



CHAMPLAIN CANALWAY TRAIL PROFILE

Town of Kingsbury

KINGSBURY

Trail Description: Kingsbury is a quiet rural community along the Champlain Canal with five distinctive hamlets – Adamsville, Baldwin Corner, Dunhams Basin, Kingsbury, Smiths Basin, and Vaughns Corners, and the Village of Hudson Falls. Formerly known as the Village of Sandy Hill (1810), it was largely agricultural until the opening of the Glens Falls Feeder Canal in the 1830's which connected to the Old Champlain Canal and opened commerce between the Upper Hudson River to Canada and New York City. After operating for 100 years in this capacity, the Feeder Canal closed and has been transformed into a vibrant fourteen-mile linear park with the towpath for hiking and biking, and the canal itself for fishing, canoeing and kayaking. The north-south route of the Old Champlain Canal and modern Champlain Canal is an exceptionally serene and picturesque travel corridor. The Towpath through Kingsbury offers a four-mile stretch of exceptional birding opportunities. Lock C-9 Canal Park, located in the hamlet of Smith's Basin, 6 miles north of C-8 Canal Park in Fort Edward, represents the perfect biking trail segment for families. Both canal parks offer public docking, and picnicking. Just to the southeast of the lock is the unique Siphon Spillway that allows excess waters to divert safely from the canal.

The completed section of the Champlain Canalway Trail is in the southern end of the Town where it intersects with the Feeder Canal Trail at the "T" and continues north to its end just south of Rt 196. This section of trail will be upgraded from a turf surface to stone dust. From this point north, the trail is under construction with completion anticipated in 2019. When all projects are completed, a continuous 12-mile Champlain Canalway Trail will connect Fort Edward to Fort Ann.



Empire State Trail: The EST will follow the same path as the Champlain Canalway Trail throughout the Town of Kingsbury. Route 4 will continue to serve as State Bike Route 9, an on-road bicycle route.

Hudson River/Champlain Canal Access Points: Lock C-9 Canal Park – cartop launch and public docks; Martindale Boat Basin Cartop Launch and dock (Feeder Canal).

Public Facilities: Feeder Canal Towpath and Water Trail; Five Combines Park with the Five Combine Locks; and Lock C9 Canal Park.

Public Events: Sandy Hills Days; Annual Feeder Canal Canoe/Kayak Race; and community participation in Washington County tourism events including the Fiber Tour, Cheese Tour, and Maple Syrup Festival.

Connector Trails:

Glens Falls Feeder Canal Trail: The Canal Towpath is a nine-mile trail suitable for walking, running or biking from the Feeder Dam in Queensbury to Mullen Park in Fort Edward.

Snowmobile Trails: Kingsbury Barnstormers Snowmobile Club manages several trail routes throughout the central portion of Kingsbury.

Planning Support:

- Feeder Canal Park Master Plan (1990)
- Village of Hudson Falls Comprehensive Plan (2004)
- Hudson River and Champlain Feeder Canal Regional Waterfront Plan (2009)
- Route 4 Corridor Management Plan (2015)
- Hudson Falls Parking Study (2016)
- Village of Hudson Falls Revitalization Opportunities Program (2016)
- Washington County Tourism Study (2017)

Implementation Strategy: Continue to work with the NYS Canal Corporation and Empire State Trail organizations to complete construction of the Champlain Canalway Trail from the Feeder Canal Trail intersection to Baldwin Corners Road.



Five Combines in Feeder Canal



Martindale Boat Basin on Feeder Canal



Towpath Road

Trail Sections:

FEEDER CANAL "T" INTERSECTION TO ROUTE 196 (K-1)

Description: The existing Feeder Canal Trail intersects with the Old Champlain Canal in Fort Edward and continues north for 2 miles where it then turns northwest into Five Combines Park. The Canal Corporation will install a stone dust surface for approximately one mile on the historic Old Champlain Canalway Towpath running north from the Feeder Canal intersection to Route 196. Two pedestrian-bicycle bridges will be installed just south of Route 196 to get the trail over Bond Creek and on the north side of the Old Champlain Canal. An underpass will be constructed at Route 196 to provide safe passage for trail users.

Trailheads, Parking and Signage: A trailhead will be established at Canal Park C-8. The access road into Lock 8 would be used by cyclists to make the connection to Towpath Road via Rabideau Lane, Newton Lane, and Lock 8 Way. EST and CCT wayfinding signage will be installed marking the entire route. Informational signage will also be installed to direct users to nearby businesses, historic sites and attractions. Interpretive signage will be provided to the community by Lakes to Locks Passage and, the Canal Corporation will install interpretive signage at Lock C-8 Canal Park.

Phase: Construction for this trail segment is fully funded and underway through the Canal Corporation. Construction of the tunnel under Route 196 will be managed by NYSDOT.

ROUTE 196 TO NEW SWAMP ROAD (K-2)

Description: The trail under Route 196 will intersect with Towpath Road on the north side and continue 3 miles north to New Swamp Road. Although a rough and rocky dirt road, Towpath Road has low traffic volume and is an attractive route for experiencing nature along the watered Old Champlain Canal. In the winter it is an important snowmobile route for accessing canal ice north and south of C Lock 9. Two bridges to cross small waterways will be required for this segment.

Trailheads, Parking and Signage: EST and CCT wayfinding signage will be installed marking the entire route. Informational signage will also be installed to direct users to nearby businesses, historic sites and attractions. Interpretive signage will be provided to the community by Lakes to Locks Passage and, the Canal Corps will install interpretive signage at Canal Park C-8.

Phase: Design and construction for this trail segment is fully funded through Canal Corporation north to Fort Ann (Village).

NEW SWAMP ROAD TO LOCK C-9 CANAL PARK (K-3)

Description: At the intersection of New Swamp Road, a new 3-mile section of stone dust trail will be completed to Fort Ann directly along the Champlain Canal by the Canal Corporation on lands belonging to the Canal Corporation. The public crossing at the CP rail tracks and New Swamp Road will need negotiating should the road be closed to traffic due to a future planned removal of the bridge over the Champlain Canal. The new trail section will connect with Lock C-9 Road and into Lock 9 Canal Park and will be utilized by snowmobilers in the winter months.

Trailheads, Parking and Signage: EST and CCT wayfinding signage will be installed marking the entire route. Informational signage will also be installed to direct users to nearby businesses, historic sites and attractions. Interpretive signage will be provided to the community by Lakes to Locks Passage and, the Canal Corps will install interpretive signage at Lock C-9 Canal Park.

Phase: Improvements will be made along the roadway or road shoulder. Construction for this trail segment is fully funded and underway through the Canal Corporation.

LOCK C9 CANAL PARK TO BALDWIN CORNERS ROAD (K-4)

Description: From this point north, an additional new 3-mile section of stone dust trail will be completed from New Swamp Road north to Baldwin Corners Road. This trail segment will continue north along the bank of the Champlain Canal to Baldwin Corners Road where it will cross and continue a short distance west until reaching the trailhead for the Fort Ann Towpath Trail.

Trailheads, Parking and Signage: EST and CCT wayfinding signage will be installed marking the entire route. Informational signage will also be installed to direct users to nearby businesses, historic sites and attractions. Interpretive signage will be provided to the community by Lakes to Locks Passage and, the Canal Corps will install interpretive signage at Lock C9 Canal Park.

Phase: Design and construction for this trail segment is fully funded and underway through the Canal Corporation.



Champlain Canalway Trail 2019 Action Plan

Town of Kingsbury

