

Trail Building 101

*Offered by the Lower Kennebec Regional Land Trust
Led by Nancy Sferra, Director of Science and Stewardship at
The Nature Conservancy in Maine*



What: A series of workshops and fieldwork to train stewards of the Kennebec Estuary on where to site trails, how to build trails, and how to maintain trails.

Who: Anyone interested in helping with land stewardship in the lower Kennebec – West Bath, Bath, Woolwich, Arrowsic, Georgetown, Westport Island, and Phippsburg. Participants are encouraged to attend all classes, and will be considered a resource for trail management in their communities. Future roles may include adopting a LKRLT property for maintenance and monitoring; specializing in a skill (ie: bridge building) or leading groups of trail volunteers.

When: Six classes spread from March - October, culminating with a thank you party.

Where: Classes will take place in various locations in the Kennebec Estuary.

How much: The program is free, with a preferred commitment to volunteer with LKRLT and train others in what you have learned. Trails are an incredible asset for outdoor education, nature study, recreation, exploration and relaxation.

Your work will directly benefit your community.



Program Schedule

1. Wednesday, March 4 5:30-7:30

Trail Building Overview: Where to put trails to protect natural resources while providing public recreational access. How to design trails to withstand anticipated use and minimize maintenance.

Location: LKRLT Office, 92 Front Street. Pizza provided.

2. Saturday, April 18 9:30-11:30

Tool Sharpening Workshop

Presented by: Bob Meade, professional sharpener
Bring hand tools that you would like to sharpen such as loppers, clippers, and axe. There will be an optional lunch and work session after this class at the Weber Kelly Preserve in Georgetown.

Location: Georgetown Fire Station. Pastries provided.

3. Saturday, May 16 9:30-11:30

Invasive Plant Identification and Eradication Techniques

Japanese knotweed, Japanese barberry, phragmites... where did these plants come from and how can we control them so native flora can flourish?

Location: Sewall Woods Preserve, Bath

4. Friday, June 5 & Saturday, June 6

5:30-7:30 9:30-11:30

Trail Techniques: How to protect trails from erosion and streams from siltation through the use of water bars and stream crossings.

Location: Weber Kelly Preserve, Georgetown.
Saturday a work crew will build a stream crossing or install water bars in honor of National Trails Day.

5. Saturday, September 12 9:30-11:30

Maintaining Existing Trails: How to identify, prioritize and fix problem areas. How to mark and brush trails to ensure that visitors stay where you want them.

Location: Merrymeeting Fields Preserve, Woolwich

6. Thursday, October 8 5:30-7:30

Volunteer Thank You Party

Wrap up the series and thank all volunteers who have contributed to the maintenance and improvement of LKRLT properties.

Location: tbd