

You Can Help

Volunteers of the Framingham Cochituate Rail Trail Committee and the Natick Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee are working closely with the towns to design, build and maintain the trail.

But we can't do it without **YOUR** help!

We need assistance with fundraising, publicity, design, landscaping, newsletters, correspondence, promotions, community outreach, trail clean up and event planning. The support and participation of volunteers is essential for the vision of the trail to be fully realized.

To help, please email us at info@crtrail.org.



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www.CRTrail.org

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A Ribbon of Green Connecting Saxonville and Natick Center



www.CRTrail.org



Trail Benefits

A rail trail provides many opportunities for recreation and alternative transportation in a natural setting. Unlike a sidewalk, a rail trail separates people from vehicular traffic and other stressful distractions of urban areas.

A Greenway

Created by reclaiming an abandoned railroad bed

Offers attractive commuting alternatives while reducing automobile traffic

Preserves open space and offers a destination for family recreation

Makes the community a more desirable place to live, work and play

Links residential areas, open space, recreation lands, schools, retail shops, restaurants and businesses

Activities

The trail will be used for a wide range of activities including walking, running, bicycling, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. The variety of flora and fauna enhance trail activities and provide a place for nature photography and wildlife viewing.

Highlights

Much more than a linear park, the CRT will provide an attractive alternative to driving. The trail will offer easy access to businesses on Speen Street and a side trail will connect to the Natick Mall, AMC Cinemas, Logan Express, MBTA commuter bus station and Shopper's World using the old Wonder Bread spur line.

Destinations

The village of Saxonville and Natick Center

Several area schools

Commercial office buildings and many restaurants

Residential neighborhoods

MBTA commuter rail station

Parks and recreational areas:
Cochituate State Park, Cochituate Brook Reservation, Danforth Street and Reardon ball parks, Carol Getchell Nature Trail and Pegan Cove Park

Overview

The Cochituate Rail Trail is a planned 4-mile multi-use trail extending from the Village of Saxonville in Framingham south to Natick Center.

The Framingham section begins at School Street near the Sudbury River and follows the Cochituate Brook south to Old Connecticut Path. After passing Cochituate Brook Reservation, the trail passes under the Mass Pike and the exit 13 ramp, continuing to Route 30 between TJX and Home Depot.

In Natick, the CRT continues on the west side of Cochituate State Park, travels south along the shores of Lake Cochituate, and passes over Route 9 on an existing railroad bridge. The trail links to Pegan Cove Park and arrives at the Natick Center MBTA commuter rail station.

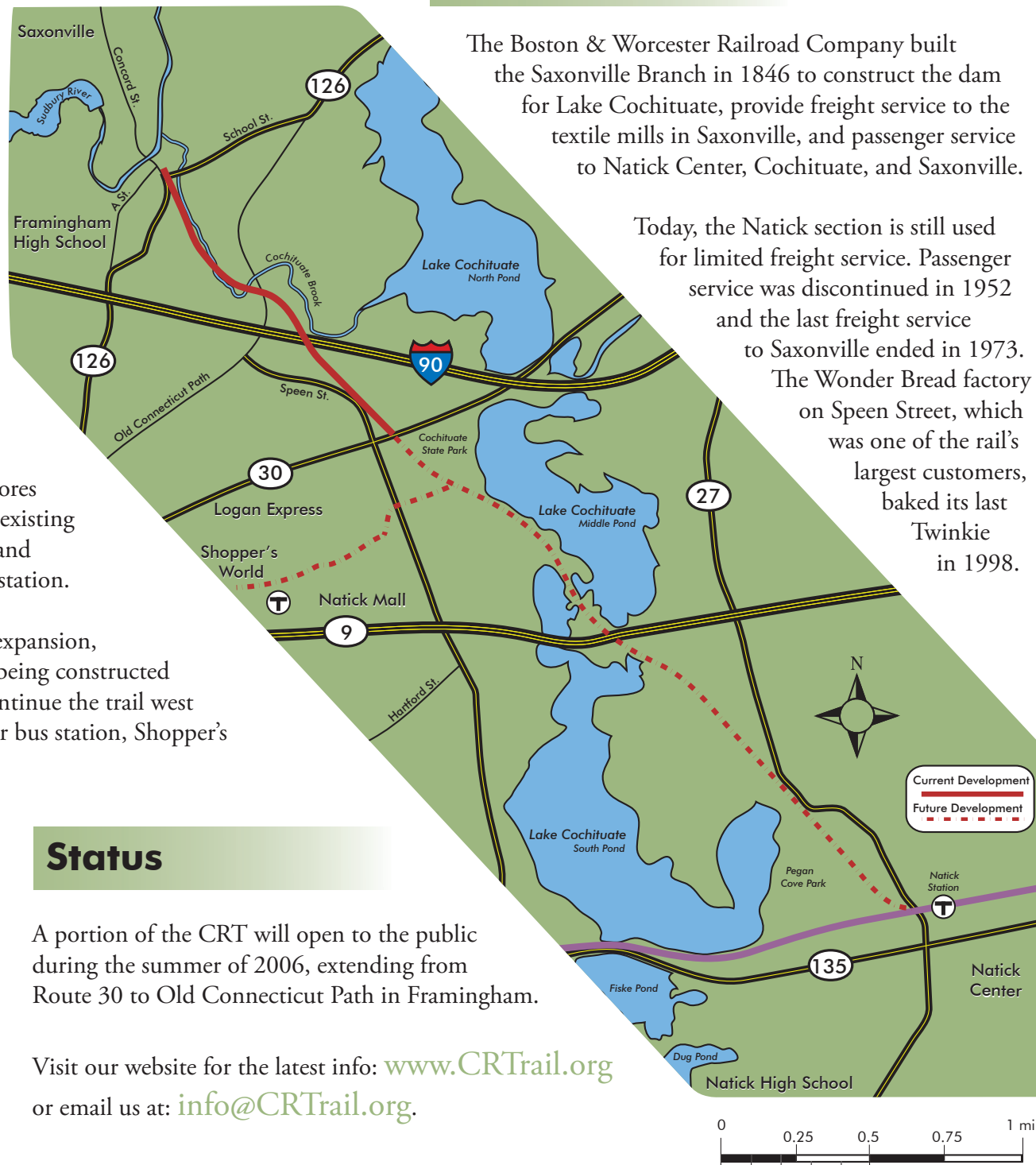
The CRT is being integrated into the Natick Mall expansion, which will include new retail and residential space being constructed on the old Wonder Bread property. Plans are to continue the trail west from the Mall to AMC Cinemas, MBTA commuter bus station, Shopper's World, and Logan Express.



History

The Boston & Worcester Railroad Company built the Saxonville Branch in 1846 to construct the dam for Lake Cochituate, provide freight service to the textile mills in Saxonville, and passenger service to Natick Center, Cochituate, and Saxonville.

Today, the Natick section is still used for limited freight service. Passenger service was discontinued in 1952 and the last freight service to Saxonville ended in 1973. The Wonder Bread factory on Speen Street, which was one of the rail's largest customers, baked its last Twinkie in 1998.



Status

A portion of the CRT will open to the public during the summer of 2006, extending from Route 30 to Old Connecticut Path in Framingham.

Visit our website for the latest info: www.CRTrail.org or email us at: info@CRTrail.org.

Join the CRT

Help to complete the Cochituate Rail Trail by signing up as a supporter today!

Name

Address

Phone

email

By joining our email list you will get news of the CRT's development, clean-up notices and other trail activities. Your information will not be distributed to any third parties.

Please detach and send to:

Cochituate Rail Trail
c/o Friends of Saxonville
PO Box 3236
Saxonville, MA 01701-3236

Contributions

- \$25
- \$100
- Other
- \$50
- \$250

Your tax deductible contribution will help develop, promote and maintain the CRT. Make checks payable to Friends of Saxonville.

Friends of Saxonville is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.