## **PRESS RELEASE**

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For more information, see <a href="https://www.GoffstownRailTrail.org">www.GoffstownRailTrail.org</a>

## **Granite State Wheelmen Award Grant to Goffstown Rail Trail Goffstown, NH**

The Friends of the Goffstown Rail Trail is one of ten rail trail organizations that received a 2010 grant from the Granite State Wheelmen bicycling club. GSW President Bill Kennedy awarded a \$2500 check to each of the organizations at a ceremony and reception in Concord on July 29<sup>th</sup>. Grants were also awarded to rail trail organizations in Derry, Salem, Londonderry, Milford, Keene, Windham, Laconia, Merrimack County, and the seacoast region.

The Friends of the Goffstown Rail Trail will use the grant funds to make drainage and surface improvements along a short segment between the trail's western Mast Road crossing and Tatro Drive. This area currently has an uneven surface, and collects water for long periods of time. FGRT volunteers began preparing the area during the monthly trail work day on July 17<sup>th</sup>, and will continue at the August 21<sup>st</sup> work session. (Interested volunteers should visit the FGRT website for more information.) Once this preliminary work is finished, a contractor will be hired to perform grading work.

The Goffstown Rail Trail follows the former Boston & Maine railroad right-of-way from the Piscataquog River near Main Street in Goffstown village, through Grasmere and Pinardville, to the Manchester city line. It runs roughly parallel to Mast Road and the Piscataquog River, and is approximately 5-1/2 miles long. The trail will provide a quiet, healthy, and safe non-motorized connection between many nearby neighborhoods, community facilities, and natural areas. Manchester's connecting Piscataquog Trail, which is expected to be completed next year, will continue the trail over the Merrimack River near the Fisher Cats baseball stadium.

The Granite State Wheelmen was founded in 1971, and is New England's most active recreational bicycling club. Through the dedication of many volunteers, the GSW promotes safety, education and camaraderie. More information is available at <a href="https://www.GraniteStateWheelmen.org">www.GraniteStateWheelmen.org</a>.

More information on the Goffstown Rail Trail and the Friends of the Goffstown Rail Trail is available at <a href="https://www.GoffstownRailTrail.org">www.GoffstownRailTrail.org</a>.