

Trail Development Information for Project Sponsors

The Department of Tourism, Culture and Recreation (DTCR) recognizes the valuable contribution of walking/hiking trails to tourism and active living. The DTCR has been working with various other departments to ensure that trail sponsors and funding agencies are aware of regulations and requirements related to trail development activities:

- **Crown Land** – All trails that use crown land require a Licence to Occupy (LTO). This includes trails within a municipality. We encourage you to contact your Regional Lands office to discuss registration requirements. Contact information for these offices is enclosed.
- **Liability** – Your organization is liable for safety issues related to any trails you construct or enhance. While many municipalities have liability insurance that would protect against any claims, other organizations may not. We suggest that you consider any liability issues surrounding your project and consider whether your organization needs to arrange for suitable liability insurance.
- **Signage Policy** – Your organization requires a permit from the local Government Service Centre Regional Office, Department of Government Services (Contact information for these offices is enclosed) before manufacturing and installing private signage. Permissible signs include a sign at the trailhead and off-site promotional signs in the nearest available sign corridors approaching the trail. Off-site promotional signs are limited to one on each approaching route to a maximum of four signs. Also, applications for the fingerboard signage offered by Department of Transportation and Works are available at these sites.
- **Environmental Assessments** – A provincial environmental assessment for walking trails is required when: the trail is within 200 metres of a scheduled salmon river or the trail will be more than 10 kilometres. Contact information for the Environmental Assessment offices is enclosed.
- **Water Permit** – A water permit is required from the Department of Environment and Conservation's Water Investigations Unit when construction is within 15 metres of a body of water. Contact information for the Water Resource Management offices is enclosed.
- **Trail Standards** – While no standards exist on a provincial level, groups are encouraged to engage the services of a consultant or experienced trail builder. Many provincial trails are in a state of disrepair due to improper design and construction and lack of maintenance plan.
- **Other Trail Considerations**
 - Trailhead facilities (e.g., parking, map, rest areas)
 - Directional Signage on trail (both regulatory and interpretative)
 - Permission from land owner if private property
 - Visitor information (e.g., guidebooks, maps)
 - Safety services and communications (e.g., 911 or other emergency contacts)

Department of Environment and Conservation Regional Lands Offices

Crown Lands (Administration Division)

Howley Building

P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6
Telephone: (709) 729-2654, Fax: (709) 729-0726

Eastern Regional Lands Office

2 Masonic Terrace
Clarenville, NL A5A 1N2
Telephone: (709) 466-4074, Fax: (709) 466-4070

Central Regional Lands Office

Fraser Mall, P.O. Box 2222
Gander, NL A1V 2N9
Telephone: (709) 256-1400, Fax: (709) 256-1095

Western Regional Lands Office

133 Riverside Drive,
P. O. Box 2006, Noton Building
Corner Brook, NL A2H 6J8
Telephone: (709) 637-2392, Fax: (709) 637-2905

Labrador Regional Lands Office

13 Churchill Street, Thomas Building
P. O. Box 3014, Stn. "B"
Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL A0P 1E0
Telephone: (709) 896-2488, Fax: (709) 896-9566

Government Service Centres (Signage Inquiries)

Avalon Government Services Centre

5 Mews Place, P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6
Telephone: (709) 729-3699, Fax: 709-729-7253

Central Government Service Centre

230 Airport Blvd. Fraser Mall,
P.O. Box 2222
Gander, NL A1V 2N9
Telephone (709) 256-1420; Fax (709) 256-1438

Labrador Government Services Centre

13 Churchill Street, Thomas Building
P. O. Box 3014, Stn. "B"
Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL A0P 1E0
Telephone: (709) 896-5428/5430,
Fax: (709) 896-9566

Western Government Services Centre

133 Riverside Drive
P.O. Box 2006, Noton Building
Corner Brook, NL A2H 6J8
Telephone: (709) 637-2200, Fax: 709-637-2905

Eastern Government Service Centre

2 Masonic Terrace
Clarenville, NL A5A 1N2
Telephone (709) 466-4060; Fax (709) 466-4070

Environmental Assessment Contacts

St. John's (Headquarters)

P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6
Telephone (toll-free): 1-800-563-6181
Telephone: (709) 729-4211
Fax: (709) 729-5518

Corner Brook Regional Office

P.O. Box 2006
3rd Floor, Noton Building
133 Riverside Drive
Corner Brook, NL A2H 6J8
Telephone: (709) 637-2375, Fax: 709-637-2541

Water Resources Management Contacts

St. John's (Headquarters)

Confederation Building, 4th Floor, West Block
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's NL A1B 4J6
Telephone: (709) 729-2563
Fax: (709) 729-0320

Corner Brook Regional Office

133 Riverside Drive
P.O. Box 2006, Noton Building
Corner Brook, NL A2H 6J8
Telephone: (709) 637- 2542, Fax: (709) 637-2541

Grand Falls-Windsor Regional Office

(Protected Water Supplies Only)

Provincial Building
3 Cromer Avenue
Grand Falls-Windsor NL A2A 1W9
Telephone: (709) 292-4220, Fax: (709) 292-4365