

3.3 PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS & STRATEGIES

1. RECREATION

Recommendation: Readfield should seek to maintain and improve existing outdoor recreation properties and expand outdoor recreation opportunities for residents, including trails development, to meet future outdoor recreation needs of the community.

Strategies

- a. The Readfield Select Board should establish a Readfield Trails Committee with involvement from Conservation Commission, Snowmobile Club, Recreation Association, School System, ATV interests and others to coordinate the planning, development, management and use of trails in town.
- b. The Readfield Trails Committee should work to create a permanent system(s) of trails throughout Readfield to accommodate a diversity of uses, including snowmobiling, hiking, bicycling, and skiing and connect key conservation lands and other key areas (e.g., schools) through landowner agreements, conservation easement donations and purchases, and purchase of conservation lands and rights-of-ways.
- c. The Readfield Trails Committee should research public rights in discontinued and abandoned roads in Readfield to determine their availability as potential trail corridors.
- d. The Readfield Recreation Association should take the lead in identifying needs for additional recreation playing fields and other active recreation facilities and putting forward a plan for how and where best to address these needs. Any site selected for new ball fields should be large enough to allow for future growth and if possible, should be centrally located with the town.
- e. The Town of Readfield should pursue opportunities for making all of the schools in town more accessible by off-road pathways that would allow for safe walking and bicycling. Two immediate opportunities are a pathway that parallels the access road to the middle and high schools and a path connecting these schools to Church Road through the Readfield Fairgrounds property.
- f. The Planning Board, Conservation Commission and Trails Committee should work with developers to incorporate trail corridors as part of their subdivision plans.

