

CMC ANNOUNCES DELHI HIKING TRAILS OPENING August 30th at 2:00 p.m.

Delhi, NY: The Catskill Mountain Club will host the opening of the Delhi Hiking Trails on Saturday, August 30th at 2:00 p.m. The event is FREE and open to the public. Meet at the Immanuel Lutheran Church parking lot at 2:00 p.m. and join Catskill Mountain Club members and volunteers as they lead guided hikes on the four miles of much anticipated, newly established hiking trails.

The Delhi Trails Project was made possible by the Village of Delhi, Delaware Academy Central Schools, and the Immanuel Lutheran Church when they granted permission for the Catskill Mountain Club (CMC) to build and maintain hiking trails on village, school, and church property. The Town of Delhi supports the project by covering liability on the trails. Bassett Healthcare Network O'Connor Hospital applied for and received a grant from Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County and the Rural Health Alliance to fund trail markers, lumber, and signs. The Catskill Association to Support and Inspire (C.L.A.S.I) also made a donation for the trails and CMC is collaborating this fall with SUNY Delhi students to add trail kiosks, sign in boxes and benches to the Delhi Trails.

“The project was the result of collaboration and partnership from key community members and organizations, including Village, Town, and School boards, Immanuel Lutheran Church and O'Connor Hospital leaders. Delhi is very lucky to have dedicated and progressive community leaders who recognize the health, economic, recreational, and spiritual benefits of hiking trails located within village limits” stated Amy Beveridge, CMC Board Member.

Over four miles of intersecting trails have been constructed for this project. The Gribley Trail, a 3.08 mile route named after the beloved character in the children's novel *My Side of Mountain* which was set in Delhi NY, starts at the Sheldon Park Trailhead on Sheldon Drive in downtown Delhi. After a steep climb the trail passes through varied vegetation, offering views of the village, then descends to meet the Bulldog Run trail and ends at the Immanuel Lutheran Church Trailhead. The Bulldog Run Trail, named after Delaware Academy Central Schools' mascot, meanders the mountain side in a 2.39 mile loop, starting and ending at the Immanuel Lutheran Church Trailhead. Frightful's Fall Trail, .36 miles, connects Bulldog Run to the highest point of the Gribley Trail. Frightful's Fall Trail is named after the falcon, a second character in *My Side of the Mountain*.

Volunteers from the Catskill Mountain Club and residents of Delhi logged many hours of trail work to get these routes ready for the grand opening. The CMC extends a special thank you to: Matt Krzyston Delhi, NY resident and Town Council member for his support and muscle, Rick Roberts, Dave Krzyston, Sam Samudrala, Nick Utter, Charlie and Amy Beveridge, Ben and Ethan Moyse, Sarah Pawlikowski, and Kate Kochersberger for their work on the trail crew!

The Catskill Mountain Club is a dues based member organization relying on donations and volunteers to accomplish its mission to promote non-motorized recreational activities in the Catskill Mountain region. Membership information and CMC apparel will be available for purchase at the Delhi Trail opening. Visit www.catskillmountainclub.org for membership rates and information on other upcoming CMC sponsored events.

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