The Dickinson Trail Network (DTN), established in 2019 as a dba of the Dickinson County Bike Path, focuses on building, maintaining, and promoting trails and routes throughout Dickinson County. All DTN trails are designated as multi-use for non-motorized uses and prioritize sustainable design and thoughtful construction to minimize environmental impact.

As of Fall 2023, our group of dedicated volunteers has constructed over 35 miles of new multi-use singletrack trails on Norway’s North and South Ogee Trailheads as well as Iron Mountain’s Millie Hill and Pine Mountain. DTN also has ambitious plans for 6 miles of professionally built trails on Iron Mountain’s Pewabic Hill.

The Millie Hill System offers nine trails overlooking downtown Iron Mountain that range in difficulty from easy to advanced difficulty with downhill flow, downhill technical, wooden skill features, and even a jump line! This system’s newest trail “Millie-on-Aire” lives up to its name with a Million Dollar birds-eye view of the city and plenty of BIG AIR opportunities. Most of this system’s trails are the original hand-built singletrack that put DTN on the map in 2019. In 2023, Knotty-by-Nature got a serious upgrade with hundreds of feet of boardwalk and unique wooden skills features like the “teeter-coaster” that are fun for riders of all ages and abilities.

DTN’s Pine Mountain Trail system is located both on Pine Mountain Ski Resort and on Dickinson County land to the west of the world-famous Pine Mountain Ski Jump. The new trails on Pine Mountain Resort property were professionally built by Iron Goat Trail Construction LLC in 2023. This resort property on which the trails are located will be leased to DTN in an agreement that insures free public access and use of the trails during spring, summer, and fall months. This trail system boasts a combined 7 miles of downhill mountain biking trails that are a mix of new school machine-built flowy jump trails and the old school rough and rocky singletrack. Trail difficulties vary from smooth and gentle for beginners to expert only trails with unbelievable jumps and drops. Shuttle service is already available and lift service is currently in the works.

The Ogee Trail Network on the north and south side of Norway, MI offer nearly 20 miles of easy, moderate, and advanced difficulties from Marion Park to Pier’s Gorge and from Strawberry Lake to Pine Creek. In 2020, DTN built a 1-mile trail along the beautiful Menominee River to Piers Gorge where it connects to a 2.6-mile loop in one of the county’s most beautiful natural areas. These trails, known as the Paper Route and Travelling Riverside Blues in combination with the Allwine outlook are a must for any mountain bikers visiting the area. In 2021, a 2-mile loop along the Pine Creek boasts over 700 feet of gorgeous boardwalk constructed from locally sourced hybrid larch lumber. New in 2022, “Squatch Rocket” is a wide and smooth machine-built downhill flow trail with plenty of jumps and wooden features to satisfy thrill seeking mountain bikers.

DTN has also teamed up with the Fumee Lake Natural Area through an agreement to maintain and additional 15 miles of single and double-track trails. The duties conducted by DTN volunteers include spring clean-up, clearing reported down trees on trails, and winter grooming duties for cross country skiing and fatbiking.

DTN is in the final planning and fundraising stages for a professionally built trail system on Pewabic Hill in Iron Mountain. The new trail will showcase 6-miles of world-class professionally built trails which will include berms, bridges, and jumps you see at the best bike parks in the Midwest. DTN worked with the city of Iron Mountain to secure a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) grant in the amount of $183,000. The grant requires $64,000 in matching funds which DTN agreed to independently fundraise. So far, DTN has successfully raised over $30,000 from donations from local businesses, fellow non-profits, and generous individuals. DTN is also looking into additional grants, trust funds, and fundraising avenues to fund this trail system. This ambitious professionally built project is expected to break ground in 2024.

During the winter months, DTN switches from trail building to trail grooming to provide year-round enjoyment. Their snowmobile grooming machines create classic cross-country glide tracks and multi-use corduroy snow surfaces, while the snowdog and Rokon machines create a 24” wide singletrack trails ideal for fatbiking.

Dickinson County is quickly becoming a destination for eco-tourists looking to bike, hike, and snowshoe and serves as a hub for biking and outdoor enthusiasts heading to points north of Iron Mountain. The community can already see the economic impacts of DTN activities in Dickinson County. Our trail systems are adjacent to many downtown districts, where small businesses benefit from increased traffic from tourists and residents alike. Local businesses and industries use the DTN network to promote healthy lifestyles with their employees and as a recruitment tool to attract and recruit young professionals to the community.

Staying true to our roots, DTN maintains four bike paths, including the Iron Belle trail connection with plans for a fifth along Little Badwater adjacent to the Menominee River in Breitung Township.

The Dickinson Trail Network has gained community and local government support through the accomplishments over the past four years, and the momentum is just beginning. DTN is now rolling out a restructured marketing campaign, developing a robust Trail Partnership Program for local businesses and corporations, and continuing to connect the community through trails and partnerships. These collaborations allow businesses and individuals to provide support both financially and through in-kind donations in exchange for the indirect benefits from a thriving trail user community, and directly through the promotion of their place of business.

From building and maintaining trails to signage - all of this work is done by volunteers.

To learn more about Dickinson Trail Network or to make a donation, visit www.dtntrails.org. Also check them out on Facebook and Instragram.