

**LEGEND**

- Single Track Trails
- Double Track Trails
- Paved MoveMore.org suggested routes
- ATV Trails
- Streets & Highways
- Parking Hospital

- |   |                                  |   |
|---|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>1</b> Colby College Campus Trails      | <b>7</b> The Oxbow               | <b>13</b> Messalonskee Stream Trail     |
| <b>2</b> Quarry Road Recreational Area    | <b>8</b> Winslow Schools Trails  | <b>14</b> Messalonskee Eagle Trail      |
| <b>3</b> Waterville Connector Trail       | <b>9</b> Rotary Centennial Trail | <b>15</b> T-Mobile Campus Trail         |
| <b>4</b> Inland Woods / Pine Ridge Trails | <b>10</b> Mill Island Park       | <b>16</b> Winslow Connector Trail       |
| <b>5</b> Waterville JHS Trail             | <b>11</b> KVCC Campus Trail      | <b>17</b> Head of Falls / 2-cent Bridge |
| <b>6</b> Thomas College Campus Trail      | <b>12</b> Fairfield Woods Trails | <b>18</b> Fort Halifax Park             |

# Kennebec Messalonskee Trails



Our **MISSION** is to promote, create & help maintain recreation and fitness trails and a bicycle-pedestrian friendly community throughout the City and Towns of Waterville, Winslow, Benton, Fairfield & Oakland.

Our **VISION** is a network of trails, sidewalks & bicycle lanes contributing to a healthy & active community providing...

- spaces for people to meet, play & exercise
- a network of connections
- a more pleasant place to live
- attraction of businesses
- downtown and riverfront revival
- transportation alternatives to the automobile
- increased property values in the vicinity of trails

about our

## TRAIL SYSTEM

**SINGLE TRACK TRAILS** are mostly wide enough for single file walking, running, mountain biking or snow shoeing in winter. If you like hilly and twisty, try these trails...

- **13** Messalonskee Stream Trail
- **4** Inland Woods / Pine Ridge Trails
- **6** Thomas College

Unpaved **DOUBLE TRACK TRAILS** are good for walking/running two or more side-by-side...

- **10** Mill Island Park Trail
- **9** Rotary Centennial Trail } easiest
- **1** Colby College } most extensive / ideal for skiing, snow shoeing and sledding in winter
- **2** Quarry Road Trails }

For those with a handicap, several trails and routes are **WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE...**

- **3** Waterville Connector - *provides paved trail and sidewalks from North Street to Head of Falls*
- **17** Head of Falls / 2-cent Bridge
- **16** Winslow Connector
- **8** Winslow Schools Trails
- **M** MoveMore.org suggest routes

See other side for more details on our favorite trails...

Don't be surprised to find things looking different from this map or when you last visited a particular trail. We are improving on the trail network all the time

Check out our annual community events. See other side for more information.



See other side for more details on our favorite trails...

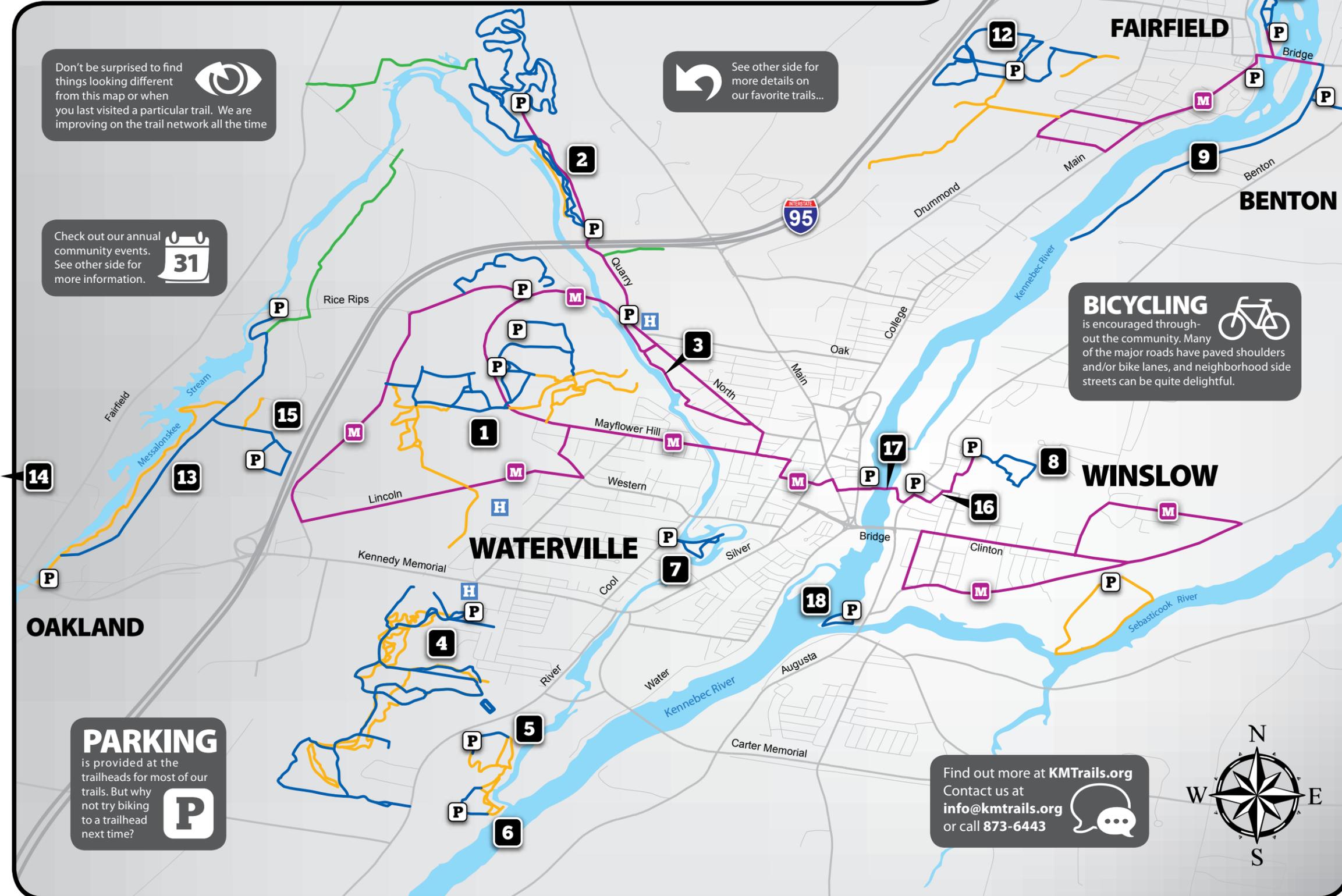
**BICYCLING** is encouraged throughout the community. Many of the major roads have paved shoulders and/or bike lanes, and neighborhood side streets can be quite delightful.



**PARKING** is provided at the trailheads for most of our trails. But why not try biking to a trailhead next time?



Find out more at [KMTrails.org](http://KMTrails.org)  
Contact us at [info@kmtrails.org](mailto:info@kmtrails.org) or call 873-6443



our favorite

# TRAIL ROUTES

Here are some of the great trails to look forward to. Below are directions, descriptions and highlights our trails have to offer...

## 13 Messalonskee Stream Trail

A delightful walk through the woods with stunning views of Messalonskee Stream in a wide variety of settings.

There are two trailheads, with parking:

1. At the south end, opposite the Town Office, is a small fenced in area. From Waterville follow Kennedy Memorial Drive to just before the stream crossing. Turn right at sign. From Oakland, cross the stream and turn left.
2. At the north end, access is off Rice Rips Road, at Rice Rips. From Waterville follow down hill until just before the stream, turn right. From Route 23 turn onto Rice Rips Road, cross the stream and turn left into parking. Then cross the road and walk around the gate.

From the south end parking lot, walk through a gap in a chain link fence. Proceed into the woods and 300 yards further cross the power line easement (which has a nice mountain bike trail). The path is clearly marked. It is mostly single track, crosses several footbridges and passes through beautiful hemlock woods to where Messalonskee Stream broadens out into a lake. Keep going down, around a peninsula, then up to the power line and along it until you reach the dam access road. Turn left and proceed towards steel steps which take you over the wood and creosote penstock (the huge black pipe) and along an access road to Rice Rips Road. At the southern end there are several historical sites to note:

- You parked on the foundations of an axe factory, one that gave Oakland its nickname "Axe Capital of the World"
- Further down you see the castellated hydropower station that was one of CMP's first.
- Another 1/2 mile along gives a view of the last remnants of the Cascade Woolen Mill on the far side of the stream.

## 1 Colby College Trails

The Colby College campus has miles of trails from the top of Mayflower Hill to the valley of Messalonskee Stream. They are wide and narrow, steep and gentle, through the woods and across open fields. For mountain bikers they connect to other trail networks.

Parking is available at several locations along Mayflower Hill Drive in Waterville.

Proceeding up the hill from the south end of the campus one can get super views of the Kennebec Valley from near the water tower. On the lower ground some trails skirt the campus for easy walking/skiing/biking, while others proceed downslope to the wetlands of Messalonskee Stream. None of the trails are signed. But, with the college in the center, it's difficult to get lost.

## 9 Rotary Centennial Trail

Walk four abreast on this level trail, which runs parallel to the Kennebec River, and enjoy the wide variety of native trees. At the end, take a seat on the Rotary granite wheel and look up and down river.

There are two approaches to the trail, both marked by a TRAIL sign on the nearest main road:

1. Walking from Fairfield across the bridge, turn right on Crummett Street, then up the granite steps to the trail.
2. Driving along Benton Avenue, about 300 yards south of the lights at its intersection with Route 139, a sign at the Asher Farms mobile home park directs drivers to parking in pine woods at the far end of the driveway. From there walk down a steep access to the trail. Both approaches meet at the Trailhead kiosk.

This trail was constructed along an old rail bed. It leads to a former rail bridge abutment from which one can look up and down river for a mile each way. Then turn around and walk back the way you came...the views will be different.

This is a nature trail...you may be lucky to catch a glimpse of turkeys, deer, ducks, beaver, turtles, and an occasional heron or bald eagle. See how many species of native trees you can identify along the way. There are 17.

The trail is groomed in winter for easy skiing, snowshoeing, or when the snow is all packed down, just walk in boots. In other seasons it's good for walking and running, and just right for kids learning to bike.

The trail is enjoyed by people from all around, but especially by neighbors, who have made no fewer than eleven separate approaches down to the trail from their homes out of sight on top of the ridge.

## 4 Inland Woods / Pine Ridge Trails

Expect many miles of trail loops mostly through the woods, great for mountain biking but also for hiking. If you get lost, remember that the airport is to the west on top of the hill, downhill is to the east, and the access is to the north. Recently rehabilitated and expanded, the area is one of Central Maine's most beautiful and surprisingly untouched natural areas.

To get there, turn off ME Routes 11/137 (Kennedy Memorial Drive) at Inland Hospital, and park at the far end of the employee parking lot. The trailhead is clearly marked in the back corner of the lot behind the Hospital.

The Inland Woods Trail starts in the 17-acre woods behind the Hospital and provides a convenient link to several miles of trails in the 144 acres of Pine Ridge Recreation Area. The trails are especially good for mountain biking, but also for walking, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. From walking paths along meandering streams to old tote roads paralleling stone walls and twisty single-track bike trails, the area offers something for all non-motorized interests and abilities.

## 2 Quarry Rd. Recreational Area

Quarry Road is a multi-use four-season 200 acre park with great cross-country skiing, ice climbing and sledding in winter, and mountain biking or just plain walking the rest of the year. Expect great views, beautiful woods and open space for all.

From Waterville, take North Street north past Thayer Hospital parking lot, then turn right onto Quarry Road. From I-95, take the Main Street exit south, turn left on Eustis Parkway, then follow it to the end and turn right on North Street, then right again on Quarry Road. Follow the paved portion of Quarry Road to where it changes to dirt, under the I-95 overpass. There are two parking areas, one at the welcome kiosk, the other a mile further in.

Quarry Road Recreational Area includes 12 miles of groomed cross-country ski trail loops, 2.5 miles of snowshoe trail, a sledding hill, and easy walking on the groomed Quarry Road itself. For a brief period in a cold winter there is ice climbing in the quarry that can be reached at the end of a side trail.

The principal ski trails are 16 feet wide and can be used in other seasons for mountain biking or hiking. Single track bike trails and a pump track are under construction. Great views abound -- of Messalonskee Stream on one side, the steep hillside on the other, with impressive woodlands throughout.

Friends of Quarry Road organizes the Central Maine Ski Club, and puts on a variety of events, the biggest of which is the Winter Carnival, at the beginning of February.

## 6 Thomas College

Try out this short trail for a spectacular viewing of where the Kennebec River and Messalonskee Stream merge.

The official trailhead is a parking lot south of the academic buildings and up against the soccer field. Follow the signs.

Walk first along the power line that forms the southern edge of the soccer field. It will lead you to a small kiosk where you get your first glimpse of the Kennebec. Walk into the woods, and don't miss the steep sided point overlooking the confluence.

Follow the marked path up, down and around gullies, across bridges, and along plank walks. These silty soils, deposited beneath the sea at the end of the last Ice Age, are easily eroded (thus the deep gullies), and slippery when wet. The path twists and turns and comes out by the baseball field. Follow your nose back to the start.

Find out more at [www.kmtrails.org](http://www.kmtrails.org)  
Contact us at [info@kmtrails.org](mailto:info@kmtrails.org)  
or by calling **873-6443**

## 10 Mill Island Park

Mill Island Park was once a bustling industrial island, with factories and homes. Now it is a beautiful park, with play and picnic spaces, benches, trails, views of the Kennebec, and plenty of historical and cultural interest.

From the center of Fairfield, take the Route 139 bridge across the Kennebec River, then first left onto the island. From Benton take the last turn to the right off the bridge. Drive to the end, under the railroad trestle to the parking area.

Within view of the parking area there is a kiosk, swings, a picnic spot and benches looking out over the Kennebec. Follow the trail to the northern end of the island and take note of the historical signage and the basements of some of the factories that gave the island its name. Take in the many views of the Kennebec River rapids...there were many more between here and Waterville when Benedict Arnold and his men made their way north in 1776.

our annual

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Come join us on our seasonal events. Great times to explore, learn and have fun.

**Winter Carnival** - *early February*

**Earth Day** - *(late April) Trail cleanup / brush cutting*

**National Trails Day** - *First Saturday in June*

**Trail Openings** - *Whenever the time is ripe!*

**Mushroom Hunt** - *Second Saturday in October*

## YOU CAN HELP

So, what can you do to help the Kennebec Messalonskee Trails? Here are a few ways to get involved:

### WEALTH

We'd be happy to have you as a financially contributing member of Kennebec Messalonskee Trails

### WORK

Please contact us if you want to volunteer for something, like trail maintenance, events, etc.

### WISDOM

We value your feedback on any aspect of our mission..



**Kennebec  
Messalonskee  
Trails**