

Rivendell Trails Association, P.O. Box 202 Fairlee, Vermont 05045

To create and maintain the Cross Rivendell Trail as an educational and recreational resource

Rivendell Trails Association (RTA) 2016 Annual Report and 2017 Appropriation

The Rivendell Trails Association (RTA) thanks the Town of Fairlee for its past support. The contribution of all four towns in the Rivendell Interstate School District is essential to the functioning of the RTA in maintaining and promoting the Cross Rivendell Trail as an educational and recreation resource for town residents, students, and visitors alike. For 2017, the RTA requests \$450.

The RTA requests equal amounts from the four towns that host the Cross Rivendell Trail (CRT). In addition, the RTA actively seeks financial support from grants, businesses, and individuals. <u>All</u> funds raised are used solely to support the activities of the RTA including place-based education, student trail crews, trail maintenance, and outdoor recreation.

The RTA manages the Cross Rivendell Trail through a partnership with the Rivendell Interstate School District (RISD). The board has representatives from each of the four towns, including Abby Hood of Fairlee. Maggie Stoudnour coordinates education and use of the CRT for elementary school students in the district, and Kerry Browne helps us get students and teachers from Rivendell Academy involved in using and maintaining the trail.

RTA 2016 activities included community events and educational programs. Winter hikes and the late-March RTA Annual Meeting were followed by a trail maintenance workshop for landowners and trail adopters in May on the east side of Bald Top. Volunteer trail work continued throughout the summer, including a workday for employees from Hypertherm. In July and August, six Rivendell Academy students supported by the RTA, participated in trail crew activities in cooperation with the Upper Valley Trails Alliance. The students learned trail maintenance skills and provide much needed trail work in each town. They spent two days repairing the trail on both sides of Bald Top. In September, the 12th Annual Rivendell RAMBLE took place in Orford, where hikers and trail runners enjoyed perfect weather and fall foliage on the trail over Sunday Mountain while fundraising for the CRT.

Fairlee students, RTA members, trail adopters, landowners, and residents enjoy and support the Cross Rivendell Trail. The RTA welcomes and actively seeks community involvement as committee members, volunteer trail adopters, and donors. More information is available on the RTA / CRT website at www.crossrivendelltrail.org, on Facebook at "Cross Rivendell Trail", and by contacting Kit Leckerling, co-chair, RTA Board, at (802) 685-7855 (kit.leckerling@mountainschool.org).

Respectfully submitted,

Kit Leckerling and Abby Hood, Co-Chairs And the Rivendell Trails Association Board of Directors