

## CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY

*is blessed with miles of beautiful unused rail corridors winding through picturesque countryside and villages.*

In an era preceding paved roads and mechanically reliable cars and trucks, railroads were essential for transportation and for moving agricultural and manufactured goods and supplies through rural areas. In recent decades, railroads have abandoned most of their lines serving rural areas.

Chautauqua Rails-to-Trails is preserving these abandoned rail corridors for conversion into safe off-road trails for recreational use: walking, running, hiking, bicycling, cross country skiing, bird watching and horseback riding.

These trails provide public access through scenic woodlands, wetlands and flowering meadows, offering trail users opportunities to observe the plants, animals and birds found in areas otherwise remote from highways and roads.

The trails are available for outdoor recreational activities and environmental study for the public at large and for group outings sponsored by schools, scouts, churches and service organizations.

Chautauqua Rails-to-Trails is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization affiliated with Rails-to-Trails Conservancy. The ability to develop and maintain these multi-use trails depends on the volunteer labor and financial support of its members and the membership of other organizations. Contributions are tax deductible.

We hope we can count on your support to help us accomplish our goals.

### CHAUTAUQUA RAILS-TO-TRAILS

PO Box 151, Mayville, NY 14757

Email: [cr2t@chaurtt.org](mailto:cr2t@chaurtt.org)

Web: [www.chaurtt.org](http://www.chaurtt.org)

[www.Traillinks.com](http://www.Traillinks.com)

or

Chautauqua County Visitor's Center

716-357-4569 (9-5 Mon-Fri)

800-242-4569 (24 hr, 7 days)



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## TRAIL BENEFITS

- *Improves quality of life for the entire area*
- *Restores vitality to damaged and abandoned land*
- *Connects people with the natural world and provides outdoor recreation opportunities*
- *Preserves part of our local history*
- *Educates children and adults in outdoor classrooms*
- *Preserves biodiversity of plants and animals*
- *Provides alternate transportation routes*
- *Increases the value of nearby homes*
- *Offers sanctuaries of calm to escape the stress of modern life*

## THE TRAILS

**The Sherman Recreational Trail** (.7 mile) begins at the Village Park behind the Corral restaurant and runs through wetlands and pasture to the railbed on the East side of the Village.

**The Ralph C. Sheldon, Jr. Trail** (7.1 miles) begins at Titus Road and runs northward to Summerdale Road, passes through woodlands and through wetlands which offer habitat suitable for beavers and migrating waterfowl. Parking is available at Titus Road.

**The Nancy B. Diggs Trail** (1.5 miles) begins at Bentley Road and runs northward to State Route 430, passing through woodlands and offering first peeks at the agricultural diversity of the area. Park at Bentley Road.

**The Nadine and Paul Webb Trail** (1.8 mile) begins at State Route 430, passes through woodlands and farmland, ending at the Mayville trail, which passes across the top of Chautauqua Lake. Park at the Route 394 crossing of the trail in Mayville.

**The Laurie A. Baer Trail** (1.1 miles) begins at Plank Road on the right-of-way of the Niagara Mohawk Corp., passing north through woodlands, over one bridge, ending at Bliss Road. Parking available at Plank Road.

**The Alison Wells Ney Trail** (5.75 miles) begins at Thayer Road, south of Brocton, runs southward to Prospect Road, gently climbs the Lake Erie Escarpment, offering vistas of Lake Erie. Parking available at Prospect Station or at Thayer Road.

**The Brocton Recreational Trail** (2.8 miles) passes through the Village of Brocton from School Street (in back of the High School) across Highland and Webster Roads, offering views of local vineyards, and ending on Ellicott Road.

**The Portage Trail** (3.6 miles) begins at Route 430 in front of Family Health Service office, travels north on the old Jamestown, Westfield and Northwest RR track, which existed before the RR laid tracks. It was a portage route for Indians and French Canadians to reach Chautauqua Lake and the Ohio country from Lake Erie.



## TRAIL GUIDE



- Hiking
- Walking
- Bicycling
- Bird Watching
- Horseback Riding
- Cross Country Skiing

**Recreational  
Trails  
for All to Enjoy**

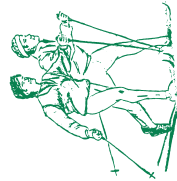
Chautauqua Rails to Trails is possible because of the generous donations given by people just like you. Mail in this form today with your check to show just how much you enjoy the idea of a safe and beautiful trail system in the heart of our county.

*Thank you for your support!*

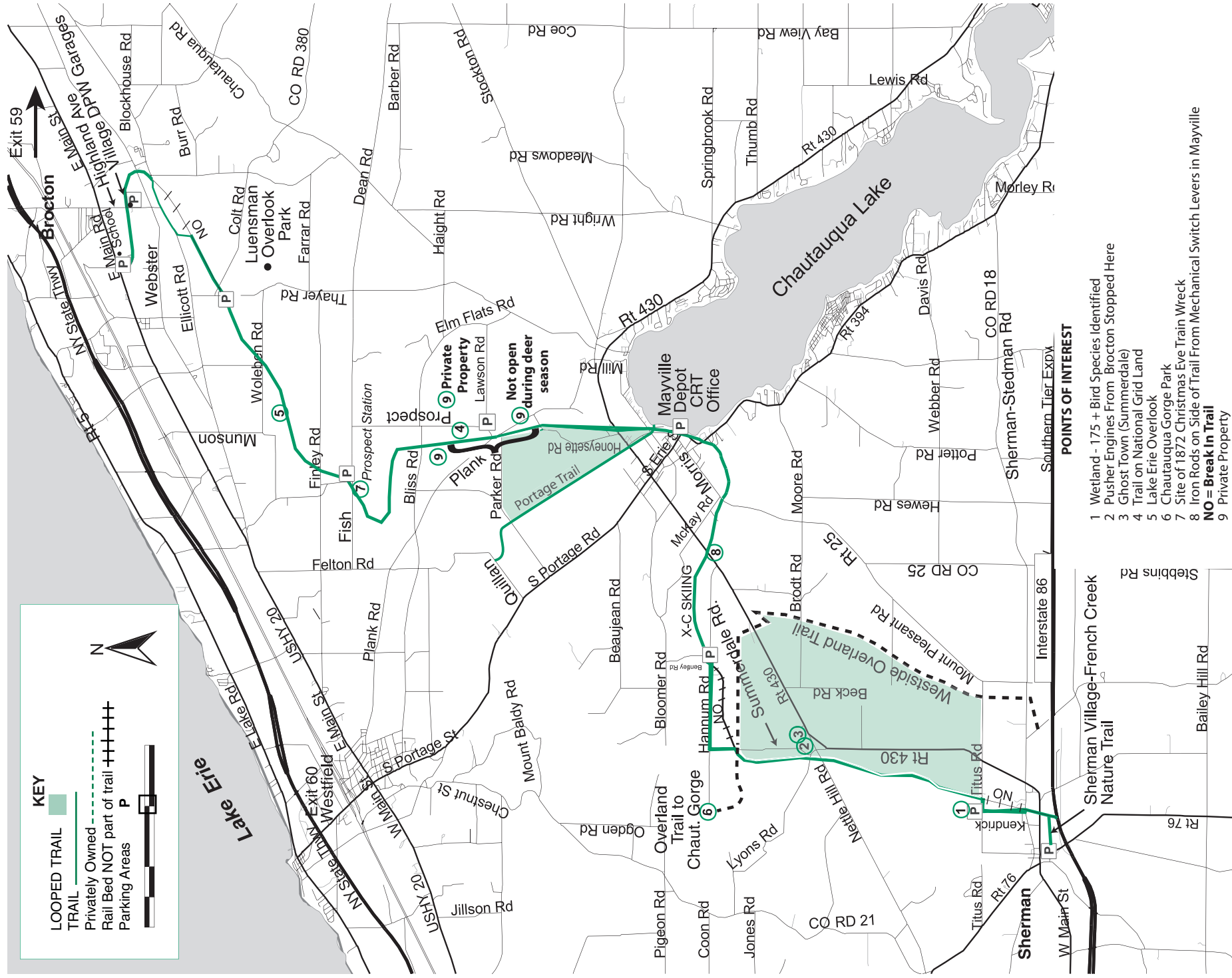
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*Your donation is tax deductible*

Mail to: Chautauqua Rails to Trails  
 PO Box 151  
 Mayville, NY 14757-0151



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 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_



**LOOPS - THERE ARE TWO LOOPS ON THE RAIL-TRAIL - LOOK FOR LOOP SIGNS**

One begins at Titus Rd., north of Sherman, goes to Summerdale Rd. on which the traveler goes south to the Westside Overland trail sign and thence East, across Rt 430, to Brodt Rd. and back to Titus Rd, where one turns west to the beginning. The trail from Summerdale to Rt 430 is fairly tough. It crosses step gulleys (with bridges at the bottom), has lots of tree roots on the trail surface and, in wet weather, water can cover portions of the trail to a depth of 1 inch. It is open to adventurous bicycle riders. (15 miles)

The other loop begins at the beginning of the Portage trail. It goes to Parker Rd. on the Portage trail, on which the traveller turns east to the rail-trail near Plank Rd. and back south to Rt 430. The trail is on a rail-trail or a road all the way, though part of the road is dirt. (7.5 miles)