



# Kirkland Trails, Inc.

P.O. Box 86, Clinton, NY 13323

April 1, 2026

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Dear Neighbor:

A big red oak tree stands in front of Clinton Central Schools at the corner of College Street and Chenango Avenue. Its acorn probably sprouted during the latter years of the Chenango Canal (1836-1878) then it lived throughout the history of the O&W Railroad (1869-1957). Both the canal and railroad passed by our tree carrying coal north from Binghamton and farm and other products south from Utica.

Kirkland Trails began in 2018 with an acorn of an idea – build a continuous multi-use trail along those corridors from Deansboro north through Clinton to both New Hartford and Clark Mills. Our acorn can only fully grow with member support and with state and local government involvement. Please help us keep it growing - donate and become a member.

Kirkland Trails, Inc. is an all-volunteer non-profit organization, so virtually all donations directly fund trail development. Read on the back of this letter how Kirkland Trails has grown through our partnerships with both the Town of Kirkland and the Village of Clinton and how New York State has played a key role.

Your membership and contribution to Kirkland Trails are critical. Without your membership we can't effectively make the case for the Kirkland Trail. We need your contribution to pay the local share required to secure the grants needed.

With your support, that oak tree will once again stand by an active transportation corridor, namely the Kirkland Trail, stretching across our community.

Sincerely,

Chip Bassett, President

Jim Bramley, Vice President

NAME (S) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

*receipt sent via email unless paper receipt requested*

I wish to be a Volunteer

### Support Kirkland Trails

[kirklandnytrails.org](http://kirklandnytrails.org)

Trailblazer  
Up to \$99

Bronze  
\$100 - \$249

Silver  
\$250 - \$499

Gold  
\$500 & Up



*Kirkland Trails is a non-profit organization with a 501c3 status. All donations are tax deductible.*

*You can also donate your RMD (Required Minimum Distribution) from an IRA to Kirkland Trails as a tax free distribution gift.*

Here is how we are growing through our partnerships with both the Town of Kirkland and the Village of Clinton:

- In 2019 with Kirkland Trails assistance the town opened the 3-mile Kirkland Trail South Section from Deansboro to NYS Route 12B.
- In 2023 and 2024, using materials funded by Kirkland Trails, the Town Highway Department crew built-up and resurfaced the one-mile South Section Trail between Dugway Road and NYS Route 12B. They will do the same work along the railroad corridor portions of the planned North Section Trail.
- In 2024 and 2025, Kirkland Trails provided \$200,000 to the town from your contributions to secure a \$1.5 million federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant. This grant will be used to build the 2-mile Kirkland Trail North Section from the Kirkland Life Church on Kirkland Avenue to NYS Route 5 by Limberlost Road. Work is now in progress; the expected completion date is the end of 2027.
- This year we have partnered with the Village of Clinton in applying for another \$1 million TAP Grant to extend that North Section trail into the village center at Kirkland Avenue across from the Clinton Central Schools. Award announcements are expected in the fall of this year.

New York State has also played a key role:

- The NYS Department of Transportation (DOT) administers the TAP grants.
  - NYS DOT bridge engineers plan to extend our South Section trail from the trailhead at NYS Route 12B to Franklin Springs and provide a protected trail lane on a new highway bridge over Oriskany Creek. This work is also expected to be completed in 2027.
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