Caring for a New England Treasure

The 215-mile New England Trail (NET) includes portions of four largely contiguous trails: the Mattabesett, Menunkatuck, and Metacomet Trails in Connecticut, and parts of the Metacomet-Monadnock Trail in Massachusetts. Designated as a national scenic trail in 2009, and marked with blue blazes in Connecticut and white in Massachusetts, the NET has something for everyone. The principal trail stewards of the NET are the staff and volunteers of the Connecticut Forest & Park Association (CFPA) in Connecticut, and the Berkshire Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) in Massachusetts. They are assisted by the National Park Service (NPS) in managing, protecting, restoring, and caring for this scenic New England treasure. For more information, including guides and maps, please visit newenglandtrail.org.
2015 Initiatives

CFPA implemented a Letterbox Series on the NET this year. These hidden boxes each have a stamp and logbook, and are a great way for hikers, families, and life-long learners to connect to the trail through an outdoor treasure hunt.

This fall, AMC partnered with the Hitchcock Center for the Environment to sponsor 30 field trips at Skinner State Park. These field trips helped 670 students from West Springfield, South Hadley, Amherst, and Pelham to discover local geology and the NET.

The New England Trail Map & Guide was released this year, and is currently being sold through both CFPA and AMC. The Map & Guide set includes a topographical map of the NET as well as photos, local information, and suggested hikes for both states.

Looking to get involved with the NET? Check out trail work opportunities in CT and MA.

CT: ctwoodlands.org/volunteer/volunteer-opportunities-calendar
MA: newenglandtrail.org/about-trail/events

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