

FNRT No Longer Considering Herbicides For Rail Trail

By Lindy Heim
FNRT

After investigating how to best prohibit encroaching vegetation on the rail trail surface, consideration of herbicides has been suspended at this time in hopes that increased volunteer support will protect the trail and corridor.

The board of the Friends of the Northern Rail Trail (FNRT) received valuable feedback and opinions about spraying the trail. The FNRT wants to respect the wishes of abutters, all trail users, and the greater community. The group is committed to protecting the natural resources around the rail trail, and as we develop a long-range maintenance plan, the board's evolving strategy is to proceed with a combination of mowing, brush hogging, and using hand tools to maintain the trail – now

21 miles and growing.

The need for trail users to “adopt” a section of trail is now more important than ever.

The role of a Trail Manager (or team) would include the following:

- Monitor our signs, trail heads, drainage, problems with vegetation, improper activities, etc.
- Help identify issues or problems as well as communicate the varied uses and elements of the trail (people, history, wildlife, education, health, etc.) through photos, stories, etc.
- Keep the trail clear of branches, debris, fallen trees, trash, etc., or notify the FNRT in case of an issue too large to handle.

If you have questions or an interest in volunteering, contact the FNRT at 344-4874.

Concord Chorale Seeks Middle School Students

By Pam Brown
For the Beacon

The Concord Chorale, under the direction of Proctor Academy's choral and vocal music director Kristofer Johnson, has invited area middle school students to participate with the Chorale in its December concert in Concord.

Rehearsals with Andover students

began in late September, but it's not too late for any interested sixth- through eighth-grade students to get involved. No prior choral experience is needed – only a basic ability to sing on pitch and an interest in learning to sing choral music.

More: Pam Brown, 735-5379, Brown-Cow@musar.com

Wilmot Historical Society Releases Donald Hall DVD

By Lindy Heim
Wilmot Historical Society

The Wilmot Historical Society (WHS) has released a DVD production of renowned former United States Poet Laureate Donald Hall reading his poems and recalling life on his family farm in New Hampshire.

In co-operation with the First Congregational Church of Wilmot, UCC, and the Andover Community Access Cable TV staff, the WHS recorded Donald Hall during a program on May 8, when he shared an afternoon of poetry and personal recollections.

Just as in *A Life Together*, the award winning Bill Moyers' interview of Donald Hall and Jane Kenyon made in 1993, the latest video captures Hall's sense of humor, *joie de vivre*, and candidness.

“We are pleased to offer this recording to the public,” said Marc Davis, WHS president. “Many people worked to make this project a success. And we appreciate Mr. Hall's permission to reproduce a limited number of copies of

his presentation. Proceeds from the sale of the DVD will benefit the Wilmot Historical Society's ongoing work to collect and protect materials pertinent to Wilmot's history.”

During the program, Larry Chase of Andover took the photograph that appears on the cover of the DVD. The disc label photograph of Hall receiving the National Medal of Arts from President Obama in March was provided by Senator Jeanne Shaheen and the White House. Leslie Tuttle, a professional photographer from Wilmot, has given the WHS permission to use for publicity purposes a photo taken in front of the church that Hall attends in Danbury.

The DVD costs \$15. It is available from the Wilmot Public Library, the WHS, Morgan Hill Bookstore in New London, and online at MorganHillBookstore.com. The recording was reproduced by RC Brayshaw and Company of West Lebanon. More information is available from Lindy Heim at 526-6376 or Lindy@HeimFamily.org.

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