

Lareau Swim Hole

StewardMRV

Site Stewardship Plan - 2021

Site:

Lareau Swim Hole

Location & Description:

Waitsfield - 44.175041, -72.833101

Introduction

This popular recreational access point is a prime river access with a large lawn area. There is a large, exposed rock outcropping across the river on the east side bank. This ledge is used as a destination for swimmers and divers. There is an unofficial trail leading from the east bank up to the Wu Ledges parcel. This is one of the stewardMRV flagships sites.

Ownership:

- Owner
 - Town of Waitsfield
- Contact
 - Annie Decker-Dell'Isola, Waitsfield Town Administrator

Current Site Use & Parking

Municipal park and parking lot Two trash receptacles, river access, Mad River Path segment (Austin Walk Trail), trailhead kiosk, porta potties (seasonal).

Stewardship Management Issues

High level of use, resulting in parking crunch at high use times. Trash/debris left on site, cleanliness of portalets, use of non-designated trails to access the river north of proper access.

Signage

There is a MRV Unified Trailhead Kiosk located at the south end of the parking lot on the lawn leading to the beach/river access.

Dog waste station & signage

Trails

The Mad River Path Austin Walk section starts at the north end of the parking lot and travels through a forested area, loops around a former pasture (where a floodplain forest is being reestablished), and reaches the banks of the Mad River before returning. It is an easy and wide path.

Restroom Facilities

Over the past few years the Town of Waitsfield paid for the rental and servicing of a single Portalet located at the southern end of the parking lot. It had been serviced once a week and it was not meeting the traffic needs of the site

For the summer of 2021 stewardMRV funds will allow for the additional rental of a second (ADA compliant) portalet along with the construction of a wooden screening structure that will house both portalets as well as the trash receptacles. The program funding will pay for the construction materials while the construction labor will be donated by Mad River Path volunteers. See attached design drawing.

In addition to adding the second portalet, funding will be spent on adding a second additional weekly servicing for the portalets. The schedule will be dictated by the operational plans of the vendor, Wind River (formerly Hartigan).

Refuse Plan

Over the past few years there were two trash receptacles in Lovett Park. There was not a designated recycling receptacle which is required by [VT law](#). These two trash cans were emptied once per week by the Town of Waitsfield's road crew. For the summer of 2021 stewardMRV funds will allow for the addition of "recycling" signage to as to retrofit one of the cans - resulting in one trash and one recycling container. In addition, creation of some sort of lids for each container (they are currently open tops, which allow them to fill with rain).

There were also two additional stand-alone trash cans located in the Bridge Street Marketplace parking lot. These trash cans were emptied once per week by the Town of Waitsfield's road crew. For the summer of 2021 stewardMRV funds will allow for the addition of one set of dedicated trash and recycling receptacles in the parking lot area replacing the existing stand-alone cans. They will be securely housed in the wooden screening structure that will also encompass the portalets.

The program funding will be paying for trash and recycling collection to be performed by A&J Recycling, a local trash hauler. They are scheduled to pick up three times per week. As the season progresses, will explore amendments to this schedule (could be more or less).

Trash & Recycling Pick-up Schedule

3X per week: Monday, Wednesday (prior to Round Up Event), Friday (prior to weekend)

Dog Poop Bag Dispenser

The Mad River Path has installed and maintained a bag dispenser. The stewardMRV program will fund additional signage regarding the dog poop waste issue on this site and fold it into an on-going community-wide public information campaign.

Refill dispenser weekly(?)

Parking Plan

Status - Limited parking on busy days

Safety & Liability

Improper River Access

Current Situation(?)

Water Quality Testing & Public Health

Friends of the Mad River performs bi-weekly testing

Friends of the Mad River checks for improper river access trends

Friends of Mad River takes note of any issues and contacts Site lead

Invasive Species

Volunteer Plan

(Multiple volunteers check the site on scheduled days including weekends and weekdays; they pick up trash, check the condition of the port-o-lets and trash cans and report any problems to _____).

Site Management Supervision

Site management will be coordinated by the stewardMRV Program Coordinator intern under the supervision of the MRV Chamber Director and the Trails Collaborative stewardMRV working committee.

The stewardMRV Program Coordinator will provide several weekly site visits to ensure that the site is clean, rest rooms are serviced and trash/recycling has been picked up.

The Coordinator will recruit and manage a site volunteer.

The Coordinator will connect on a weekly basis with the Site Steward Leads and report to the various stakeholders as necessary.

The Coordinator will track data and provide reporting on trash picked, status of the site and pass along any problems/issues as needed. The Coordinator will be present at the working committee meetings for periodic reports.

Site Steward Leads – Adopt-A-Site

Site Stakeholders

MR Path, MRV Chamber of Commerce, Town of Waitsfield, Friends of the Mad River,

Adopt-A-Site Sponsor
Available

Site Notes, Recommendations & Improvements

Site Map

