

City of Gardiner Announces Waterfront June 3rd Events

Gardiner, ME, May 24, 2006 — The City of Gardiner is set to celebrate the launch of an exciting new waterfront project on June 3rd and everyone is invited! Gardiner's waterfront proximity to downtown makes it easy for pedestrians to enjoy both waterfront recreation and all the services available from a variety of merchants and restaurants. Once completed, the expanded waterfront will be an even greater destination for residents and visitors alike.

Gardiner's waterfront area has been the focus of much planning efforts by the community over the past several years. A scenic new trail has been built, which connects to the waterfront area. The trail hosts many turnouts with panoramic views of the Kennebec. The City also placed several granite benches for resting spots for people as they walk under a picturesque canopy. It's hard to believe you are only minutes away from the hustle and bustle of downtown Water Street!

The City is also set to launch an exciting new boardwalk project, which is expected to be completed by this time next year. The boardwalk will be world class, and contain many spots for fishing and be ADA accessible. The first phase will be over 500' long, and will extend southerly from the existing piling area. When both sections are finished, the boardwalk will be over 750' long. The first phase even includes a kayak launch for greater access to the river.

To help celebrate these events, the City is holding a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new waterfront trail, as well as a ground breaking ceremony for the new waterfront boardwalk project. The City will also be celebrating its federal designation as a Preserve America community. Gardiner is one of only two communities in the state of Maine and is proud to be recognized for such an achievement. This ceremony has been a long time in the making!

Events are planned to take place before and after the "Run Tobacco Out of Town Race" on Saturday, June 3rd from 8 AM to 9 AM, on the waterfront. The race will take place on the new trail. Questions about the race can be directed to Anthony Anderson at aanderson@sad11.k12.me.us

Parking for the event will be at the waterfront and along Water Street. Anyone with other questions about the project or event can call Jason at 582-

6888 or email to econdev@gardinermaine.com. See following schedule for more info.

Tentative Schedule (Rain or Shine)

8 AM "Name the Trail" Winner contest winner announced Ribbon Cutting for new waterfront trail Run Tobacco Out of Town Race

9 AM (or after Race) Boardwalk Groundbreaking Ceremony, Race winner Awards, Unveiling of Federal Preserve America Designation and lots more

As additional grant funding is secured, more elements, such as parking and additional boardwalk area, will be completed. More information on the project can be found on the City's website at:

http://www.gardinermaine.com/Public_Documents/GardinerME_EcDev/waterfront.