



# MERRYMEETING TRAIL

Topsham ❖ Bowdoinham ❖ Richmond ❖ Gardiner

## MAY 2011 NEWSLETTER

In this update newsletter:

- MMT Corridor Study scheduled to be completed this month.
- Richmond has applied for MaineDOT funds for construction of the first leg of the trail.
- Wright-Pierce hired for planning study to be completed June 2011.

### CORRIDOR STUDIES

Midcoast Council of Governments has hired VHB to conduct a Feasibility Study for the proposed Merrymeeting Trail. The Feasibility Study will be complete by the end of May 2011. The Corridor Study will allow us to identify possible alternatives for phasing the trail's construction and ultimately allow us to pursue funding for the construction of the Merrymeeting Trail.

Midcoast Council of Governments has hired Wright-Pierce to conduct a planning study. The overall goal for creating the planning study is to develop a comprehensive plan for implementing the creation of the Merrymeeting Trail.

We are able to do these corridor studies thanks to the following funding:

- \$20,000 Regional Challenge Grant from the State Planning Office
- \$20,000 from MDOT
- \$13,500 from Maine Outdoor Heritage Board
- \$1,000 from the City of Gardiner
- \$1,000 from the Town of Richmond
- \$1,000 from the Town of Bowdoinham
- \$1,000 from Topsham Development Incorporated
- \$1,000 from Friends of Kennebec River Rail Trail

### WEBSITE

The Merrymeeting Trail now has its own website thanks to Victor Langelo, Topsham Resident. Please visit us at [www.merrymeetingtrail.org](http://www.merrymeetingtrail.org) and **sign-up for our E-newsletter.**

## **GRANTS**

The Town of Richmond has applied to Maine Department of Transportation's Quality Community Program for construction funding. This funding will be used to construct a segment of the Merrymeeting Trail, which will serve to connect the village area. Good luck to Richmond!!!

## **PROJECT PARTICIPANTS & SUPPORTERS**

The following groups are working to make the vision of the Merrymeeting Trail a reality:

- Residents & Staff of Gardiner, Richmond, Bowdoinham, and Topsham
- Midcoast Council of Governments
- National Park Service
- Maine Department of Transportation
- Maine State Planning Office
- Kennebec Estuary Land Trust
- Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust
- Kennebec River Network
- Maine Coastal Program
- East Coast Greenway Alliance
- Greater Topsham Trail Alliance
- Friends of Kennebec River Rail Trail
- Bicycle Coalition of Maine
- Merrymeeting Wheelers
- Topsham Trail Riders
- ACCESS Health
- Healthy Communities of the Capital Area
- Cathance River Education Alliance
- Merrymeeting Arts Center
- Center of Ecological & Cultural Living Arts