

# FRIENDS OF CONSTITUTION PARK OSSIPEE PROSPECTUS - 2023/2024 -



Our mission is to develop, promote, and sustain Constitution Park's recreational and educational offerings for Ossipee and the surrounding communities.

*Written By*  
Friends of Constitution Park

505 Route 25  
Ossipee, NH 03814

# INTRODUCTION

In the heart of Ossipee, NH, a diverse yet economically challenged community with a population ~ 4,450, a transformative movement is underway. Meet the Friends of Constitution Park, Ossipee (FCPO). FCPO is the driving force behind the revitalization of Constitution Park (The Park), which offers numerous age-friendly recreational and educational opportunities, including a dog park, walking nature trails, disc golf course, playground, ball fields, tennis and pickleball courts, and picnic pavilion.



## BUILDING COMMUNITY... ...BRIDGING GAPS

Led by FCPO and its inclusive approach to community-building, The Park is emerging as a vibrant 'third space,' a hub of community engagement previously unseen in this region. Citizens are not just spectators, as they actively contribute and take ownership of ongoing renovations. Despite ageism and financial hardships, this amazing community of Ossipee, NH is finding new hope and unity through this much-needed recreational area.



# ABOUT FCPO

From October 2021 through June 2023, FCPO, all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, achieved remarkable milestones, transforming a decades-old and underutilized park into a vibrant hub with numerous age-friendly recreational opportunities.



## Highlights

In 2021, our dedicated volunteers worked tirelessly to revitalize the existing 2-mile walking trail network, breathing new life into a previously dilapidated space. Thanks to an AARP grant and generous community support, we successfully opened a 9-hole disc golf course and built a pavilion—all of which can be enjoyed by people of all ages.

We have forged strong relationships with local businesses and individuals who have contributed more than \$150,000 in monetary and in-kind donations. With a total of 3,870 volunteer hours invested in maintaining the park, we have created a welcoming space that has already welcomed 3,000+ visitors.



# AWARDS

We are so grateful for the recognition we have received for our efforts, some of which include the following awards.

- 1) Ossipee Economic Development Council - 2022 Community Spirit Award
- 2) NH Parks and Recreation Program- High Five Award
- 3) Greater Ossipee Chamber of Commerce- 2023 Business of the Year Award

# TESTIMONIALS



“We are grateful for the leadership, innovation and energy FCPO have brought to the community and we look forward to further partnership and support as they rebuild the boardwalk trail that will enable visitors of all ages and abilities to access and enjoy this special place.”

- Matt Howe, Executive Director,  
Green Mountain Conservation Group

“Caregivers will have an outdoor space to safely bring those they care for to enjoy. Those needing some form of wheels to move will have a trail to accommodate them.”

- Marianne Jackson, Executive Director, Gibson Center



# DEER RUN ALL-ACCESSIBLE TRAIL CAMPAIGN

There is still work to be done, as The Park does not yet feature an accessible trail for people with mobility challenges and/or families with strollers—a need that can be met through the Deer Run All-Accessible Trail Campaign.

The mission of this campaign is “to further develop a more comprehensive, inclusive, and interactive trail system for Constitution Park in Ossipee, New Hampshire.”



Once considered ADA compliant in 1995, this trail now sits overgrown and unsafe. With a median age of 54.6, Ossipee is in dire need for an accessible, recreational gathering space that bridges gaps in age and economics.

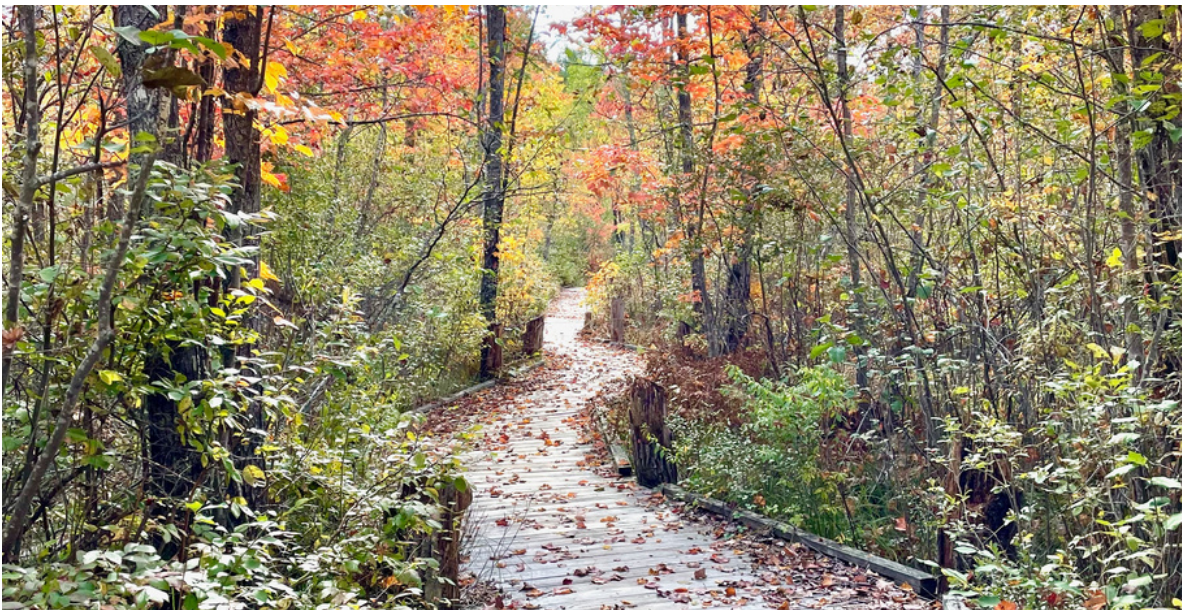
The objective behind the campaign is to restore the Deer Run Boardwalk Trail, a .23 mile trail in The Park that has fallen into disrepair. Meandering through woodlands and wetlands, this trail features a large number of flora and fauna, glacial eskers, bogs and rare plants, and a wide variety of animals and wildlife.



# PROJECT GOALS

The goals of the Deer Run Boardwalk Trail Campaign include:

- 1) Restore Deer Run as an accessible trail for all people, including those with mobility issues, and
- 2) Provide the only public access by land to view Ossipee Lake, NH's 6th largest lake, for those with mobility issues.



## PROJECT SPECIFICS

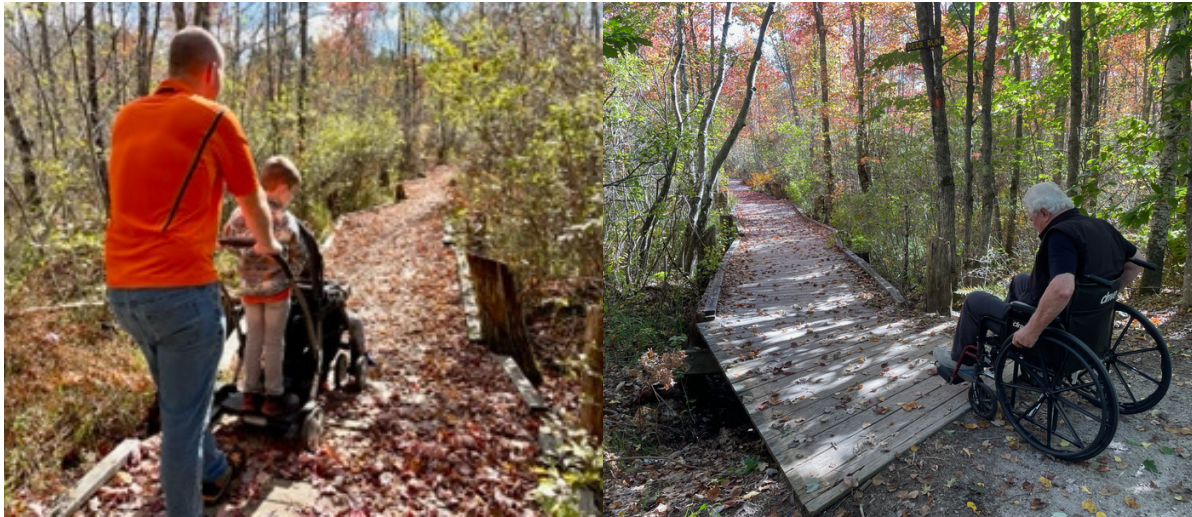
FCPO will contract with a professional trail design firm to prepare the proper grade with compacted gravel on the trail leading to and from the boardwalk section. The existing boardwalk will be replaced within the existing footprint and meet forest service accessibility guidelines for trails (based on ADA/ABA specifications). There will be appropriate rest areas along the trail with a rest area at the shore of Ossipee Lake.

The project is scheduled to begin in spring 2024 and conclude late 2025.



# PROJECT COSTS

Trail Construction phase 1.....	\$19,500
Parking lot to LS road	
Boardwalk Removal & Disposal.....	\$9,500
Boardwalk Construction.....	\$253,000
Trail Construction phase2.....	\$18,000
From LS to lake with platform	
<b>Total:</b> .....	<b>\$300,000</b>



## ANTICIPATED PROJECT FUNDING

Town of Ossipee.....	\$50,000
Grants.....	\$50,000
Corporate and individual donations.....	\$200,000
<b>Total:</b> .....	<b>\$300,000</b>



## JOIN US

With community support, FCPO plans to renovate the Deer Run Boardwalk Trail to meet Forest Service Accessibility Guidelines and align with ADA specifications. We can breathe new life into this trail, making it a source of beauty and education for people of all ages and abilities.

Together, we can create a more inclusive and vibrant Constitution Park.

## CONTACT

Edwina Boose  
[fcpossipee@gmail.com](mailto:fcpossipee@gmail.com)

PO Box 880 Center Ossipee NH 03814  
[www.fcpossipee.org](http://www.fcpossipee.org)



## THE FUTURE

The future of Ossipee is bright. Together, let's write a new and inclusive chapter in the story of this beloved town and weave a tapestry of unity, joy, and opportunity for all. Join us in this incredible journey and be a part of the wonderful changes that are taking place at The Park in Ossipee, NH.

