarians, human organizations, public safety officials, and event officials in rescue and transportation.

We are lucky to be able to secure his services to offer this important look at barn safety

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### *Let's Talk Trails! NHHC Round Table Saturday, February 1, 2020*

*You are invited to NHHC's Round Table -Trails Discussion Feb.1, 2020 opens 9:00am*

*Open to representatives of formal/informal equine organizations or individuals interested in equine trails.*

*This is an opportunity to gather together to review efforts others are making, share ideas (what is working/ what isn't), advance our knowledge, ask questions, identify struggles (membership and participation), where to ride, communication, building coalitions/networking together, working with land management groups like State/SELT/SPNHF/town conservation commissions, etc., brainstorm grass roots level projects which can help to build and protect trail networks, sharing talents, etc. Your participation shows support for trails and will help shape the meeting.*

Please RSVP to [nhhctrails@aol.com](mailto:nhhctrails@aol.com) We need an attendance count

**Date Sat. Feb. 1, 2020** (with Sunday Feb.2 as snow day).

*Time: 9:00am doors open, 9:30 meeting, 11:45 tear down, clean up*

**Location: New Hampshire Department of Transportation, 7 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH**

## STATEWIDE NEWS

### Meetings are open to Equine Trails Users

#### **The Concord – Lake Sunapee Rail Trail Meetings**

Tim Blagden, from CLSRT, is looking for equestrian contacts from Concord, Hopkinton, Warner, Bradford, Sutton and Newbury to reach out to from time to time.

Please let NHHC know if you are interested in attending a meeting and will report back to NHHC. We need local point persons who will attend meetings, monitor and report on local trail happenings. Your involvement helps with equine access.

**January 22 at 6:30 PM at MainStreet Bookends, 16 E Main St, Warner.**

**January 23 at 6:30 PM at Village Cafe, 11 W Main St, Bradford.**

**January 30 at 6:00 PM at Hopkinton Library, 61 Houston Dr, Contoocook.**

**(Check back for a Concord date. We are finalizing plans).**

#### Rail Trail Updates

Join us indoors in January for a review of our 2019 accomplishments and a discussion of what's next in 2020 and beyond. What do you want to see? How did we do on the sections that are now on the ground or are in progress? This entry was posted in [All Towns](#) on [November 28, 2019](#) by Tim Blagden.

NHHC understanding is: The state is not managing this trail. It is open to horses. Equestrians are riding on the section from Davisville to Contoocook. Equestrians will likely use the Concord section between Fisherville Rd and Carter Hill Rd once the surface is improved. The other sections are too short to be useful at the moment. More info below and on link <https://concordlakesunapeerailtrail.com/>

**The Concord – Lake Sunapee Rail Trail** is a long term vision to build a scenic, family-friendly bike and walking trail to connect the communities along the historic Concord-Claremont Railroad line, from Concord NH to the southern tip of Lake Sunapee. The old railroad line passes through the towns of Concord, Hopkinton, Warner, Sutton, Bradford and Newbury. Several portions of the trail are usable today, and local friends of the trail are working together to build the rest.

The overall vision is a family-friendly trail limited to quiet use, biking and walking, cross-country skiing or snowshoeing. Some sections of the trail are already in use by the snowmobile clubs. The trail team will work with the snowmobile clubs to properly designate areas where snowmobiles are already allowed on the trail. Since many sections of this trail are on private property, we will respect the wishes of the landowners as to the types of traffic allowed on their sections of the trail. ATVs will not be allowed on this portion of the rail trail. There is a separate section of the old Concord and Claremont Railroad line called the Sugar River Recreation Trail, which is open to ATVs in Claremont and Newport.

A partial list of local groups with a particular interest in the Rail Trail: CLSRT is working to further the trail in all communities. Several communities have local efforts also working on the trail.

In Concord portions of the trail are on land managed by the Concord Conservation Commission. See maps 1 and 3 on the [Concord Trail System Guidebook and Maps](#) for descriptions of trails along the old Concord to Claremont Railroad line. Enthusiasts may want to look more closely at land and easements owned by the City of Concord through their [online GIS viewer](#).

In Hopkinton a portions of the trail are on the [Stevens Rail Trail](#), the [Rollins Property](#), and [Mast Yard State Forest](#). All are managed by a joint project of the [Hopkinton Conservation Commission](#) and the Hopkinton Open Space Committee.

In Warner the Concord-Lake Sunapee Rail Trail works closely with the [Warner Conservation Commission](#) as much of the trail is close to the Warner River. [Warner Parks & Recreation](#) has also provided significant help with trail construction and maintenance.

In Bradford the [Rural Heritage Connection of Bradford](#) is working with the [Lake Sunapee Snowmobile Club](#) and the Friends of the Concord-Lake Sunapee Rail Trail to make extensions to the [Tilly Wheeler Trail](#).

## **NHDOT Pedestrian & Bicycle Transportation Plan and Economic Impact Study Update**

The Governor and Council extended the project to August 31, 2020 and the final public meeting will occur around May 2020.

NHHC has reviewed two of the documents Draft Summary of Public Engagement, Draft Analysis of Policies and Programs, and sees many opportunities to add horses to the Plan. The purpose of providing input from the equine community was to get horses mentioned and considered in the recommendations of the Plan. NHHC has been asked to send before May 2020 so changes can be made before final public meeting.

You can find more information and stay in touch about the draft pieces of the plan from the link <https://www.nh.gov/dot/programs/bikeped/advisory-committee/index.htm> in the [20191218 CSAC/PAC meeting minutes](#) (Dec. Mtg Minutes, see page 9 where you can link to the pieces). These linked individual parts of the plan are **preliminary drafts only** so they may already be obsolete based on comments that have already made but you're more than welcome to look at the draft pieces. A public comment period will be around May 2020.

When the final comprehensive draft plan is ready, you should get a chance to see the more comprehensive draft plan when it comes out on this link. <https://www.nh.gov/dot/programs/bikeped/advisory-committee/index.htm> There will be a lot of content to review and there may be only a few weeks to review. So staying in tune to the provided link gives you a head start on the reading material.



NHHC Newsletter  
c/o Pat Darmofal  
12 Kelly Street  
Haverhill, MA 01832



*The New Hampshire Horse Council (NHHC) is a nonprofit 501(c)5 organization dedicated to the protection and improvement of the horse industry in New Hampshire. The NHHC represents all breeds and disciplines. Through communication, education and leadership we act as a liaison among horse groups, the general public and the legislature.*

[www.NHHorseCouncil.org](http://www.NHHorseCouncil.org)

## NHHC Officers & Board

### **PRESIDENT**

Position Vacant

### **VICE-PRESIDENT**

Jozi Best, Unity, NH

### **SECRETARY**

Trixie Lefebvre, Londonderry, NH

[NHHorseCouncil@aol.com](mailto:NHHorseCouncil@aol.com)

### **TREASURER**

Patricia Darmofal, Haverhill, MA

[patdarmofal@msn.com](mailto:patdarmofal@msn.com)

### **TRAILS LIASON**

Debbie Briscoe, Brentwood, NH

[nhhctrails@aol.com](mailto:nhhctrails@aol.com)

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Karen Wood, Atkinson, NH

Debbie Briscoe, Brentwood, NH

## Affiliated Clubs and Sponsors

Derry Trail Riders

[www.DerryTrailRiders.com](http://www.DerryTrailRiders.com)

Granite State Carriage Association

<https://www.granitestatecarriage.org/>

Mares Run Farm

<http://www.maresrunfarm.com>

Monadnock Happy Trails

<http://mhta.yolasite.com/>

New Hampshire Arabian Horse Association

<http://www.nharab.org/>

New Hampshire Horse & Trail Association

<http://nhhta.org/>

Piscataquog Area Trailways

<http://piscataquogareatrailways.com/>

Rockingham Riding Club

<http://nhrockinghamridingclub.org/>

UpReach Therapeutic Equestrian Center

<https://www.upreachtec.org/>

Wentworth Hunt

<http://www.wentworthhunt.org/>

White Mountain Horse Association

<https://www.whitemountainridingclub.org/>