

Note: A draft of the Vision, Mission, and Values statement was developed from survey and in-person feedback from the stakeholder team members prior to and at the February meeting. Additional feedback and discussion were sought at the March meeting. Below is the final version which was approved by consensus at the April 2019 stakeholder team meeting.

Vision Statement (Big Picture—Preferred Long-Term Outcomes)

The Brush Mountain Trails Stakeholder Team will work to expand the range of recreational and nature-based education opportunities in the Town of Blacksburg. The stakeholder team seeks to create an urban forest preserve and trail system that will serve to connect the Huckleberry Trail, Heritage and Gateway Parks and the George Washington and Jefferson National Forest. Future park management and land acquisitions will be coordinated through strong partnerships between the Town, non-profit organizations, civic and volunteer groups, and community members. This forest preserve and trail system will be a unique and extraordinary natural, recreational, educational, civic, and economic asset for Blacksburg and the wider region.

Mission Statement (How we will work to achieve the vision)

The partners on the Brush Mountain Trails Stakeholder Team will work collaboratively to develop and implement a plan for the Brush Mountain properties, drawing upon the unique and varied interests, expertise, and capacities of the team and other community partners.

Core Values (Principles that will guide the work)

- Engage partners and the public meaningfully and transparently to foster collaboration around common goals.
- Work to develop a range of recreational and nature-based opportunities for a diverse and active user community.
- Be responsive to the priorities of various user groups and skill-advancement opportunities within those user groups.
- Seek ways to minimize user conflicts through design elements and community building efforts across user groups.
- Prioritize options during design and plan development that can be sustained long-term both in terms of anticipated funding and human effort required.
- Seek to complement recreational opportunities in the region.
- Consider other community and regional assets and work to connect and create a continuum of structured recreational spaces with increasingly less structured recreational spaces.