**Fall, 2015 CHNSA Newsletter**

Greetings Friends of Camel’s Hump,

It’s that time of year again for us to share with you an update on what’s been happening up here in the hills. We’ve been busy as always…trail repairs, new projects in the works, and a **fun fall trail walk/run/bike ride** **with** **picnic and live music**, which we’d like to re-create next year to provide skiers a window into off season activities. We’re also pleased to announce that we’ve recently applied for membership with the non-profit, **1% For the Planet <**[**www.onepercentfortheplanet.org**](http://www.onepercentfortheplanet.org/) **>.**

Heavy spring rains again this year challenged us to **prioritize repairs ahead of new trail projects**. We’ve continued to replace vulnerable culverts with sturdy bridges designed to cope with higher volumes of water. Last year four bridges went in, and this year volunteers constructed new bridges which we recently installed at five key spots on Dead River Run, at the bottom of Jackrabbit, and on lower Marijke’s Mainline. Other culverts had to be unplugged and some erosion damage repaired. In the process, we have widened trails in a few spots and continued to improve drainage.

Still, we have made progress with interesting **new trail development**. The Huntington Conservation Commission has been supportive of a new trail linking Crow’s Foot to Lion’s Ridge, so that is in the works this Fall. The cutting and re-routing of Woodchuck Ramble has started as well, with renovation to follow next summer, and we’re still hoping to finish links from Dead River Run to Crow’s Foot next summer. Finally, a major bridge crossing is slated for this fall setting the stage for a collaboration next summer with Vermont FP&R and two private landowners to extend Big Baldy up to Bald Hill and some amazing backcountry skiing.

Then there is the **issue of dogs** on the trails, which we have discussed at length during the off-season. We know we won’t be able to please everyone, but we’ve decided to make the dog loop available again this year. Here’s the catch…**dogs and their owners will need to be season passholders** (see enclosed membership page). We will have a colorful Velcro strip for Fido’s collar to ID him/her as a proud CHNSA member, and we’ll take it a year at a time to monitor, consider feedback, and see how it works.

CHNSA has also made the leap into the 21st century with the establishment of our very own **Facebook page.**  We’re still in the formative stage, but you can check us out and help spread the word at [www.Facebook.com/camelshumpnordicskiarea](http://www.Facebook.com/camelshumpnordicskiarea) . And our website has received a facelift thanks to emeritus board member, John Hadden.

Here’s the **Fall Calendar of Events**……

* 9am – 1pm Trail Workdays: October 24; November 1; November 7 & 8. Meet at Bert White Rd parking lot.
* Additional workdays after hunting season as needed
* Landowner Appreciation Happy Hour: November 14, 4-6pm at Windekind Farm
* Annual Meeting: December 5, 4-6pm at Windekind Farm

Please take a look at our membership application page on the back and consider a season pass and/or tax deductible donation to support our work. And keep track of us at [www.camelshumpskiers.org](http://www.camelshumpskiers.org). Thanks and happy skiing!

Dave Brautigam, President