

## Join the Friends of the Kennebec River Rail Trail

While generous private donations and government funding built the Kennebec River Rail Trail, ongoing maintenance and enhancements continue to depend on community support.

The Friends of the Kennebec River Rail Trail are people like you who enjoy the trail and want to see it grow and continue to benefit the community.

### As Friends of the KRRT, we:

- Raise funds for trail maintenance and expansion.
- Coordinate volunteers for trail maintenance, events and activities.
- Raise awareness of the benefits of the trail through public events.

### Ways to support us:

- Volunteer to help out
- Make a donation online
- Mail a check to:

**Friends of KRRT**  
**P.O. Box 2195**  
**Augusta, ME 04338-2195**

The Kennebec River Rail Trail is a 6.5-mile public path paralleling the existing rail bed along the Kennebec River from Augusta, through Hallowell and Farmingdale, to Gardiner.

The trail offers opportunities to enjoy the Kennebec River and its history, scenery and wildlife. It also provides a non-motorized alternative to commuting between our four towns and a great place to visit and make friends along the way.

The KRRT is also part of the East Coast Greenway, a 2800-mile onroad and offroad trail from Calais, Maine, to Key West, Florida.

Whether out for a Sunday stroll, taking a jog, commuting to work, or riding your bike, you will have a wonderful experience on the Kennebec River Rail Trail.

Friends of the KRRT is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization working to keep our trail beautiful.



Paintings by C. Cart

## Do you like to walk, bicycle, run, or in-line skate?

Are you looking for a way to get or stay fit, meet your neighbors on a walk, reduce use of motorized vehicles, and support local businesses?

## Then join us on the trail!

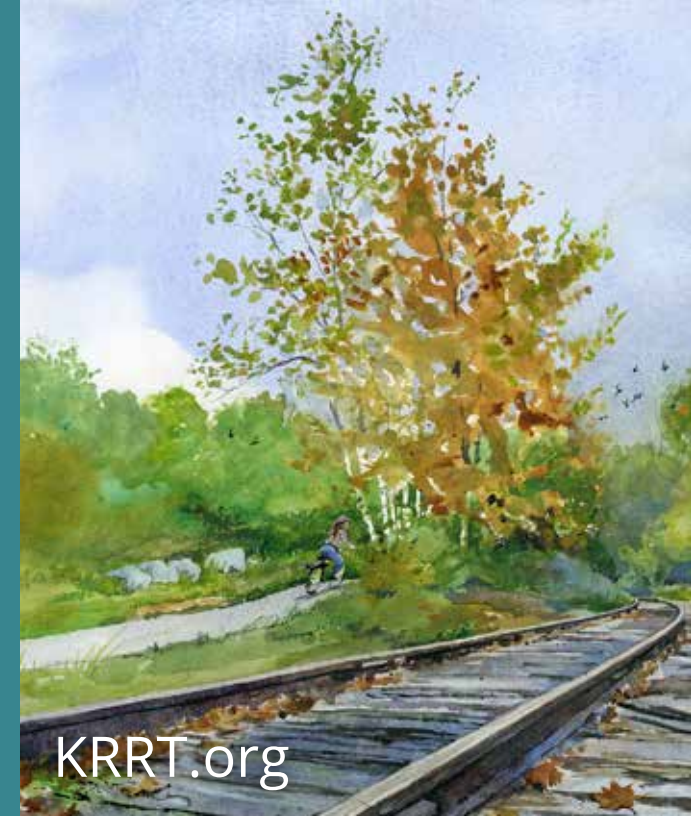
For more information, updates, and events visit our website:

[kennebecriverrailtrail.org](http://kennebecriverrailtrail.org)

[info@krrt.org](mailto:info@krrt.org)

Find us on 

Please contact us if you would like to help ensure the long-term security of the Rail Trail by making a tax-deductible cash or planned giving (e.g. via your will) gift to the FKRRT's permanent Endowment Fund.



[KRRT.org](http://KRRT.org)



**HISTORY** The Kennebec River has a long history. The Cushnoc (the native word for “head of tide”) trading post was established in 1625. One Mile Rock, seen just off the trail, has been a land and river marker for more than 400 years. Settlement began in the mid 1700’s after Old Fort Western was built. The four communities linked by our trail thrived along the river, with ship building, timber cutting, grist and saw mills, and carving granite from the hills to build many of our nations grand buildings, bridges and monuments.

**COMMUNITY** By the 1820’s Hallowell was a bustling town of 71 shops, mills, schools and churches. Augusta had split off to become its own city in 1797 and became the state capital in 1827. Gardiner’s deep waters made it important worldwide in shipping and ship building. And Farmingdale came into its own with the advent of the ice industry in the 1850’s, cutting and shipping prized Kennebec ice from our river and lakes and shipping it as far as the Caribbean.

**ENVIRONS** Since the last of the log drives in 1976 the Kennebec has become mostly a recreational river, wonderful for boating, kayaking, fishing. Today the waters are clean, good for swimming and fishing fun and habitat for the wildlife. With any trip along the river trail you can see eagles, herons, osprey, and perhaps a great leaping Atlantic sturgeon, or an early morning sighting of white tail deer. A trail stroll is a great way to see our beautiful wildlife, the flora and fauna tucked in among the four communities.

**FUTURE** Today this stretch of river, linked by our trail, is enjoying a renaissance in music, the Arts and culture, with theaters, galleries, festivals, restaurants and artisanal brew pubs that bring people from across the state. As the center of state government, the major commercial district in mid-Maine and the gateway to much of the hiking, canoeing and exploring to be found north in Maine, this Kennebec valley is a great place to explore. Our trail is part of a network of trails and carriage paths that can be strolled, hiked and biked throughout the year.