

Trail Closure Info as of July 26, 2023

Note: this information will quickly become out-of-date as trail repairs are completed and more trails open. Please refer to the webpages of the trail managing group for the latest information.

Generally, trails across the province are wet or muddy. Waters are receding. On wet trails please be careful with your footing since bridges, rocks and other surfaces could be slippery.

Please stay off trails that are closed! This is for a number of reasons: it may be unsafe; going on them may cause further damage; or you could get in the way of repair or clean up efforts. The sooner repair crews can do their work without disruption, the sooner those trails will reopen.

Some trails initially were closed after the rains have been re-opening. It's changing daily as to which trails are still closed and which are open. **The best and most up-to-date information on trails is from the body that manages the trail.** Go online and search the trail name or group name and you'll find their website or facebook page with the latest updates.

Generally speaking, the trails that were most impacted by the heavy rains and flooding are in HRM and the South Shore (Lunenburg Co. and town, Chester, Mahone Bay, Bridgewater).

We have a mix of who owns and manages trails in the province. There are trails found in municipal parks, provincial parks or national parks (managed by municipal, provincial or federal government). Then you have trails managed by volunteer run community groups. **Groups like these whose trails have seen some damage are going to need donations and warm bodies to help repair and reopen trails.**

Provincial Parks

Still assessing park infrastructure so don't have the complete picture at this time. What is known are posted as advisories on the website: <https://parks.novascotia.ca/advisories>

- Sackville lake trails were also greatly impacted, their social media provides further details
- Smileys is closed for the season - no access for any visitors at this time due to damage. (See advisory above)
- Jerry Lawrence, HRM is closed until further notice due to high water levels
- Dollar Lake Beach is closed due to a road washout and high water levels. Some trails are also flooded at Dollar Lake. The camping park is open with a few closures in loop D for road repairs
- Uisge Ban Falls provincial park is closed due to a road closure outside the park. Once the road is repaired, staff will need to assess the park for reopening

Cape Breton

No reports as of yet from trail groups. See Provincial Parks update above.

Fundy (Municipality of East Hants, Cumberland County, Colchester County)

Mi'kmawey Debert trail

Has been closed for a while and will remain so due to extensive work that was planned before the heavy rains.

Halifax

Halifax North West Trails Association

There is damage to the trails from this weekend's rainfall. Please do not wade in water over the trails unless you can see the bottom, and do not enter swift water at all. Still assessing the damage. There are areas where the trail surface has been removed and some large gullies have appeared. The worst problem is with Belcher's Marsh, the outflow there has been blocked, which has led to very high water levels. This has caused some parts of the trail to be flooded and impassable.

St. Margaret's Bay Area Rails to Trails

Trail remains closed to ALL users ...the trail will reopen in stages.

BLT Rails to Trails

The trail has suffered significant damage as a result of flash floods. Current estimates indicate that the damage is well above \$45,000. [Trail surface washouts and bridges.] The trail remains closed.

See Provincial Parks update above.

Highland (Guysborough County, Antigonish County, Pictou County)

No reports as of yet from trail groups.

South Shore (Counties of Yarmouth, Shelburne, Queens, Lunenburg and District of Argyle)

District of Chester

The Municipality of the District of Chester trail is CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. There is extensive and severe damage to the trail system at multiple locations throughout the entire 46 kilometers. Over the next few days and weeks, they will be looking at each site, investigating sources of funding, talking with our partners at the provincial level, prioritizing work and hopefully beginning repairs.

Bay to Bay Trail Association (Mahone Bay to Lunenburg)

Bay to Bay Trail will REMAIN CLOSED as we assess damage and plan repairs. The Bay to Bay Trail Association will then open sections as repairs are completed.

Bull Run Trail (Lunenburg County)

The Bull Run Trails are closed as a result of trail floods. Trail surfaces are rough and unsafe. Trails will be back in shape as funding comes available.

Bridgewater

All trail systems remain CLOSED at this time, as staff need to continue to make inspections and assess and deal with storm-related damages. This includes the trail around the duck pond in Woodland Gardens Park and Glen Allen Park trails.

District of Lunenburg

Many of its trails were closed at first but they have been slowly opening. There are some that are still closed.

Woodland Multi Use Trail Association (Shelburne)

The Woodland Multi Use Trail Association has a damaged trail for 1.3 kilometers on the Treasured Wetland T'Railway in Shelburne County next to Swaines Bog.

Valley (Municipalities of Hants West and Clare, Counties of Digby, Annapolis and Kings)

Black Rock Trails, Kings County

The Black Rock Trails, Kings County NS are open and hikeable, but have several muddy places to contend with.