

# RANDOLPH TRAILS

## FALL 2024

### NEWSLETTER



The past few months were very busy on the trails. Most importantly we had the grand opening of the Fairy Trail. The trails were also the setting for the Wellness Walk with Mayor Carey. Finally, the Trails Advisory Committee joined the Environment and Landmarks Committee with a joint information table at the Country Fair in Veterans Community Park.

#### **The Grand Opening of the Randolph Fairy Trail**

Once upon a time, in the charming town of Randolph, New Jersey, a magical event was about to unfold. The community had been buzzing with excitement for weeks, as whispers of a new fairy trail spread like wildfire. This enchanting project was the brainchild of the local group, Randolph Mommy and Me, who envisioned a place where children and adults alike could immerse themselves in the wonders of nature and fairy tales.

On a bright and sunny day in June the long-awaited opening of the Fairy trail finally arrived. The Brundage Preserve was transformed into a whimsical wonderland. Tiny fairy houses, each uniquely crafted by residents, scout troops, businesses, and school groups, dotted the trail. These miniature abodes were made from natural materials found in the surrounding woods, ensuring they blended with the environment.

Families gathered at the entrance of the trail, where a grand opening ceremony was about to begin. Children, dressed in fairy wings and costumes, eagerly awaited the moment they could explore the trail and discover the hidden fairy homes.

Chris Carey, the mayor of Randolph, Assemblywoman Aura Dunn, members of the Randolph Mommy and Me group and the Trails Advisory Committee, stood at the ribbon, ready to cut it and officially open the trail. "Today, we celebrate not just the opening of a trail, but the spirit of community and imagination," the mayor announced. With a swift snip of the scissors, the ribbon fell, and the crowd erupted in cheers.

As families ventured down the trail, they were greeted by delightful surprises at every turn. Tiny doors nestled at the base of trees, miniature gardens with pebble pathways, and even a small wishing well.

And so, the fairy trail became a part of Randolph, a place where magic could always be found, and where the spirit of togetherness and community spirit thrived.





## Wellness Walk with the Mayor

In September, Randolph's Municipal Alliance Committee and Randolph's Trails Committee partnered with the Mental Health Association to sponsor a Wellness Walk with the Mayor. Participants learned about the benefits that nature can have on mental health. With 16 miles of trails winding through 5 parks and 2000 acres of open space, Randolph offers residents significant opportunities to connect with nature. Joining the group were Mayor Carey, Deputy Mayor Hathaway, Councilmember Nisivoccia and Township manager Poff. The Wellness Walk with the Mayor in Randolph, NJ, is an event designed to promote healthy living, encourage community engagement, and provide residents with an opportunity to interact with local leaders. The group had a wonderful time exploring the beautiful trails in Randolph and learning more about the positive impact that time outdoors can have on our mental health. It was a great day of connection, fresh air, and community spirit.

These walks typically include:

1. **Health and Wellness Tips:** The MHA may provide advice on staying active, maintaining mental health, and leading a balanced lifestyle.
2. **Community Building:** It's a great way for residents to meet neighbors, discuss local issues, and enjoy the outdoors in a relaxed, informal setting.

3. **Physical Activity:** A focus on physical health, with the walk encouraging participants of all ages to get moving, whether it's for fitness or simply enjoying the fresh air.

You can usually find information about specific dates, times, and routes for these walks on the official Randolph Township website or their social media pages. If you're interested in participating, it's a good idea to check for any upcoming events or registration details.



## Randolph Country Fair

The Country Fair in Veterans Community Park, held on September 14, is an annual event featuring a variety of activities for people of all ages, including rides, games, entertainment, food, and community-oriented events. It also showcased agricultural exhibits, craft vendors, and live music, making it a fun event. This year the Trails Advisory Committee partnered with the Environment and Landmarks Committee to sponsor a table. The table showcased trails information and a beekeeper display. There was also information on recycling, community solar, and food waste composting.

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