

Mad River Riders



These trails are made possible through the combined efforts of the Mad River Riders, the Mad River Path Association, the Vermont Mountain Bike Association, Vermont State Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation, Sugarbush Resort, Green Mountain National Forest, the Towns of Warren, Waitsfield, Fayston and Moretown and many private landowners.

The map does not show all trail intersections, nor are all of them marked. Trail signage is not universal yet, be prepared to navigate. Always carry tools, food, water, extra clothing, communication, and leave your route plan with somebody. You don't have to be far away to be far away from help.

Roads marked with black lines are important for accessing trails and linking areas, in addition to being beautiful in their own right. Expect steep sustained pitches on most of these dirt roads.

Trails are rated ●=Easy, ■= More Difficult, ◆= Most Difficult and 1-5 (easy to difficult), for aerobic challenge (down/up), technical challenge and flow. These are relative scales, based on local conditions. Hazardous terrain and features exist throughout the network. Inspect everything before riding. Choose to walk or avoid sections beyond ability or comfort level.

Please ... stay on the trails, follow Leave No Trace principles, yield to hikers, horses and anyone below you, respect landowners, stay safe, have fun, learn something, look before you leap, consider conditions, use your head, help with trail work, be friendly, share graciously, say hi, thank much, enjoy often, support our partners, join the Mad River Path and the Mad River Riders, try downhill, be prepared, smile wide, eat well, linger long, go forth and pedal.

Camel's Hump State Forest - Howe Block/ Tucker Hill Rd.

Access & Parking: *Waitsfield Village, Stark Mountain Bikes, Tucker Hill Rd.- CHSF parking lot (easiest), Dana Hill Rd (not recommended for driving)*

Enchanted Forest ■ Aerobic: 3 Tech: 3 Flow: 4

The EF is generally ridden from Tucker Hill Rd. to Dana Hill Rd or as a loop with the Cyclone Connector. At the four-way intersection in the maple sap lines, continue straight. Stay straight at the Cyclone Connector intersection. Look for fun whoop-de-doos and jumps, watch for the stream crossing in the pines.

Cyclone Connector ■ Aerobic: 1/3 Tech: 3 Flow: 4

CC splits at a big intersection just below the top of the EF. Look for the Cyclone entrance on the left after the second stream crossing, just before Dana Hill Rd. Accessible from Dana Hill Rd., just above the entrance to the Clinic trail. A metal pole marks this trailhead.

Cyclone ◆◆ Aerobic: 3/5 Tech: 5 Flow: 4

The Cyclone's endless twisty turns are riddled with roots, rock faces, log rolls, short burst climbs, flowy downhill, bridges and berms.

Clinic ◆◆ Aerobic: 2/5 Tech: 4 Flow: 4

This Valley classic is a true "clinic of bike skills." Be careful to go right on Busternut soon after the double stream crossing to return to Dana Hill Rd. Stay on state land here, marked with orange blazes.

GS ◆◆ Aerobic: 2/5 Tech: 4 Flow: 2

Hard to follow, this route winds GS turns through the rocky ledges between Busternut and Clinic. It leaves from near the end of Enchanted Forest trail, across Dana Hill Rd.

Busternut ◆ Aerobic: 2/4 Tech: 4 Flow: 3

Generally ridden as a climb from the Clinic. After big stream crossing on Clinic, stay right and traverse, before climbing again. Climb Tops out on Dana Hill Rd. From Dana Hill Rd. stay left at the intersection near the top and look on your left for the entrance before a big stone wall.

Maple Twist ■ ◆ Aerobic: 2/3 Tech: 4 Flow: 4

Maple Twist is a sweet spin that never gets old. This turn-filled roller-coaster is a fun climb too, at least after the initial steep section from the top of Tucker Hill Rd.

Misty Maple ■ ◆ Aerobic: 2/3 Tech: 3 Flow: 4

This trail is commonly ridden as a loop with Maple Twist. Straighter and slightly easier than its sibling, Misty is the western side of this loop.

Catamount Trail/ Mad River Path

Access & Parking: *Park in Waitsfield, Stark Mountain Bikes or Sugarbush Resort. Obvious trailhead signage above beginning of German Flats Rd.*

Sugar Run ■ Aerobic: 2/3 Tech: 3 Flow: 4

Turn into Sugar Run off German Flats Rd. and go straight up the hill. Look on the left for the entrance to Sugar Run/ Catamount/ Mad River Path trails. This Class IV road connects directly to the top of Marble Hill Rd, off RT 17. Expect a few easy stream crossings, and moderate technical riding on a wide trail.

Catamount Trail/Mad River Path ■

Aerobic: 2/4 Tech: 3 Flow: 4

A common climb from Waitsfield , it has lots of challenge, but some rest breaks too. From top, go left onto CT/ MRP after cresting the high point of the Sugar Run trail. Stay left at each intersection to end on German Flats Rd. There is an obvious trailhead on German Flats Rd.

Mill Brook Trail - Tucker Hill Rd. to Marble Hill Rd. ◆

Aerobic: 4 Tech: 4 Flow: 1

Challenging in both directions, this trail encourages riders to be very active in order to stay on the bike. Expect off-camber roots, slick rocks, tight corners, steep terrain and greasy loose clay surfaces. Inspect structures before riding.

Eurich Pond

Access & Parking: *Park at Sugarbush Resort at the top of the Access Rd.*

Eurich Pond ■ Aerobic: 1/3 Tech: 3 Flow: 3

Follow Eurich Pond Rd. up through the South Face condos. Look right for the signed trailhead. Next to the wet doubletrack is a rocky step-up entrance to the drier singletrack option, which then parallels an old stone wall, before rejoining the wider route near the top. Eurich Pond is a beautiful spot, and primary access to several trails. Please be extra respectful here.

Nooney's>Swell Hill/Powerline ■ ◆

Aerobic: 2/4 Tech: 3 Flow: 4

After Eurich Pond, stay straight, passing a right (Plum Line), then a left (Private-No Access). Take next left on singletrack. Nooney's winds up hill, parallel to Hell Hill. Nooney's becomes Swell Hill and connects to Hell Hill for the last pitch, or left to connect to the Powerline trail. There is some bridging over muddy areas on Powerline, but expect wet conditions.

Guyer's ◆ Aerobic: 3/4 Tech: 4 Flow: 3

Continue past the entrance to Eurich Pond trail and stay left on the dirt road. Look for left onto old logging road and then a quick right onto Guyer's. The top entrance is just south of the big Powerline junction at the bottom of Race.

Race ◆ Aerobic: 2/4 Tech: 4 Flow: 4

Race starts at the left turn at the top of Hell Hill in the middle of the sap lines. Stay left at the next intersection with Ridgie and Bitches Brew, then there are alternate lines on Race. Exit on Powerline near the top of Guyer's.

Hell Hill ◆ Aerobic: 2/4 Tech: 4 Flow: 3

Following an old work road/ ski trail, its four main steps each require technical moves in a tough aerobic arena. At the top of the last step, begin traversing west under sap lines. Soon you'll come to the intersection of Race and Pusherman.

Ridgie ■ ◆ Aerobic: 3 Tech: 3 Flow: 4

After start of Race, go right at first intersection on Ridgie, which winds along the ridge to Maple Twist. There are alternate lines here, generally stay right to ride the entire trail. Pass under the power line and stay right at the next intersection to connect to Maple Twist, Misty Maple and the top of Tucker Hill Rd.

Bitches Brew ◆ ◆ Aerobic: 3/5 Tech: 5 Flow: 3

At the first intersection after the start of Race, take the middle route onto Bitches Brew. This trail has challenging rock spines and tough bridges. It parallels Race and reconnects with it further down.

Plum Line ■ ◆ Aerobic: 3/4 Tech: 4 Flow: 4

Take first right after Eurich Pond. After first long descent, stay left, then a quick right across a wider trail intersection. (Uphill left is High Plum.) After a long section next to stone walls, stay left, climb a short hill, and then round the main shoulder to a long traverse under a ridgeline, heading north. Turning southeast, it descends for an extended stretch, with stream crossings, alternate lines, jumps and drops. Exit at Sugarbush Pond on Route 100. Connects with the MRP-Kingsbury Greenway and Riverside Park.

Pusherman ◆ Aerobic: 4 Tech: 4 Flow: 3

From the top of Hell Hill, stay straight on main trail, which will loop back right and soon under several very low sap lines; walk here, leave the lines alone and try to stay as dry as possible. Soon, the sap lines will end and the trail will start climbing steeply up a rocky ridge. From the top, a fun fast descent drops into High Plum at a rock shoulder.

High Plum ◆ ◆ Aerobic: 2/4 Tech: 5 Flow: 3

Stay right at bottom of Pusherman. This trail has sidehill exposure, with wood and stone bridges, scope challenges before riding. It contours generally downhill and then finishes fast on a wider trail. At an obvious off-set intersection, right goes up to Eurich Pond. Left is down Plum Line, near the longest rock wall section.

Phen Basin - Camel's Hump State Forest

Access & Parking: *There are no official parking areas close to these trails, although you can legally park on the sides of dirt roads, discretely and respectfully.*

East Loop ■ ◆ Aerobic: 2/4 Tech: 3 Flow: 4

At the end of Stagecoach Rd. enter Phen Basin on Bassett Hill trail, a doubletrack, keeping a close eye for a sharp right on to the East Loop. Half way down, there is a cut-off to the Chain Gang, or you can continue down for more riding.

Chain Gang ◆ Aerobic: 3/5 Tech: 4 Flow: 4

From the Bassett Hill trail, look for a signed intersection for VAST RT 17W and the Chain Gang. Follow south to the Chain Gang entrance. Chain Gang is tough fun riding, with lots of rock. Exit on Phen Rd.

Bassett Hill ■ ◆ Aerobic: 2/4 Tech: 3 Flow: 3

Bassett Hill is ridden as access to East Loop and Chain Gang or as a connector to North Fayston.

Sugarbush Resort ● ■ ◆ www.sugarbush.com

Access & Parking: *Park at Lincoln Peak base area or ride up from town.*

Lift-served downhill trails, terrain park, dirt jumps, and wooden features. Free trail riding. There are also great easy loops below the mountain on the south side of the Access Rd.

Mad River Path ● ■ ◆ www.madriverpath.com

There are several sections of the Mad River Path throughout the Valley, most of which are easy and family friendly. Please help us fully connect the Mad River Path!