

The Upper Valley Trails Alliance is committed to making the outdoors available to all. We believe that access to nature is essential to individual and community health and well-being. Trails connect us to the natural world and to each other, promoting curiosity, learning, and wellness. They literally shape the way we move through the world. Therefore, it is imperative that we who do trail work make our intentions clear.

Our motto, “People, Paths, Possibilities” asserts our mission: advocating for, developing, and maintaining a regional network of paths connecting people to possibilities – *all* people, *all* possibilities.

In practice this means that we – Board, Staff, Alliance Partners, Members, Volunteers – act in ways that further diversity, equity, and inclusion. Just as nature depends upon diverse ecosystems for survival, we embrace all who seek our trails, regardless of race; ethnicity or nationality; gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation; socio-economic status; age; disability; accessibility needs; religion or worship practices; veteran or military service status; education; or political affiliation. Everyone is safe and welcome here.

Our work reflects our commitment to these ideals:

- We sustainably develop and maintain trails throughout the Upper Valley, often in underserved communities.
- We connect people to the outdoors by providing accurate information and education to all in the following ways:
 - We host [Trail Finder](#): a FREE, comprehensive trail database with 700+ trail systems and 2,000 individual trails in Vermont/New Hampshire.
 - We strive to combat “[nature-deficit-disorder](#)” by connecting elementary age children and their families to the outdoors through the [Passport to Winter Fun](#) program. With 31 schools and 32 home-school groups currently, *Passport* has reached more than 50,000 children and their families in the last decade.
 - We inspire a rising generation of trail stewards through the [Upper Valley High School Trail Corps](#) program, fielding five trail crews every summer.
 - We supply equipment and consulting services through [organizational membership](#) and access to our [lending toolshed](#).
- Wherever possible, we construct trails that are accessible to all users regardless of experience or physical limitations.
- We partner with people and organizations who share our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.