



*Our Mission* is to increase the opportunities for teens to experience the out-of-doors and form a personal connection with nature.

*Our Vision* is increased public awareness of the importance of that connection to a teenager's mental and physical well-being.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Carol Leone, Founder  
Phone: 207.882.9613

Email: [teens2trails@gwi.net](mailto:teens2trails@gwi.net)

Address: PO Box 116, Edgcomb, ME 04556

Website: [www.TeensToTrails.org](http://www.TeensToTrails.org)

### **“Teens To Trails” and Norway Savings Bank partner to get Falmouth teens outdoors**



Falmouth Outing Club

EDGECOMB, MAINE / February 1, 2010 – [Teens To Trails](http://www.TeensToTrails.org) joined with Norway Savings Bank to support the Falmouth High School Outing Club with a \$510 grant. Student interest in outdoor activities became apparent when teachers Chris Moore and Suzanne Stacey lead a number of outings last school year. “Falmouth High School is in the process of resurrecting its long dormant outing club ... to promote these experiences,” write students Chase Vicenzi & Katie Seelan, President & Vice-President of the Club. The grant will help cover transportation needs for the six trips the Outing Club has planned this year and keep outings affordable for all students.

“High school Outing Clubs are the most effective way we have found for engaging teens in their natural world, with the potential to make fun safe outdoor experiences accessible to every Maine student,” said Carol Leone, *Teens To Trails* Founder. “We are very appreciative of the support that Norway Savings Bank has given us. Their entire donation was reinvested in the health and well being of Falmouth teens by encouraging them to spend more time outdoors.”

Through our Grants-to-Clubs program, *Teens To Trails* was able to support 15 Maine schools with grants totaling almost \$7,000. Eight Outing Clubs received requested backpacks, snowshoes, camping stoves, and fly rod outfits from L.L.Bean. Cash awards will help with transportation costs and safety/skills training for leaders. With research showing that positive outdoor experiences can fight growing trends in teen depression, suicide, unwanted pregnancies, smoking and obesity, it is all the more important to encourage teens to get out-of-doors. “It is our goal to establish an Outing Club in every one of Maine’s high schools,” said Leone.

For information on the Grants-to-Clubs program, *Teens To Trails* and Outing Clubs, visit [www.TeensToTrails.org](http://www.TeensToTrails.org). This grant to Falmouth High School was made possible with the generous support of Norway Savings Bank.

**About TEENS TO TRAILS:**

[Teens To Trails](http://www.TeensToTrails.org) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit all-volunteer organization engaging Maine teens in the outdoors. T3's goal is to establish an Outing Club in every Maine high school community, thereby promoting fun outdoor adventures, healthy lifestyles and environmental stewardship.

**About Norway Savings Bank:**

Founded in 1866, Norway Savings Bank is a leading mutual banking and financial services company headquartered in Norway, Maine. As of December 31, 2009, Norway Savings Bank had \$938 million in total assets and provided financial services to over 35 thousand households throughout western and southern Maine. Norway Savings Bank has 20 branch locations and provides access to over 200 ATM locations through Maine Cash Access. Norway operates divisions in asset management, personal and business banking. In 2007 and 2008, Norway Savings Bank was recognized as one of the Best Places to Work in Maine by the Society for Human Resource Management's Maine State Council. In 2009, Norway earned the Financial Marketing Excellence Award from the American Bankers Association for its "Colorful Solutions" brand campaign. For more information, visit <http://www.norwaysavingsbank.com>

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