

Fairfield County

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The riding season is off to a great start here in Fairfield County! There were plenty of trail projects, group rides, and races for the kids.

We completed several high-priority trail projects.

1. Wilton Town Forest (Wilton Woods): we completed the reroute to stop erosion - including moving a heavy bridge upstream to a new, more sustainable location.
2. Mianus River Park in Stamford: completed two major projects: a reroute to stop erosion on the Indian Rock Trail in May, and in June, as part of National Trails Day, we added ½ mile of single-track flow trail to the popular Swingset trail. We had more than 40 people show at our National Trail Day event, and the new trail is getting great reviews! Thanks especially to the Cannondale Bicycle Corporation for their team's help at this



Trail Crew at Wilton Woods. Photo by John Sweeney



FC CCAP racers at Winding Trails in Newington. Photo by Monika Stokes



Moving a bridge at Wilton Woods.
Photo by John Sweeney

event.

3. Troutbrook River Valley Preserve: Ryan completed a project with the Boy Scouts to reroute a trail away from a residence.
4. Hemlock Hills in Ridgefield: Completed a joint project with the Boy Scouts to improve, reroute and blaze an old hunting trail. After more than a year of effort, the "Out of Nowhere" trail is now officially open! Thanks to John, Ray, and Rich for spearheading this effort.
5. Bennett's Pond State Park: brush cutting and water re-route on the trail we often use to return to the parking lot - partially completed. There's always more work to do at Bennett's!

We're taking our summer break from big projects - will start again in the Fall. Follow us for the latest at facebook.com/groups/fcncmba.

Our Sunday morning rides continue and have been well attended by advanced and social riders alike.

Check our FB page for locations and wheels-down times.

The CCAP Fairfield County Youth Cycling team has been busy riding, racing and giving back. We taught young kids to ride at Norwalk and Wilton Bike Rodeos, and our racers learned to how to build new trails safely and properly at Mianus on National Trails Day.

On the advocacy front, we started seeing more e-bikes on our local trails this Spring. We've done what we can to educate the public, bike shops, and our members but it's still pretty clear from parking-lot conversations, that many riders do not know their e-bikes are not allowed on the hand-built single-track we maintain. This is an increasing challenge for us as full suspension e-bikes become more popular and affordable.

--Mike Malwitz

