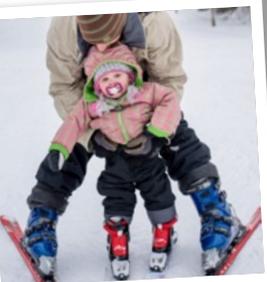




# Ascutney OUTDOORS

November 2020

Dear Friends,



This year started with a bang for Ascutney Outdoors. The grand opening of the T-bar drew a large crowd that celebrated our volunteers and donors, and it marked the completion of our 'Building for our Community' campaign. Several months later, however, COVID closed down activities throughout the region. Fortunately, we were able to keep our recreational trail network open, providing families, school children, hikers, bikers, and even paragliders with healthy outdoor diversions.

Although the trails stayed open, sadly we had to cancel most of our large events and organized programs. Instead our Board and volunteers turned their focus to new initiatives, including planning the new Discovery Trail. This interactive trail is a natural extension of our programs which will attract many new visitors to the mountain. We received a large Recreational Facilities Grant from the State and expect completion by this coming summer.

Our operations team and volunteers have been busy with other projects as well, including:

- Developing COVID procedures for a safe and friendly winter season for skiers, riders, snowshoers and skimmers.
- Marking the new Ascutney Outdoors Trail, one of the most scenic and popular hiking trails on the mountain.
- Organizing a free ski program for students at Windsor's and West Windsor's elementary schools.
- Installing a new cable for the T-bar, which will serve us well for years.
- Placing acoustical tiles on the ceiling of the AOC – we are itching to have a big celebration when COVID ends and put them to the test!

Looking forward, our guiding principles are (1) to operate and expand programs for the community without incurring capital expenditures and (2) to be financially sustainable. We keep costs low by relying almost entirely on a large group of volunteers. Lift tickets and large event fees help pay for most of the cost of our programs and activities. Our Annual Fund Drive covers the costs of keeping the property well-maintained and safe, including repairs and maintenance, utilities, insurance and modest administrative expenses.

***With fewer event fees this year, our goal is to increase the amount raised during the Annual Fund Drive. With your help, we can reach our goal of raising \$50,000.***

Your gift - large or small - makes a real difference to our community. Donations to Ascutney Outdoors can be made by check in the enclosed envelope or online through our website [www.ascutneyoutdoors.org](http://www.ascutneyoutdoors.org).

Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you around town and on the mountain!

Sincerely,



Glenn Seward,  
Executive Director



Steve Crihfield  
On behalf of the Board



*Ascutney Outdoors is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.  
Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.*