









French River Greenway
Little River Trail
Trail Log
 Conducted on April 19, 2011



Overview: The Little River Trail runs from Dudley Road to Charlton Street in Oxford, on the rail bed of the long disused Webster Branch of the Boston-to-Albany Railroad, a distance of approximately 3000 feet. The railbed property, which is up to 80 feet wide, is now owned by National Grid. The property is bisected by the Little River at its confluence with the French River, and is adjacent to Leovich Landing owned by the Dudley Conservation Land Trust, which includes trailhead parking. For much of its length, the trail is bordered by wetlands. In most places, the tread is marked by cinders from the railbed, and has been used regularly by ATVs. Pictures were taken at high water conditions.



Dudley Road Side

Total Distance in feet	Existing Conditions Description	Potential Trail-making Actions	Estimated Equipment	Estimated Labor/Materials
0	 <p data-bbox="327 1149 842 1214">Entrance from across Dudley Road. Measurement starts at edge of pavement</p> <p data-bbox="327 1260 804 1318">Open area with stand of brush in the middle. Note poles down the left side</p>	None. This area will be left untouched, as the entrance to the trail is from Leovich Landing, which adjoins on the right.		

<p>134</p>	 <p>Jersey barriers are placed here by National Grid</p>	<p>Fence right side (partly on DCLT property) to prevent ATV's from skirting the barriers. Use 30' of barrier acceptable to National Grid and DCLT</p> 	<p>Manual post driver</p>	<p>Steel posts, 6' woven wire. 6 man-hours</p>
<p>254</p>	 <p>Looking ahead. Trail is maintained as access by National Grid. Note poles on left side</p>	<p>None</p>		
<p>335</p>	 <p>Entrance from Leovich Landing parking</p>	<p>Put up ATV protection on right side; metal posts a couple of feet apart, or use fallen logs available on site.</p> <p>French River Connection maintenance begins here</p>	<p>Manual post driver</p>	<p>Steel posts, 6 man-hours labor</p>

643	 <p>Hump in trail caused by ATVs</p>	Level out hump, save dirt to fill hole farther down the trail	Grub hoe, spade, wheelbarrow	2 man-hours
660	 <p>Power station; extent of National Grid clearing.</p>  <p>From here on to the Little River tread is approximately 6 feet wide; cinders from old railbed remain apparent.</p>	Cut back brush and limbs to keep trail clear from the ground up to 8 feet	loppers, light chain saw	4 man-hours




	 <p>Typical view of the river in this section</p>			
1041	 <p>Downed tree</p>	Remove downed tree. Protect others from beavers with woven wire as necessary	light chain saw	2 man-hours
1372	 <p>Hole in tread</p>	Use dirt from the hump at 643 feet to fill this hole	Wheelbarrow, spade, tamper	1 man-hour




				
1468		None		




Wetland opposite the river near the end of this section




End of this side at the Little River



Charlton Street Side

Total Distance in feet	Existing Conditions Description	Potential Trail-making Actions	Estimated Equipment	Estimated Labor/materials
0	 <p>Entrance from across Charlton Street. Measuring begins at the edge of the pavement</p>  <p>View from the road edge</p>	<p>Clear area of brush, demark parking area with stones.</p>  <p>Install sign similar to that at Leovich Landing</p>	<p>loppers, grub hoe, axe, come-along, rake, posthole digger, pickup truck or light dump truck</p>	<p>Prefabricated sign structure, sign face, Sakrete or equivalent, 24 man-hours</p>

<p>79</p>  <p>Existing posts 14 feet apart which once held a barrier cable. Trail ahead is overgrown with trees and brush</p>  <p>Typical river in this area</p>	<p>Restore barrier in a manner agreeable to National Grid.</p> <p>Remove approximately 15 trees and trim other trees and brush to achieve a clear 6 foot tread eight feet tall, for the next 120 feet. The largest tree is 6 inches in diameter.</p>	<p>light chain saw, loppers, grub hoe, axe, come-along, pickup truck or light dump truck, wood chipper</p>	<p>Cable and fastening hardware for barrier, 42 man-hours</p>
<p>188</p>  <p>Trail ahead is somewhat more open</p>	<p>Remove/trim brush</p>	<p>loppers, grub hoe, axe, comealong, pickup truck or light dump truck, wood chipper</p>	<p>16 man-hours</p>

				
541	<p data-bbox="323 456 726 488">Flooded area opposite the river</p>  <p data-bbox="323 850 848 992">Trail ahead is not clear on the ground, as ATV's skirt it to the right. It contains standing trees, downed trees, and brush for the next 180 feet</p>  <p data-bbox="323 1391 858 1417">Typical river at the beginning of this area</p>	<p data-bbox="884 493 1423 672">Remove approximately 11 trees and trim other trees and brush to achieve a clear 6 foot tread eight feet tall, for the next 180 feet. The largest tree is 8 inches in diameter, the others are under 6 inches.</p> <p data-bbox="884 716 1388 748">Move many downed trees off the trail.</p> <p data-bbox="884 786 1430 894">This action will straighten a “kink” in the trail which has developed at the junction of an ATV path entering from the right.</p>	<p data-bbox="1467 493 1654 781">light chain saw, loppers, grub hoe, axe, comealong, pickup truck or light dump truck, wood chipper</p>	<p data-bbox="1682 493 1864 526">32 man hours</p>

<p>708</p>	 <p>Trail ahead is mostly clear to the Little River, being an ATV path.</p>  <p>Woodland between the trail and the French River</p>	<p>Trim brush and trees to achieve the 6 foot wide, eight foot high corridor. No tree cutting is needed</p>	<p>loppers</p>	<p>4 man hours</p>
<p>1002</p>	 <p>Trail ahead is mostly clear to the Little River, being an ATV path. Cinders are evident from the railbed</p>	<p>Trim brush and trees to achieve the 6 foot wide, eight foot high corridor. No tree cutting is needed</p>	<p>loppers</p>	<p>4 man hours</p>

	 <p data-bbox="327 496 785 561">Wetlands bordering the Little River opposite the French</p>			
1499	 <p data-bbox="327 927 764 951">End of this side at the Little River</p>	None		