

Eastern Trail 2018 Annual Appeal



CLOSE THE GAP UPDATE:

As we approach the end of 2018, many are wondering what happened to the “Close the Gap” project. An announcement went out at the end of 2017 that we were moving into the Final Design stage but many donors and trail users are still wondering, “Where’s the Trail?”

Like many projects, what happens behind the scenes is what makes them cost effective and well planned. The Town of Scarborough is managing the final design stage now and while it is moving along well, can take 12 months or more to complete. So while there’s great progress, unfortunately nothing visible.

Scarborough anticipates advertising for construction in 2019 barring any regulatory holdups.

We thank the over 500 individuals plus corporations, foundations and our governmental support for making this project even possible.

EVERY DONATION FROM THIS ANNUAL APPEAL WILL GO TO THE “BLAZING THE TRAIL SOUTH” CAMPAIGN.

Dear Friend of the Eastern Trail,

You’ve been walking along side us this far. Would you help us continue to build the Eastern Trail?

There’s a lot to be thankful for at the Eastern Trail Alliance this year!

- Our successful Close the Gap campaign is coming to a rapid close as we work with our municipal and state partners to start planning for the construction to complete 16 miles of continuous off-road recreational and commuting trail!
- Our Maine Lighthouse Ride was another success, raising over \$80,000, allowing us to continue our mission of supporting development of the Eastern Trail.
- The Eastern Trail is being used by record number of people – including you – according to our updated Economic Impact Study – <https://www.easterntail.org/documents/ETEconomicImpactStudy2018.pdf>
- Perhaps most importantly, we are thankful for your continued support of the Eastern Trail, which makes all of this possible!

These successes give us renewed energy to push forward with the next challenges toward completing our 65-mile dream trail – Blazing the Trail South. This segment will take the trail from Kennebunk, through Wells, and then through the Berwicks. While surveys, design and permitting are not the fun part of our work – all of these processes are absolutely necessary.

Are you still with us on the Eastern Trail? Would you help us to raise the \$30,000 that is necessary to complete the survey for the next 6+ miles heading south? Please consider a contribution of \$50 or more to support this project.

With your help, we’ll continue to add these critical off road miles – one step at a time. We’re happy we’re on this journey together.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff of the Eastern Trail Alliance,

All the Best,

Deb Erickson-Irons, ETA President