The D & H Rail Trail is a 19.8-mile rail trail that traverses two non-contiguous sections of the former Washington Branch of the Delaware and Hudson Railroad. The trail is managed and maintained by the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation as a multiple-use trail.

History of the Delaware & Hudson Railroad

The D & H Railway still exists to this day, acting as a multi-use trail open year-round. The trains moved tons of roofing slate from quarries during the 19th century, running the “slate picker,” through the 20th century. To request this publication in Braille or alternate visual format, please contact the Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation at 271 N. Main St, Suite 215, Rutland, VT 05701 (802) 786-0060 www.vtstateparks.com www.rrtp.org

Welcome to the D & H Rail Trail

The D & H Rail Trail is a multiple use trail open to pedestrians, bicyclists and horse riders in the summer and snowshoers, skiers and snowmobilers during the winter. Snowmobiling is the only authorized motorized use of the trail; state registration and VAST membership requirements must be followed when operating on the trail. The trail has a speed limit of 35 mph.

The trail consists of the original cinder rail bed ballast, gravel and stone. In some places the cinder sections can be soft and may pose a challenge to road bicyclists. The trail is better suited to hybrid and mountain bikes. For foot travel, the trail is well suited to people of all ages and abilities due to its wide, level and stable base.

The D & H Rail Trail encompasses the trail sections only in Vermont. Even though the original rail line extended into New York, and weaved back and forth between the two states several times, some sections of trail in New York have reverted back to private ownership and are not open to public use. Please respect private property in both New York and Vermont, and access the trail only at the designated trailheads.

Trail Use Guidelines

Stay on the trail: Please respect the private property of adjacent landowners. Leaving the trail may constitute trespassing on private property.

Yield the right-of-way: When approaching oncoming trail users, always move to your right. When overtaking slower moving users, announce your intentions and pass on the left.

Stop at all road crossings: Trail users must stop and yield to traffic at all intersections with public highways. There are 16 intersections with public roads; please use extreme caution when proceeding.

Appropriate gear: Wear clothing and protective equipment matched to the activity you pursue. Helmets are strongly recommended for bicycling, horseback riding and snowmobiling.

Watch for obstacles: You may encounter natural obstructions such as fallen trees, roots, washouts or wildlife.

Trail surface: Care should be taken when approaching bridges as there is normally a small transition between the cinder or gravel trail tread and the bridge abutment. The trail has several different types of tread material; some sections may be softer than others.

Pets: Pets are welcome on the trail but must be under owner’s control at all times. Dogs should be kept on a leash for their own protection as well as other users and wildlife.

Please do not litter.

For more information, contact: Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation 271 N. Main St, Suite 215 Rutland, VT 05701 (802) 786-0060 www.vtstateparks.com www.vtfrp.org

Welcome to the D & H Rail Trail

Multi-Use Trail Open Year-Round

Bicycling
Walking & Jogging
Horseback Riding
Snowmobiling
Snowshoeing
Cross-Country Skiing

AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation

To request this publication in Braille or alternate visual format, please contact parks@vermont.gov VT TDD Relay Dial 7-1-1 Printed on recycled paper ERP - 01/2011