AMC’s Bay Circuit Trail (BCT) Volunteer Program continues to work on projects along the 230+ mile multi-use trail, that traverses through 37 cities and towns, linking together parks, open spaces, and communities.
The 2018 season on the Bay Circuit Trail would not have been so successful without the hard work of volunteers, youth participants, and AMC staff across the board. Volunteers and staff alike filled in to help, as I tried to navigate the ins and outs of the Bay Circuit Trail for my first season. I am forever grateful for the support I received, which allowed this season to be a tremendous success.

This season we continued partnerships with our youth crews with both AMC’s Youth Opportunities Program, and the Groundwork Lawrence Green Team. Thanks to their consistent, hard work, the teens worked through extreme heat and torrential downpours improving the Bay Circuit Trail on the North Shore. It was an amazing experience to watch them work hard and see how proud they were at the end of a tough week. To quote one of the YOP teen participants, “I never thought a week away from technology would benefit me so much.” The BCT and our community partners are thrilled with the work that the youth crews put in, and it was nice to see that the participants’ experience was extremely positive and beneficial for them.

We continued our traditional Saturday Work Parties, running 3 in the spring, and 3 in the fall in various spots along the Bay Circuit Trail. No matter how many volunteers showed up, every single one was ready to work, and we always accomplished our goals for the day. We are especially thankful for our volunteer leaders and returning volunteers who helped newer volunteers learn all there is to learn about trail work, so by the end we were all working as a well-oiled machine.

We are so thrilled with how smoothly the season ran, grateful for the hard work of our staff and volunteers, and looking forward to what is next on the Bay Circuit Trail!

Sincerely,

Christine Viola
Bay Circuit Trail Volunteer Programs Supervisor
Bay Circuit Trail Volunteer Trails Program

END OF SEASON REPORT

Bay Circuit Trail Volunteer Totals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volunteer Program</th>
<th>Total Number of Volunteers</th>
<th>Total Volunteer Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YOP Teen Trail Crew</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday Work Parties</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custom Crews</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skill Sessions</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCT Volunteer Program Totals</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>1777</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Participants and staff from AMC’s Youth Opportunities Teen Trail Crew enjoy a sunset walk with a view of the Boston Skyline

Total Volunteers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Total # Volunteers</th>
<th>Total Volunteer Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>802</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adults</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>975</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Volunteers by Program Type

- Saturday Work Parties 49%
- Custom Crews 44%
- Teen Trail Crew 4%
- Skill Sessions 3%
STATISTICS

June 24-29th

# Volunteers: 8
Volunteer Hours: 320
Leader + Volunteer Hours: 425

New Work Installed:
2 New 12’ Bridges
9 check steps
2 box steps
10 ft of drainage dips
3 stepping stones set

Maintenance Work Completed:
1 blowdown removed
6400’ brushing

BAY CIRCUIT TRAIL- YOP TEEN TRAIL CREW

For the third year in a row, teens from AMC’s Youth Opportunities Program participated in a one-week long teen trail crew, based at Harold Parker State Forest. Eight teens from New Haven, New York City, and Worcester camped out at the Lorraine Campground, and completed trail projects along the Bay Circuit Trail.

Though the first night brought rain, lightning, and wind, the teens were ready to get to work on Monday morning. We piled into the van, drove to the work site, and began our day. This time, the teens were working at Deer Jump Reservation in Andover. The property is owned by the Andover Village Improvement Society (AVIS), and they provided all the lumber and materials for the projects.

The teens worked on the trail for 3 days total, including working through a torrential downpour on the final day to make sure the project was completed. In total, this group put in 2, 12-foot bog bridges, set 3 stepping stone, and installed 9 check steps, 2 box steps, and 10 feet of drainage dips. They also removed one blowdown, and completed approximately 6400 feet of brushing along the BCT.

As a reward for their hard work, the teens took a break on Wednesday afternoon, and went on a canoe trip along the Ipswich River. Led by Nate Schumacher, AMC’s YOP Outdoor Adventure and Partnerships Coordinator, the group paddled six miles through beautiful scenery and saw some amazing wildlife.

At the end of it all, the teens reflected on their time, thought about what they learned, and discussed what they planned to do next. Some even asked about coming back to do it again next summer. AVIS and AMC are so grateful for all of their hard work throughout the week.
For two weeks in July, youth from the Groundwork Lawrence Green Team continued work on the Bay Circuit Trail at Deer Jump Reservation in Andover. While the participants did not camp out, they came each day ready to work. They had been previously assigned into three “teams,” so each day we had a mix of different people from each team. Once we went through a thorough tool and safety talk, they were ready to get to work.

After the two weeks with the crews, we had installed a 16-foot bridge, three 12-foot bridges, 3 steps, set 2 rocks, and brushed out a half-mile of trail. The enthusiasm never wavered, and we accomplished everything we planned to. To end each week, we took a long hike on the BCT to show off some of the work done by past participants like themselves.

STATISTICS

Bay Circuit Trail Volunteer Trails Program

July 10-13th
July 17-20th

# Volunteers: 35
Volunteer Hours: 556
Leader + Volunteer Hours: 636

New Work Installed:
3 New 12’ Bridges
1 New 16’ Bridge
1 check steps
2 box steps
10 ft of drainage dips
3 stepping stones set

Maintenance Work Completed:
1 blowdown removed
1000’ brushing
**Bay Circuit Trail Volunteer Trails Program**

### Statistics

April 20th, May 12th, June 16th, September 29th, October 20th, November 10th

- **# Volunteers:** 102
- **Volunteer Hours:** 618
- **Leader + Volunteer Hours:** 696

**New Work Installed:**
- 29 rocks set
- 3 wood water bars
- 5020 feet of new trail
- 540 feet of trail closed
- 50 feet of bog bridging
- 50 feet of drainage dips
- 6 check steps
- 2 box steps

**Maintenance Work Completed:**
- Repaired 4 check steps
- 5000 feet of brushing
- 40 feet of drainage dips
- 8 blowdowns cleared

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**Bay Circuit Trail - Saturday Work Parties**

In 2018, we ran 6 Saturday Work Parties, 3 in the spring, and 3 in the fall, with a total of 102 volunteers between them all. The projects ranged from rerouting a steep section of future BCT, installing bog bridging, and rock water bar projects. Each day brought a group of smiling volunteers, thrilled to be helping on the BCT.

To highlight one work party, we partnered with Minuteman National Historic Park in Concord in September to celebrate National Public Lands Day. We had 42 volunteers come out on a perfect, 70 degree and sunny day. We worked on various projects near the Old North Bridge, including repairing a severely eroded section of the BCT, and digging drainage ditches to help manage the water and divert it off the trail. Thanks to Vibram Corporation, we were able to provide snacks, pizza, and t-shirts for the volunteers.

Volunteers celebrate a successful National Public Lands Day along the BCT in Minuteman National Historic Park.
# Work Completed in 2018

## Maintenance Work Completed 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Work</th>
<th>Quantity/Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Blazing</td>
<td>2 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brushing</td>
<td>7.9 miles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closed trail</td>
<td>740 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blowdowns cleared</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterbars cleaned</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check steps repaired</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Total New Work Installed 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Work</th>
<th>Quantity/Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Trail</td>
<td>5,020 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bog Bridges (Dimensional Stringers)</td>
<td>33 (401 feet total)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Check Steps</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retaining wall</td>
<td>300 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sidehilling/Benching</td>
<td>800 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Bar (Rock)</td>
<td>4 (65 feet total)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box steps</td>
<td>6 box steps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rocks set</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drainage dips</td>
<td>80 feet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to our amazing land partners:

AMC’s Bay Circuit Trail Volunteer Program would like to thank the following funders for supporting us in 2018:

**Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts**

**REI**

**AMD**

**Vibram Corporation**

We would like to thank the JMR Barker Foundation for its $300,000 challenge grant, awarded to AMC in 2013-2014, for use over several years for Bay Circuit Trail operating and programs support.

We are also grateful for the contributions we received from individuals for the Bay Circuit Trail in 2018.

Thank you to all those who support and participate in AMC’s volunteer programs and help make the Bay Circuit Trail an outstanding resource for outdoor engagement!