

Free Outdoor Programming & Gear. Career Pathways.



SKOWHEGAN OUTDOORS

2023 Impact Report



*Somerset Outing Club
Mosquito Mountain Hike*

Skowhegan Outdoors AmeriCorps Program

Free outdoor recreation programs and gear for area residents

2023



202 programs coordinated



1810 total participants



1002 unique participants



13 unique volunteers



78 volunteer hours

"I love Skowhegan Outdoors and am always telling people to reach out to them for different reasons. I don't have a lot of friends who like to do the things I do. There are also things I want to do that I'm not comfortable doing the first couple times, without someone with more experience. This is where Skowhegan Outdoors comes in for me. I love them, all of them!.. although they haven't increased the time I spend outside, they have enabled me to do things I might not have done without them. They are a great group of ppl who are a ton of fun to go play in the wild with. I support all of their activities and hope to see them remain a part of our town for a very long time." (2023)



Through increased exposure in the heart of downtown Skowhegan and a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere, the Skowhegan Outdoors Basecamp will not only bolster our ability to directly serve regional residents via free programming and gear, but it will also provide an important third space for the community. Over time, we expect this space to become the hub of outdoor recreation in Somerset County where people can meet, talk, learn from one another, develop friendships and find mentors, and build a strong and supportive community around a shared love for the outdoors.

2024

200+ item FREE gear lending library for residents
Bike maintenance & cross-country ski waxing
Local bike & pedestrian trail information
Guided outdoor programming

Visit us at
65 Water St.
(riverside)





Somerset Outing Club

At the start of the 2022 school year, Skowhegan Outdoors, in partnership with Somerset Public Health's Move More Kids program, began offering monthly outing club trips to expose youth and their families to different outdoor opportunities in the region and beyond. Trips are free and include transportation, lunch, and a curated and guided outdoor experience.



FREE Summer Camps

Skowhegan Outdoors partnered with Move More Kids to organize three weeks of adventure camps, including Whitewater, Biking, and Hiking camps for grades 8-12 in Somerset County during the summer of 2023! Check our website for 2024 Summer Camp dates and registration.



R.E.A.C.H.

During this after-school program serving underserved youth, Skowhegan Outdoors brings middle school students closer to nature through outdoor education and recreation. 2024 will be our sixth year of collaboration with this program.

In addition to the Skowhegan Outdoors AmeriCorps Program we are thrilled to champion these important projects that will help us achieve community transformation through outdoor recreation!

Recreation Initiatives

Expanded Trail Network

Enhancement of current trails & development of new accessible, multi-use trails totaling more than 50 miles

Village Connector Network

Collaborative effort to improve active transportation opportunities and neighborhood & trail connectivity

Village Partnership Initiative

Partnership with Town & DOT to develop a transportation master plan that focuses on safety and bike/ped infrastructure

Skowhegan River Park

Redevelopment of our industrial downtown river corridor into an accessible outdoor recreation asset for whitewater paddling & surfing

Outdoor Rec Career Pathways

Tailored training & skills development for aspiring outdoor rec professionals

Riverfront Development

Connecting our commercial district to our river via a promenade, greenspace, and river access, viewing, and event areas



Chase Hill Fire Tower

"Thank you so much for providing this opportunity for Colin to learn, grow, and be active in the outdoors this week. It is so important for our youth to learn to love the outdoors and have a blast discovering new skills, interests, and friendships. Thank you for all you do for our kids and our community!" (2023)

Learn more at [SkowheganOutdoors.com](https://www.SkowheganOutdoors.com)



Ducky trip down the Kennebec River with SCTC Outdoor Leadership students



Maine Outdoor Film Festival Screening



Cross-Country Skiing with Athens School



Whitewater Kayak Roll Clinics



SKOWHEGAN OUTDOORS



Diversify Whitewater Event



SnowFest Yeti Hunt



SOC Mountain Bike Camp



Whitewater Kayak Clinic in the Skowhegan Gorge