

WALLINGFORD TRAILS WORK GROUP

REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2025

- Several work parties removed trail blocking tree blowdowns in the Tyler Mill Recreation Area on the Green and Purple trails.
- Trails Work Group members Doug Clark and Scott Gray successfully completed their sawyer recertification by attending a two-day training program offered by Connecticut Forrest & Park Association (CFPA). Active trained/certified sawyers are required to be properly recertified every 3 years.
- Extensive invasive plant removal continues in the Tyler Mill Recreation Area, with the focus this month on the Purple/Yellow, Blue, Blue/Black and Red south trails.

A quick year end note:

We have documented significant weather-related damage to our municipal trail systems over the past several years. With climate change the driving factor, it seems heavy rain events or extended periods of heavy rain are the natural elements that cause the most damage.

This past year was exceptionally dry compared to 2024, when an abundance of rainfall fell in our area. Recorded rainfall for 2024 was over 48", a full 4" over the mean annual. Recorded rainfall for 2025 was 18" less than the prior year, or 13" under the mean annual.

An abundance of rainfall creates extensive trail erosion, damages trail drainage systems, and compromises trees by weakening tree footings, prompting both full tree and dead limb falls. It also stresses our trail infrastructure, especially the footbridges.

We will continue to maintain and improve the Wallingford trail systems as conditions require our attention. The heightened focus we've set for improving signage and infrastructure, and especially for proper and thorough trail brushing is clearly evident to visitors within our trail systems, especially at Tyler Mill. Regular users consistently comment on these improvements, while new visitors speak highly of the quality and professionalism of our town trails.

Since the last report dated 12/7/25, a total of **90** volunteer hours have been conducted. This brings the total Trails Work Group volunteer hours for the past 12 months to **1,152**.

Scott Gray ~ 1/4/26

THE JAZZ GROUP

BY [Name]

The jazz group was formed in the year 1945. It was the first of its kind in the city. The group consisted of ten members, five of whom were students of the local university. The group was formed by a group of friends who were interested in jazz music. They had been playing jazz music for some time and decided to form a group. The group was very successful and played many gigs in the city. They were very popular and had a large following. The group was active for many years and played many gigs. They were very successful and had a large following. The group was active for many years and played many gigs. They were very successful and had a large following.

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