



# State of the Trails 2017



The approximately **81.3 miles** of the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail (FCHT) from New Haven, CT to Northampton, MA is one of the most picturesque and historic greenways in New England.

## Farmington Canal Heritage Trail

<u>Town</u>	<u>Distance</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>Remaining</u>	<u>Designed</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Note</u>
Northampton	3.5	3.5	0		100	
Easthampton	3.7	3.7	0		100	
Southampton	3.9	0	3.9	0		
Westfield	7.4	2.6	4.8		35	
Southwick	6.2	6.2	0		100	
<b>Total (MA)</b>	<b>24.7</b>	<b>15.9</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>63%</b>	
Suffield	1.2	1.2	0		100	
Granby	1.1	1.1	0		100	
East Granby	5.3	5.3	0		100	
Simsbury	7.5	7.5	0		100	
Avon	4.7	4.7	0		100	
Farmington	4.8	2.3	2.5	2.5	48	6/17
Plainville	5.0	5.0	0	0		Design
Southington	6.6	4.0	2.6	2.6	61	8/17
Cheshire	7.5	6.8	.7	.7	91	Bid
Hamden	9.5	9.5	0		100	
New Haven	3.4	1.8	1.6	1.6	47	Bid
<b>Total (CT)</b>	<b>56.6</b>	<b>44.2</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>78%</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>81.3</b>	<b>60.1</b>	<b>19.6</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>74%</b>	

*Note: 48.4 miles of the FCHT is designated as part of the 3,000-mile East Coast Greenway*

**From South to North:**  
**FARMINGTON CANAL HERITAGE TRAIL *fchtrail.org***

**New Haven (1.6/3.4 miles; 47% complete)**

- Bridges at Hillhouse Ave., Temple and Prospect Street are done.
- Section IV to Long Wharf is designed and funded. Abutting landowners have finally signed and the project will be bid by mid-year 2017. There is concern that the funding of five years ago may not cover the project, but the new cycle track just completed will be stripped out, so we may not have a shortfall.

**Hamden (9.5 miles 100% complete)**

- The tunnel under Skiff St. is done and farther north, the construction at the West Woods Road/Mt. Carmel Avenue intersection is now complete. The trail now runs farther to the west, away from Whitney Avenue.

**Cheshire (6.8/7.5 miles; 91% complete)**

- Cornwall to W. Main: CTDOT has completed preliminary design internally. Part of this work-around Dalton Industries (.67 miles) will be elevated boardwalk through the abutting swamp. Estimated to start construction in 2017, ending in early 2019.
- West Main to Jarvis: Complete early spring 2016. 1.5 miles. It includes building a pedestrian crossing with a “HAWK” beacon (pedestrian activated red) instead of a conventional traffic signal for safe passage across West Main St. by trail users.
- Southington to Jarvis: Funding is in place. Design by DOT internally, 77-space parking lot at terminus, with restrooms. Completed autumn 2016; 2.5 miles.

**Southington (4.0/6.6 miles; 61% complete)**

- Hart/Curtiss St. to Lazy Lane (SRS parcel in part): Arcadis Engineering was hired by Solvent Recovery Services to complete trail design from pavement to pavement on this “brownfield” land. Funding is in place. Expected completion in 2017. A new bridge to the south has been constructed on DEEP land.
- What was two sections have been made into one from West Queen St. across Townline Road ending 1,500 feet into Plainville. The Town has completed design of this section of trail.
- At Center Street, demolition of the Ideal Forging site has commenced. A mixed use residential, retail and parking complex is in the works, to occupy both sides of the trail. The selected consultant will also develop a preliminary design for this segment.

**Plainville (5.0; 0% Completed)**

- Plainville, through the Capital Region Council of Governments has hired VHB to finalize the route of the FCHT through the town.
- The project will be from West Queen St. in Southington to south of Northwest Dr. in Plainville, meeting the 2017 Farmington FCHT project parking lot.
- Given the absence of a traditional path for the trail along an abandoned RR right-of-way, part of the gap solution will be on-road, and must, therefore, be designed to be as attractive and safe as possible so that the route is palatable to the casual trail user as well as the serious cyclist.

**Farmington (5.0; 50% Completed)**

- The 2.5-mile section south from Red Oak Hill Road past Northwest Drive into Plainville is nearly complete, with only the 125-foot bridge over RT 6 to be completed and installed. The plans include a terminus with a 40- space parking lot and pavilion. Funding was a first for CT: a brand-new CT bonding initiative where the total cost of \$5.1 million. This is the first time in state history that the state has completely funded a section of trail without using federal money. Completion date is estimated by mid-2017.

**Avon (4.7; 100% Completed)**

- The Town is in design process for an exciting new “Town Center Plan” and the trail will run through the new area, avoiding the police station and providing a safer, easier route.

**Simsbury (7.5; 100% Completed)**

- The town has been approved for funding for the western piece of the East Coast Greenway spur from RT 315 to the parks in Tariffville and from Governors Bridge to the Bloomfield line. (Toward Hartford) Bloomfield expects to start construction of approx. 1.8 miles of their portion of the trail in 2017.

**East Granby 5.3 & Granby 1.1 (FCHT 6.4; 100% Completed)**

**Suffield (1.2; 100% Completed)**

**Southwick (6.1; 100% complete) *southwickrailtrail.org***

**Westfield (2.6/7.4 miles; 35% complete) *columbiagreenway.org***

- Phase 1 of the Columbia River Trail (1.1 miles) is complete with parking at Shaker Farms Country Club (the only at-grade crossing in town).
- Phase II involved renovation and rehabilitation of two bridges across Little River. It is now up to the Town Center and a ribbon-cutting was held in Nov. 2015. This piece ends at Stop & Shop Plaza at Main St.

**Southampton (3.9; 0% complete) *fofsg.org***

- Recent Open Space Master Plan calls for the purchase of the ROW from the Pioneer Valley RR, owned by Pinsky RR Company. Voters approved the purchase in November 2012, but negotiations drag on, luckily with funding still in place.

**Easthampton (3.7; 100% complete) *manhanrailtrail.org***

- The **Manhan Trail** is now 6 miles long and is part of the FCHT.

**Northampton (3.5; 100% complete) *fntg.net – masscentralrailtrail.org***