

## Willing to work for clean trails

*From staff reports*

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Gordon Chibroski/Staff Photographer

Robin Silva of Portland joins volunteers on Saturday in cleaning up along railroad tracks in preparation for a new trail behind Marginal Way businesses in Portland. Volunteers also turned out at other National Trails Day events around the state.

Volunteers across the state on Saturday helped build, clean up and maintain trails at a number of events for National Trails Day.

In Portland, volunteers cleared the railroad tracks and bordering areas of brush, small trees and garbage in preparation for the future construction of the Bayside section of the Portland Trails network. The trail will be behind businesses on Marginal Way.

In South Portland, 40 people showed up for a guided walk at the Barberry Creek Woods, near Evans and Broadway streets, where the South Portland Land Trust would like to one day create a trail. About 13 volunteers helped clear the new Red Brook trail, which will be part of a network of trails being created on a remote piece of land near Clark's Pond Parkway by the Maine Mall, said Tom Blake, a board member with the trust.

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The Nature Conservancy sponsored a trail maintenance event for National Trails Day at the Basin Preserve in Phippsburg.

In total, 30 events were listed around the state on the American Hiking Society Web site. This year marks the 16th annual National Trails Day, when people are encouraged to volunteer hours to restore and maintain trails.

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