



Trail Blazer

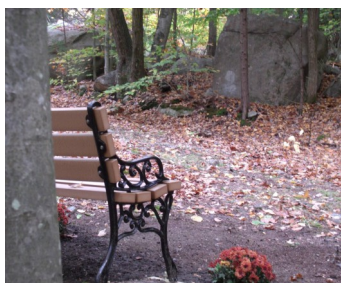
Torrington Trails Network

Volume1, Issue 2

Smell that?....It's spring!

After an oddly warm winter, spring is here. With spring come sunny days, warm temps, and being outside on our local trails.

The trails in Torrington and the surrounding Litchfield hills offer some of the best hiking and scenery nature has to offer.



The Judy Bekasi Bench at the Buttrick Trail.

Our very own Buttrick trail presents hikers with a challenging trek to beautiful vistas. Along the way hikers will encounter benches that beg you sit, relax and enjoy the scents and sounds of nature. The trail is dirt, stone and in some places can be wet.

The Sue Grossman trail offers an easy walk, run or bike ride over a paved trail. The pathway is approximately 6 miles round trip. The SG Trail is part of a rails to trails project, which follows the old rail line between Torrington and Winsted.

The next place you should visit is Sunnybrook State Park. Once an area of farms, Sunnybrook is now part of the flood control system. It offers hiking trails into the woods, or you can follow an old public road that leads you down into the dam of Sunnybrook along the Sunnybrook stream and pond. If you look closely you will see the remnants of the farm houses and driveways. A small RC plane club flies their planes in the field so you may even get a show.

No matter where you hike, walk, run or bike you are sure to enjoy the scenery and people along the way.

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And the winner is....Mark Lineham!

On March 9, 2016, TTN members attended the Northwest YMCA's Annual Meeting. The hors d'oeuvres were fabulous and the drinks were perfect. It was a night for meeting old friends and making new acquaintances...it was a great opportunity for us.

The best part of the evening was the presentation of the

Spirit Award to our very own **Mark Lineham** for his dedication to the Buttrick Trail Project. From it's inception, to obtaining grant funding onto the final jewel...the ribbon cutting and dedication, Mark was the driving force behind it. A job well done, congratulations Mark!



Earth Day 2016

Torrington Trail Network participated in Torrington's Earth Day cleanup. The group met up at Coe Park along with other enthusiastic community members. The weather, although a little wet, did nothing to dissuade the determination of responsible individuals to do their part to make both Torrington and the earth a cleaner place to live. Aside from the usual junk found we ran across the unusual...an abandoned campsite along route 8, many liquor bottles and Tom K's, whatzit. True to his usual M.O., Tom never fails to find interesting and unusual items. (Don't even get me started on farm implement obsession.) THANK YOU to all that attended.



Arts Desire

April 13, 2016 was a fun-filled night of friends, canvas and paint. TTN hosted the night as a fundraiser and it was a successful night, enjoyed by all. The subject for the night was a pathway through an autumn forest, very appropriate for us, don't ya' think? Now some of us got paint on the canvas, others on themselves but we all walked away with our own version of a Picasso (even if in our own minds) and wearing a huge smile. Mine is for sale to the highest bidder haha. If you have never painted you will certainly enjoy a night with friends and paint brushes. Everyone that attended had a great time!

And a huge THANK You to those that attended and made the night special!



4th Annual Plant Sale

On Saturday, May 21st, Torrington Trails Network will be holding its 4th Annual Plant Sale, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. We will be selling annuals, perennials, vegetable plants, flowering plants, pots, baskets and so much more. All the items are donated and are priced to sell. We will also accept donations of plants and planting materials before the sale. Please email us at ttn@nwcty.org or contact us on Face-



Pictures from the 2015 sale :)



T-shirt Sales

Torrington Trails Network wants to remind everyone that we always have T-shirts available for sale. The price is \$15.00 per shirt. Sizes range from small to 2XX. If you are interested in purchasing a shirt please see any member of the group or send an email to ttn@nwcty.org and we will get back to you as soon as possible. T-shirts are white or yellow with two different designs.



Call for Volunteers...

Call for people who love the outdoors or want to make a difference. We currently have a core of approximately 8 people, that quite honestly do it all, but we need more. We need people to attend our meetings to learn what we are all about and what they can do to help. The need for volunteers is great and you would be doing your community a huge service. The creation of hiking, walking and biking trails is an enormous undertaking. To be able to get people out to become healthier and



more active is priceless. Seeing kids and adults out everyday on the trails puts a smile on your face. But in order for us to continue to deliver the outdoors to our neighbors we need help...your help. We cherish eve-

rything people do to help our group and thank you every time. So please if you can spare a few hours each month let us know we would be very happy to have you. Also for anyone that needs to do community service work we are always available for that too!

Trails Day 2016- June 5, 2016

Calling ALL hikers! In honor of National Trails Day, Torrington Trails Network will be holding a hike on the Buttrick Trail. Everyone please arrive at the parking a few minutes early so we may start promptly at 9:00 am. This will be a moderate hike of approximately 1.3 miles. Please bring water, insect repellent and sturdy shoes. This hike has beautiful views of the valley

and the beaver pond, as well as Mother Nature herself. Bring your cameras!!

Directions: Winsted Road across from the Sue Grossman Trail parking area is where the parking lot for the Buttrick is located. Signs will be posted.



We WON'T be hiking at their pace!!

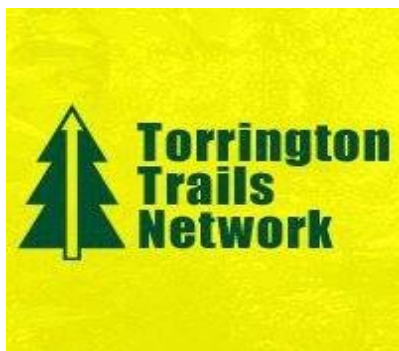
Torrington Trails Network

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Find us on Facebook!

Go take a Hike!



Torrington Trails Network is a group of civic minded outdoors people who's one goal is to create trails in and around Torrington, CT.

We love the outdoors and want to share that love with others. Aside from the obvious health benefits, hiking, walking and biking offers, being outside offers emotional well being too. When you are outside moving around all of you is happy. That is just what this world needs is more happy and healthy people.

Our meeting schedule...

Torrington Trails Network meets the second Tuesday of each month at Town Hall Room 215 at 6:00 pm. We do try to remind people on Facebook and via email, but our schedule is pretty easy one to remember.

Aside from our regular meeting schedule, we also hold exploratory hikes/walks and if you interested in those please let us know.

We have scheduled hikes and downtown walks throughout the year. My personal favorite is the Downtown Christmas walk...but I am getting waaaaaay ahead of myself here! We host public hikes/walks throughout the year and try to get the word out as much as we can. We also partner with

other organizations throughout the year to hold hikes that are themed based. For example, last year we partnered with the historical society at the John Brown Trail. We were entertained with the history of John Brown and his birth place, then hiked the beautiful property surrounding the old homestead. It was a great morning! If you have a chance hike the JB Trail., it is an easy hike for adults and children.

Jeez now that I am off point....here we go....meetings. Our meeting are announced and are at the same place and time each month unless otherwise noted. We look forward to seeing you there! New friends and old come talk with us!



LOL I am the one staring off into space...shhh...don't tell ;)

Thanks for reading another exciting and riveting newsletter. We will talk soon. **Go take a hike!**