

No Flood Damage From Storm

**Story By Larry Gomes
Pictures by Andy Thibodeau
Trail Master, Milan Trail Huggers
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Two club members conducted an inspection of the clubs off-road trails and found no damage from Monday's storm other than down trees.

Leo Couture and Andy Thibodeau used ATV's to inspect the Cedar Brook Road Trail and the new Head Pond Connector Trail. The majority of fallen trees were found on the Head Pond Connector Trail. It took the two men about 4 hours to travel the 7.5 mile length of the trail because of the amount of trees that were down.

Andy said "We removed 8 or 10 good size trees and numerous smaller trees. The trail is now open from one end to the other but we will need another 4 hour work day to get the rest of the trees removed from the ditches."

Leo remarked "In my opinion, there was little damage to the new Head Pond Connector Trail due to the excellent work done by Matt Godbout (from MG Excavating). There are few spots where the ground has settled that will require a little gravel before we open the trail next spring."

This is great news and we are very happy that our new trail survived its first real weather test.

A lot of effort went into building and installing V-shaped water diverters on the steep hills along this entire trail. The club decided to use diverters instead of water bars, because water bars tend to fill up with material and then they no longer divert water running down the trail.

On Corridor 19 south of Jericho Mt. State Park, one of the stone blocks holding up a 35' bridge was washed out due to this problem. Water coming down a steep hill skipped through several water bars that had filled with silt and came down the middle of the trail to the center of the bridge where it eroded a 5' wide hole in the trail and eventually tipped over one of the cement blocks holding up the bridge.

While there are no guarantees when it comes to dealing with these intense storms, we think that rubber diverters are one of the best washout prevention devices that are available today. They are easy to clean out and even if they have some silt built up behind them, they will still divert water to the ditches.

Our thanks go out to Andy and Leo for their work. Please consider spending a day to help us clear the rest of this trail. Contact larry@twolakeslodge.com if you can help.



A group of large trees blocking the trail.



Some of the trees that still need to be cleared from the ditches on the side of the trail.



The extra-large 36" culvert donated by the NH ATV Club is doing its job.



Some of the smaller trees that were cleared from the trail.



This section of Head Pond Road has wetlands on each side of the road and it always floods in heavy rain events. After a few days, the water subsides and the road is usually left undamaged.



**One small washout on the existing gravel road leading up to Rt. 110B.
This will be easily fixed next spring before the trail opens.**