



**MAD RIVER VALLEY**  
RECREATION DISTRICT

Enhancing the Mad River Valley's way of life through recreation.

# **STATE OF RECREATION REPORT**

## **2018 Town Leadership Meeting**





**MAD RIVER VALLEY**  
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## **MRVRD 2018 –2019**

- Recreation in Vermont and the Mad River Valley
- 2018 financial report & recreation successes
- 2019 budget & initiatives
- 2019 Town funding request





# MAD RIVER VALLEY

## RECREATION DISTRICT

***Vision: Enhancing the Mad River Valley's way of life through recreation.***

***Mission: To facilitate, enhance & create recreational opportunities throughout the Mad River Valley that promote community vitality, physical fitness, appreciation for the outdoors, & a high quality of life.***

**MRVRD Strategic Plan 2018**

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### Board of Directors

Chrissy Bellmyer, Fayston

John Stokes, Fayston

Jeff Whittingham, Waitsfield (Secretary)

Mike Nucci, Waitsfield (Mad River Park Committee Chair)

Alice Rodgers, Warren, (Vice-Chair)

Doug Bergstein, Warren (Treasurer)

Whitney Philips, Warren

Liza Walker, Waitsfield (Chair)



# MAD RIVER VALLEY RECREATION DISTRICT

## Many Ways to Recreate in the MRV





## Many Recreation Partners





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# MRVRD Strategic Plan Five Focus Areas

Trails

Events

Programming

Parks and Facilities

Needs Assessment and Planning



# MAD RIVER VALLEY

## RECREATION DISTRICT

## Recreation- What's Happening in Vermont?

- Expanding focus on outdoor recreation as key driver for economic growth in State.
- In 2017, Gov. Scott established Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Council (VOREC) to provide grant funds to communities leveraging economic development in state through outdoor recreation
- New trends and economic drivers in recreation: mtn biking, backcountry skiing, trail running
- New initiatives include Velomont Trail- long distance mountain bike multi-user trail connecting Killington to Stowe





## Recreation- What's Happening in the MRV?

- State's goals reflected in Mad River Valley- economic development, new types of recreation, synergy with local businesses
- Planning and Collaborating: Mad River Valley Economic Study, Mad River Moves Study, Trails Collaborative
- Volunteerism-over 5000 hours annually
- Financial Leverage - 3:1 grants and privately raised funds







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## **MRVRD RECREATION GRANTS 2018 Investments**

- \$15,000 provided to MRVRD by each town, for a total of \$45,000.
- MRVRD awarded \$46,111 in recreation grants awarded to 8 organizations
- Additional \$8,500 from each town supported the Unified Trailhead Kiosk and Mapping Project, for a total of \$25,500.
- \$4,500 retained by MRVRD for Mad River Park expenses





# MAD RIVER VALLEY RECREATION DISTRICT

## **Couples Club** **Amount Received: \$3,000**

- Privately owned fields used for softball & baseball leagues
- 75 years in operation!
- Operational expenses: mowing, electricity, maintenance
- Annual budget \$10,000





# MAD RIVER VALLEY RECREATION DISTRICT

## Mad River Little League Amount Received: \$2,500

- Non-profit organization operating since 1960
- Purchased new bats to be in compliance with Little League safety specifications
- Formed Youth Softball league & funded initial equipment purchase
- Resurfaced fields with new infield mix



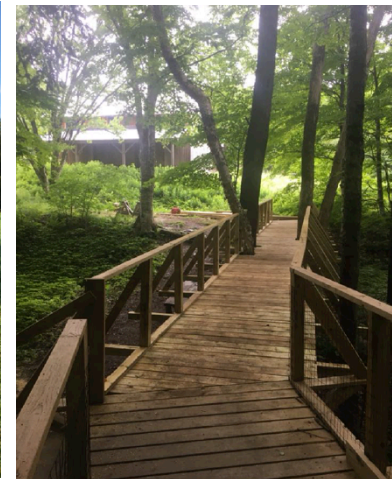


# MAD RIVER VALLEY RECREATION DISTRICT

## Mad River Path

**Amount Received: \$8,500**

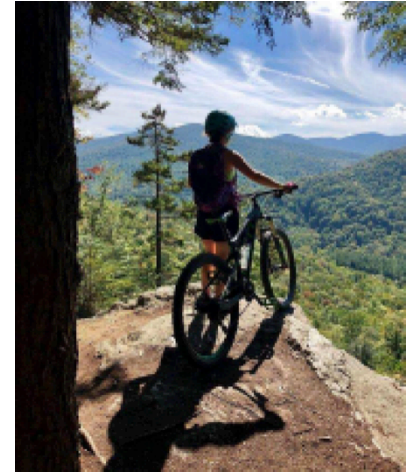
- **Mowing & Maintenance**
- **Construction of Hosford Heart of the Valley Project / Maple Tree Walk in Irasville.**
- **Construction of New “Skybridge” ramp at McCullough Barn in Fayston’s Chase Brook Town Forest**
- **Removal of old footbridge downstream from McCullough Bridge**
- **Construction of five memorial benches in Mad River Park (Mad River Park funded materials)**



## **Mad River Riders**

**Amount Received: \$17,000**

- non-profit organization managing +/-45 miles of multi-use trails
- Completed new loop at Blueberry Lake- “Amenta’s Way”
- Evolution Trail II- extension underway in Camel’s Hump State Forest- (trail clearing & design, permitting complete)
- Trail Improvements & Reroutes & Planning underway
- Operated Rippers youth mountain bike program weekly in summer





# MAD RIVER VALLEY RECREATION DISTRICT

## Mad River Ridge Runners

Amount Received: \$1,128

- MRRR is a non-profit local chapter of VAST, operating since 1968
- Maintain snowmobile trails on 84 miles in the MRV.
- Purchased signs, tools, & protective equipment needed to maintain & create new trails.





# MAD RIVER VALLEY

## RECREATION DISTRICT

### Skatium

**Amount Received: \$4,108**

- 26 seasons in operation
- Purchased battery, marble dust, & new dasher boards.
- Installed new light bulbs
- Supported rink work such as cutting brush.





# MAD RIVER VALLEY RECREATION DISTRICT

## Warren Skatepark Amount Received: \$2,000

- The Warren Skatepark is a non-profit organization which has expanded the skatepark at Brooks Field.
- Park provides skateboarding opportunities for youth & families & has become a regional destination.
- Funding used to purchase materials from Allen Lumber
- Completed with donated funds and labor





## **Mad River Park Recreation Fields**

**Amount Received: \$4,500**

- In 2018, completed permitting & construction oversight of memorial pavilion, kiosk storage shed & new MR Path w/ benches
- Field improvements & maintenance
- Permitting & management of tax, insurance, parking enforcement & regulatory issues
- Partnered with Mad River Path, Mad River Valley Soccer Association, Mad River Valley Youth Lacrosse, Mad River Valley Planning District, Mad River Trail Collaborative

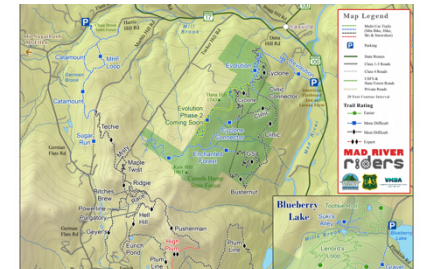
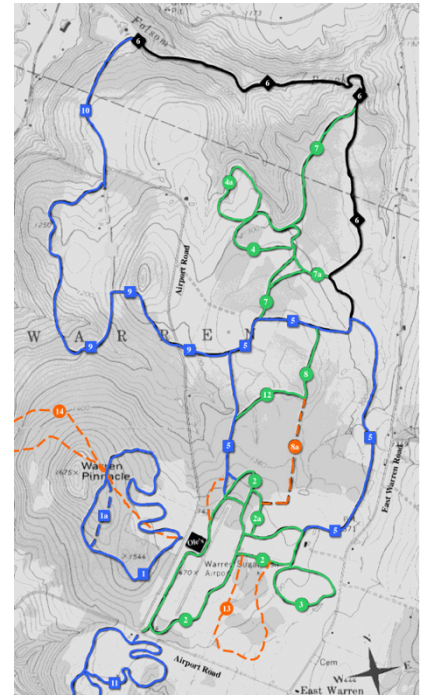
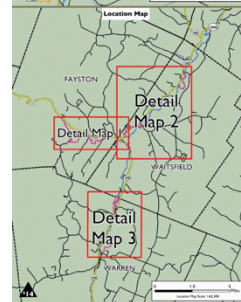
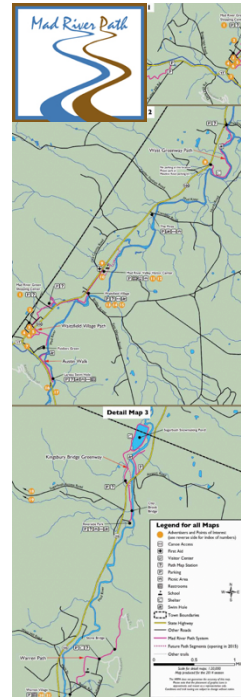




# MAD RIVER VALLEY RECREATION DISTRICT

## Trails in the Mad River Valley

- **+100 miles of trails in the MRV, on private and public lands, managed by many stakeholders**
  - Towns
  - Conservation Commissions
  - Mad River Path Association
  - Mad River Riders
  - Catamount Trail Association
  - Mad River Ridge Runners
  - Blueberry Lake
  - Ole's
  - Sugarbush
- **Mad River Valley Trails Collaborative provides forum for cooperative initiatives**
- **Mad River Moves study provided framework for future goals and projects**





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## **Unified Trailhead Kiosk & Mapping Project**

**Received \$25,500 in one-time town funds (\$8,500 per town, in 2018)**

- **Mad River Valley Trail Collaborative to unify & increase public access to the MRV's trail network**
- **MRVRD acting as fiscal agent, MRVDP project manager**
- **Establishing 53 trailhead kiosks & signs at entry points across the Valley**
- **Will be accompanied by new map**
- **MRVDP secured \$33,500 from two state grants to complete project in 2019**



# MAD RIVER VALLEY RECREATION DISTRICT

## 2018 Financial Report

### Kiosk Project

<b>Income</b>	\$25,500
Expenditures	
6/18	\$324
7/30	\$1,925
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$2,249</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$23,251</b>

### Mad River Valley Recreation

<b>Beginning Balance (Jan 1, 2018)</b>	\$53,212
<b>Income</b>	
Funding from Towns	
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Couples Club	\$3,000
Mad River Little League	\$2,500
Mad River Park	\$4,500
Mad River Path	\$8,500
Mad River Riders	\$17,000
Mad River Ridge Runners	\$1,128
Membership (VRPA)	\$110
Skatium	\$4,108
Stamps, Fees, etc	\$50
Strategic Plan	\$7,500
Warren SkatePark	\$2,000
Website	\$216
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$50,612</b>
<b>Ending Balance (November 1, 2018)</b>	<b>\$2,600</b>
<b>Requested Grants for 2019</b>	<b>\$118,000</b>

### Mad River Park

<b>Beginning Balance (Jan 1, 2018)</b>	\$16,695
<b>Income</b>	
Funding from Towns	\$4,500
Moretown Contribution	\$1,500
Donations	\$10,886
Soccer Camps	\$370
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$17,256</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
Benches	\$532
Equipment	\$69
Insurance	\$1,115
Legal Fees - tax issue	\$4,752
Mowing	\$3,204
Pavillion	\$15,550
Permits	\$840
Signs	\$450
Supplies	\$305
Misc	\$16
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$26,833</b>
<b>Ending Balance (October 18, 2018)</b>	<b>\$7,118</b>



# MAD RIVER VALLEY

## RECREATION DISTRICT

### Events, Programming & Needs Assessment

#### **2018 Accomplishments**

- Increased social media presence to provide information to community & promote local recreation events
- Hosted Dedication for Mad River Path & memorial Pavilion at Mad River Park

#### **2019 Objectives**

- Improve website to be clearinghouse for recreation information
- Conduct additional needs assessment with recreation stakeholders
- Develop metrics for measuring changes in recreation
- Support new events/programs which will increase access to recreation for all ages & sectors of community
- Host event celebrating & recruiting volunteers



# MAD RIVER VALLEY RECREATION DISTRICT

Grants & fundraising

## 2018 Accomplishments

- Overhauled MRVRD grant application, to increase accountability & communication & coordination with grantees, collect data
- Will submit “VOREC” grant application to VT Dept of Forest Parks & Recreation for \$xx in cooperation with MRV Trail Collaborative, MRVPD: \$20,000-\$100,000 available for pilot grant program

## 2019 Objectives

- Create grant resource list & assist/coordinate with recreation groups to seek non-municipal funding
- Solicit proposals in September 2019 for MRVRD grants.
  - \$45,000 municipal funds awarded 2018 town meeting
  - Estimate xx for grants, xx for MRVRD facility & admin expenses



# MAD RIVER VALLEY

## RECREATION DISTRICT

### **Proposed Budget - 2019** **(using funds approved town meeting day 2018)**

Town Funds	\$45,000
MRVRD- Mad River Park Expenses	
ADA Ramp	(\$8,000)
Mowing	(\$4,500)
Insurance	(\$1,300)
MRVRD- Website improvements	(\$3,000)
MRVRD- VLCT Membership	(\$600)
<hr/>	
Available Grant Funds	\$27,600
Current 2019 requests by rec groups (grant proposals)	\$118,000
<b>Shortfall</b>	<b>\$90,400</b>



## 2019 Additional Initiatives

- Complete kiosk signage project and map update
- Seek grant funds for rec projects (i.e VOREC)
- Website improvements to serve as clearinghouse for rec information
- Convene Trails Collaborative to implement Mad River Moves goals
- Conduct Needs Assessment with community and stakeholder groups
- Continue to support broad community use of Mad River Park





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## **Current Town Funding Request FY 2019-2020**

- Seeking Level Funding: \$15,000 from each town, for \$45,000 total
- Will supplement with state/private grants, capitalize on volunteerism, philanthropy & hard work of recreation groups
- Work with Selectboards to develop future funding plan





## **Future Funding Needs and Goals**

- Anticipate increasing request to Towns in 2020
- Target to fund 80% of grant requests
- Funding for capital investments in recreation- (i.e irrigation for Mad River Park or other identified community needs)
- Staff position for recreation planning, coordination and administration





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**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING RECREATION!**

**Questions or Discussion?**

