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**ASHUWILTICOOK RAIL TRAIL  
SEPTEMBER 2008 TRAIL COUNT**

**COUNT SUMMARY**

NOTE: The numbers listed below represent the total number of one way trips seen on the trail, rather than the number of individual users. Volunteers were not required to remember if they had already seen a particular user before.

**SATURDAY, September 6**

Originally, BRPC had anticipated performing a count on September 6<sup>th</sup>. Although the count was postponed due to inclement weather, one volunteer was able to collect data from 1:00 - 3:00pm at Farnam's Road in Cheshire.

**Total Volume at Farnam's Road: 70 one way trips between 1:00 – 3:00PM**

**Total Bicyclists: 45** (64% of total volume)

Number of Bicyclists not wearing helmets: 18  
Percent of Bicyclists not wearing helmets: 40%

**Total Walkers: 23** (33% of total volume)

**TUESDAY, September 9**

On Tuesday, data was collected at all three locations during the AM peak period only (7:30-9:30AM).

**Total Volume: 47 one way trips between 7:30-9:30AM**

Mall: 18 (38%), Farnam's Rd: 12 (26%), Russell Field: 17 (36%)

**Total Bicyclists: 14** (30% of total volume)

Mall: 4 (28.5%), Farnam's Rd: 5 (35.7%), Russell Field: 5 (35.7%)

Number of Bicyclists not wearing helmets: 5  
Percent of Bicyclists not wearing helmets: 35.7%

**Total Walkers: 30** (64% of total volume)

Mall: 13 (43%), Farnam's Rd: 5 (17%), Russell Field: 12 (40%)

## **SATURDAY, September 13**

On Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, data was collected at all three locations from 7:00AM to 5:00PM.

### **Total Volume: 2,344 one way trips between 7:00AM and 5:00PM**

Mall: 422 (18%), Farnam's Rd: 1300 (55%), Russell Field: 622 (27%)

### **Total Bicyclists: 988 (42% of total volume)**

Mall: 204 (20%), Farnam's Rd: 383 (39%), Russell Field: 401 (41%)

Number of Bicyclists not wearing helmets: 418

Percent of Bicyclists not wearing helmets: 42%

### **Total Walkers: 1177 (50% of total volume)**

Mall: 162 (14%), Farnam's Rd: 830 (70%), Russell Field: 185 (16%)

A note on the count from Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>: On Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, the Alzheimer's Association held a four mile Memory Walk on the Ashwillticook Trail. The event started at 9:00 at the Farnam's Road location. Participants were asked to depart from Farnam's Road anytime between 9:00 and 11:00AM. The event ended at 1:00PM. It should be noted that because of the Memory Walk, the total number of one way trips counted at Farnam's Road may be higher than what is expected on a typical day.

## **DATA SUMMARY**

### **TUESDAY, September 9**

On Tuesday, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>, the highest total number of one way trips was counted at the Berkshire Mall location (18) (38%). The lowest total number of one way trips was counted at the Farnam's Road location (12) (26%).

The highest total number of one way trips was counted between 7:30-8:30AM (39) (83%). The lowest total number of one way trips was counted between 8:30-9:30AM (8) (17%). At the Berkshire Mall location, the highest number of one way trips was counted between 7:30-8:30AM (14) (78%). The lowest number of one way trips was counted between 8:30-9:30AM (4) (22%). At the Farnam's Road location, the highest number of one way trips was counted between 7:30-8:30AM (11) (92%). The lowest number of one way trips was counted between 8:30-9:30AM (1) (8%). At the Russell Field location, the highest number of one way trips was counted between 7:30-8:30AM (14) (82%). The lowest number of one way trips was counted between 8:30-9:30AM (3) (18%).

The most popular mode of travel on Tuesday was Walking (30) (64%), followed by Bicycling (14) (30%). The least popular mode of travel for which there was at least one trip counted was "Other" (1) (2%). This was also the least popular mode of travel based on percentage. The "other" one way trip was an adult sized tricycle seen at the Farnam's Road location.

Bicyclists and skaters without helmets were categorized separately from those wearing helmets. The total number of one way trips by bicyclists with helmets was 9 (19% of total volume). The total number of one way trips by bicyclists without helmets was 5 (11% of total volume). There were no skaters documented on Tuesday.

Age estimates were documented for 46 out of the total 47 one way trips. The age group with the highest total representation was "45-64" (20) (43%). The age group with the lowest total representation was "25-44" (11) (24%).

At the Berkshire Mall location, the age group with the highest representation was “45-64” (10) (56%). The age group with the lowest representation was “25-44” (3) (17%). At the Farnam’s Road location, the age group with the highest representation was “25-44” (6) (55%). The age group with the lowest representation was “Over 65” (1) (9%). At the Russell Field location, the age group with the highest representation was “Over 65” (9) (53%). The age group with the lowest representation was “25-44” (2) (12%).

Volunteers were asked to inventory license plates whenever possible. On Tuesday, there were 9 license plates from MA inventoried.

#### SATURDAY, September 6

At the Farnam’s Road location on Saturday, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>, the highest number of one way trips was counted between 1:00-2:00PM (43) (61%). The lowest number of one way trips was counted between 2:00-3:00PM (27) (39%).

The most popular mode of travel was Bicycling (45) (64%), followed by Walking (23) (33%). The least popular mode of travel for which there was at least one trip counted was “Skater with Helmet” (1) (1%) and “Other” (1) (1%). These were also the least popular mode of travel based on percentage.

Bicyclists and skaters without helmets were categorized separately from those wearing helmets. The total number of one way trips by bicyclists with helmets was 27 (39% of total volume). The total number of one way trips by bicyclists without helmets was 18 (26% of total volume). The total number of one way trips by skaters with helmets was 1 (1%). There were no skaters without helmets documented on Saturday, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>.

Age estimates were documented for 69 out of the total 70 one way trips. The age groups with the highest total representation were “25-44” (20) (29%) and “45-64” (20) (29%). The age group with the lowest total representation was “Over 65” (3) (4%).

Volunteers were asked to inventory license plates whenever possible. There were no license plates inventoried on Saturday, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>.

#### SATURDAY, September 13

On Saturday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>, the highest total number of one way trips was counted at the Farnam’s Road location (1300) (55%). The lowest total number of one way trips was counted at the Berkshire Mall location (422) (18%).

The highest total number of one way trips was counted between 10:00-11:00AM (528) (23%). The lowest total number of one way trips was counted between 7:00-8:00AM (33) (1%). At the Berkshire Mall location, the highest number of one way trips was counted between 3:00-4:00PM (82) (19%). The lowest number of one way trips was counted between 7:00-8:00AM (10) (2%). At the Farnam’s Road location, the highest number of one way trips was counted between 10:00-11:00AM (419) (32%). The lowest number of one way trips was counted between 7:00-8:00AM (3) (0%). At the Russell Field location, the highest number of one way trips was counted between 1:00-2:00PM (101) (16%). The lowest number of one way trips was counted between 8:00-9:00AM (13) (2%).

The most popular mode of travel was Walking (1,177) (50%), followed by Bicycling (988) (42%). The least popular mode of travel for which there was at least one trip counted was “Wheel Chair or Disability” (2) (0%). A wheelchair bicycle was seen twice at the Berkshire Mall location between 11:00AM and 1:00PM. Percentage wise, the least popular modes of travel were “Skater with Helmet” (31) (1%), “Skater without Helmet” (29) (1%) and “Other” (13) (1%). “Other” one way trips included scooters, skateboards, roller skis, tricycles and big wheels.

Bicyclists and skaters without helmets were categorized separately from those wearing helmets. The total number of one way trips by bicyclists with helmets was 570 (26% of total volume). The total number of one way trips by bicyclists without helmets was 418 (18% of total volume). The total number of one way trips by skaters with helmets was (31) (1%). The total number of one way trips by skaters without helmets was (29) (1%).

Age estimates were documented for 1,755 out of the total 2,344 one way trips. The age group with the highest total representation was "25-44" (524) (30%). The age group with the lowest total representation was "Over 65" (181) (10%).

At the Berkshire Mall location, the age group with the highest representation was "25-44" (151) (38%). The age group with the lowest representation was "Under 15" (43) (11%). At the Farnam's Road location, the age group with the highest representation was "25-44" (227) (31%). The age group with the lowest representation was "16-24" (88) (12%). At the Russell Field location, the age group with the highest representation was "Under 15" (227) (37%). The age group with the lowest representation was "Over 65" (40) (6%).

Volunteers were asked to inventory license plates whenever possible. On Saturday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> there were 44 license plates from MA inventoried, 4 from NY, and 2 from FL.