

TOPIC:

RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming

1500-2612 of 2612 messages

<p>2612 Bruce Walk 11-22-2021 08:02 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>The shut-down schedule is as follows: The developers will disable the posting of new messages starting on November 27. The final shutdown date will be December 11, 2021. The bulletin board and all posts will be gone afterwards. I'll try and archive the old posts just in case we want to refer back to them in the future. From this point forward, please use -> https://www.rasc-mn.org/page-1749944</p>	<p>Upgrade to PRO Upload pictures, personalize your board and more. Quick Too</p>
<p>2611 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 11-19-2021 02:07 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thanks Dave, Say, I am meeting Henry at 3 (Parkside parking lot) today to walk through phase 2 of trail improvement. Most of it will take place in the spring but brush and tree cutting may take place before we get a base. You are welcome to join us if you want. Take care, Mike</p>	<p>Invite Readers Link To This Board</p>
<p>2610 Dave 11-19-2021 01:52 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mike, Email address has been changed on your RASC profile and the XC Groomers email list. Sent by Dave G.</p>	<p>Personalize Topic List Set Topic Password</p>
<p>2609 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 11-19-2021 01:35 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Please change my contact email address to: mwholmes1@outlook.com Thank you, Mike Holmes Sent from my iPhone</p>	<p>Set Topic Introduction Show Email Subscribers</p>
<p>2608 Bruce Walk★ 11-19-2021 01:08 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>We sent out an email with information on the replacement forum this morning (Friday 11/19/2021). If you did not receive this, please let me, Dave Greymont, or Michael O'Connor know and we'll get you on the 'contact' list. Please discontinue use of this Bulletin Board now. Thank you!</p>	<p>Change Date/Time Display</p>
<p>2607 Bruce Walk★ 11-18-2021 11:51 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Dave, Michael and I have been working to understand the Forum capabilities on the RASC web site in much more detail over the past week. It looks like it should meet our needs as well as give us more flexibility and function than we have now. We'll let you know shortly when its setup to use and switch over to it.</p>	<p>Delete Specific Messages</p>
<p>2606 Dave Greymont★ 11-06-2021 09:56 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>I bought two new gas pumps at Harbor Freight, one for QH, and one spare. One of them didn't work so I'll need to exchange it. I also purchased a new flashlight to replace the one that previously was bathed in gasoline. Then I took the old flashlight home, polished up the contacts, replaced the batteries, and wallah, it works again. I'll put one of the flashlights in the round storage compartment near the ignition switch.</p>	<p>Delete Entire Topic</p>
<p>2605 Bruce Walk★ 11-03-2021 12:50 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I did get 2 notifications at 12:20 AM, one saying there were updates and another with the updates - a bit odd in its own right. Its definitely not ideal to not get immediate notifications. Edited 11-03-2021 12:56 PM</p>	
<p>2604 O'Connor, Michael K., Ph.D. 11-02-2021 02:48 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Hmmm - not ideal. Michael K. O'Connor, Ph.D., FAAPM Professor of Radiologic Physics Mayo Clinic Section of Nuclear Medicine Charlton 1-225, Rochester, MN 55905</p>	

	<p>E-mail : mkoconnor@mayo.edu Phone : (507) 284-7083 Fax : (507) 266-4461</p>
<p>2603 Bruce Walk★ 11-02-2021 02:47 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Nope, no immediate notification. I found this on one of the wild apricot forums. Perhaps I'll get a notification of all changes tonight... this could still work - its just different from what we're used to.</p> <p>---- pasted from Wild Apricot need immediate notification when a member posts in a discussion forum I recently created a discussion forum and subscribed to it hoping to see when others posted a comment. I now understand that the email notifying me that there has been a post is only generated once per day. ----</p>
<p>2602 O'Connor, Michael K., Ph.D. 11-02-2021 02:45 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Just put out another test.</p> <p>New forum does allow photos to be uploaded.</p> <hr/> <p>Michael K. O'Connor, Ph.D., FAAPM Professor of Radiologic Physics Mayo Clinic Section of Nuclear Medicine Charlton 1-225, Rochester, MN 55905 E-mail : mkoconnor@mayo.edu Phone : (507) 284-7083 Fax : (507) 266-4461</p>
<p>2601 Bruce Walk★ 11-02-2021 02:16 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I subscribed to the new forum. Michael, if you could put out another 'test', I can see if it sends me any notifications</p>
<p>2600 Bruce Walk★ 11-02-2021 02:11 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I happened to be walking over at Essex this morning - P&R was out trimming the trail edges with a new articulated brush hog arrangement. The result was very nice and it was apparent to me that the operator was being careful and doing a really good job with it. Its about the best use of one of those I've seen. The trails are looking good for the ski season.</p> <p>I have a picture of it if anyone's interested... looks like our ability to post pictures has gone away now.</p>
<p>2599 O'Connor, Michael K., Ph.D. 11-02-2021 12:25 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>No - that it does not do, as far as I know.</p> <hr/> <p>Michael K. O'Connor, Ph.D., FAAPM Professor of Radiologic Physics Mayo Clinic Section of Nuclear Medicine Charlton 1-225, Rochester, MN 55905 E-mail : mkoconnor@mayo.edu Phone : (507) 284-7083 Fax : (507) 266-4461</p>
<p>2598 Dave 11-02-2021 12:19 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thanks Michael, If there is a new posting to the forum does it send a message out to everyone that's in the group list like the bulletin board did?</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2597 O'Connor, Michael K., Ph.D. 11-02-2021 12:10 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I just tried it and set up a forum on the Nordic Skiing web page. Here is the link: https://rochesteractivesportsclub.wildapricot.org/page-1559220</p> <p>I can move it to whichever page works best. It's all part of the Wild apricot web site and is free. I would need to know all the groomers to add them to the a group list. Then anyone on the list can edit / post etc. Non-members can only read the forum.</p>

	<p>Michael K. O'Connor, Ph.D., FAAPM Professor of Radiologic Physics Mayo Clinic Section of Nuclear Medicine Charlton 1-225, Rochester, MN 55905 E-mail : mkoconnor@mayo.edu Phone : (507) 284-7083 Fax : (507) 266-4461</p>
2596 Dave 11-02-2021 10:53 AM ET (US)	<p>I've asked Michael O'Connor to look into this.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
2595 Bruce Walk★ 11-02-2021 09:18 AM ET (US)	<p>It looks like Wild Apricot (the platform for the RASC Web Site) also supports discussion forums. Hard to tell the pros/cons without Admin support to experiment with things but perhaps someone with control could look into this a little further. Seems logical to keep all the club business on one platform if it meets the needs.</p>
2594 Lisa Luetmer 11-01-2021 10:02 PM ET (US)	<p>Thank you Andy, Dave and Bruce. So grateful that the old bugger is getting taken care of. Bruce your efforts to keep that machine in top shape are crucial. We need it to last for years more. Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
2593 Bruce Walk★ 11-01-2021 09:02 PM ET (US)	<p>The Essex ATV had the tracks installed today with the expert help of Dave G. and Andy Wood. Also changed the oil/filter, checked the differentials, checked/cleaned the air filter, checked the coolant, and dropped the skid plate and cleaned all the oily grass and debris out of it.</p>
2592 Bruce Walk★ 11-01-2021 09:00 PM ET (US)	<p>The XC Grooming bulletin board moved to tapatalk several years ago. You can take a look at it here: https://www.tapatalk.com/groups/snowgroomi...ss-country-talk-f6/ I'm not sure about pricing etc but I followed the thread to start your own community an didn't run into a pay wall.</p>
2591 Peter Wollan 11-01-2021 01:24 PM ET (US)	<p>For a QT replacement: how about WhatsApp? It can be linked to computers as well as phones, and a group can be up to 256 people.</p>
2590 Dave Greymont★ 10-30-2021 02:57 PM ET (US)	<p>The dynamic duo of Dave and Dave did the QG ATV wheel/tracks changeover. Everything went well (almost too well). We got it done in pretty quick order. Dave S. also changed the oil in the ATV.</p> <p>Anyone got any ideas for a replacement bulletin board?</p>
2589 Dave Greymont★ 10-26-2021 01:25 PM ET (US)	<p>QuickTopic will shut down on December 11, 2021 Dear QuickTopic users:</p> <p>I'm sorry to break the news to you that QuickTopic will be shutting down. We've already sent email notification to all QuickTopic Pro board creators, and to most free-level creators of recently updated message boards.</p> <p>Here's the planned schedule, in reverse:</p> <p>The final shutdown date will be December 11, 2021.</p> <p>We'll disable the posting of new messages starting on November 27.</p> <p>To save your message board contents, you can do the following: In the lower left corner of your message board, tap the Print link. That will take you to a page with some options.</p> <p>It's been a wonderful experience building and running QuickTopic all this time. With 21 years since its inception, QuickTopic has been the world's longest continuously running web-based social media platform. Some of you have been with us for nearly that long. Special thanks to you long-term users, and especially to you who have supported us as QuickTopic Pro subscribers.</p>

	If you have questions or comments, feel free to contact me via the Contact link below. Best wishes to
2588 Dave Greymont* 10-26-2021 01:25 PM ET (US)	I marked the QH ski trails with my custom made very exclusive markers this morning. While I was at it I mowed the edges of the Park Wood Hills trail. I'd post a picture of the markers but I don't see that option any more. Also, bad news, Quick Topics is shutting down. See next post.
2587 mtrantow* 10-24-2021 12:55 AM ET (US)	I put the Essex ATV away after the Tour de Essex. Everything seemed fine, but I had missed Robb's update. Not sure on the mower issues. I think the pump just needs batteries (it worked with the gas can on the seat - less work) I'll swap in new batteries when I replace the equipment check sheets and stabilize the mower gas. There are 1 and 1/4 gas cans left.
2586 Robb Welch 10-21-2021 09:51 PM ET (US)	Mowed Essex this afternoon. Did three passes on all trails and tried to blow the leaves off the wooded section as best I could for Saturday's "Tour de Essex" run. I noticed the ATV's front left tire was almost flat when I did the pre mowing visual inspection. I pumped it up to 22 psi and it seemed to hold pressure during the time I was mowing. I'd suggest the next person looking to use the Essex ATV have a pump with them just in case it goes flat again. ATV ran fine and the mower also worked well but seemed to be emitting small "backfire" sounds especially noticeable when I was stopped with the mower blades turned off (waiting for trail walkers to pass). Filled ATV gas tank but did not fill the mower just in case this was the last mowing. There are 1 1/2 large gas cans remaining. Also the gas siphon / pump did not work, could be the batteries but I did not investigate further as it was getting dark so I just manually poured to fill the tank.
2585 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 10-20-2021 02:58 PM ET (US)	Hi Peter, Did you notice anything in regards to trail damage from the tree cutting project that City is doing? Mike H
2584 Peter Wollan 10-18-2021 05:29 PM ET (US)	Quarry Hill was mowed today. I'm going to assume that's the last time this season, unless someone tells me otherwise. There were only a few spots that actually needed to be mowed, notably the new grass at the bridge. It was a beautiful day for anything, including mowing. Everything worked perfectly, except for the gas pump thingy -- it wouldn't suck gas uphill out of the can, so I lifted the can up above the gas tank, and then it wouldn't shut off. I guess at that point it was just siphoning. Anyway, made a bit of a mess. Peter On Tue, Sep 28, 2021 at 9:53 AM QT - Dave <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> wrote:
2583 Walker, Henry J. 10-01-2021 07:50 PM ET (US)	Very well stated, Itâ€™s worth a try. Send it on. 6 weeks to pre-retirement! What a treat to look forward to - Iâ€™m taking a nap every afternoon for months if I ever see retirement. Sent from my iPhone > On Oct 1, 2021, at 5:37 PM, "QT@qs3582.pair.com" <QT@qs3582.pair.com> wrote: >
2582 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 10-01-2021 06:36 PM ET (US)	Sorry Henry, I meant to get back to you sooner. With less than 6 weeks to my pre-retirement PTO period, there is no letting up on the gas. Here is my thought. Why don't I send Jeff an email over the weekend and Cc you? Something short and cordial like: "Henry and I learned that city will doing some selecting cutting at Quarry Hill. As you might remember we have a second phase in mind for trail improvements to enhance the classic skiing experience. We are wondering whether you would be interested in sharing some details of your project with the thought that there might be overlap with our plans and we could all benefit. If your schedule allows we could even meet at Quarry Hill walk you through our plans". I plan on swinging out to QH in about an hour to see what they have marked. Take care, Mike
2581 Walker, Henry J. 09-28-2021 11:07 AM ET (US)	I thought about that as well. What is our best strategy in terms of creating an ask and where do we want to prioritize the ask? Maybe they are phasing a larger plan we could be a part of. If we want to complete phase 2 we should begin thinking about starting. Do you (or I) want to touch base with the lead forester to get an idea of the project scope and start plan? In the past, the City was great about communicating QH plans as a partner prior to

	initiating projects so we knew what was going on and didn't plan conflicting interests. Leadership changes as do priorities.
2580 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 09-28-2021 10:57 AM ET (US)	Henry, any idea when the start date is? I know of a couple of oaks along the trail that could use some orange paint. Mike H
2579 Dave 09-28-2021 10:53 AM ET (US)	If they create ruts in the access trail maybe we can ask to have it seeded as well as having the ruts removed. Sent by Dave G.
2578 Henry Walker 09-28-2021 09:33 AM ET (US)	QH is slated for a tree culling program North of the Nature Center that may impact the trails due to heavy equipment. Each tree slated for removal is numbered in orange paint and some have signs indicating why they are being removed, Emerald Ash Borer as one example. I noticed tree number 158 designated for removal but there may be more. Many selected trees are small and dead but some are very large including a massive oak next to the ski trail. Few trees impact the trail itself, however, as an access corridor the trail may subject to damage considering the ruts left by Forestry prior. We may want to take a few pictures of the trail now and after the work is completed.
2577 John Resman 09-28-2021 08:40 AM ET (US)	Quarry Hill was mowed yesterday. Even though it had been two weeks since the last mowing, the grass in the center was not very long. Most of the benefit was in getting grass cut on the sides and the trail edges cleaned up. Sections of the Parkwood Hills trails had the longest grass. Everything went well. Thanks for all of the continued maintenance of the equipment throughout the summer.
2576 Peter Wollan 09-19-2021 06:18 PM ET (US)	Quarry Hill gas cans filled. I was taken aback to find that the Century Kwik Trip had picked itself up and moved across the street. No less convenient, I guess, but it took me by surprise.
2575 Dave Greymont★ 09-13-2021 05:21 PM ET (US)	Congrtatulations Mike! Retirement is wonderful and time to enjoy life to it's fullest.
2574 Dave Greymont★ 09-13-2021 05:19 PM ET (US)	Our master mechanic Dave Squillace quickly diagnosed the problem with the mower. One of the mower's battery cables had come loose. Without the batter connected there wasn't enough "juice" to engage the blades and once the mower was turned of it (obviously) wouldn't restart. QH is mowed. Mostly just the edges except for on top of Parkwood Hills where the grass was really long. The ATV and mower were refilled and there's about 3 gallons of gas remaining. Edited 09-13-2021 05:19 PM
2573 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 09-13-2021 03:05 PM ET (US)	Fellow Groomers, I have nothing useful to add to this conversation but I thought I would take advantage of the opportunity and let you all know that I am retiring form Mayo. This means my availability to groom other than in the evening goes up. I am officially done on 1/6/22 but will be on PTO starting on 11/10/21. I look forward to helping out and planning the next phase of the QH trail improvement project. Take care, Mike
2572 Dave Greymont★ 09-13-2021 02:31 PM ET (US)	I started mowing QH today but either the switch on the ATV or a fuse blew (or both). Dave Squillace will look at it this afternoon and once repaired I'll return to QH and finish mowing.
2571 Joe Gyura 09-12-2021 01:38 PM ET (US)	Thank you, Laura! Dan, Robb and Henry are up next to mow Essex. Thanks! Joe Sent from my iPad
2570 Laura Z	Essex was mowed yesterday. All equipment worked great.

09-12-2021 01:16 PM ET (US)	
2569 Tom McKinley 09-02-2021 04:11 PM ET (US)	I mowed Quarry Hill today. The grass was not too long but definitely needed it in many places. Mower and ATV ran great! The 2 small gas cans are empty, one large is full and the other large has about a gallon left. Mower and ATV are full.
2568 Lisa Luetmer 08-30-2021 09:48 PM ET (US)	I mowed Essex today. Everything ran well. Grateful for that little silky saw. It can handle a moderate sized elm:) Plenty of gas (thank you Laur) and the atv and the mower are filled. L Sent from my iPhone
2567 Laura Z 08-17-2021 09:19 AM ET (US)	Essex gas cans have been filled.
2566 Peter Wollan 08-16-2021 03:47 PM ET (US)	Mowed Quarry Hill today. Everything worked smoothly. Lots of gas left. The park had mowed everything south of the Prairie House, and widened the meadow trail some. It looks nice.
2565 Joe Gyura★ 08-12-2021 11:33 AM ET (US)	Mowed Essex yesterday. All equipment worked great! There is half a large can of gas remaining. Which should be enough for the next mowing. Lisa, Laura and Dan are next in rotation. There is a tree leaning across the long east / west trail at the Far East end just before the paved path. I was able to drive under and turn around, but I'll try to get it removed before the next mowing. Thanks! Joe
2564 HenryH★ 07-29-2021 12:46 PM ET (US)	Mowed Essex this morning. Everything worked fine. 1 large gas can full remaining. Downed tree at West end on big hill removed. Joe removed the other 2 downed trees on east wood loops.
2563 Dave Greymont★ 07-19-2021 09:36 PM ET (US)	I sprayed the hornet's nest tonight and left the can of spray on top of the gas cabinet in case the nest needs a second dose. The nest is located in the upper right hand corner of the Payne Shed service door behind the night light.
2562 Bjorn Walker 07-19-2021 12:42 PM ET (US)	All gas cans have been filled. In the process of transporting the cans I have discovered a wasp nest. It is directly behind the front entry exterior door light, hanging from the door frame. I was stung twice when transporting the gas cans. Next person going to the shedd should be carefull or bring wasp spray.
2561 Robb Welch 07-18-2021 03:50 PM ET (US)	Thanks for the moth ball explanation Bruce. Good to keep the mice out of the ATV!
2560 Bruce Walk★ 07-18-2021 01:35 PM ET (US)	Thanks Robb. Hopefully one of us can take care of the tree in the near future. The moth balls are around to keep the mice away. Its a tradeoff between having them around inside the ATV at critical spots vs having them in the general vicinity like inside the box. Its hard to tell what's best but that's why they're around.
2559 Robb Welch 07-18-2021 12:47 PM ET (US)	Mowed Essex this morning. Equipment ran great. Cut all trails even though the woods trails mostly only needed it along the edges. The prairie flowers are outstanding at Essex right now - they almost seem to be out competing the wild parsnip in many places. There is one 12" dia tree laying on the edge of the woods loop. The mower can easily pass but I would think the tree should moved before the snow falls. ATV and mower gas are filled. 1.5 large cans of gas remaining. Thanks for having the electric blower in the shed, it's a big help with cleaning the mower. Also did not see the hearing protection ear muffs (I brought my own so it was not a problem). One question I do have ... are the aromatic moth balls in the ATV cargo box supposed to be there?
2558	Thanks Dave S.

Dave 07-18-2021 07:29 AM ET (US)	Sent by Dave G.
2557 Bjorn Walker 07-16-2021 06:14 PM ET (US)	This is Bjorn. I mowed QH today. Mowing went well except for a few downed trees. My dad will take care of the trees. When refilling the tanks, there was enough gas in the shed for the mower only, not the ATV. I'll swing by tomorrow to re-fill the tanks and then fill the ATV.
2556 Dave S 07-14-2021 07:13 PM ET (US)	QH mower, replaced two wheel bearings in each of the two front wheels on the QH mower. One old bearing seal fell off during removal so it was time. One tire had two large sidewall bruises indicating ply separation, so I had a new tire with inner tube installed on that wheel.
2555 Lisa Luetmer 07-08-2021 09:41 PM ET (US)	Dave it looks unbelievable. How many hours did this take? Lisa Sent from my iPhone
2554 Dave 07-08-2021 09:03 PM ET (US)	Wow, looks like new. Would you come and detail my car? Sent by Dave G.
2553 Dave S 07-08-2021 05:44 PM ET (US)	QH ATV repaired and returned to shed. Front cargo frame repaired, tool box replaced, windshield repaired. Washed, lots of orange paint splotches and overspray removed. Waxed and loved a little. Looks years younger.
2552 Dave S 07-04-2021 02:44 PM ET (US)	QH ATV and trailer: Dave S has the QH ATV and trailer at his house for repairs.
2551 Mike Holmes 07-02-2021 10:10 PM ET (US)	Mowed Quarry Hill tonight, it was a beautiful evening for doing it. No equipment problems. After refilling the mower and ATV there are ~4 gallons of gas left.
2550 Laura 06-23-2021 07:44 PM ET (US)	Mowed Essex yesterday evening. Mower worked great...THANKS, Bruce!!!
2549 Bruce Walk★ 06-22-2021 02:25 PM ET (US)	The Essex mower is working again - replaced the starter solenoid. This one came from O'Reilly Auto Parts on 41st St. Edited 06-22-2021 02:26 PM
2548 Dave Greymont 06-21-2021 03:33 PM ET (US)	After discussion with Lori Forsti saying people are going around or over the fencing and it's probably time to open the seeded Woods trail. This morning I took down the fencing and pulled the "T" posts and then mowed the trail twice to cut all the weeds. It doesn't look too bad. Then since I had the ATV and mower I mowed the rest of QH. It didn't really need it too bad but I did it anyway. There were tire track in the grass and it looked like someone had recently mowed but there's nothing recorded. There's about 7+ gallons of gas remaining.
2547 Bruce Walk★ 06-17-2021 07:26 PM ET (US)	I met Laura at Essex this morning to look at a problem with the mower not starting. It appeared the battery was low (measured 12.05V). It didn't want to start when jumped with another small AGM battery either. I now have the battery charging at home. I'll look into the problem, checking connections, etc., as well as check the charging system early next week. It would seem Essex is a bit jinxed with starter problems - hopefully we can find and fix the problem though.
2546 Bruce Walk★ 06-16-2021 05:47 PM ET (US)	I did some minor mowing maintenance on the 55th St. field at Essex, specifically where we had planted a wide prairie grass strip years back to act as a natural snow fence in the winter. I noticed P&R had mowed it down last fall so this year, I mowed a north path that surrounds the prairie grass in a long narrow oval now. I'll contact Mike Schabel to see how he wants to mark it - we used to have 'No Mow' signs from P&R but they dissapeared over the years. I also mowed the side hill of the berm - P&R hasn't been mowing that and we were getting buckthorn and other woody shrubs starting to grow. So hopefully this will help and we can get our natural snow fence back in place for next ski season. I've attached a picture below - you can see the main path on the downhill side of the berm, a lighter green strip of grass (which is the prairie grass), and

	<p>the new path. No need to mow it every time, in fact our mowers don't need to do anything different at all for now. Edited 06-16-2021 05:48 PM</p>
2545 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 06-13-2021 11:28 AM ET (US)	<p>Yes, either Henry or I will take care of the tree. We wanted a little cooler temperatures before doing so.</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
2544 Mark Foley 06-13-2021 10:41 AM ET (US)	<p>Mowed QH this morning while it was still cool. Everything worked fine, a few challenges with the mower pushing the ATV on downhill with the dew on the grass. Quite a few people out enjoying the cooler morning. There is a large poplar over the woods trail a ways south of the new connector to Walker bridge. It is 8-10' high so we can get under it for mowing and skiing but will need to come out at some point. With the new grass seed there, we probably don't want the city forester coming in with big equipment - maybe wait on taking care of it until later in the year.</p>
2543 Dave 06-07-2021 06:15 PM ET (US)	<p>The ground hogs are a never ending battle. Thanks Dave</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
2542 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 06-07-2021 05:07 PM ET (US)	<p>Thanks Dave S, I saw a groundhog in there last Friday evening. Mike</p>
2541 Dave S 06-07-2021 04:32 PM ET (US)	<p>QH Payne Shed: I sprayed for weeds around the trailer and the Payne shed and sprayed liquid fence inside around the equipment and our stall to keep the ground hogs and mice away.</p>
2540 Joe Gyura★ 06-07-2021 12:14 PM ET (US)	<p>Bruce thank you!</p> <p>This morning I removed the fallen tree at Essex East Woods. It is ready for mowing</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
2539 Bruce Walk★ 06-07-2021 11:42 AM ET (US)	<p>I picked up a couple inexpensive 8x10 tarps from Menards and covered the ATV and Snowmobile. The old tarp that was there is over the mower now. No need for the bat guano to get all over our equipment.</p>
2538 John Resman 06-04-2021 10:16 PM ET (US)	<p>I mowed the Quarry Hill trails today. The ATV and mower worked well. There is plenty of gas in the cabinet (thanks to whomever filled up the gas cans). Park and Rec is mowing the ski trail from the nature center to the prairie house. I thought the grass would be a little longer with the rain we had last week (QH was last mowed 8 days ago), but we have had a dry spell since Monday. Maybe one day I will be able to back the mower into the shed, but not today!</p>
2537 Lisa Luetmer 06-02-2021 07:38 PM ET (US)	<p>I mowed Essex this afternoon. I didn't mow the woods. Hope to get it on Friday. Everything ran perfectly. The gas cans are empty but everything is gassed up. I took the tarp off of the ginzu and put it over the atv because the bat poo makes an impressive mess on the seat. Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
2536 Peter Wollan 05-27-2021 11:04 AM ET (US)	<p>Our first QH mowing of the season comes to completion -- an epic mow! You get a medal, Tom!</p>
2535 Tom McKinley 05-26-2021 07:14 PM ET (US)	<p>Completed mowing of Quarry hill this afternoon. About half of one large gas can left. ATV and mower ran great.</p>
2534 Tom McKinley	<p>I mowed part of Quarry Hill this afternoon. I had to quit due to the downpour of rain. I got most everything mowed east of the prairie house. I plan to go back tomorrow to do Parkwood Hills</p>

<p>05-25-2021 07:39 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>and the main prairie trail north of the intersection near the prairie hill. Lots of new grass coming in. Some spots could be from seed last fall. I did try to avoid the seeded areas as possible. The mower and ATV ran great. The new mower height seems to be a good level. Thanks to our great mechanic. Note to self. Pay more attention and give credence to the hourly weather report.</p>
<p>2533 Joe Gyura★ 05-24-2021 07:42 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed Essex this afternoon. All equipment worked GREAT. Thank you, Bruce, Mike and Dave! There is one 5 gal of gas left. Should be plenty for a few more mowing. There is a downed tree in the west woods in the cut off section midway on the Robertson Hwy south path. It's roughly 8" in dia. I'll work to remove before the next mowing - unless someone beats me to it. Please let me know so I don't show up to find it gone.. Lisa, Laura and Dan are up next to mow Essex. Followed by Robb and Henry. It is summer, so swapping rotation is totally fine. Family and fun come first! Thanks! Joe</p>
<p>2532 Tom McKinley★ 05-17-2021 04:05 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Quarry Hill - I just attempted to Mow the Parkwood Hills area. The mower blades were working but when I disengaged on a bare hill up on top of the PWH area, the blades would not reengage. I checked the switch connections and shut off the mower bladed engage switch and the switch on the ATV and then turned on the mower switch and then ATV blade engage switch but the blades would not engage. So, I didn't accomplish much. The grass is not too long and probable could have waited until the end of the week or early next. If we get the mower working I'd say we can mow it next Monday or Tuesday after the ATV is returned by the MTB team and we've, hopefully, gotten some rain.</p>
<p>2531 Joe Gyura★ 05-04-2021 05:24 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Bruce thank you for all of your time and efforts in keeping the Essex equipment maintained! I am up first to mow Essex. as of last Friday the grasses were still quite low. Thanks! Joe</p>
<p>2530 Bruce Walk★ 05-04-2021 05:00 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I replaced both front wheels on the Essex Mower and tightened the hitch. The hitch can use some more work over time but for now, it should be ready to mow.</p>
<p>2529 Lisa Luetmer 05-03-2021 09:53 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thank you Bruce. Iâ€™m really grateful for your time and expertise. Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2528 Dave 05-03-2021 07:37 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Bruce, You might try T.E.C Industrial for the bearing. They replaced a wheel bearing on my zero turn mower. 1711 3rd. Ave SE (507) 2616548 Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2527 Bruce Walk★ 05-03-2021 06:47 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I went to get the Essex mower ready today: Short version, the right front wheel bearing is long gone and the metal wheel is running on the axle - It Can Not be used until I find a new wheel or see if the bearing can be replaced. Its a cheap sleeve bearing so I'm not sure which way we'll have to go but I'd bet on a new wheel. Also, the hitch arm is flopping around and needs to be tightened. I will go back tomorrow with bigger tools to take things apart. The good news is that the mower starts and runs well and the start/stop switches all work as they should. I also cleaned the ATV track bearings, put the caps back on, flipped to the other side, cleaned and oiled them. I'll put things back together in another week and then they'll be done.</p>
<p>2526 Barry</p>	<p>Dear Coaches and Groomers, Just a reminder that if you bring grillables/munchables to the EOS gathering on 5/1 to also please</p>

<p>04-30-2021 03:24 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>bring napkins/utensils/plates, etc. There will be charcoal grills.</p> <p>Also, Henry Walker is going to be there at 3pm to do a pole hike around Andy's estate. If interested, please come at 3.</p> <p>Thanks all. Remember the forecasted hi tomorrow is 80, so Hawaiian shirts will be in vogue. :-) Joe and Barry for Andy</p>
<p>2525 Barry 04-29-2021 11:49 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Dear Fellow RNST Coaches and Groomers, Just this week, the CDC loosened up the guidelines for masking with respect to covid. That is that if you are fully vaccinated, are socializing outside, and keeping a social distance, then masks are not required (they are still optional, of course).</p> <p>However, if not fully vaccinated, then masks should still be used.</p> <p>Good news! Also good job on Andy's part for arranging a nice mild day on Saturday; dig out the Hawaiian Shirts.</p> <p>Thanks all, Barry</p>
<p>2524 Barry 04-23-2021 03:58 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Fellow Coaches and Groomers, Our well deserved Coaches' and Groomers' Happy Hour(s) are set at Andy's farm estate. Here is a note from Andy which summarizes everything we need to know:</p> <p>Looks like May 1st will work out best for the coaches / groomers happy hour. Let's start at 4:00 and go whenever people want to head home. Address: 8485 Country Road 126 Byron, MN (Just east of Rock Dell on county road 126)</p> <p>BYOB and BYO food and munchies and camp chairs. We will have a grill ready if people want to do some grilling.</p> <p>Bring your covid mask, hiking shoes and ski poles for hiking. We have about 10 K of trails on 160 acres of woods and prairie.</p> <p>Pls see the attachment for a map on how to get there.Â</p> <p>If the weather is inclement, rain dates are Sunday, May 2 or Saturday, May 8. Hopefully we won't need to change the date, but if so, then we will send out the info in an email.</p> <p>Mark your calendars. Hope to see you all there. Remember spouses/significant-others are welcome.</p> <p>On behalf of Andy and myself, THANKS for a great season. Barry</p> <p>PS Just a heads-up, we are working on organizing a cleanup morning at Essex in early May. RNST members will get service hours. This is part of Rochester's R-Litter Bit Better (and Earth Week). More info coming as we learn it.</p>
<p>2523 Joe Gyura* 04-14-2021 12:49 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I removed the downed tree on the Essex east woods trail that runs east west along the south end.</p> <p>I also am in contact with Don's wife Kathy on a day/time to retrieve ski team equipment. I told Kathy there is no rush, and that I can help in any way. I'm not sure what all Don had stored. Unless someone has room, I plan is to move the items into the Essex red barn.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2522 Dave Greymont* 04-13-2021 05:46 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>We need about a 6 -8 foot long x ~4 foot wide piece of chain-link fence to use as a drag after seeding the QH trail. If you have a piece you can donate, please reply or email me at: birked@charter.net Thank you</p>
<p>2521</p>	<p>Dave,</p>

<p>Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 04-12-2021 02:05 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thank you for getting this out on Quick Topics, since I plan to be at Quarry Hill all day tomorrow but I have been scrambling to get my calendar cleared. As you report, we had a great team Saturday, we worked efficiently, and even had few moments to catch up. Thanks for all you do Dave. Regards, Mike</p>
<p>2520 Dave Greymont★ 04-12-2021 01:08 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>This past Saturday morning the crew of Mike Holmes, Mark Foley, Harvey Bertrand, Dave and Diane Squillace and myself spent about 4 hours removing at least two feet of brush from the edge of the Woods Trail starting from the Nature Center up to the bench near the intersection with the trail to "Henry's Bridge". The plan is to widen and flatten the trail. Benike is bringing a cat to do the grading of the trail. (See attached picture). After grading we will re-seed the trail. Edited 04-12-2021 01:10 PM</p>
<p>2519 mtrantow★ 04-10-2021 05:15 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex ATV tracks to tires conversion completed. Joe Gyura, Andy Wood and I took advantage of a dry cool day to perform the Swap outside with good lighting at Andy's Cedar Ridge farm.</p>
<p>2518 Bruce Walk 04-09-2021 04:18 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I pulled up the lathe from the 55th st. field at Essex and put it in the quonset. Also removed the broken plastic map holder from the Essex sign-board as well as the 'Winter Nordic' sign. I know that's been left up year round in the past but it really doesn't seem to apply in the summer.</p> <p>What should we do with that sign-board? Is there a way to work with Park and Rec to get a map on there? Any other ideas?</p> <p>I will also talk to Mike Shabel about not mowing the prairie grass snow fence area along the berm in the 55th st field . The signs appear to have dissappeared so its understandable that it got mowed last fall. Hopefully the grasses will come back up this summer.</p>
<p>2517 Barry 03-31-2021 06:05 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Fellow Coaches and Groomers, Our well deserve Coaches' and Groomers' Happy Hour(s) are set at Andy's farm estate. Here is a note from Andy which summarizes everything we need to know:</p> <p>Looks like May 1st will work out best for the coaches / groomers happy hour. Let's start at 4:00 and go whenever people want to head home. Address: 8485 Country Road 126 Byron, MN (Just east of Rock Dell on county road 126)</p> <p>BYOB and BYO food and munchies and camp chairs. We will have a grill ready if people want to do some grilling.</p> <p>Bring your covid mask, hiking shoes and ski poles for hiking. We have about 10 K of trails on 160 acres of woods and prairie.</p> <p>Email Andy or me for a map showing how to get there.</p> <p>If the weather is inclement, rain dates are Sunday, May 2 or Saturday, May 8. Hopefully we won't need to change the date, but if so, then we will send out the info in an email.</p> <p>Mark your calendars. Hope to see you all there. Remember spouses/significant-others are welcome.</p> <p>On behalf of Andy and myself, THANKS for a good season. Barry</p>
<p>2516 mtrantow★ 03-19-2021 12:33 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>All of Essex equipment stored away. Thanks to Bruce Walk for moving all 3 drags himself! I used both vehicles (sequentially) for the horsepower to move the ginzu. The roller is still accessible in case we get another cold snap and snow.</p>
<p>2515 Dave Greymont★ 03-19-2021 12:21 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>There was just barely enough snow remaining so that I could move the grooming equipment right behind the Payne Shed. I kinda doubt we'll groom again but you never know. I'll be away next week but if the QH crew decides to put the equipment away it's close to the back door. Edited 03-19-2021 12:23 PM</p>
<p>2514 Bruce Walk★ 03-16-2021</p>	<p>I skied Essex around 2:30 - 3:30 today - its soft but still holding up in most places. You can tell its melting from the bottom over the bike paths in spots but overall it should be ok to ski for another day or two. I wouldn't bother grooming as I think it will stay relatively soft overnight.</p>

06:08 PM ET (US)	<p>Classic fish scales worked really well in this wet stuff - not fast but definitely fun for mid March.</p> <p>As far as putting the drags and Ginzu away, I'd suggest we target the end of the week or this coming weekend. Right now the Ginzu is all loaded with snow and waiting will give it a chance to melt off.</p>
<p>2513 mtrantow★ 03-16-2021 12:07 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I skied all the groomed sections of Essex this morning (again). Really nice - Thanks Joe! It's still a bit soft, but holding up well, even for skate. (use a flat ski and double pole when you can)</p> <p>I thought about rolling again, but it was 31 F and rising when I finished, plus 3 more skiers showed up, so I left.</p> <p>Weather channel shows it not getting below 32 F again until Thursday night. If the base holds, I could assess the benefit of grooming late or early Friday morning for one more outing. My fear is walkers will trash it too much before then during the warm up.</p> <p>Anyways, it was fun while it lasted!</p>
<p>2512 Joe Gyura★ 03-15-2021 08:52 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Rolled Essex with combs down late this afternoon. The ATV started up without problems. I first moved the ginzu outside the shed for off season storage. I rolled all of Essex with the exception of trail from hell, and south prairie wood and west loops.</p> <p>There are two down trees. One in north prairie on the east wooded hill. Was easy to bypass. The second is in the east woods on what Lisa refers to as Robertson expressway? I was able to squeak by with the roller. There is NOT enough room for the ginzu to pass.</p> <p>If my records are correct, I believe Grant and Lisa are up next to groom Essex - should there be a need...fingers crossed.</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2511 Dave 03-10-2021 04:59 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>There's a trailer dolly hanging on the wall of the Payne Shed at QH. (For under the hitch of the Ginzu) Feel free to borrow it but coordinate with the QH folks so they aren't moving equipment at the same time.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2510 mtrantow★ 03-10-2021 04:54 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Earlier, I had suggested moving equipment this Saturday.</p> <p>While still an option for folks who will be around to move drags, I have an unplanned trip back to WI, so I won't be around til Sunday night.</p> <p>Also, the forecast has changed a bit... Monday morning could still be best option of cold & snow to move Ginzu.</p> <p>(I'll plan on doing that unless hearing otherwise)</p>
<p>2509 Barry 03-10-2021 12:16 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Fellow RNST Coaches and Groomers,</p> <p>As promised, here are some details of our delayed Coaches and Groomers Happy hour. In all other years for our team, we have held a Happy Hour on the last day of practice at Whistle Binkies North...until this year when the covid curtailed/delayed that wonderful event. So, thanks to the generosity of Coach/Groomer Andy Wood, he came up with Plan B.</p> <p>Plan B is to delay the social gathering until a weekend in early May and we can have the event outside (with covid safe social distancing). Andy's farm (known as Cedarwood) is in rural Salem Corners (Andy and I will send out the addr or map coordinates as time draws near). Some of you have been out there in the past for an early season team trail run followed by hot cocoa, -and- Andy also hosted a groomers meeting there once.</p> <p>Here are 4 possible dates: Saturday, 5/1 Sunday, 5/2 Saturday, 5/8 Sunday, 5/9</p> <p>The time will be 4-7pm. It will be byob and byos (your own snack).</p> <p>So, as May draws near, we will look at the long range forecast and choose a good looking day (weatherwise) and let you all know.</p>

	<p>And, of course, as always, spouses and significant others are welcome.</p> <p>Mark your calendars. Hope to see many of you then.</p> <p>Thanks, Barry</p>
<p>2508 Chris Brunholzl 03-10-2021 09:32 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Good morning Essex Crew, I'll be in Hayward this weekend so unable to help with the moving. I can help if it doesn't happen this weekend.</p> <p>Thanks! Chris</p>
<p>2507 Dave 03-09-2021 01:38 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>This may or may not be a good idea, your call. The QH guys have used two 2x4" x 8' to lift the back end of the Ginzu. If I remember the process right, on each side of the Ginzu feed a 2x4 under the back frame and over the front frame. Then you easily have the leverage to pick up the Ginzu. I'm confident the frame is sturdy enough to do this. Then have the Ginzu attached to the ATV and walk it into the storage shed.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2506 Laura Zumbrunnen 03-09-2021 01:21 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I know Lisa (show-off for being so much younger) anted up for help but, while Iâ€™m a strong and hearty soul, Iâ€™m a hearty but not very strong body. Youâ€™re best off with me...unless youâ€™re desperate. Signed, The weak L</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2505</p>	<p>Deleted by author 03-10-2021 04:46 PM</p>
<p>2504 Lisa Luetmer 03-08-2021 12:57 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thank you Bruce! I can help move things when needed.</p> <p>L</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2503 Bruce Walk★ 03-07-2021 07:10 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex Park - with the meltdown in full progress and much more grass than snow on the trails, I unhooked the Essex ATV from the battery tender and moved it to the mower battery for good measure. I'll disconnect that tomorrow and put away the charger and extension cord. With the warm forecast, lets watch things for another week but if it continues to warm up and the ground thaws, I'd suggest we get the Ginzu and drags put away to keep them from sitting out in the spring rains. A group of 4 strong and hearty souls ought to be able to get things all moved to the right places. We can leave the roller either out or in the front of the quonset just in case we get a deep spring snow. Will let you know when we're ready for 'moving day'.</p>
<p>2502 Barry 03-06-2021 09:58 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Fellow Groomers and RNST Coaches,</p> <p>Usually we would have had our well deserved Coaches' and Groomers' Happy Hour Thursday (3/4) night (ie, the last scheduled practice of the season) at Whistle Binkies North. This winter, however, due to the covid, we felt it not prudent to hold it indoors. That is when our fellow coach, Andy Wood stepped up and offered his Salem Corners farmyard as a good alternative place to hold an outdoor happy hour (with social distancing, of course). The plan is to choose a weekend afternoon in May to hold it. It will be byob, etc.</p> <p>So, I will keep you posted. We will confer with a local weatherperson and come up with a good day to hold it and let you all know asap.</p> <p>Thanks, Barry</p>
<p>2501</p>	<p>Deleted by topic administrator 03-07-2021 04:03 PM</p>
<p>2500 Walker, Henry J. 02-28-2021 09:46 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH is in good shape outside of the usual flooded areas.</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2499 Joe Gyura★ 02-28-2021 09:42 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mark and Joan, thank you for the updates on QH conditions. Much appreciated.</p> <p>Most of the Olympic activities and games are close to the nature center and on the prairie trail. I will be at QH Monday morning to assess the conditions and consider potential changes of game/event locations at QH.</p>

	<p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2498 Mark Foley 02-28-2021 06:28 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I just got back from hiking in QH and the bridge to the west ball fields is bare. There is a large puddle just past the Nature Center and the prairie trail has lot is slushy spots especially at the end closest to the nature center and I think will be very icy and not very useable tomorrow. I didn't go up in the woods trails but looking at them from a distance, they look good. I suspect if you use the path in the woods from the Nature Center rather than prairie trail, you can get to the woods loops for some good skiing.</p>
<p>2497 Joan Rabe 02-28-2021 06:05 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Short answer - QH is usable for Olympic games. More detail - I was at Quarry Hill from 10:30 to 1pm today. The prairie trail has a lot of ice, and the south half of the woods trail (Not sure what the correct name is - the trail just east of the prairie trail) is mostly pretty bad - very hard slippery surface. But despite some bad spots here and there, most of the trails up in the woods were fairly good. The steeper downhill were too icy for me, but I'm kind of an ice wimp. There was an excellent skate skier zipping around like a bat out of hell while we were there, and he didn't seem to be fazed by the hill conditions. I didn't take my group of classic skiers across Henry's bridge, because it looked like there was standing water there. There was dirt at the bottom of the steepish winding hill down to the groomer shed.</p>
<p>2496 Joe Gyura★ 02-28-2021 05:39 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Andy thank you for checking Essex and the update</p> <p>Has anyone been out to quarry hill to verify if it is usable for Monday's Olympic games? If not I can check conditions tomorrow morning.</p>
<p>2495 Andy Wood 02-28-2021 05:26 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I just returned from Essex. It's not worth grooming at this point. The deck is just too thin and there are bare spots in the prairies. The trail leading down to the concrete bridge is a sheet of ice with a pool of water on the bottom. It's just not safe. So until we get more snow, and March is out snowiest month, we'll have to hold off on grooming. Stay tuned.</p>
<p>2494 Tom mckinley 02-25-2021 11:08 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Just finished grooming all of Quarry Hill. I used heavy knives with good result in most areas. Lots of foot traffic, including a 3 wheel stroller, in the main prairie trail. The multiuse trail over to the west ball field was hard as a rock. The knives barely scratched the surface. The loop around the those ball fields is in good shape. I left the classic track as is. It's in ok shape in most areas. Some thin icy spots exist. The skate deck looks to be in good shape for now. I had some yellow caution tape streaming out of the back of the tool box. I stuffed it back in after I was done.</p> <p>One large gas can full with about a fourth of the other big can left. The equipment worked great! The light bar is very nice in the dark.</p>
<p>2493 Barry 02-25-2021 10:56 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Well, my grooming hero, Dave Greymont did not have a total mishap day as he was on Eastwood by 7am yesterday to refresh the classic tracks so I could do a Virtual Birkie there. He even came out a few hours later to do a lap with me and check out his job. Much appreciated, Dave. In the afternoon, the warm sun really slowed everything down (especially myself). One disappointing thing was around 3pm, between a couple of my final laps, some widetrack bikers had really chewed the trail around the NE hill (the one with the hairpin curve at the bottom). Very disappointing to see this disregard for ski trails; my skis learned a few new words at that time. Once, about a month ago, on the same hill, a snowmobiler had done some inconsiderate damage; luckily, a few days later, the city groomer had smoothed them out. Thanks again, Dave.</p>
<p>2492 Laura 02-25-2021 08:23 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Laura liked Dave's image.</p>
<p>2491 mtrantow★ 02-25-2021 12:35 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>I'm not sure who groomed Essex this evening, but I enjoyed classic skiing there starting at 10pm on virgin groomed trails. I had the whole park to myself...It was a bit icy and fast, and the tracks are shallow, but I attribute that to the hard shallow base.</p> <p>If folks are virtual Birkie racing in town, Essex would be good Thursday morning just as it transitions above freezing (hills will be dicey before that). The skate lane was fast too, with just enough loose snow.</p> <p>The trail from hell is bad above the creek</p> <p>It will probably deteriorate with warm Temps and walkers (the troublesome types,, not Henry, Bjorn, or Ari)</p>
<p>2490 Michael O'Connor 02-24-2021</p>	<p>Just checked out Eastwood. Unfortunately someone on a fatbike decided to bike most of the ski trail, leaving a deep rut in many parts of the skate desk (particularly on the east side of the park). Once this freezes, you need to be very careful skate skiing on the trail.</p>

07:29 PM ET (US)	
2489 Dave Greymont* 02-24-2021 05:16 PM ET (US)	Lots of "Caution Tape"
2488 Laura 02-24-2021 05:01 PM ET (US)	Dave, your post made me laugh...especially the last line. Thanks for sharing.
2487 Lisa Luetmer 02-24-2021 12:14 PM ET (US)	Can you imagine the conversation when that person gets home and the neighbors and spouse see all that caution tape attached to that car? #timetotakethekeysaway:0 Dave youâ€™re a gem and thanks for grooming Eastwood:) L Sent from my iPhone
2486 Dave Greymont* 02-24-2021 11:08 AM ET (US)	I started refreshing the classic track at Eastwood just before 7 AM and the snow was still a little crusty. I followed the previous track and where it was frozen hard there wasn't much I could do with it. Overall, it was somewhat successful but not great. All the equipment (ATV, roller, and trailer) was returned to QH. No mechanical issues. There was one incident though. When driving up West Circle Dr. a car passed me trailing 100's and 100's of yards of yellow caution tape. I thought gee, that looks like our caution tape. I checked the rear view mirror and sure enough the lid to the tool box had come open and the tape had spilled out. A huge piece broke off of the car and I stopped and picked it up but the car kept going still trailing a long length of tape. Kind of the highlight of my day.
2485 Dave Greymont* 02-23-2021 09:25 AM ET (US)	I received a call from John Munson (the Eastwood groomer) that he rolled the skate deck but the snowmobile broke down before he could refresh the classic track. I offered to bring the QH ATV, roller, and dumb track-setter over to Eastwood early Wednesday morning and set the classic track. Afterwards, I will pack the sledding hill at the country club. So, I'll pick up the equipment later today and return it sometime Wednesday morning.
2484 John Resman 02-22-2021 12:52 AM ET (US)	The Quarry Hill trails were groomed and tracked Sunday evening. A nice evening to groom with non-polar vortex temps. Hopefully the snow will set up a bit even though temps aren't getting very cold. No equipment issues. We'll see what the next 3 days of above freezing temps will do to the snow.
2483 Wayne Sadecki 02-21-2021 09:44 PM ET (US)	Groomed Essex late this afternoon. Beautiful out during the light snow. I finished all the trails, and did most of the track. I was running out of daylight, so I did not set track on the western wooded areas. I wanted some daylight while putting away the gear for the first time. My pattern was a bit suboptimal, and definitely made a few extra circles. I need to pull out a map and figure out a good pattern. I also forgot to write down my mileage after finishing. Sorry about the rookie mistake.
2482 Henry Walker 02-20-2021 07:31 AM ET (US)	Correction, 2/19, not 2/29. Major warm up coming, hopefully we make it to 2/29.
2481 Henry Walker 02-20-2021 07:30 AM ET (US)	QH was groomed last night (2/29). The trail continues to be in exceptional shape due to cold weather and very good snow conditions. The classic track was intact and in good condition so I left it as is. Equipment worked very well, no issues encountered. The Nature Center was hosting an evening out walk. Most generally stayed on the walking trail. Some fairly heavy foot traffic in the usual ski trail sections however tracks were easily renovated due to the cold snow base.
2480 Chris Brunholz 02-18-2021 06:45 PM ET (US)	Groomed Essex this afternoon. I did multiple passes trying to get a decent corduroy. Also put down new classic track. Classic track is good in some areas and shallow in others. The base is still thin, but only a couple of places showing dirty snow.
2479 Andy Wood 02-16-2021 12:39 PM ET (US)	Barry is grooming Essex as we speak. I used the snowmobile and rolled with the comb down the old archery range, the garden loop and broke up the drifts on the 55th Street prairie. Snowmobile worked well. I did cold start the ATV before Barry arrived. It back fired a couple of times and then started. Seemed to be running fine when warmed up. Essex should be ready for the ski team this afternoon.
2478 Mark Foley 02-13-2021 02:53 PM ET (US)	Groomed QH today, reset track. Quite a few skiers out even in the cold. No problems with equipment other than ATV front end seems to slide a lot on cornering but I suspect that is due to underlying snow pack. I pruned back some tree branches on the connector trail between bike path and west ball fields at Dave's request.

<p>2477 Dave Greymont★ 02-13-2021 09:55 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Article from the Duluth Tribune We aren't the only ones with non-skiers on the groomed trails. At least we haven't had to compete with snowmobilers (yet).</p> <p>Northland Outdoors NORTHLAND OUTDOORS XC ski trails getting hammered by other users Rogue snowmobilers, fat-tire bikers, dog walkers are wrecking tracked trails. Written By: John Myers Feb 11th 2021 - 6pm.</p> <p>Eve Graves stands at the gate to the Magney-Snively ski trail system. Despite the signs reminding people that snowmobilers, bikers, hikers and dogs are not allowed on the groomed ski trails, Graves has seen evidence of all of them on the trails this winter. (Steve Kuchera / skuchera@duluthnews.com) Eve Graves says it's worse this winter than she's seen before, the number of snowmobilers who are riding illegally on the Magney Snively Cross Country Ski Trails in western Duluth that she helps steward.</p> <p>“At first I thought it was a signage issue. But the snowmobile club went out there and put up new signs and there are still snowmobiles going on the ski trails,” Graves said. “I think it’s just because there are so many more of them out riding this winter.”</p> <p>Minnesota Conservation Officer Andy Schmidt, who patrols the woods and waters of western Duluth and surrounding areas, said he will ticket people who damage single-use trails, such as tracked cross-country ski trails. But he said officers are spread thin this winter, as they have been since last summer, by a huge influx of people outdoors — at least until the latest arctic outbreak — and he said catching someone illegally on a trail is hard to do.</p> <p>“I’ve never seen it this crazy, there are so many more people outside because there’s nothing else to do” under COVID-19 restrictions, Schmidt said.</p> <p>Schmidt said the lack of snow has been a big issue, with many snowmobile trails showing dirt after heavy use and light snowfall.</p> <p>“This happens every year. But I think it’s worse this year because the snowmobile trails are junk. They just don’t have enough snow and they get burned-out pretty quick,” Schmidt said. “Up there (at Magney Snively) it’s just a spider web of trails criss-crossing. So a snowmobiler on a bad trail sees a nice, freshly-groomed cross-country ski trail and thinks, hmmm, let’s try that one.”</p> <p>Schdmit said the DNR has received complaints of trails being damaged “from one end of Duluth to the other, and outside into Jay Cooke and in Carlton County, too.” He said it’s not just snowmobiles but fat-tire bikes, dog walkers and even runners trampling on groomed ski trails.</p> <p>It all comes down to common courtesy, he noted.</p> <p>“We have so many single-use trails around here, which is great. But invariably other people try to use them, too, and some of them aren't considerate enough to stay off the tracks,” Schmidt said. “People just need to be considerate.” Edited 02-13-2021 09:58 AM</p>
<p>2476 Lisa Luetmer 02-12-2021 02:38 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>All of your efforts done in brutal cold too! You guys are the best. L</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2475 Dave Greymont★ 02-12-2021 07:31 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Lisa, it was quite the process. We had the team of Andy, Joe, Harvey, and me. I trailered the QH ATV over to Essex and used it to tow the comatose Essex ATV out of the Quonset hut. Then we put a long tow strap between the two ATV's and drove the QH ATV parallel to the trailer while pulling the Essex ATV up on to the trailer. Then, I took the Essex ATV to the Cycle City ATV hospital and dropped it off. Lastly, I drove back to Essex and picked up the QH ATV and returned it to Quarry Hill. Edited 02-12-2021 07:32 AM</p>
<p>2474</p>	<p>ï»¿I love that atv. Thanks for checking on it Bruce. And for all the efforts to keep our equipment</p>

<p>Lisa Luetmer 02-11-2021 08:51 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>going. There has to be a story about how you all got the Essex atv to the shop. Would like to hear the details. L</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2473 Bruce Walk★ 02-11-2021 06:13 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thursday 2/11/2021 3:30 PM - somewhere around -2F with a deep cold soak the previous night, the Essex ATV turned over nice and fast ... and started. All is well with it.</p>
<p>2472 Dave 02-11-2021 04:09 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Oh good! Thanks for clarifying Chris.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2471 Chris Brunholzl 02-11-2021 04:07 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I was referring to having to jump start the ATV the last time I groomed (January 31), which was the last day it was used before going in for repair.</p> <p>Edited 02-11-2021 04:07 PM</p>
<p>2470 Dave 02-11-2021 02:35 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Please clarify: Are you saying it wouldn't start THIS morning? That would be disappointing.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2469 Chris Brunholzl 02-11-2021 02:08 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Well, as the last guy to use the Essex ATV, I want to say how happy I am to have it fixed. It wouldn't start on it's own that morning, but it didn't skip a beat after it did start. Thank you guys for bringing it in, getting it repaired, and returning it to Essex!</p>
<p>2468 Joe Gyura★ 02-10-2021 09:33 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Just got off a call with Dave. My understanding of the update was totally wrong. The Essex ATV is fixed, returned to The shed, and ready for service!! Thank you, Dave for clarifying my miss understanding. This is certainly welcome news. Thanks for all that you do, Dave!!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2467 Joe Gmail 02-10-2021 08:00 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Dave thank you for all your time and efforts to deliver and retrieve the Essex ATV. Just curious what Cycle City found and fixed and what is needed to get the ATV operational? The experience of bringing the ATV back only to find it not working had to be incredibly disappointing.</p> <p>Joe</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2466 Peter Wollan 02-10-2021 03:21 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH was groomed today. A beautiful day for grooming, and pretty nice for skiing, too. Equipment all worked well. I refreshed the classic track where it was washed out or drifted in.</p>
<p>2465 Dave Greymont★ 02-10-2021 02:57 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I picked up the ATV at Cycle City this morning and returned it to Essex. Bruce met me there and helped in putting it away and reattaching the tool box. The problem was that the gear in the starter was locked up and wouldn't turn. This then caused the relay to fail. I suspect that the gear was slowly tightening up over a long time until it would no longer spin. That's why it seemed that when starting the Essex ATV, it turned over slower than the QH ATV. See the attached picture of the starter and gear.</p>
<p>2464 Joe Gyura★ 02-09-2021 08:57 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Laura, thank you for refilling the gas containers at Essex!!, We all know how heavy those are and suspect you got your strength training workout in for today.</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2463 Laura 02-09-2021 08:51 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex gas cans filled.</p>
<p>2462 Leila 02-08-2021 08:24 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Truly beneficial looking forwards to returning.</p> <p>My web site</p>
<p>2461</p>	<p>I groomed Essex this afternoon. The snowmobile ran well. It wasn't my best work but I got</p>

<p>Lisa Luetmer 02-08-2021 06:27 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>the skate deck refreshed and reset some track. The 55th St. prairie has a small section that is narrowing because of drifting but not real bad. There is one small can of gas left. Lisa Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2460 Peter Wollan 02-05-2021 03:04 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH groomed today. Some drifting in the open areas -- Payne loop, both ball fields, upper Parkwood -- but no deep drifts, and trails in the woods were in very good shape. I set track in the drifted areas, and in some of the woods too, to remind myself how to do it, but most of the track Joey set was just fine. I used knives fairly lightly, and not at all in the inner Parkwood loop, which is very thin in places. Quite a few skiers out, mostly classic. The snow is still pretty soft, and will probably need grooming again at least by Sunday. Gas was down to one big can, so I went over and got more. Peter</p>
<p>2459 Joe Gyura★ 02-05-2021 02:51 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed Essex park this morning. Set classic track on all trails except the north prairie. It has some pretty deep drifts. Will need to get out the drag once the winds subside. Groomed all but a small section in the middle of the old archery field. Did not groom the old garden loop. Was not confident the Skandic would make it up the hill with Ginzu. With the exception of the north prairie, the skate deck looks great. Lisa, Brennan and Barry are up next to groom Essex. Plenty of gas (3/4 of large and one small container). Equipment worked fine. One note: there is bit of wine when not ideling. Maybe a belt? Today was my first ride on the Skandic, so not sure if it's normal. Andy groomed yesterday and said he did not notice anything unusual. Joe</p>
<p>2458 Joey Keillor 02-04-2021 11:08 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH groomed with ginzu, no blades...lots of track set. Tried to keep to a two pass maximum given colder temps and late start. So may not win beauty contest, but got the job done. Hopefully not all of the track drifts in.</p>
<p>2457 Mark Foley 02-04-2021 07:08 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I rolled all the trails at QH this afternoon with comb up. The hills above the Parkwood Hills ball fields have a lot of drifting and some spots with no new snow. I didn't roll the hiking/snow shoe trails. Everything worked fine.</p>
<p>2456 Andy Wood 02-04-2021 05:06 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I rolled all the trails at Essex this afternoon with the comb up to increase weight. I had a little time so I rolled the southern prairie trails with the comb down. There are drifts forming on the northern prairie and also thin spots. I would recommend only using the roller here. The rest is ready for the Ginzu. We do have a new blower to clean off the snow. Make sure it is stored with the funnel facing down so snow and water don't get into the motor.</p>
<p>2455 Dave Greymont★ 02-03-2021 03:02 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>The Essex ATV was delivered to Cycle City this morning with the help of Andy, Joe, and Harvey. We used the Quarry Hill ATV to tow the "dead" ATV on to the trailer. It pulled the ATV up on the trailer without much effort.</p>
<p>2454 Grant Johnson 02-02-2021 12:35 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Rolled/combed Essex this morning (Thursday) using the snowmobile. That set of equipment seemed to be working fine. Thanks Andy for the starting procedure walkthrough.</p>
<p>2453 Dave Greymont★ 02-01-2021 06:28 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Words of caution: Today was the first time I groomed pulling the Ginzu with the knives down. I found that the ATV tended to plow straight forward when making a turn unless I slowed way down so the front tracks would steer around the corner.</p>
<p>2452 Dave Greymont★ 02-01-2021 03:01 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>You may have seen a message from Michael that we have abandoned Facebook for listing local ski trail conditions. Instead there is now a forum on the home page just under the main blue banner. It's an open forum and you don't need any login or password. Click on the blue link for ski trail conditions. You can enter your name or leave it blank. If left blank the message will read from anonymous. Post your message, check the box that you're not a robot, and then at the bottom of the message box click on "post". As you know, the purpose of this forum for ski trail</p>

	conditions is so the public knows which trails have been recently groomed and their condition. It's important to many to mention whether or not a classic track has been set.
2451 Dave Greymont* 02-01-2021 02:48 PM ET (US)	The Quarry Hill trails were refreshed this morning. I left the classic track as is. I was able to improve the trail out to the west ball field with a very delicate touch of the knives. All the equipment worked well. The operator is somewhat questionable.
2450 Tom McKinley 01-31-2021 02:43 PM ET (US)	Quarry Hill was groomed this morning. At the advice of Greymont the Ginzu Grooming Guru, I abandoned my plan to roll. Instead I used the Ginzu, without knives, to pack the trails and also set a classic track. It seemed to work pretty well. I am not sure how well the classic will hold up, but its something. I groomed all ski trails including the west Quarry hill park. Park and REC did plow a single lane from the cemetery to the T intersection at the turn off to the trail behind the prison. I was able to still groom along side that plowed lane. Equipment all worked great! Thanks again to Dave and Dave for fixing the track setter.
2449 Joe Gyura* 01-31-2021 12:56 PM ET (US)	Chris, thank you for grooming Essex this morning! Sorry to hear of the battery problems starting the ATV. Per Bruce, Essex groomers should use the snowmobile until the issues with the ATV are resolved. Grant, Wayne and Dan are up next to groom Essex. Let Andy and I know if any are not familiar with using the snowmobile for grooming. Joe
2448 Peter Wollan 01-29-2021 07:29 PM ET (US)	Thanks Dave and Dave! On Fri, Jan 29, 2021 at 1:51 PM QT - David Squillace < qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com > wrote:
2447 David Squillace* 01-29-2021 02:54 PM ET (US)	Photo of QH tract setter actuator disassembly, a very greasy and dirty job.
2446 David Squillace* 01-29-2021 02:51 PM ET (US)	The QH ATV and ginzu are now operational. The track setter actuator was repaired by Dave S and the wiring problem was a Dave G Dave S team effort. The atv 7 pin connector was broken, cracked, and corroded. It is remarkable that less than 1 volt allowed the knife actuator to function. The track setter circuit was dead. We installed a new connector and heavy duty bracket. Please double check that you have disconnected the electric cable before driving away.
2445 Bruce Walk* 01-29-2021 11:53 AM ET (US)	Essex Groomers - I've been checking the ATV the last few days after these cold nights. On two occasions, it still didn't want to turn over fast enough to start even with the battery tender attached. Here's the backup plan: If you run into this, there is a battery (the mower battery) on the wood floor right below the sign-in sheets. Pick it up, put it on the ATV front box. It has a lead on it, unplug the cap, plug it into the ATV plug, start the ATV. Then unplug the battery, put the tethered cap back on the plug, sit it back where you got it. This effectively jumps the battery and supplies the extra current needed to turn the engine over in the cold temps. You only need to do this if the ATV won't start after unplugging the battery tender. Remember, never try to start the ATV with the battery tender attached.
2444 Peter Wollan 01-27-2021 01:46 PM ET (US)	Quarry Hill was groomed today. The motor assembly for the track setter is still off somewhere getting worked on, but I lowered the setter manually to see if that worked. It didn't work well, but I set track on the Prairie trail, half of the woods trail, and up around Parkwood Hills. It's not a good track, but some people were using it by the time I left, and looked pleased. I went out to the west ball field. The multipurpose trail is packed hard, and thin, and is skiable if you're careful. It all looked very pretty, and I was quite pleased with myself, until on the last pass I tried to take a corner I shouldn't have, and bumped a tree. It did some damage to the front tool box -- only the tool box, I think. Definitely no star for me. The light bar wasn't plugged in when I got there, and it wasn't obvious which socket to plug in, so I left it unplugged. I'll review the explanations and pictures before next time. There's just one big gas can left full. Peter

	<p>On Tue, Jan 26, 2021 at 6:58 PM QT - Joe Gyura < qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> wrote:</p>
<p>2443 Joe Gyura* 01-26-2021 07:58 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Lisa, thank you for grooming Essex! The conditions for today's ski team practice were great.</p> <p>Regarding laying classic tracks on both sides, I don't recall seeing any mention and/ or suggestion on the practice. My personal opinion, is that the lanes at Essex are not wide enough to support a track on both sides. I love to classic skiing, and totally fine with a single track.</p> <p>Matt, Chris and Grant are up next to groom Essex. Laura, thank you for filling the gas containers!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2442 Lisa Luetmer 01-26-2021 03:55 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex was groomed this morning. I made for have missed the memo about classic tracks. Most of the trail had track set on both sides. I eliminated one side and left one side alone. I set a whisper of track in some places but the deck is so thin. If people prefer track on both sides of the trail I apologize. I forgot to dip down into the mini garden loop. Sorry. Everything ran perfectly. I love our new setup with the charger and the plug! Thank you Bruce and Dave. Thanks to Laura there is plenty of gas. Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2441 Dave 01-26-2021 09:37 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>I just spoke to John Munson and he's groomed Eastwood and says it's "beautiful" and he set a new classic track. I'll tell Lori and Pam that maybe they should refer people to Eastwood or Essex for the time being.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2440 Peter Wollan 01-26-2021 09:33 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Actually, that's reassuring -- the base is so thin that a shallow track is all we could manage, anyway. People are complaining about not having a track. I think we should give them a shallow, cosmetic track and ask them to arrange for more snow.</p> <p>Apparently Essex has track now. If the setter can be made to work, I'll set track at QH on Wednesday.</p> <p>Peter</p> <p>On Tue, Jan 26, 2021 at 8:00 AM QT - Dave < qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> wrote:</p>
<p>2439 Dave 01-26-2021 09:00 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Guys, it's been my experience that once the snow has been groomed and compacted it's really difficult trying to set a classic track. I've tried it before and all you get is a shallow track that's really not very beneficial for classic skiing. The track setter works best after a new snowfall and the initial grooming.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2438 John Resman 01-26-2021 08:32 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Oops - sorry I forgot to mention - Track setting wasn't attempted since the track setter is under repair. The mechanism which raises and lowers the track setter has been removed for repair (I assume by David Squillace).</p>
<p>2437 Tom Mckinley 01-26-2021 08:18 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>John, Were you able to get the track setter to work by chance?</p> <p>Sent from my iPad</p>
<p>2436 John Resman 01-25-2021 11:56 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Quarry Hill was groomed Monday evening (for the 4th time in 2 days!). The entire trail system was groomed. Just a few thin spots (Payne shed hill, NE loop hill, and some parts of Parkwood hill loops). With the ski team practice on Monday, the dry snow has been packed pretty well. The trail should be in good shape tomorrow. The snow was just deep enough on the trail to the west ballfield to smooth out with light touch of the knives. The front light bar is very nice!</p>
<p>2435 Laura 01-25-2021 10:17 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Will fill Essex cans (with premium) today. Heartfelt thanks to those donating all the skillful and time-consuming maintenance work of late and the recent grooming.</p>
<p>2434</p>	<p>Groomed Essex yesterday (Sunday) pm after Brennan rolled it in the am. As Henry noted (from</p>

<p>Barry 01-25-2021 10:04 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH, below), the snow was very dry. From the time I first did the little bridge and headed to the east woods and south prairie, and went over the little bridge again (90 min later), there had been so much ski and foot traffic that you couldn't even tell it had been groomed once. Lots of people out; which is a good thing. For once, Essex may have gotten a little more snow than QH. The classic track setter worked well. In fact, everything worked well. A big thanks to the electrical plugs and charger setup. Those improvements are elegant electrical engineering (say that fast 3 times) improvements. Nice job. I will buy whoever did that a beverage at the next Groomer/Coaches Happy Hour; oh that's right, we are still dealing with covid. All right, I will buy whoever 2 beverages at the next happy hour 13 months from now. Of the 4 gas containers, 2 are about empty, and the other 2 are getting low. Time for more gas. Thanks.</p>
<p>2433 Henry Walker 01-24-2021 10:31 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH was groomed for the 3rd time today due to heavy skier and foot traffic as well as very dry snow conditions preventing the snow from packing. Very nice evening to groom, 12 degrees and very little wind. Just right when wearing a pair of Dickies. Everything worked well except the track setter as Ari mentioned. The knives were hesitant until I worked the plug in the receptacle a bit. The track setter refused to budge no matter the position of the plug. Needless to say a track was not set, I think enough snow exists to set a shallow track. The dumb track setter isn't ideal in this thin base of dry snow. The skate deck is smooth, wide and very level using very light teeth, just enough to erase the ATV tracks. I groomed a four ginzu wide trail in Parkwood to facilitate group practices Monday.</p> <p>The trail to the west ballfields was ginzu packed but the snow was very thin and very heavy foot traffic broke up the base here and there. Hitting frozen dog turds exposed pavement it was so thin. If the packed snow sets up a little over night the team may be able to ski to the ballfields either double pole or very gentle skating. Plowing the snow off the trail really hurt this section, I really wish that didn't happen but it did. It goes to show we need to take good care of every 1/2" of snow we get. The ballfields have plenty of snow once you leave the path.</p> <p>The new light bar is a great addition, thanks Dave S. I plugged the charger back in at the end - as Dave mentioned, unplug it before starting the ATV.</p> <p>Foot traffic did exist on the ski trail today, but I was pleasantly surprised that most of it was off to the side. While it is frustrating to see someone effectively mess up three hours of freezing your butt off by walking on the trail, Covid begs for a little tolerance. Just my opinion. If ever there was a time for situational empathy this is it. People are desperate to get outside. I asked hikers to stay to the side of the trail instead of asking them to hike elsewhere. This is a tough year for everyone.</p>
<p>2432 Dave Greymont* 01-24-2021 07:47 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Ari, We've had trouble with it so maybe it's not working. But, sometimes there's not a good connection and wiggling the plug in the outlet fixes the problem.</p>
<p>2431 Ari Walker 01-24-2021 06:00 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed QH after Tom was finished while using the ginzu. All went well except the classic track setter did not work so I didn't set track. It would do anything when moving the switch. Snow was dry and didn't pack down hard but with so many skiers it wouldn't survive anyway. It may need another round later tonight. Trail was covered with people today.</p>
<p>2430 Tom mckinley 01-24-2021 03:08 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH - just finished rolling QH. Snow is pretty dry and so did not pack that well. I did also go west to quarry hill park and did park wood hills. The multi-use trail over to the west that had been plowed was kind of thin but seemed to smooth out ok wil the roller. I did try to roll the snowshoe loop near the prairie house. I was not sure if I was supposed to go around the pond near the nature center or not. I will have to review the map to see what I should have rolled. Lots of skiers out today. Many asking about a classic track. Hopefully that will work out on groom with the ginzu.</p>
<p>2429 Peter Wollan 01-23-2021 03:30 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I just got back from QH -- Mike, you deserve a star too. The trails are in surprisingly good shape, except for the ice near the Nature Center. And a couple of places where the groomer got down to dirt. But overall, lovely skiing. Hardly anyone else there, too.</p> <p>I liked the East Ball Field Freeway -- 6 lanes, at least. And it has started snowing.</p> <p>Peter</p> <p>On Fri, Jan 22, 2021 at 9:48 PM QT - Mike Holmes <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> wrote:</p>
<p>2428</p>	<p>The picture is of the two nuts that were loose.</p>

Mike Holmes 01-22-2021 10:49 PM ET (US)	
2427 Mike Holmes 01-22-2021 10:48 PM ET (US)	Quarry Hill was groomed this evening. I probably will not get the accolades that Joey did but conditions should be improved until we get tomorrow's much needed snow. It didn't seem worth trying to set track but I did notice that the tracker had tilted to the side so I straightened it and tighten the bolts. Hopefully someone can check it tomorrow, I would call what I did a field repair.
2426 Joan Rabe 01-20-2021 04:29 PM ET (US)	Essex. I raked up the detritus from tree cutting on the west? side of the island. The 5" tree that Joe mentioned was very dead, so I was able to remove enough branches by hand to clear about 4' of the trail. Still needs a chainsaw to clear the trail completely. (I'm waiting for a part on back order for mine)
2425 mtrantow★ 01-19-2021 10:24 PM ET (US)	Until we get a new FaceBook page for Rochester Nordic Ski Trails, check out the new SkiWise App for Android and Apple... it's free and all the Rochester trails are on there: Essex, QH, Eastwood, Chesterwoods, even Soldier's Field. (last two have no reports yet). I posted Eastwood's conditions there, since John Munson of Rochester Parks did such a fine job setting up the 4.5K course for RNST Time Trial this Thursday. There's even surprisingly good Classic Tracks (B-skis in spots) on either side of a WIDE skate lane.
2424 Joe Gyura★ 01-19-2021 08:25 PM ET (US)	I groomed Essex this afternoon. The equipment worked great!! Thank you David, Bruce and Mike! There is plenty of gas (one large and small can). As Dave mentioned, there was a surprising amount of new snow (3 to4). Unfortunately, the new snow had very little moisture content leaving minimal addition to the snow base depth. Essex base is still very thin. There are many areas where grass and dirt are showing. Due to the thin base, I did not set track, groom the trail from hell, and the adjoining steep hill by the playground. There is a small (5"~) tree down covering half of the trail not far from the archery field toward the steel bridge. Easy to groom/ski around, but should be removed. Lisa, Brennan and Barry are up next to groom Essex Joe Edited 01-19-2021 08:33 PM
2423 DAVID SQUILLACE 01-19-2021 06:56 PM ET (US)	The QH track setter actuator is working again. Dave S Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone ----- Original message ----- From: QT - Dave Greymont <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Date: 1/19/21 4:59 PM (GMT-06:00) To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subscribers@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming
2422 Dave Greymont★ 01-19-2021 05:59 PM ET (US)	I went skiing at QH this afternoon and there was more new snow than I expected. To keep it from blowing off the trail and groom the trail for ski team practice I rolled most of the trails expect for Park Wood Hills. I was racing against time to beat the ski team practice and quit when they got out on the trails. I attempted to set a classic track with the "dumb" track setter behind the roller with limited success. It turned out pretty shallow. (Note to self. Ski clothing is not warm enough for grooming.) Fortunately I had an extra jacket in the car but nevertheless I got very chilled.
2421 Dave Greymont★ 01-19-2021	The actuator for the Quarry Hill track setter is not working. Dave S. will be trying to fix it in the next few days.

12:23 PM ET (US)	
2420 Dave Greymont★ 01-19-2021 08:33 AM ET (US)	Facebook made changes that resulted in us not being able to log in to our Facebook Trail Conditions page. The only fix was to create a new Facebook account. Michael O'Connor is waiting for activation of the new account. Unfortunately we will lose all the history from the old account. I'll send out a notice once the new account is up and active and the new log in password. Remember the purpose of this Facebook page is for the public to know which trails have been recently groomed and their condition. Ideally, after grooming a trail update should be posted on this Facebook page.
2419 David Squillace★ 01-18-2021 01:55 PM ET (US)	I groomed QH this morning first with the green drag and then with the ginzu. Grooming new areas of the ball field with the drag did not work at all, so I had to go back and get the ginzu to do that. Once I had the ginzu on, I decided to do most of the trails again with it because it left a much nicer finish and pushed much of the debris back down into the snow. I did not do the trail to the west or the west field. The track setter did not work, so I only did a little bit of classic track, and that did not turn out very well. Dave S
2418 Joe Gyura★ 01-17-2021 10:15 PM ET (US)	Mike T did double duty today. Before grooming Essex this morning we cut back and removed the downed tree covering the south section of the wood loop at Essex. Thank you, Mike! We did not have a rake. If someone has time, or a RNST member(s) looking for volunteer hour, the Essex woods and trail could use a pick up sweep where we removed the tree and other wooded areas. Thanks! Joe
2417 mtrantow★ 01-17-2021 02:35 PM ET (US)	Just got done grooming Essex and as Joey said it was a interesting technique to find where the ginzu knives work best. All of Essex has been groomed but it is B or rock ski situation depending on how carefully you ski. hills in the woods facing south are terrible. Trail on both sides of creek should be avoided to the west. Gardens and old archery range are NOT ready. Some of the fields loops are in really good shape. no classic track set. All equipment worked well thanks to Bruce Walk and David Squillace. Still one large and one small gas can full.
2416 Joey 01-17-2021 11:55 AM ET (US)	Bar light worked good. Easy enough to figure out hook-up using those instructional photos.
2415 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 01-16-2021 11:25 PM ET (US)	Thanks Joey. How did the LED light bar work for you? Sent from my iPhone
2414 Joey 01-16-2021 11:06 PM ET (US)	Majority of QH groomed tonight. Tried green drag, but snow was still too wet and it was digging in too far. Experimented with ginzu, and found that a very light kiss of blades worked well in places that weren't visibly thin or icy. So with a lot of blade feathering, a good majority of trails are looking pretty skiable...at least in the dark. If you go, enter at Parkwood hills. It is very icy between nature center and prairie house...could maybe be double-poled, but pretty sketchy. Did not, of course, head out to west ball fields, as paved trail was plowed again. And someone drove around the west ball field, too! What is it with these people?
2413 mtrantow★ 01-16-2021 05:23 PM ET (US)	I spot checked Essex in just the pavilion area and decided there's not much point in grooming until we get more snow. Folks (besides Barry) had been and were skiing. It's a bit icy and thin in areas but better than nothing.
2412 Barry 01-16-2021 12:18 PM ET (US)	Yuck, please disregard my message from last night (below). I remember now that when I do a reply-all from my phone this happens. I'll try to remember to not do it that way again. Here's what I was trying to say (this is in regard to Dave G's entry about a pickup at Essex).: Dave, thanks for the news. I skied at Essex this afternoon and noticed some tire tracks messing up the trails. I assumed it was some untimely park tree maintenance, but now know better. What a bummer by a dufus. Aarg!
2411	Deleted by topic administrator 01-19-2021 01:15 PM
2410 Dave Greymont★ 01-15-2021	Message from Park and Rec: Today there was a guy in a truck that drove down the trails at Essex and crashed into the woods near the creek. Police are currently having the pickup towed. The trails were impacted.

04:12 PM ET (US)	
2409 mtrantow★ 01-15-2021 03:02 PM ET (US)	<p>I spoke with Joy Gyura about the Essex tree. He'll contact Mike Nigbur Roch City Parks. Then get the tree taken care of Sunday/Monday.</p> <p>I will plan to roll or ginzu Essex on Saturday afternoon/evening depending on temps, more snow and how it is firming up.</p> <p>Going out to bushwack Eastwood lower woods trails with rock skis to see if that is possible to use Next Friday for the RNST race (hope we can hold it at Eastwood).</p>
2408 Mike Holmes 01-15-2021 02:18 PM ET (US)	<p>I can run the Ginzu over the trails tomorrow morning if that is the direction we want to go. I am just throwing this out there, but what if skip Saturday morning and Ginzu Saturday late afternoon or evening. That would let it freeze down over night. Anyways, just a thought.</p> <p>Mike H</p>
2407 Dave 01-15-2021 01:56 PM ET (US)	<p>Harvey, There is no classic track. Once the trail was rolled it compacted down to maybe an inch to 1-1/2 inches of snow. Not enough to set track. Eastwood is not groomed.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
2406 Harvey Bertrand 01-15-2021 01:47 PM ET (US)	<p>Not sure. There is a low quality track then? Has the golf course been groomed?</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
2405 Dave Greymont★ 01-15-2021 01:28 PM ET (US)	<p>QH rolled this morning with the comb down. Like Andy's comment I don't see any reason to go over the trail with the Ginzu now. Maybe later today or first thing tomorrow morning to smooth out ski tracks and footprints. The multipurpose paved paths were plowed again. I had a note to call the guy that plowed when I got back to the Payne shed. He said there was a miscommunication and that it wouldn't happen again. I also slowly rolled the new hiking/snowshoe trail. I spent more time shaking the snow off overhanging branches (so they'd spring back up), sawing limbs, and picking up branches than I did rolling. There's a rogue fat tire cyclist riding on the trails. Pam Meyer at the Nature Center has talked with him several times about not riding on the trails without success. You have my permission to keel haul him if you can catch him. In the attached picture you can see the bike tire rut.</p>
2404 Andy Wood 01-15-2021 11:42 AM ET (US)	<p>Well that was a disappointing winter storm! Essex has been completely rolled and most of the tree branches removed from the trails. There is a very large tree blown over on the Island Loop which needs to be removed by Park and Rec. I suggest we bypass that southern section until Spring. Equipment ran well with no issues. The trails are skiable but soft. Some grass is still sticking up. B or C skis recommended. For now, I suggest we let the trail firm up before we roll again. No worth using the Ginzu yet. We do need to pull the Ginzu next to the red barn in case we need it. We have to continue doing snow dances! Happy Trails! Andy</p>
2403 Bruce Walk★ 01-04-2021 10:54 AM ET (US)	<p>Dave Squillace and I have been working this Fall to get the Essex ATV to start reliably. We're confident that there are no electrical issues (all Voltage measurements within spec) and the battery is new and strong. We've also compared it to the Quarry Hill ATV. We've cleaned the fuel system and fuel which has seemed to help eliminate the 'pops' or 'backfires' some of you may have experienced when starting it. While it does turn over slightly slower than the QH ATV, it seems to be starting reliably now especially with the battery attached to the trickle charger. We suspect there may be some weakness or failure in the decompression mechanism of the machine that causes it to turn over harder when cold starting. Dave and I are in agreement that the system we have now is working and the starts with the trickle charger offset any extra required effort. Therefore we agree that we'll postpone further investigation into the decompression mechanism until spring. Looking into this will require some engine dis-assembly and possibly taking the machine out of service for a week or more. That simply doesn't seem justified now with the process we have in place. Any questions, please feel free to contact either of us.</p>
2402 Bruce Walk★ 01-04-2021 10:39 AM ET (US)	<p>Essex Snowmobile Starting Procedure:</p> <p>We've added a trickle charger to the Essex ATV to assist with starting (hopefully) even in the coldest weather. Please refer to the picture above. When arriving, the ATV will be connected to the charger via a black connector (1). Unplug the charger from the wall outlet and separate the black connector. Put the charger and extension cord to the side for reattachment when you're finished grooming. Take the pigtail connected to the ATV and insert it into the Nuun container on the left side of the front box (2). Slide the cord into the slot in the Nuun container (3). Replace the Nuun lid firmly (4).</p> <p>Start the ATV as usual. Remember, turn the ATV off with the Red switch, Not the key. Turn off</p>

	<p>the key and remove later after the fan has stopped running (if hot).</p> <p>When finished grooming, reverse the procedure, i.e. take the pigtail from the Nuun container, put the lid back on, put the charger on the front box lid, connect the two pigtails of the black connector, plug the charger into the wall outlet.</p> <p>Edited 01-04-2021 10:43 AM</p>
<p>2401 Andy Wood 12-30-2020 12:50 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex trails were rolled this morning. Only placed not rolled were the archery range and the Garden Loop due to tall grass and rough trails. Snow is thin and trails are bumpy. I would not recommend skiing unless you have grade Z rock skis. Equipment worked well. I left the roller by the red barn. Ginzu is till by the machine shed. I would not recommend any further grooming until we get more snow. The rolling just layed down a good base for what's to come. Happy New Year all and do some snow dances!!</p>
<p>2400 Mark Foley 12-30-2020 09:17 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Rolled QH this morning with the comb down. Some areas have grass coming through the snow, especially the field near the Payne Shed. No real problems other than the roller being frozen to the ground when I started, making it a bit more challenging to hook it up. At various times got wafts of mothballs! I didn't roll the new snow shoe path as we have so little snow yet.</p>
<p>2399 mtrantow★ 12-26-2020 09:10 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>While we wait for groomable snow, if you have ice skates, check out Chesterwoods. Seems Crazy skating across black ice, but plenty thick 4+ inches; following the ice fishermen's paths. One loop is about .9 mile</p>
<p>2398 Dave Greymont★ 12-12-2020 01:29 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Many thanks to Tom, Mike, Peter, Rich, and Harvey for helping this morning. We spread grass seed on the trail that was scrapped bare, and by the culvert on the east trail, and the sharp downhill corner at the far north end of the east trail extension. Unfortunately, the ground was frozen so we were unable to work the seed into the ground. Hopefully it'll survive the winter and germinate next spring.</p> <p>Edited 12-12-2020 01:30 PM</p>
<p>2397 John Resman 12-06-2020 09:53 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Bruce and David S. devised a dummy connector for the Ginzu in which to place the Ginzu cable when not in use. This will help prevent snow and ice accumulating in the connector and hopefully reduce/eliminate problems when attaching the Ginzu cable to the ATV/snowmobile. Both the QH and Essex Ginzus have this connector installed. The attached picture is for the QH Ginzu, but the Essex Ginzu is similar.</p> <p>When attaching the Ginzu cable to the dummy connector, remember to use one hand to hold the dummy connector when pushing the cable into the connector. The dummy connector bracket is stiff, but not strong enough to prevent bending if the cable is pushed in without holding the bracket.</p>
<p>2396 David Squillace★ 12-02-2020 09:31 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex ATV: On Monday of this week, Dave G. and Dave S. trailered the Essex ATV to a warm garage and replaced two flat-spotted bogey wheels on the tracks. Then we increased the track tension to specification on all four tracks.</p> <p>In the afternoon, we replaced the transmission drive belt on the ATV. To the best of our knowledge, it had never been replaced and it was shiny on the sides from wear but only slightly narrower than the new belt. The pulleys were in very good condition. When pulling equipment with the ATV, a good drive belt helps to prevent damage to the pulleys and the clutch, which are very expensive to replace.</p>
<p>2395 Dave Greymont★ 11-27-2020 11:40 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>I hiked in QH today and noticed a couple of things. On the far east trail the caution sign about the steep downhill and sharp turn has been pulled out. I'll try to put it back in later today or tomorrow. Then, someone did donuts in the field by the Parkwood Hills playground. (Maybe this is old damage and I just don't remember it.)</p> <p>All of the lath trail markers have been knocked down and will need to be replaced.</p> <p>Edited 11-27-2020 11:41 AM</p>
<p>2394 Barry 11-25-2020 12:47 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Dave S., Dave G., Bruce W., A huge thank you for the overwhelming amount of grooming equipment maintenance AND trail repair you three (and others) have done.</p> <p>I'm sure that I speak for all the rest of us groomers when I say that your time and skills are truly appreciated. The ski team kids and local casual skiers probably have no idea of all your effort, but we do, and acknowledge it here. Again, THANK YOU!</p>
<p>2393 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 11-24-2020 09:07 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Excellent! I do hope things freeze down quickly to avoid washouts. Thanks for following up Dave. MH</p>

<p>2392 Dave Greymont★ 11-24-2020 08:55 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>New response from Mike Schaber (P&R). They will plan to "top dress" the trail. I'm assuming this means they will cover the damaged areas with a layer of dirt.</p>
<p>2391 Dave Greymont★ 11-23-2020 05:22 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>P&R flattened the QH trail today and it is considerably improved. But, there's still an area with tire tread marks. Unless P&R has the equipment to shave the center of the trail and move dirt to the edges, or they bring in fill, I don't know how else the tread marks can be covered up. Once there's adequate snow, it may be okay. If anyone else wants to take a look and offer an opinion, please do. Attached is a picture of a bad area after today's work.</p>
<p>2390 Bruce Walk★ 11-23-2020 04:53 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>The Essex ATV is back in the quonset with the following items fixed: 1) Cleaned out the remnants of the mouse nests from around the electrical relays, computer, etc and repaired the positive battery lead and one other wire in a bundle that had been eaten. Added another positive terminal cover to take the place of the half eaten one. 2) Added hardware cloth screen covers to keep the mice out of the 3 air inlet holes. 3) Added a battery access port that comes out from under the box to enable measuring the battery and possibly low amperage charging. Right now its inside a Nuun container wedged into the toolbox cup holder to the left of the handlebars. It can be easily removed if the battery health stabilizes this winter. 4) Cleaned up all the actuator wiring. Its all encased now and routed to either side of the console display so we can actually see the display again. I tested it this morning and the actuators are now running at full speed again vs. slow. I also put handles on the actuator switches for mittened hands. For both actuators now, pushing forward is 'down', pulling back is 'up'. 5) Replaced the work light switch since all the fastening nuts were gone. 6) Added a couple screws to the cover with the gas tank access port - most of the tabs that hold it in place are broken off. Right now I'm not finding any parasitic battery drains and the machine has been starting reliably for me over the last week... hoping it stays that way. I did some preliminary cleaning of the toolbox, it seems to have accumulated a lot of stuff. Will separate it once I find a tote that can stay in the quonset into items that should go out on the trail and items that can stay in the shed.</p>
<p>2389 Lisa Luetmer 11-23-2020 12:19 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>This is an astonishing amount of time and effort. I would be interested if you took all his hours (including trailering the equipment) and multiply by 55\$ (conservative mechanic rate?). Bet itâ€™s a boatload of money saved and the efforts keep our equipment going. And Daveâ€™s wife is also putting her time in. I noticed that Dave G was also involved helping Dave. Thank you all. Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2388 Dave Greymont★ 11-23-2020 10:34 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Trail damage reply from Mike Schaber (P&R) We should finish up the bridge today and we will grade things immediately after that</p>
<p>2387 Dave Greymont★ 11-23-2020 06:06 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>As our equipment ages it takes an enormous amount of time and effort to keep everything working. Below is a list of the maintenance that Dave Squillace performed over the last year. We all owe Dave a big thank you. ddsquill@msn.com</p> <p>RASC Maintenance Projects from late 2019 to late 2020 Dec. 2019 Essex Skandic oil and oil filter change, new spark plugs and fill coolant reservoir Jan 2020 Installed new (old specification) spark plugs on both ATVs, back to old version Jan 2020 QH ATV: purchase and install Silent Rider muffler silencer (noise reducer) Feb 2020 Repaired QH ginzu comb with Dave G. Removed comb, heated and straightened, reinstalled. Made another attempt with longer bolts. Both attempts ultimately unsuccessful. Mar 2020 Purchased and installed new comb on QH ginzu with Dave G. Success at last (we hope). Mar 2020 Purchase and assemble trailer hitch dolly for moving ginzu Mar 2020 Get free commercial carpet and construct skid with rope & attach wood leader board to make ginzu sled. This helps to protect ginzu combs from scratching while moving over gravel. Mar 2020 QH ATV track to wheel change, also removed all old type serration bolts and lug nuts and installed new type. Mar 2020 Installed two new (large) 201mm track wheels on QH track in Dave G garage. April 2020 Essex: removed all old type serration bolts and nuts and replaced. June 2020 QH ATV tracks: with Dave G., removed all wheel covers and used heavy oil to</p>

	<p>lubricate wheels on one side of tracks. Let sit for a day, come back and flip over and lubricate the other side of the track wheels.</p> <p>June 2020 Purchased and installed new battery for Essex mower.</p> <p>June 2020 QH: installed new mower blades and cleaned buildup of grass clippings under mower deck</p> <p>June 2020 Essex: installed sharpened mower blades and cleaned buildup of grass clippings under mower deck with Lisa L.</p> <p>July 2020 Essex Skandic: engine oil and oil filter change. Chain case oil change. Lubed Skandic undercarriage.</p> <p>July 2020 Installed light bulb for QH shed and evicted groundhogs (again). Sprayed weed and grass killer on areas surrounding shed and trailer throughout summer season.</p> <p>Sept 2020 Disassembled Essex mower, installed new alternator, cleaned engine cooling fins, attachments etc. Removed rotating screen parts from flywheel. Reinstalled and gapped magnetos. Tuned engine. Engine oil change, oil filter change, new spark plugs, new air filter. Installed battery case retaining bracket and straps.</p> <p>Oct 2020 Purchased and installed new metal handles, new galvanized bolts, and galvanized washers for ginzu snow flaps at both Essex and QH. Removed and straightened snow flap brackets.</p> <p>Oct 2020 Essex mower engine oil, oil filter and air filter change. New spark plugs. Engine winterization.</p> <p>Oct 2020 QH wheel to track change with team. Changed ATV oil and oil filter. Added new moth ball packets to mouse-prone places.</p> <p>Nov 2020 Essex: Lubricated ATV track wheels with heavy oil by removing wheel covers and filling with oil. Lubricated wheels on all tracks on both sides of each track.</p> <p>Nov 2020 Disassembled QH mower, cleaned alternator, engine cooling fins, carburetor, attachments, gapped magnetos, engine tune-up and entire mower housing cleaning. Engine oil change, oil filter change, new spark plugs, new air filter. Engine winterization.</p> <p>Nov 2020 Essex: Skandic, replaced transmission drive belt. Added moth ball packets to mouse-prone areas.</p>
<p>2386 Dave Greymont★ 11-22-2020 03:41 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mike, Thank you for brining the trail damage to my attention. I wanted to see how bad it was before I ask Mike Scharber (P&R) to repair the trail. They're replacing the bridge decking on the wooden bridge and brought the new decking in with heavy equipment. They drove a path towards the prairie house, and then north to where the wooden bridge is located. Ruts on the ski trail, and very deep ruts (off the ski trail) by the wooden bridge. See attached photo. (Click on photo to enlarge)</p>
<p>2385 Mike Holmes 11-21-2020 11:18 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>2384 Mike Holmes 11-21-2020 11:16 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I walked QH today and was surprised by ruts out there. Heavy equipment has been taking the road/trail.</p>
<p>2383 Dave Greymont★ 11-21-2020 09:16 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Jeff Robertson AKA the Ditch Witch Whisperer smoothing out the ruts at Essex.</p>
<p>2382 Dave Greymont★ 11-21-2020 09:15 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Ruts left by P&R truck at Essex when removing downed tree.</p>
<p>2381 Lisa Luetmer 11-21-2020 06:06 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thank you to Bruce and Dave S. for all youâ€™ve done working on our equipment. Jeff Robertson spent 5 hours on the ditch witch repairing the trails at Essex. The ground was a little wet but he did an amazing job. He filled two big tree root holes, rearranged the forest floor a little, tipped over a large dead tree (because he felt like it) and filled a big scar on the hill to the prairie trails. He also moved that pile of rocks near the cement bridge. I took a few pics and sent them to Dave G so he could post them for me. Iâ€™m not very tech savvy. We have to clean up a downed tree on the trail in the woods from the pavilion. And we need to cut back the weeds at the bike trail that leads to the 55 th street big hill. L</p>

	Sent from my iPhone
2380 Bruce Walk★ 11-16-2020 06:32 PM ET (US)	<p>Rewired the Skidoo Skandic outlet for the Ginzu. I moved it as far back as possible so items put into the rear box don't bend or shatter it. Rewired the Ginzu using individual cords for each actuator. This should be much less stiff than the 7 conductor RV cord and hopefully won't stress the strain relief of the connectors as much. I'm also adding a dummy female connector on the Ginzu side to put the plug into. This should keep all ice and snow out of the Ginzu connector as it will always be plugged into a tight fitting receptacle. I still have some cleanup to do on the wires and dummy receptacle. Will try to get that wrapped up tomorrow.</p> <p>The ATV has some mouse damage on the wiring. At the least, the positive battery terminal insulation is eaten away to the copper in at least one place. I checked the battery voltage while running - it checked out at 14V - specs call for the regulator output to be between 13.5 and 14.5v so that's IOK. I plan to bring it to my garage soon (perhaps Tuesday) to repair the wires and run some further tests.</p>
2379 DAVID SQUILLACE 11-16-2020 01:19 PM ET (US)	<p>Mike: Right now, we do not have moth ball bags in the Skandic. I have two boxes and will put some in it later this week. Any particular spots that need them? I will be out of town for a few days.</p> <p>With respect to the ATV, I think the moth balls have been effective with one caveat. The moth balls in the air cleaner housing work very well. The moth balls under the front hood only partly work. I think that area under the hood gets much more heat from the engine that causes the moth balls to evaporate away much faster. We might need to put new ones under the hood more often than once per year.</p> <p>“Respect science, respect nature, respect each other.”</p> <hr/> <p>From: QT - mtrantow <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Sent: Monday, November 16, 2020 11:08 AM To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
2378 mtrantow★ 11-16-2020 12:08 PM ET (US)	<p>FWIW - I have a set of "snap-traps" for mice that have been very effective in eliminating the mice up at our cabin. These are really easy to set and are "no touch" to remove the dead mice once caught. (Much better than the knuckle-buster wire & wood traps)</p> <p>I will bring a couple home after Thanksgiving and set them up in the Essex barn with Peanut butter bait... hopefully that doesn't just entice more rodents in. I think it will be helpful,combined with the mothball bags in the vehicles.</p> <p>David, I forgot to ask or check if we had any mothball bags in the Skandic?</p> <p>Cheers! Mike Edited 11-16-2020 12:10 PM</p>
2377 DAVID SQUILLACE 11-15-2020 05:04 PM ET (US)	<p>Bruce: Sounds good! It was with great reluctance that I proposed that option. Poisoned bait is also bad for owls, foxes and other wildlife that feed on mice. Other types of traps might be inhumane or require regular maintenance and cleaning. Dave S.</p> <p>“Respect science, respect nature, respect each other.”</p> <hr/> <p>From: QT - Bruce Walk <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Sent: Sunday, November 15, 2020 3:43 PM To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
2376 Bruce Walk★	Joe, thanks for the cleanup. It will make my job much easier. Dave, I'd vote for staying away from mouse bait/poison. Pets can eat poisoned mice and get sick and I wouldn't want RASC to

<p>11-15-2020 04:43 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>be liable for that. I take my dog down there as well sometimes and I wouldn't want him getting hold of one either. I too have had good luck with mothballs and other things. How about I take a crack at mouse deterrents when I take a look at the electrical?</p>
<p>2375 DAVID SQUILLACE 11-15-2020 04:34 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Joe: You're welcome. And thank you for following up with the cleaning! I was feeling exhausted and just needed walk away that day. I have fresh old-fashioned moth ball bags to put in that area of the ATV. My wife makes soap, so I have spearmint and peppermint essential oil which is very effective at repelling mice,(but has to be reapplied every month or so). Looking back at how many problems and great expense that mice have cost us with that ATV, I think we need to increase our protection. How do you feel about adding a mouse bait box (of the sort used at entrances of many stores) which would hold many months of bait at a time? Dave S.</p> <p>“Respect science, respect nature, respect each other.”</p> <hr/> <p>From: QT - Joe Gyura <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Sent: Sunday, November 15, 2020 1:02 PM To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
<p>2374 Joe Gyura★ 11-15-2020 02:02 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Dave thank you for all your help out at Essex! I grabbed my shop vac dog and cleaned out the nest in the ATV. Before reconnecting the battery charger I was able to get the ATV started after a few tries.</p> <p>Thanks</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2373 David Squillace★ 11-15-2020 12:03 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH mower remake: Dave G and Diane S. helped move the QH mower to my house where I worked on it on and off for a couple weeks. I disassembled much of the mower with the primary goal of cleaning the cooling fins on the engine. On an air-cooled engine, the cooling fins must be kept clean or the mower will run too hot and fail prematurely. Unfortunately, cleaning the engine cooling fins is a laborious job on that engine. While doing that work, I found that part of the rotating screen on the top of the mower had broken off due to the hitch resting on the screen during an attempt to start and run the engine. This is a design problem. It was also the cause of the Essex mower alternator failure this summer. The broken parts of the screen get sucked up under the flywheel into the flywheel/alternator housing. The QH mower would have had an alternator failure soon. I ordered and replaced the damaged screen and some carburetor gaskets. I cleaned the engine cooling fins, the flywheel magnetic liner, alternator, carburetor, and many other engine parts with brushes, soap, wire brushes, sandpaper and very hot water. I also cleaned and gapped the magnetos for the ignition system, changed oil, oil filter, air filter, spark plugs and then winterized the mower. After all that work, it seemed silly not to try to give the mower exterior a real clean and shiny appearance. It looks and runs years younger! Click on the link below for photos of the process.</p> <p>://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1dPxtLOMGKhH_WhAYsPNUvCnkH9C-lz5U?usp=sharing</p>
<p>2372 David Squillace★ 11-13-2020 04:18 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Bogey wheel with flat spot on front, right track, outside.</p>
<p>2371 David Squillace★ 11-13-2020 04:11 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex ATV problems: I spent a few hours at Essex today working on the mower, ginzu, and ATV. I put the flaps and new handles on the ginzu, mounted a new bracket on the mower battery box and added a new cord to hold down the cover and lubricated the wheels on the ATV tracks both on the inside and the outside of each track. There is one bogey wheel (on the right front outside track) that has a large flat spot that needs to be replaced soon, preferably before the grooming season (see photo). It will not turn or provide support to the track with such a large flat spot.</p> <p>After lubricating the wheels, I tried to start the ATV and it barely turned over two revolutions. Several more attempts yielded the same results. The ATV never came close to starting. I removed the tool box and front hoods and found that a few enterprising mice had begun work on a mouse Mar a lago (see photo). I did not have a vacuum or any other tools with which to tackle this job, but it is fairly likely that this structure has something to do with the starting problems. My guess would be the wire from the rectifier/regulator/generator circuit has be cut or chewed, such that the battery is no longer being charged when the engine is running. I did manage to</p>

	connect the battery charger, and Bruce Walk will try to look at it on Monday after returning from their cabin. If someone wants to vacuum up the mouse nest, that would be very helpful, just disconnect the charger first.
2370 Bruce Walk★ 11-12-2020 06:11 PM ET (US)	Thanks Dave(s) - I was hoping that was the case. FYI - I'll be replacing the actuator wiring on the Skandic and Ginzu sometime early next week.
2369 Dave 11-12-2020 06:06 PM ET (US)	Dave Squillace has them. He's straightening them and he has new bolts with steel replacement handles instead of the original plastic handles. Sent by Dave G.
2368 Bruce Walk★ 11-12-2020 04:44 PM ET (US)	Does someone have the Ginzu wings from Essex? I stopped down today to pick them up for straightening/painting/and fixing the adjustment bolts and they're gone. I'm hoping they aren't stolen so checking here. Thanks
2367 mtrantow★ 11-02-2020 09:44 PM ET (US)	I drove by Essex on my way back into town this evening. The "Garden Loop" looks great. Thanks Joe and Andy!
2366 Andy Wood 11-02-2020 01:48 PM ET (US)	Joe and I cleared and mowed the garden loop at Essex yesterday. Essex is ready for the 2020-21 ski season. All we need now is snow.
2365 Dave Greymont★ 10-31-2020 02:01 PM ET (US)	The damaged boggy wheels on the Quarry Hill ATV track have been replaced and the tracks installed this morning by the incredible crew of Dave Squillace, Peter Wollan, and Harvey Bertrand with supervision by yours truly and apres coffee and cake. Dave S. has the mower at his house for maintenance and we'll coordinate returning both the mower and the ATV to QH in the next couple of days. The ATV oil was also changed and mothballs placed under the front hood in the battery compartment to discourage mice. This year we used a modified movers dolly to position the tracks next to the hub bolts and it was an unequivocal success in saving lots of effort and cussing in mounting the tracks on the ATV.
2364 Lisa Luetmer 10-27-2020 12:15 PM ET (US)	That is the area I was considering. Andy thought the ruts needed addressing but perhaps they've already smoothed it out after Mike T hiked it. I'll hike today and let you know if the ruts have been taken care of. Also, would still like to understand if the policy for removing downed trees and cutting back encroaching buckthorn has changed. I know that Henry has possibly been working on that question. If things are different now then Jeff and I will have to wait for permission to bring the ditch witch. I'll let you know later this afternoon if we need to do any further work. Thanks Joe. L Sent from my iPhone
2363 Joe Gyura★ 10-27-2020 09:17 AM ET (US)	Lisa, my bad. I was not considering the ruts around the two large trees in the Essex woods. Is that the area you are considering? If so, I don't think the city would mind, but after the note regarding RASC removing those trees, I can send them a note letting them know we plan to clean up the ruts. Let me know if that was your intent, and I'll forward a note. Thanks! Joe
2362 mtrantow★ 10-27-2020 12:17 AM ET (US)	I walked the trails Friday, picking sticks and moving rocks late last week.. the bridge and hill are good now... the big tree junction does still have some ruts, but I think that will groom over and even out with time, and at least it is soft soil vs rocks & gravel (I was able to stomp in some clods, but it was getting dark)
2361 Laura Zumbrunnen 10-26-2020 03:00 PM ET (US)	Thanks, Joe. If they're taking out ruts, then there are also big ruts by where they took out the huge tree in the middle of the woods junction. Laura On Mon, Oct 26, 2020 at 8:54 AM QT - Joe Gyura <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> wrote:
2360 Andy Wood	Well we have snow but not enough to roll. Mother Nature is teasing us. We will be coming out with the grooming rotation soon. As noted previously, the grooming equipment at Essex is ready

10-26-2020 10:03 AM ET (US)	for the 2020-21 season.
2359 Joe Gyura★ 10-26-2020 09:54 AM ET (US)	Lisa, I reached out to P&R regarding the deep ruts by the concrete bridge and bottom of the hill near the old archery field. I also reminded them of the deteriorated shed door fearing it would not last another winter. They have addressed / fixed all three items within a few days. I know Dave also is asking for assistance at QH, but not sure of status.
2358 Lisa Luetmer 10-26-2020 09:40 AM ET (US)	Thanks for working on the ATV switchover to tracks gentlemen. I was wondering if anyone had contacted PandR about the deep ruts left at Essex. If they donâ€™t address soon Jeff Robertson and I will bring the Ditchwitch with the blade and bucket over and repair the trails. We wonâ€™t do that until we get the go ahead. Lisa Sent from my iPhone
2357 Bruce Walk★ 10-24-2020 10:22 PM ET (US)	The link below has good diagrams of the interlock mechanism, where its located and how to get to it. It goes on to 'defeat' it (which I don't think we want to do), but this should help in adjusting it to require much less force. http://www.billavista.com/atv/Articles/Grizzly_Shifter/index.html
2356 mtrantow★ 10-24-2020 05:38 PM ET (US)	Essex ATV Oil change and Tires to Tracks completed this morning. Thanks Joe and Andy for slogging through foggy memories and cold stiff joints! There are new checklist sheets on clipboards in Quonset for Skandic snowmobile and Grizzly ATV. The Parks crew fixed the left barn door bottom (Thanks for advocating Joe). The right barn door top rollers are a bit wonky, so take care with the right door. *SEE* Joe's advice on starting the ATV ** THINK SNOW (that stays)
2355 Joe Gyura★ 10-24-2020 04:28 PM ET (US)	Note: Essex ATV start problem. The Essex ATV has been difficult to start and drains the battery. Mike found that if the right foot brake is pressed down as far as possible it solves the problem. There Were a few times that Mike had to stand on the brake pedal before the ATV would start. until we can see if there is an adjustment, the above solves the issue.
2354 Dave Greymont★ 10-24-2020 01:07 PM ET (US)	Quarry Hill Updates: This morning I put in the lath to mark the trails. The plows have been removed from the Payne shed. And, I have 3 of the 4 ATV tracks in my garage. The parts have arrived for the 4th. track and I'll get them to my mechanic on Monday.
2353 Dave Greymont★ 10-20-2020 07:11 AM ET (US)	T-Roys Repair let me down on replacing the damaged boggy wheels on the Quarry Hill ATV track. He said he got too busy with other work. Dave Squillace has ordered the parts and we'll do the repair ourselves. The parts are expected to be delivered in the next week or so. After the track is repaired we'll get the Indy-500 pit crew together and install the tracks on the ATV.
2352 mtrantow★ 10-19-2020 11:39 PM ET (US)	I hiked all the wooded hills at Essex, moving branches and logs off trail.. most in really good shape. Also started and ran both vehicles (ok). We'll swap the Essex ATV tires to tracks at my garage this weekend (Andy, Joe and I). Dave Squillace, can you refresh my memory on other ATV maintenance we should do, based on things you've done over summer (thanks again!) Ex:is an oil change/filter needed at both swaps 2x/year? There may be an opportunity to do some trail work if the weather dries out Saturday/Sunday. Essex has a few items we can discuss. Cheers! Mike
2351 Dave Greymont★ 10-04-2020 01:49 PM ET (US)	I hiked the perimeter trails at QH this morning and threw off any branches. It would be lovely if someone would do the same on the remainder of the trails. Henry mentioned there's a tree down across the trail but I didn't come across it on my hike. Also, the trail doesn't need to be mowed except from "Henry's" bridge north and up on top of the Parkwood Hills trails. The trails don't need to be mowed quite yet so best to wait for a few more frosts so it would be the last mowing for the year.

<p>2350 Dave Greymont* 10-02-2020 07:42 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Quick Topics has been upgraded so it's now possible to post images. Picture of overgrown Eastwood ski trail.</p>
<p>2349</p>	<p>Deleted by author 10-02-2020 07:40 AM</p>
<p>2348 Dave Greymont* 09-30-2020 01:59 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Tuesday odds and ends: 1. I replaced a "one-way" ski sign at Quarry Hill that some lovelies decided to rip out. 2. I put new registration tabs on the Skandic snowmobile at Essex. 3. I walked the "woods trails" at Eastwood and frankly they're a mess. They have not been mowed since last fall and the weeds are high with a single mountain bike track down the center of the trail. 4. I sent a note to Mike Schaber asking P&R to mow the edges of the trails at QH and Essex, the field in front of the Payne shed at QH, and the Eastwood woods trails. I received a message back that he's away until October 12th. Today I picked up the ATV track from T-Roys Repair. He's buried with work and unable to get to it. Dave Squillace will order the boggy wheels and wheel puller and we'll do the job ourselves.</p>
<p>2347 Joe Gyura* 09-26-2020 09:02 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>I received the following from Mike Schaber, our contact for P&R regarding RASC members removing downed trees at Essex. I apologized to Mike and told him I'd forward his concern / recommendation.</p> <p>Schaber, Michael Fri, Sep 25, 1:55 PM (18 hours ago)</p> <p>to Mike, me, Dave</p> <p>Guys, our crew went out to take care of these trees and some individuals from RASC were using chainsaws themselves to cut them up. RASC members should not be doing work like this unless it is approved by our department. Please speak with those that did this and lets not have this happen again. Let me know if you have any questions. Thank You.</p>
<p>2346 Joe Gyura 09-23-2020 05:50 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Lisa, my apologies as I've been in contact with the city regarding those two trees and was assured they would be removed. I thought I'd communicated the status, but apparently not broad enough. Sorry you and Pat had spend time on the removal. And dido per your comments on all the work put in by David S Thank you, David!! Joe</p> <p>Sent from my iPad</p>
<p>2345 Lisa Luetmer 09-23-2020 05:03 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thank you Dave once again for spending so much time on our Essex mower. You've saved the club so much money doing all this work and your efforts extend the life of our aging equipment. On another note: My husband and I finally Got a chance to tackle the two oaks down at Essex. We got the top oak cut up and Patrick was about to put the big bar on our bigger saw when the Head Arborist showed up. He heard us sawing and drove up to see what random person was sawing in the Park. We were more than happy to pack up and leave the job to his crew which he reassured us would happen before snowfall. He said he'd heard about the trees down about 2 weeks ago and they were swamped with work. He didn't exactly appreciate our effort but that's okay;) I hadn't heard if the city was going to clear it so I just thought I'd handle it since they were downed trees and not hung up in a dangerous way. I gave him my name (his is Corey) and told him we were grateful that he'd take care of it. Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2344 David Squillace* 09-22-2020 07:05 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I disassembled the Essex mower engine Sunday and installed a new alternator. The old alternator was so heavily covered in dirt and clippings it was no surprise that it quit working. The engine cooling fins were also very dirty. While accessible, I spent a couple hours cleaning the engine, flywheel and flywheel gear, starter motor, and other attachments before reassembling. Cleaned and gapped the magnetos and cleaned the flywheel magnet for better voltage to the spark plugs. The mower starts and runs much better! The new alternator produces 17.5+ volts AC and the voltage regulator converts that to 0.5 volts DC for charging the battery, both within specifications. Other parts of the mower are still dirty, but I had a full day doing just the engine and parts. If you copy and paste the string below into your URL bar and then type https:// before</p>

	<p>the string, you can go to a google drive folder that contains photos of the engine before and after.</p> <p>drive.google.com/drive/folders/12uh13WznbD2DfA_rS-a3-KmW-5-UbeWW?usp=sharing</p> <p>Dave Squillace</p>
<p>2343 DAVID SQUILLACE 09-21-2020 06:08 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Dave: I don't know for sure if everybody just takes you for granted like some mountain that has always been there, or if somebody thanks you for doing what you do. Thanks for mowing and filling the gas cans. Much appreciated!!</p> <p>P.S. (You are not a mountain)</p> <p>“Respect science, respect nature, respect each other.”</p> <hr/> <p>From: QT - Dave Greymont <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 3:34 PM To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
<p>2342 Dave Greymont* 09-21-2020 04:34 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I mowed QH today. No equipment problems but occasionally I got a whiff of an odor like maybe something was hot. I couldn't identify it. It appears that someone is mowing some of the trail. (Fine by me.) I expect we'll need to mow at least once more. When I refilled the mower and ATV we were out of gas so I filled the 2 two gallon gas cans and just one of the 5 gallon cans. Hopefully that will get us through the mowing season. There is a low hanging limb on the newer NE trail section shortly after the sharp right hand uphill corner. It might be possible to clear it with a handsaw, maybe not. No rush to get it removed. Dave S., your buddy is back. Big hole right behind where the tracks are stacked. I put the safety cone in the hole so nobody would step in the hole and break their ankle. Beautiful day to be out mowing the trails.</p>
<p>2341 Joe Gyura* 09-10-2020 04:16 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Finished mowing Essex Park today. The mower started up without a problem all other equipment worked well. I reconnected the battery charger when done. There is plenty of gas thank you Laura. Lisa and Laura are up next to mower Essex.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2340 Dave 09-09-2020 08:41 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thanks Bjorn. I think I'm up next.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2339 Bjorn Walker 09-09-2020 08:05 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>I mowed QH last Monday, Labor Day. Everything went well including equipment. After all the rain of the last couple weeks, the grass was long in the Horrible Hills area but less so on the South Side. Significant numbers of hikers were on the trail making stop and go mowing a common occurrence. I think the heavy foot traffic kept grass growth down south of the bridge. With a large uptick in trail use over the summer we may expect to see more winter hiking on the ski trail.</p>
<p>2338 Laura Z 09-07-2020 07:16 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Joan...agree, a very broad claim which I did patent 62 years ago. Those who know me well call me St. Laura. Sent from my iPad</p>
<p>2337 DAVID SQUILLACE 09-07-2020 06:47 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Rob, Just wanted to let you know what is going on. I copied text below Dave S</p> <p>David, thank you for your efforts and update!!</p> <p>Iâ€™ll finish mowing Essex taking care to disconnect before and reconnect charger after mowing.</p> <p>Joe</p>

	<p>Sent from my iPad</p> <p>On Sep 7, 2020, at 2:54 PM, DAVID SQUILLACE <ddsquill@msn.com<mailto:ddsquill@msn.com>>; wrote:</p> <p>ï»¿</p> <p>Now that the battery is charged up enough to start the mower, Diane and I were able to check voltage of the alternator with the engine running. It is not producing any voltage to charge the battery. The voltage regulator may or may not work, unable to tell without a good alternator. The alternator costs about \$70, the voltage regulator about \$10 and the flywheel puller about \$13. I plan to order all three.</p> <p>Joe and Mike: The battery is fully charged and still connected to the charger. The mower can be used to mow, and should be able to start and mow several times, until parts arrive. Just remember to unplug the charger and remove from the mower battery before driving out of the shed ðŸ™, Dave S.</p> <p>â€œRespect science, respect nature, respect each other.â€</p> <p>Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone</p> <p>----- Original message ----- From: QT - Robb Welch <qtopic-46-E2UeuyQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Date: 9/4/20 9:44 AM (GMT-06:00) To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
<p>2336 Joan Rabe* 09-06-2020 09:08 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Joe, I think your statement is a little broad. Perhaps Laura has done SOMETHING wrong, unless she's a saint! Just nothing to the mower. :-) Anyway, real purpose of this update is that I plan to take advantage of the cool weather this week to cut back the buckthorn that (once we get snow) will overhang the trail along the far east end of the prairie (especially between the cornfield and the path into the woods. If anyone's aware of another area that needs trimming, please let me know and I'll attack that too. (The trees down in the east woods are too big for my little chainsaw - and my delicate little muscles. But if we don't think the city will get to them before winter, I'm willing to make up part of a work group with real chainsaws.)</p>
<p>2335 Joe Gyura* 09-06-2020 08:23 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Laura, you did nothing wrong. David S worked on the Essex mower today, and assessed the issue is with the alternator. You did nothing wrong.</p> <p>Dave, thank you for your efforts in evaluating the mower issue!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2334 Laura Zumbrunnen 09-06-2020 06:07 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Wondering if I left something on? Did I forget to turn off the blower? Lauta Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2333 Joe Gyura* 09-04-2020 11:16 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Robb sorry to hear if the problems with the Essex mower. Thank you for the detailed update</p> <p>Mike and David could either of you evaluate the mower issues? Let me know if there is anything I can do to help. I can be reached at 507-398-3730</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2332 Robb Welch 09-04-2020 10:44 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed approximately half of Essex this morning. The mower did not have enough battery power to start on it's own so I had to jump it from my car battery. After I shut the mower down it will not re-start (It is completely dead. Not even the weak partial turnover I had prior to jumping it).</p> <p>I was only able to mow part of Essex because when I shut the mower blades off while in the south prairie for a passing walker, the mower blades would not fire back up when I tried to</p>

	<p>engage them. I checked all the connections and looked for obstructions but that was all good. When the pull switches were both in the ON position I could hear a slight "humming" noise but the blades would not engage. One other minor issue is that there is also a constant loud "squeak" coming from one of the mower wheels. ATV seemed to be fine. Both ATV and mower are back in the shed. I did not re-fill with gas as there should be plenty left to finish the remaining half.</p> <p>Areas mowed were the eastern woods trails (two very large tress are still completely blocking the trail at one point) and approximately 1/2 of the south prairie. The rest of the south prairie is definitely ready for mowing. I did not get to the 55th street fields.</p> <p>The city has gone in and widened most of the Essex trails. It's almost disorienting how wide some of them are. I made 4 passes on a some of the trails and still did not reach the full width. I guess this should help with social distancing on the trails this winter!</p> <p>If more information is needed on the mechanical issue feel free to call me at 507-358-2665.</p>
<p>2331 Peter Wollan 08-17-2020 03:07 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed Quarry Hill today. A beautiful day to be out driving a big noisy machine around in the woods.</p> <p>Many of the trails around the nature center had just been mowed (by Park&Rec?) I'll call the office to see what they're doing now, unless someone knows? The minor trails, and Parkwood Hills, hadn't been mowed for a while, but the grass was long only in places. Maybe three or even four weeks to next mowing.</p> <p>Equipment worked well, except the flashlight is dead.</p> <p>Peter</p>
<p>2330 Joe Gyura 08-14-2020 05:41 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Laura, thank you for mowing Essex and the update!</p> <p>I believe there is an extra fuel pump, as I recall Dave ordering two to cover this occurrence. I'll stop by Essex to verify and whether the pump is bad. No worries regarding that small section. And, it's totally fine not mowing areas you believe are not safe!</p> <p>Robb and Lisa are up next to mow Essex. I have updated the volunteer page.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p> <p>Sent from my iPad</p>
<p>2329 Laura 08-14-2020 04:01 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed Essex. The tree is still down. Filled gas but couldn't get the gas pump to work despite trying all the batteries. So, I didn't dispose of the batteries (in bag) in case the pump was broken. Also, as I drove off I realized I forgot the little stretch from paved trail to big hill. I don't do the big hill...too many rocks and too little grass.</p>
<p>2328 Peter Wollan 08-02-2020 04:04 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Got gas for QH. I'm up next to mow, then Bjorn.</p>
<p>2327 Joe Gyura★ 08-01-2020 07:31 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I mowed Essex this afternoon. All equipment worked great, and there is plenty of gas. Thank you, Mike, David, and Laura!</p> <p>Laura and Robb are up next to mow Essex.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2326 Peter Wollan★ 08-01-2020 01:10 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thanks, Ari. I'll fill the gas, probably not till tomorrow though.</p>
<p>2325 Dave</p>	<p>Thanks Ari, I walked the trails yesterday and thought they were getting a little shaggy. There were lots of</p>

08-01-2020 01:03 PM ET (US)	people on the trail too. Your mowing is most appreciated. Sent by Dave G.
2324 Ari Walker 08-01-2020 12:59 PM ET (US)	Mowed QH this morning without any issues. About a dozen people on the trail already in the morning. The trails are super busy while people look for ways to get out and distance from Covid. I feel like we make a difference this year more than ever. I filled the ATV and mower with gas, cans are empty.
2323 Lisa Luetmer 07-22-2020 10:47 PM ET (US)	Could be the same. As we hiked I looked for their work. I went back to see Robb's pics and I think they haven't addressed the issue. L Sent from my iPhone
2322 Joe Gmail 07-22-2020 05:34 PM ET (US)	I notified park and rec early last week of two large trees down in the far east woods (3 way intersection). Are you saying there are two additional trees down? Joe Sent from my iPhone
2321 Lisa Luetmer 07-22-2020 05:24 PM ET (US)	Laura and I hiked Essex today. There are two massive oaks down (lying together) across the outer most woods trail. Hoping the city can help with more tree removal. Also, the prairie at Essex is in peak flower now. It's just gorgeous and worth the visit. Great place for a pole hike/run. L Sent from my iPhone
2320 Joe Gyura 07-21-2020 09:36 PM ET (US)	Lisa, thank you for mowing Essex and good to hear all went well! Laura, thank you for filling the gas cans! With the city moving the archery range, I have not heard of their future plans for that area. With the long grasses, possibly nothing? I'll follow up with the city to see if they have plans and whether that area will be available for us to groom and use. Henry H and Joe are up next to mow Essex. Thanks! Joe Sent from my iPad
2319 Lisa Luetmer 07-21-2020 03:41 PM ET (US)	Essex is mowed. I can't thank Dave S. enough for putting sharp blades on the mower. Everything ran well. Thanks to Laura there is plenty of gas. I've noticed the former archery range was knee high with grass now. Were we supposed to mow that this summer? We've never done that in the past. It's not possible to mow with our mower now but I hope the city will mow it because it's great gathering spot for the ski team. L Sent from my iPhone
2318 Dave S 07-20-2020 07:19 PM ET (US)	QH Payne Shed: I was able to maneuver a ladder into the rafters of the shed to replace the dead light bulb with a 300W incandescent bulb. It shines brightly. I also sprayed the woodchuck holes several times recently and then filled them today. No promises of eviction though. Dave S.
2317 Laura 07-18-2020 12:11 PM ET (US)	Essex gas cans filled.
2316 Dave 07-14-2020 05:15 PM ET (US)	That's a woodchuck, groundhog, whistle pig hole. Dave Squillace and I are working on a plan to prevent this from happening. It will have to wait until P&R moves their equipment out of the shed this fall. Sent by Dave G.
2315 John Resman 07-14-2020 05:09 PM ET (US)	Quarry Hill trails were mowed on Monday. Everything worked fine. No trees blocking the trail. One large gas can left. Looks like Quarry Hill is mowing the meadow trail from the nature center to the prairie house (both the walking trail and the ski trail) and the connector from the woods trail to the prairie house. First time I noticed the two trees planted on the south end of the Payne

	shed loop. They're far enough south to not impact the ski trail much. That's a big "gopher" hole in the Payne shed. Thanks for putting a cone in the hole so we hopefully avoid it - especially with the lights gone on the west side of the shed.
2314 Joe Gyura* 07-05-2020 03:54 PM ET (US)	Dave and Diane oh wow what a miserable day to be doing maintenance. Thank you so much for all that you do it is greatly appreciated!! Joe
2313 Dave S 07-05-2020 03:02 PM ET (US)	Hot oil change! Essex Skandic snowmobile maintenance completed. Engine oil and oil filter change, chain case oil change, greased four zerts in the track carriage. Charged the battery. Still need to add coolant. Dave & Diane S.
2312 DAVID SQUILLACE 07-03-2020 01:17 PM ET (US)	Correct. The battery is not replaceable and I don't need hours for maintenance. I can get hours off the ATV if needed. Dave S Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone ----- Original message ----- From: QT - Dave <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Date: 7/3/20 10:39 AM (GMT-06:00) To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming
2311 Dave 07-03-2020 11:39 AM ET (US)	The QH ATV was new in 2011. There's a battery that is required for the tach and hour meter. That battery has died and it's my understanding (and I could be wrong) that the battery is non-replaceable. Sent by Dave G.
2310 Tom McKinley 07-03-2020 10:55 AM ET (US)	Quarry Hill - I mowed the trails at Quarry hill yesterday including upper parkwood hills. I had one tree over the trail by the Payne shed but was able to saw it enough to easily move thanks to the handy dandy saw stored in the tool box. ATV ran great, mower ran fine except the tach and hours meter did not seem to work. One large gas can still full.
2309 Joe Gyura 06-28-2020 08:36 AM ET (US)	Dave, thank you for upgrading the battery, and all that you do to keep our equipment running in top shape! Joe
2308 DAVID SQUILLACE 06-27-2020 10:50 PM ET (US)	I purchased and installed a new and much larger battery on the Essex mower today. Tested, started and it worked well. The new battery does not allow room for the rubber retaining strap. Dave S. Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
2307 Lisa Luetmer 06-22-2020 10:03 PM ET (US)	You didn't mess up. I think it was me who started the qt string. Sort of a "whoa" moment on first kind of moment. Dave S pulled some pretty ugly looking blades off the Essex mower and replaced them as Dave G said. He also lubed the front tires and addressed our battery problem (it needed a charge) and aired up all four tires. One was really low. He also checked the oil on the atv and put a little in to bring it up into the hatched area on the stick. He made changing blades look easy. It's not.... Thanks Dave for your efforts:) New blades are going to make such a difference now. Lisa Sent from my iPhone
2306 Dave Greymont* 06-22-2020 08:11 PM ET (US)	Apologies, I messed up. I wasn't clear when I questioned if the mower blades were dull and Dave S. thought I was referring to the QH mower. He then put sharpened blades on the QH mower. Actually, it was the Essex mower that needed the blades sharpened. Dave S. has now put sharpened blades on the Essex mower. So, both mowers have newly sharpened blades. The blades that came off the Essex mower are trash. Dave S. will order a new set to have in inventory. Also, he will order a new battery for the Essex mower. Sorry for any confusion I may have caused.

2305 Peter Wollan 06-14-2020 05:51 PM ET (US)	Filled the QH gas cans.
2304 Dave 06-14-2020 10:12 AM ET (US)	Dave S. worked on the Essex mower. He Swapped out the old blades for a sharpened set. Sent by Dave G.
2303 Peter Wollan 06-14-2020 09:29 AM ET (US)	Just a question here: it sounded like Dave S. worked on the **QH** mower, while Lisa was concerned about the **Essex** mower. Is that right? Has the Essex mower been sharpened?
2302 Lisa Luetmer 06-14-2020 09:24 AM ET (US)	Thank you Dave. Iâ€™m sure you dropped the better part of your day working on the mower. Sorry for complaining about the mower performance when it really was probably me. I think mowing speed is another factor. Generally I mow like an old lady but it just seemed like it wasnâ€™t cutting as well. Also, Iâ€™m just so curiousâ€”how the heck do you get the blades off? Iâ€™ll be happy to take the old set and sharpen them. Lisa Sent from my iPhone
2301 Dave S 06-12-2020 10:07 PM ET (US)	Changed QH mower blades and scraped dried grass clipping buildup from under deck housing today. Existing blades were still quite sharp. Poor observed cutting may be partly due to heavy foot traffic, high humidity and moisture. Also added air to all tires on mower and ATV. ATV needed about 0.5 qt of oil. Started everything up, and did a test mowing. Dave S
2300 Joe Gyura* 06-11-2020 02:00 PM ET (US)	Lisa, thank you for mowing, and mentioning that the mower blades appear to be dull. I experienced the when mowing last week. Dan and Robb are up next to mow Essex. Thanks! Joe
2299 DAVID SQUILLACE 06-09-2020 07:31 PM ET (US)	Dave: Short answer: yes. I last changed the QH mower blades on Wednesday, October 24, 2018 along with full annual maintenance. I did annual maintenance in the fall of 2019, but did not do the blades. There is a set of sharpened blades from October 2018, but one of those blades is fairly deeply nicked. That put one full season plus a few mowings on current set. I should be able to change them in the next week if it stops raining. Dave S. Sent from Outlook< http://aka.ms/weboutlook >; From: QT - Dave <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 5:33 PM To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming
2298 Dave 06-08-2020 06:33 PM ET (US)	Wonder if the mower blades need sharpening??? Sent by Dave G.
2297 Lisa Luetmer 06-08-2020 05:49 PM ET (US)	I mowed Essex today. Everything ran well. I put the tool box back on and out the hand pruner and saw in it. It took me longer to mow today. It seemed to cut better if I mowed slower. It was like the grass was tough and sometimes I had to go back over it so it would decent. Also, the mower now catches on the big rocks in the middle of the big 55th St. hill. Not much to mow there anyways (just the top). Plenty of gas. Lisa Sent from my iPhone
2296	I mowed Quarry Hill last night. No mechanical problems. Trimmed a few branches but more

Mike Holmes 06-04-2020 09:01 AM ET (US)	could be done. Mower and ATV are gassed up, I would estimate 10-12 gallons of fuel left.
2295 Dave 05-28-2020 03:12 PM ET (US)	I have asked Mike Schaber to replace the two burned-out bulbs. I'll send him another note. As dark as it is inside the shed we could easily step into a woodchuck hole. Sent by Dave G.
2294 Mike Holmes 05-28-2020 02:35 PM ET (US)	The Quarry Hill gas cans are filled, the receipt is with the card, 12.9 gals \$34.88. I noticed in the shed that there was only 1 light bulb working, the LED on the east side. Will Park & Rec handle that? I am happy to call if someone can send me contact and/or number.
2293 Dave G. 05-25-2020 08:58 PM ET (US)	Quarry Hill was mowed today. No issues except that the gas cans need to be refilled. When I finished I brought the club's trailer back to my house.
2292 Laura Z 05-22-2020 09:17 PM ET (US)	Essex mowed. Smooth sailing. As a reminder, I don't back in the mower so next person has to back out...good luck with that;)
2291 mtrantow★ 04-24-2020 11:14 AM ET (US)	Thanks for the gas Laura! Now we're ready to mow! Joe Gyura and I managed to move the Skandic over and get the mower started (battery needed a charge-up). Just a caution to Essex Mowers, the barn doors are in pretty bad shape. Make sure they're lined up below as the bottoms are disintegrating. Jeff R & Darald B - did you contact the City/Park&Rec about the north big barn doors? Hopefully they care about the safety issue, but there is also a security issue (esp. with folks walking right by to the new Archery range). When we left yesterday, the south side barn doors didn't seem to be secured on the sides either (>6" gap on one side).
2290 Laura 04-23-2020 05:03 PM ET (US)	Essex gas cans filled.
2289 mtrantow★ 04-19-2020 11:48 PM ET (US)	Thanks to Bruce Walk for meeting and getting the green drag put away at Essex. We're almost out of gas, but I don't think we'll need to mow for a while yet. (the mower has plenty of gas <stabilized>)
2288 mtrantow★ 04-17-2020 02:54 PM ET (US)	I am finally ready to stop skiing (and grooming) ... For THIS season ... Until the next snowstorm! I managed to get in at least 5 loops/miles in at Essex every day, usually just 55th Street loop. After skiing this morning, I put away the roller. It's in a better configuration by the Ginzu now. I still have to re-store the green drag, but I'll need help (sorry). Anyone available today or weekend, just txt me 5079903551
2287 mtrantow★ 04-15-2020 12:40 AM ET (US)	Well, I went and skied 5 loops on the 55th street fields after supper. And it was still LIGHT! I figured I could improve the hardpan and walker divots So I hauled out the green drag and renovated the serpentine trails. That worked really well on the hardpan and walker divots... It did NOT work as well on the drifts ... it looks like a bunch of snow boulders got pulled up in spots They're all soft, but I didn't have time to flatten them (it was dark and I was wearing sun-glasses .. at night) Hoping to ski it Wed morning / lunch time
2286 mtrantow★ 04-14-2020	Thanks for the update and grooming Joe. I skied after my morning session (soft skating but good!) and then Classic in the afternoon (*not so great)

<p>02:20 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>The weather was much warmer with the sun out, and the snow was getting smooshy, City workers had pushed a bunch of mud and water onto the concrete bridge. Plus two Walkers had plunged deep foot holes and their dogs left dumps on the skate deck - shaking my head and muttering the whole time.</p> <p>BUT on the bright side, I was skiing in April!</p> <p>You have to walk across the bridge Monday afternoon to get to the South Field loops Joe groomed.</p> <p>Hopefully the snow falling will cover up the worst spots.</p> <p>I may groom again .. I may not.</p>
<p>2285 Joe Gyura★ 04-13-2020 02:41 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I rolled Essex south Prairie combs up then down. Mike also set a classic track on the far south lane. Folks are out classic and skate skiing.</p> <p>The wood trails are thin and anywhere there is pavement the snow is very thin Or gone.</p> <p>Enjoy!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2284 Joe Gyura★ 04-13-2020 11:36 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mike rolled and set rack in Essex north 55th St prairie. Thank you, Mike,</p> <p>I'm going to ski and if conditions are holding up, will roll the south prairies Will post an update when done.</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2283 Joan Rabe 03-28-2020 03:57 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I sent the pic to Mike Trantow, who offered to post it on the Rochester Nordic ski trails Facebook page. Joan</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2282 Lisa Luetmer 03-28-2020 10:49 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Absolutely made my day Joan. Would love to see the picture:)</p> <p>Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2281 Andy Wood 03-27-2020 10:10 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>The Essex ATV was transported back home to Essex. The tracks are in the red barn. I had to fire up the Skandic to make room for the ATV in the shed. Luckily there was still some snow outside the shed to I could maneuver it back inside but just in enough to shut the door before the track slipped on the muddy floor. ATV should be ready for a summer of mowing. We should move the roller to give better access to the key hiding place. With social distancing, if someone has time, the shed could use a little organizing.</p> <p>Stay Safe and Be Well!</p>
<p>2280 Joan Rabe 03-26-2020 10:14 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thought you groomers might enjoy this...</p> <p>While walking at Essex today, I saw a woman out on the trails with two dogs. The bigger one was pulling a plastic sled and on the sled was a large bucket half full of bags of dog poop. I chatted with her briefly and confirmed that she was indeed walking all over the park cleaning up the winter's leftovers. She said that if her dogs were going to be part of the problem, they should be part of the solution as well. I thanked her, and took a picture of her and her dogs so I could post it here, but looks like I can't include a pic.</p>
<p>2279 DAVID SQUILLACE 03-04-2020 06:02 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Hi Lisa!</p> <p>I have not gotten an estimate for the ship date yet. It may be a while if the parts are not in stock. However, this job is likely to be a four hander. I will get back to you when I know. Thanks so much!</p> <p>Dave</p> <p>Sent from Outlook<http://aka.ms/weboutlook></p>

	<p>From: QT - Lisa Luetmer <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 3:55 PM To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
<p>2278 Lisa Luetmer 03-04-2020 04:55 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Dave if you need any help fixing the old bugger(Iâ€™m good at holding a flashlight still and cursing) or if you need me to run for parts please let me know. Thank you for all you do. Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2277 Dave S 03-03-2020 03:27 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I have good news and bad news. Good news is that I checked the tracks today. End of good news... Bad news is that one main wheel is broken and missing the cap. Also four other wheels are missing caps and two of those are missing the bolts as well. Summary; Three tracks need obvious maintenance. Do not drive the atv any significant distance. I have one broken wheel.</p>
<p>2276 DAVID SQUILLACE 03-02-2020 04:41 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I will check it today or tomorrow. Dave S</p> <p>Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone</p> <p>----- Original message ----- From: Dave <birked@charter.net> Date: 3/2/20 2:36 PM (GMT-06:00) To: 'QT topic 46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw' <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com>, 'QT topic subscribers' <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Cc: DAVID SQUILLACE <ddsquill@msn.com> Subject: RE: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p> <p>Dave S. If you have time can you check out wobble in the rear right track before something bad happens? Thank you, Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2275 Dave 03-02-2020 03:36 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Dave S. If you have time can you check out wobble in the rear right track before something bad happens? Thank you, Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2274 Tom McKinley* 03-02-2020 03:00 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH groomed this morning all except west trail and quarry hill park ball field loop. Skate lane pretty good although starting to get soft afternoon. I did attempt to groom a classic track in most all areas with overall poor success. Some sections it worked ok, but most were not soft enough or had too little snow to result in a classic track with good structure. The area near the nature center was very badly rutted with lots of foot traffic during the soft weekend snow. I did many passes in that area and it turned out ok. Will likely go back to very poor soon with more soft snow and foot traffic. Farther from QHNC the skiing is pretty good. The hills going to upper parkwood hills have some icy spots but snow up on top had good coverage with the exception of the inner loop hill that faces west. Plenty of gas left in the cans. Essex ATV ran well. I did notice that the outside main wheel in the back of the right side rear track is wobbly. It is missing the bolt head cap. Not sure if the missing cap is the problem or if the bearing on that wheel is bad.</p>
<p>2273 Andy Wood 02-29-2020 06:08 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex was groomed this morning. Trail is lightening fast and really fun skiing. Did an orientation groom with Wayne Sadecki who will be joining the Essex grooming team. Trail should hold up through Sunday afternoon. Who knows what the warm temperatures will bring in the next week. Get out there and enjoy it!</p>
<p>2272 Mike Holmes 02-29-2020 11:24 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH groomed this morning; good day or skate skiing skiing, not good day or classic skiing if you like tracks. Until we get more snow, resetting the classic track seems futile. Did not go out to the west ball field. All equipment ran well and 2x5gal of gas on hand. I noticed the engine cover around the gas tank is not exactly in as it should be, everything is functional, nothing appears to be broken, and probably best not to mess with it until the after the season.</p>
<p>2271 Andy Wood 02-27-2020</p>	<p>The Essex skate deck was groomed this morning. Too hard and icy to do anything with the tracks With the knives down the Ginzu smoothed out the trails nicely. I basically groomed the race course. I ran out of time and was not able to get the Garden Loop or Hadley's Hill. Trails will be</p>

10:57 AM ET (US)	<p>ball bearing fast for the ski team this afternoon.</p> <p>Of note, the doors to the barn are frozen to the ground. It took a while to chip the ice away to open the door wide enough to get the Skandic through. If any of you are going to practice tonight, bring an ice pick and we can free up the doors.</p> <p>Equipment ran well.</p>
2270 Henry Walker 02-25-2020 10:38 PM ET (US)	<p>Taking advantage of the last double digit evenings for a while, the main park trails of QH were groomed at 9pm. Due to heavy foot traffic the west ball fields were not attempted. Several passes were required to level set the deck in Parkwood Hills and near the bridge however the final product is very skiable. As Dave G. eluded to, foot traffic around the prairie trail was difficult if not impossible to remove. The Olympics adversely impacted Dave's prior nice grooming job but the kids have great fun making a little extra damage control worth while. I made several laps back and forth to knock the trail flat before leveling it out.</p> <p>The Essex ATV and QH groomer functionally worked well outside of the usual challenge of dealing with ice or footprints when they dominate the trail. Classic track was classically a bit icy and left alone. It was removed when pushed too far into the center of the skate deck where it is a challenge to skate on.</p>
2269 Peter Wollan 02-25-2020 01:42 PM ET (US)	<p>Got gas for QH.</p>
2268 Barry 02-24-2020 04:29 PM ET (US)	<p>I am available any morning the rest of the week to groom at Essex. Joe may all go well with your cataract recovery. Don't rush anything. And then there is Mr Greymont; he places in single digits in his age bracket at the Birkie and he starts thinking about putting on a speedo; pretty impressive. May all go well at St Marys.</p> <p>As long as I am writing, one more reminder about the coaches/groomers eos (very well deserved) happy hour at Whistle Binkies North. The fireplace room is reserved for 6pm. Spouses/significant-others are welcome!</p>
2267 Dave 02-24-2020 01:49 PM ET (US)	<p>You are correct, my mistake.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
2266 Laura Zumbrunnen 02-24-2020 01:43 PM ET (US)	<p>Pretty sure our gray hair is all that gets noticed (if anything)...you go right ahead and rock out that speedo with or without a hernia!! Laura</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
2265 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 02-24-2020 01:38 PM ET (US)	<p>Best of luck with your surgery; you might double-check the date since Thursday is the 27th, not the 28th. No need for you to send pictures of you in your Speedo. Congratulations on the Korte.</p> <p>Mike H</p>
2264 Dave Greymont★ 02-24-2020 01:31 PM ET (US)	<p>QH is groomed and I re-set the classic track in some of the areas where I could cut a new track. I groomed the west ball field but the multi-purpose trail out to the ball field is hard packed and the groomer wouldn't touch it. I went over the trail multiple times where we're holding Olympic events today to repair the footprint damage from the weekend. (It was really bad!) I also tried to smooth out the area where we hold the opening and closing ceremonies as best as possible. The trail was starting to soften up when I left close to noon today. There is only about 1 gallon of gas remaining if someone would volunteer to refill the gas cans. Last but not least, I have a date at Saint Marys this Thursday 2/28 for hernia repair. (I hope I will still be able to wear my Speedo swimsuit this summer.) Peter, please put me on the inactive list.</p>
2263 Dave Greymont★ 02-23-2020 01:04 PM ET (US)	<p>I just got home from Hayward and will pick up the Essex ATV and bring it over to QH. I'll groom the QH trails for the Olympics tomorrow morning when the temperature is below freezing. If you have a better suggestion for when to groom let me know.</p>
2262 mtrantow★ 02-22-2020 11:55 PM ET (US)	<p>If the RNST Olympics are at QHill Monday, don't we need a grooming machine there?</p> <p>I haven't heard of the ATV return from Troy.</p>

	I'm willing to help get a vehicle from Essex to QH Sunday night if needed for Monday morning groom by QH gang.
2261 Grant 02-20-2020 04:45 PM ET (US)	I groomed the Prarie and Woods loops at Essex this afternoon (only), including re-setting the classic tracks. No issues equipment-wise. Edited 02-20-2020 04:47 PM
2260 mtrantow★ 02-18-2020 01:31 PM ET (US)	I ended up going early and taking my teleconf from the Skandic. Rolled all the trails at least 2 passes. Laura came and took ATV-Ginzu to finish the North half of the trails. Then I finished all the south trails. Result = Essex is in fantastic shape - Come on out and ski it before the RNST team practices there at 3:45. Grant is up next and can do Wednesday post-practice... then maybe Chris B. later in week. QHill gang ... you could take the Essex ATV or Skandic now that we've finished.
2259 Laura Zumbrunnen 02-18-2020 10:19 AM ET (US)	I will run out now and roll...have to leave by 10:45 but will do what I can. Laura On Tue, Feb 18, 2020 at 7:47 AM QT - mtrantow < qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> wrote:
2258 mtrantow★ 02-18-2020 08:47 AM ET (US)	Essex needs a rolling followed by Ginzu. I'll go at 10:30 and do one of the rounds.
2257 mtrantow★ 02-16-2020 10:43 PM ET (US)	Oh, a couple other things: Thanks to Laura Z. there's still plenty of gas at Essex even after the busy weekend. Thanks also to Bruce Walk for fixing the Skandic plug and lights. It definitely helps having our Maintenance Guru Emeritus around! The ATV started no problem tonight (26F), but I've left the front box off until we get a few more rounds in when it's cold. (any problems, call 990-3551 and I'll bring my jumper box out)
2256 mtrantow★ 02-16-2020 10:34 PM ET (US)	Essex Trails were refreshed for Skating Sunday night. 2 passes on most segments. Classic tracks still looked good. RNST will be there Monday 3:45-5:15pm (echoing Andy, it will need a refresh between practices). I did not do the gardens or the segment out to the steel bridge - I might get to those before practice depending on temps/snow (Per Joe there is enough space to turn around BEFORE / north of the bridge / i.e. don't cross it)
2255 Andy Wood 02-16-2020 01:37 PM ET (US)	I classic skied Essex this morning. Tracks are in good shape but icy in some spots. Skate lane is still good after yesterday's race. The ski team will most likely be at Essex tomorrow so the skate lane should be refreshed soon after. Grant and Barry are on deck to groom.
2254 Barry 02-16-2020 09:10 AM ET (US)	Just a quick announcement/reminder of the RNST coaches and groomers end of season happy hour at Whistle Binkies North starting around 6pm (or right after the last RNST team practice, whichever comes first) on Thursday, Feb 27. I have the Fireplace room reserved. All groomers are cordially invited and welcome. It has been a very good season from which all Nordic skiers are very appreciative the continual maintenance of QH and Essex trails. Come join your fellow groomers and coaches.
2253 Chris Brunholz 02-12-2020 09:28 PM ET (US)	Groomed Essex tonight. I didn't set any new classic tracks. Just tried stay out of the existing track. Snow was blowing into the trails in both prairies. Base is solid and it should be great on Saturday! Skandic ran great and the operated the Ginzu perfectly. Rear work lights were great too. Mike was skiing and told me that the base is really good. I emptied the small can of gas in the Skandic and it's above three quarters. Only one big can of gas left.
2252 bmwalkmn@gmail.com 02-12-2020 02:59 PM ET (US)	Skandic connector taped together temporarily- support both sides and it will work a few more times. Work lights spliced.
2251	I groomed QH this afternoon. It was moderately exciting: I had trouble getting the machine

<p>Peter Wollan 02-11-2020 11:57 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>started, which might have been me not doing it right, or might indicate some kind of wiring issue. Then, the snow is soft enough that traction is iffy -- I got mildly stuck on the Parkwood Hills loop. The eastern sections of both Parkwood loops are beginning to drift, with snow blowing in from the west.</p> <p>The trails are still very soft, everywhere, and will get chopped up pretty quickly. Tomorrow will be warm, Thursday bitter cold, and it's not real clear what's best to do. In addition, the Essex ATV needs to go back, and Dave hasn't been able to get an estimate for when ours will be fixed. Current plan is for Tom McKinley to groom Wednesday evening, and Dave G to groom Friday morning before taking the Essex ATV back.</p>
<p>2250 mtrantow★ 02-11-2020 09:55 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I widened much of the Essex trails with a classic track reset on the outer right side of the whole Loopy Loppet race route. I didn't renovate the skate lane, saving that for Chris - - you'll need to use light knives to even things out and smooth out from RNST practice.</p> <p>Skandic gas reads over 3/4 full (2hrs used ~ 1/4 tank). Gas cans: one large full, the small can full, two large empty.</p> <p>The Skandic-side electrical receptacle looks in bad shape (most of outer plastic shroud broken away), but Ginzu knives and track setter still worked fine. The Rear work lights were not working, I could see the broken wire, but I won't get to that til tomorrow morning/afternoon to recrimp.</p>
<p>2249 Chris Brunholz 02-11-2020 08:26 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>I'll plan on grooming Wednesday afternoon or evening. My weather app shows snow in the afternoon, but I've heard it will only be about a half inch. With the temps approaching melting point on Wednesday, it should settle in and form a more solid base (maybe?).</p> <p>I'll work the skate lane and then follow the race route following Mike's classic track. I'm also studying the route map!</p> <p>Thanks, Chris 507-254-1525</p>
<p>2248 mtrantow★ 02-10-2020 10:46 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>First, Thank You to Joe Gyura and Chris Brunholz for tackling the dirt/ice glacier Park & Rec left on the fence line on Saturday afternoon. I used the green drag afterward to rough up the base for the coming snow, but I did NOT do the Trail from hell or the hill from playground or the bike trail to metal bridge. (that may be why they were icy underneath)</p> <p>Next, thank you to the all the groomers who recovered the Essex trails after the big snow this weekend. That was a lot of work and many passes to beat down the fluff into another layer of excellent base. I classic skied the race route tonight and the tracks Lisa set were fantastic! It seemed soft at the Pavilion start, but 55th street loops set up quickly and got faster as the temp dropped.</p> <p>Lastly, I would like to coordinate with the on-deck Essex groomers out there before the Saturday RNST/RASC Citizen race. I know Andy plans to go out Friday night, and Dave Greymont and I will go out Saturday morning early to mark the course and any last touch-ups. Before that, I will go out after the RNST practice Tuesday night and run the Skandic on the outside right of the whole race route. (no cross-over) Then Chris or whoever is up can run the Ginzu with track setter down (on the right of the rear comb) and follow my single path race route Wednesday. I would advise one or two passes with light knives and NO track setter on the left and middle of the outside right on the whole race route, either before or after track setting, to firm up the skate late. The Ginzu will just fit along the fence line to the concrete bridge (don't bother setting track there, as it will get wiped out by skaters) To groom that, go south/down (fenceline to your left), so you don't auger in trying to get up the hill and fit. You can use the bike lane through the swing gate both up and down.</p> <p>Any questions, let me know! (I'll send the race route in my note to Essex Groomers) Mike Trantow 507-990-3551</p>

<p>2247 Lisa Luetmer 02-10-2020 06:31 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex was groomed and track set. Itâ€™s very soft. I did a dumb thing and got stuck on the 55th St. hill. Itâ€™s a sheet of ice under the fluffy snow. I feel really bad Joe had to come over and help me hook up the ginzu. Two skiers had helped me spin the ginzu around but after I brought the skandic around to re-hook she couldnâ€™t back up. So joe had to pull the ginzu downhill to the sled (Iâ€™m just not strong enough to move that beast). I owe you Joe. Another important note: until we get the atv back donâ€™t groom to the west (metal) bridge. They have plowed that all open now and itâ€™s straight asphalt. The skandic canâ€™t turn on asphalt. A nice guy working for the city helped me pull the skandic so I was pointed the only way across the lot to the prairie trail. He then moved his truck and I picked up enough speed to plow through and popped onto the south prairie. It wrecked my nice track on that spot. Skandic ran well and there is enough gas. Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2246 Evan 02-10-2020 12:37 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I checked Quarry Hill this morning, I was surprised it didn't set up a little bit better over night, so I ran the groomer over it again to try to help compact it.</p> <p>Evan</p>
<p>2245 Joe Gyura* 02-09-2020 08:52 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I rolled Essex not long after Andy finished. With the soft deep snow, the snowmobile tracks would spin with combs down on the up hills. I found that raising the comb added less drag, and actually did a better job of packing. So groomed Essex with combs up. Not as pretty, but firmer.</p> <p>The equipment worked well. Thank you, Mike! There is one large container of gas remaining.</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2244 Henry Walker 02-09-2020 05:57 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH was re-rolled after John made initial passes to help compress the meringue-like snow. The deck flattened well and leveled nicely other than near the prairie house where a significant number of hikers are creating very choppy conditions. A pass of the ginzu tonight is just the ticket for great conditions Monday.</p> <p>A second thanks to the Essex crew for loaning their ATV, a snowmobile would have been very frustrating indeed. Many skiers were utilizing the trail already despite relatively soft conditions.</p> <p>HW</p>
<p>2243 John Resman 02-09-2020 04:29 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Rolled Quarry Hill early this afternoon. I feel guilty using the ATV when I hear the fun times Andy had with the snowmobile. Thanks to the Essex crew for lending the ATV to the Quarry Hill crew. I went twice around the trail system resulting in a two-wide roll with the comb down. Henry is doing a second pass of the roll later this afternoon, and Mike Holmes will be trying the ginzu this evening.</p>
<p>2242 Andy Wood 02-09-2020 03:33 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex was rolled this morning. The snow was so deep the Skandic just spun it's track pulling the roller. So I disconnected the roller and drove the Scandic over the trails 3-4 times before putting the roller back on with the combs up. All trails with the exception of the garden loop have been packed with the roller. I did manage to get stuck with the roller on the Trail from Hell. Take home point: going up, go fast. Joe is out now rolling again. It's still too soft for the Ginzu. Once the trail sets up over night, we should be ready to use the Ginzu and set track. The snow pile by the fence has been cleared!</p>
<p>2241 Andy Wood 02-07-2020 02:53 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>The park service dumped a load of parking lot snow over by the fence leading down (or up) to the concrete bridge. This basically blocks one of our race trails for next weekend. This will take a crew of shovelers to remove it. Anyone up for doing some shoveling? A warm up for the big snow coming tomorrow night? BTW, the ski trails at Essex are OUTSTANDING!!!</p>
<p>2240 Laura Zumbrunnen 02-07-2020 09:14 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thanks for sharing! I didn't know they were tick eaters either...we had one in our garage for awhile. I kept leaving the door open and banged pots and pans...now we have mice. Probably a dumb idea and I got lucky that a raccoon didn't take up residence.</p> <p>Laura</p> <p>On Thu, Feb 6, 2020 at 9:10 PM QT - mtrantow <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> wrote:</p>
<p>2239 mtrantow* 02-06-2020 10:10 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>True story: As I went into Essex this afternoon to check out the ATV and how Brennan was making out, I saw a nice Subaru vehicle and a man in a suit at the curve of the creek. He was dumping out a live trap cage. I expected a cottontail or a squirrel, but a big old scraggly possum waddled down to the creek. I stopped and rolled down my window and said "Thanks for letting go of a wood tick eater". He was surprised by that news. He said normally he'd just shoot it but</p>

	<p>had gotten tired of doing that. This was a big old one, so I said the more the merrier. So if you see a possum out at Essex, that's where it came from. (Better than the squirrels I used to release, those buggers dig out leaves over fresh decked snow)</p>
<p>2238 O'Connor, Michael K., Ph.D. 02-06-2020 03:15 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Is it time to seriously think about, and work on replacements for the ATVs?</p>
<p>2237 mtrantow★ 02-06-2020 01:58 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I saw Brennan as he finished grooming with the scandic at Essex . he's out skiing ...probably pretty good! then I went to the barn and as he said, the grizzly battery is low. It turned over once, but wouldn't catch. I got it started with my jumper. Ran it around the bridge and idled for 16 minutes. It restarted (warm). I have left the front box off. I think it is fine for QH gang to come xfer before it gets cold out later.</p>
<p>2236 mtrantow★ 02-05-2020 11:19 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Since the Essex ATV is going over, I'll mention that I did a "hand-test" of the lug nuts on Tuesday .. all seemed to be OK, but I would advise a torque check. The rear track that fell off has the new longer bolts, so if it seems that 3 of them are deeper inset, that's the reason.</p> <p>I did a bone-head move today and lost the padlock on the Essex big Quonset barn when Joe and Andy were helping me get out the drags. I will search again, but until found or replaced, I'll get a combination lock</p>
<p>2235 Andy 02-05-2020 08:51 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>The Essex ATV will be going over to Quarry Hill while the Quarry Hill ATV is getting repaired. Essex will be groomed using the Skandic until the Quarry Hill ATV is back in action.</p>
<p>2234 Dave S. 02-05-2020 05:25 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed QH at 1 pm today. Dragged the sunny trails and groomed nearly everything with the ginzu with full knives. Did not groom the inner loop of the north hill and the south facing trail behind the shed. I did drag the trail to the west field (to no effect) and dragged the field 3 times. The west trail is very icy, the west field is pretty good. Most of the other trails are good. I did not touch the classic trails. I put the ATV through some hard use, and it gave in at the end.</p>
<p>2233 Dave Greymont★ 02-05-2020 05:09 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I met Dave S. at QH just as he was finishing grooming. I pulled the drag half-way down the Payne shed loop when I heard a metallic knocking/clicking noise in the right rear track. Dave S. and I looked at it and it may be the CV joint going out again. The same CV joint was replaced several years ago. Anyway, DO NOT USE the ATV. I'm trying to contact T-Roy's Repair to take it out to get fixed.</p>
<p>2232 Laura 02-05-2020 10:56 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Appreciate the update, Barry. Gas cans filled.</p>
<p>2231 Lisa Luetmer 02-04-2020 10:36 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thank you Bruce!! And I just wanted you all to know that I found the nifty white rubber cover (Bruce had made it) in the trail about 2 months after I lost it. This was a couple years ago now. Itâ€™s somewhere in the shed. Iâ€™ll try to find it. It worked really well keeping the snow out. Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2230 Bruce Walk★ 02-04-2020 03:48 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Replaced the electrical connector to the Ginzu on the Essex ATV this afternoon. The cover is now present again and will provide a certain amount of retention. Both actuators worked well first time without the bungees but using the bungees like people have been doing recently can't hurt. There's still no cover for the Ginzu end so please make sure there's no snow covering the contacts prior to connecting it. If there is some present, a couple good knocks against the Ginze frame will hopefully get rid of it prior to plugging into the ATV.</p>
<p>2229 Barry 02-04-2020 02:33 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed Essex this morning. All went well. The trails ranged from pretty good (on the fringe areas of the park) to kinda hard packed near the pavilion. The Ginzu scratched up good trails. I didn't make new classic tracks, however, because the snow was pretty crusty and I felt it would do more harm than good. The gas is getting low; the 2 bigger containers are empty, and the 3rd container (of 4) is a little above half. The 4th container (the smallest) is full. Over and out.</p>
<p>2228 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 02-03-2020 03:53 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thanks Tom, my daughter was out skiing at QH and said the conditions were good if you were following the groomer. Mike</p>

2227 Tom McKinley★ 02-03-2020 03:34 PM ET (US)	QH- Groomed this morning including the west ball park loop and Park wood hills. I started around 9am. It was a little icy early on and the ginzo knives were not very effective. Later on when it warmed up to around freezing, the grooming was much more productive. I did try to fix up the classic track in some places. That effort had mixed success. The path over to the west Quarry hill park is thin but hard. The loop in that park groomed up pretty well. A bare spot again on the inner loop of the upper parkwood hills area. There was a lot of foot traffic during the soft snow conditions yesterday and so the trails near the nature center were pretty beat up. ATV ran good. It does seem quieter. I filled all of the gas cans.
2226 Harvey Bertrand 02-01-2020 09:31 PM ET (US)	Thanks much for addressing it Dave. I will go over and listen to it tomorrow. Sent from my iPhone
2225 Peter Wollan 02-01-2020 02:59 PM ET (US)	QH grooming schedule is now Tom McKinley on Monday, Dave G on Tuesday (marking the course for Tuesday's time trial). No grooming possible now with the warmth.
2224 Dave S. 02-01-2020 02:27 PM ET (US)	QH: I installed a secondary muffler on the QH ATV that is designed to quiet down the machine. It does make it quieter at the muffler, but there is still engine noise toward the front of the machine. The popping noise is much reduced. Be very careful when releasing the hitch in back because the second muffler is close to the hitch. Use gloves as the second muffler will be hot. We should be aware that this muffler might cause the engine to run hotter. If it runs too hot, I may have to remove the secondary muffler. I also jacked up the ginzu and found that the comb has bent again despite the additional bolts. The comb seems to have established bad memory and it bends and curls even after using a heat gun to straighten it out. Dave G and I removed the bad comb and he is going to order a new one plus an extra.
2223 Dave Greymont★ 02-01-2020 01:51 PM ET (US)	Ugh, warm weather. 36 degrees and bright sunshine. I met Dave Squillace at QH just as he was finishing working on the equipment. I drove the ATV around the Payne shed loop with the Ginzu behind and I left tread marks. I attempted to lower the knives to just barely touch the surface and the snow immediately balled up in front of the knives so you can't renovate the trail surface. I think grooming is out of the question until it cools off on Monday.
2222 Bjorn Walker 01-31-2020 11:35 PM ET (US)	Tonight all of the QH trail was groomed after the candle light ski including west ball fields. My dad and I groomed at freezing temperature, starting around 8pm. Some of the trails where a bit too narrow so I widened the edges. The classic track in some places was near the center of the trail as well so I placed it along the new edge we widened. Equipment ran perfectly, no issues to address except the comb plows a trough on the right side that we could not eliminate. Ready for the Saturday crowd. BW
2221 Grant Johnson 01-31-2020 11:02 PM ET (US)	Groomed most of Essex just before dark using light (I think) knives + reset classic tracks. Hopefully, it will freeze up tonight. We need more 'log sheets.' Other than that, no issues
2220 DAVID SQUILLACE 01-31-2020 06:45 PM ET (US)	Dave, Thanks much for doing that even though I was not losing sleep over it. It might be that QH benefits from knowing that this really does matter to us. Knowing that you approached it in a diplomatic way is assuring. Better you than any of the rest of us. Dave S. Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone ----- Original message ----- From: QT - Dave Greymont <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Date: 1/31/20 4:32 PM (GMT-06:00) To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming
2219 Dave Greymont★ 01-31-2020 05:32 PM ET (US)	Earlier this week a "substitute" worker at Quarry Hill mistakenly drove a truck up a section of the Meadow Trail to the Prairie House leaving deep ruts. Staff at the Nature Center have spoken with this person. John Resman and David Squillace have repaired the damaged trail. This is the only incident so far this year so I think packing the trail to the Prairie House has been successful.
2218	Henry and I talked this afternoon; the Walkers will handle getting things set for a great day of

<p>Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 01-31-2020 04:17 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Saturday skiing and if the temps are cool enough, early Sunday morning I will groom. I contacted David Herbert and it sounds like QH will not be used on Monday so a refresh of that after a warm Sunday can likely fit in whenever it is convenient. Mike</p>
<p>2217 Peter Wollan 01-31-2020 03:34 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Did a partial groom of QH today to pretty up for the candlelight ski tonight. Ended up refreshing the sport loop as well as the meadow and woods trails. Lovely conditions. Everything worked well.</p>
<p>2216 Dave S. 01-30-2020 02:24 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed QH midday today. Used fairly heavy knives to loosen up the base and reset about half of the classic tracks. Followed heavy knives with light knives to level out ruts and mounds between passes. Groomed all QH trails including north hill and west ballfield. Very nice trail conditions!</p>
<p>2215 Joe Gyura* 01-29-2020 07:52 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed Essex this afternoon. I classic skied Essex this morning. The majority of the tracks we're in good shape, so I left them alone. With the exception of the woods where I set new track.</p> <p>The equipment worked great. Thank you, Mike! Mike, I did have troubles closing the door covering the gas cap. I also could not find log sheets.</p> <p>Grant and Barry are up next to groom Essex</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2214 Buss, Brian 01-28-2020 09:53 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>I'm pretty sure this is not related but RFD had a medical there last week for a broken leg. They used a gator to get to the patient. I was not on the call just heard mention of it. If you need more details I can look it up. Just know it might not be park / rec.</p> <p>Brian Buss RFD member</p>
<p>2213 John Resman 01-28-2020 12:27 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>A beautiful late evening grooming at Quarry Hill. Temps in the low 20s with no wind - can hardly get better. Skate lane was groomed and classic track was reset. Everything went well. The snow should set up well overnight. There seems to be something creating a small ridge one comb in from the track setter side. My attempts at finding the cause were futile.</p> <p>Not very happy with Park/Rec/Quarry Hill. A pickup truck drove on the ski trail to get to the prairie house. They started on the prairie house path but then when the prairie house path crosses our ski trail, they turned onto the ski trail and headed to the prairie house. Big 8" ruts in the trail - partially groomed out. Not sure why I groom a path to the prairie house for vehicles/walkers it it doesn't get used. Maybe it was a new employee. We should see if the QH director has any insight into this.</p>
<p>2212 Lisa Luetmer 01-26-2020 02:18 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex groomed and track. Skate lane is soft but itâ€™s beautiful out there. As always I drive home worrying that I forgot something - like setting track somewhere or a second pass somewhere. I brushed off all the snow on the ginzu and knocked out a lot of half frozen snow from the tracks. Thanks to Laura there is loads of gas.</p> <p>Everything ran well.</p> <p>Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2211 Dan Nath 01-25-2020 08:54 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thursday night ran the roller. It should be set up for the gunzu and track.</p>
<p>2210 Joey Keillor 01-23-2020 11:30 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH fully groomed, track set. Warm but wet. Hard to say how well it will set up. Probably not too well until it cools down.</p>
<p>2209 Chris Brunholz 01-22-2020 08:20 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex was rolled tonight. Snow was sticky, but seemed to pack decently. It was snowing heavily when I was finishing.</p> <p>Yamaha ran great. I didn't use Ginzu, so no electrical report. Plenty of gas in the cans. I think I wrote 1/21 rather than 1/22 on the log.</p>
<p>2208</p>	<p>PGRpdiBkaX19J2F1dG8nPkRhdmUsIHRoZSBRSCB0cmFpbHMgZm9yIHRoZSBI</p>

bsknapper@juno.com
01-22-2020
08:11 PM ET (US)

bGVtZW50YXJ5IGNsYXNzIHdldmUgc3VwdXJiISBUaGVzZSB3ZXJIHRoZSBI
ZXN0IHRyYWlscyBhbmc3Y29uZG10aW9ucyBJIGNhbiByZW50YXJ5IGRpZj48ZG12IGNsYXNzPSJnbWFpbF9leHRy
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dD0iU3BvbnNvcuVkbGlua3NieS5wbmciIGFs

2207
Dave Greymont★
01-22-2020
05:45 PM ET (US)

I went to QH this afternoon with the intention of just setting and refreshing the classic track for Don's community ed. kids. But, QH received a lot more snow than I did at home and it really needed to be groomed. I ended up grooming all the trails except for the trails going up into Parkwood Hills.

2206
Laura
01-22-2020
03:30 PM ET (US)

Essex gas cans filled.

2205
Peter Wollan
01-21-2020
01:14 PM ET (US)

Refreshed Quarry Hill today, preparing for this afternoon's practice. The Ginzu comb might have had some ice frozen onto it near the center -- it left a foot-wide uncombed strip for a while. Seems to have fixed itself.

2204
mtrantow★
01-21-2020
02:33 AM ET (US)

Volunteers?
Putting on my other cap as RNST Eastwood Invite Coordinator, I humbly ask you to consider helping support the team race this Friday afternoon 3-5pm.
We will put out another call to parents tomorrow, but we may still need:
- one more course monitor (usually a coach/skier) willing to dress warm and ski/walk/stand out on the course to cheer on skiers, watch for falls, and ensure no short-cuts
- 4+ Finish line volunteers (doing 1 of 3 tasks: pushing the electronic button to mark skiers at finish, calling out the race bib numbers, writing down race #s)

	<p>Again, we will give the parents one more day to sign up. Maybe they'll fill the slots, but if you could look at the Sign-up link Wednesday morning, and consider filling in, I'd appreciate it. https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0b48a5ac2dab9-2020</p> <p>Cheers, Mike</p>
<p>2203 mtrantow★ 01-19-2020 11:58 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I found the Essex track-setter problem. It's the same old connection issue where the receptacle on the ATV has no latch or retention, so you have to get the plug in, verify switches work, and then use bungees to pull it in and forward (maybe a little UP too, since the cable weight pulls it down).</p> <p>I will send a picture of what worked tonight to the other Essex groomers. (other methods may work too) The main thing is to find the orientation for both knives and track setter working before heading out.</p> <p>The Good news is that I did one full refreshing pass, setting track around the outside of all the main loops.</p> <p>I also managed to clean up some walkers' divots on the side; at least they stayed mostly off Brennan's nice skate lanes.</p> <p>One large gas can and the small can are mostly full. Two large gas cans are empty; ready for refill when Laura Z gets a chance (warming up mid-week!)</p> <p>Cheers! Mike</p>
<p>2202 Andy Wood 01-19-2020 02:08 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Brennan groomed Essex this morning. Unfortunately our track setter malfunctioned so the whole system is groomed for skating. It's in excellent shape for skating including the north and south prairies, the woods, the trail from He - - and now the Garden Loop. Essex is ready for the RNST practice!</p>
<p>2201 Andy Wood 01-18-2020 12:20 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mike rolled Essex last night. I groomed and set track where I could this morning. Tracks were set in the southern prairie loops, the woods, The Trail from Hell and the path up to the steel bridge. I did two passes on the 55th street prairie. With the wind, the drifts already formed by my second pass. Equipment ran well with no issues. We will need to keep at it to check on the drifts. The St. Mary's drag maybe needed once the wind dies down. Brennan is going to groom this afternoon. Chris is on deck.</p>
<p>2200 Mark Foley 01-18-2020 11:25 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Not much drifting - a few spots on top of Parkwood Hills and the south ends of both sets of ball fields. I would wait to groom until tomorrow afternoon as I suspect there will not be a lot of ski traffic this weekend with the forecast and the snow seemed pretty crystalline (I had a layer of ice in the snow at my house) so going over it again today won't do much.</p> <p>Mark Foley</p>
<p>2199 Peter Wollan 01-18-2020 11:14 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thanks Mark and Dave! How was drifting? Should Harvey groom later today, or wait till tomorrow (much colder!) in hopes of not needing another groom on Monday?</p>
<p>2198 Mark Foley 01-18-2020 11:06 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH was groomed with Ginzu, set classic track on all of it and a lot of extra areas around the Nature Center and Prairie House for the community education class. The ATV occasionally smelled like a belt was getting hot so something to keep an eye on. Everything else worked fine other than the driver having to learn to slow way down to almost a stop on corners as the ATV was not getting a grip for steering...</p>
<p>2197 Joey Keillor 01-18-2020 10:08 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thanks for the tip on the gas filling at QH, Dave. I have been going by the gauge...and it did seem to fill up vary quickly by the gauge. No wonder!</p>
<p>2196 Dave Greymont★ 01-17-2020 08:52 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Quarry Hill was packed with the roller. Everything went well except that I got off track going around the west ball field in the dark. (Mark, can you get it straightened out tomorrow morning?) The snow stopped falling at times and it was actually a nice night. No dogs, but I chased Bambi around the trails a couple of times. The wind was quiet in the woods but blowing pretty hard out in the open. We could see some drifting in the morning.</p> <p>Guys, don't rely in the gas gauge when filling the ATV. It shows full too early. Look down the throat of the gas tank (you may need to use the flashlight) and fill until the gas is about an inch below the bottom of the white collar.</p>

<p>2195 mtrantow★ 01-17-2020 07:00 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>As Barry said, I arrived as he left. The "Garden-Loop-Yahoo-Hill" is back in rotation, I skied it after rolling with the Skandic. It was actually pretty fun. The skating was soft but fast. It should set up nicely tomorrow if we can bust the prairie drifts.</p> <p>Speaking of drifting, as Barry was leaving, a bunch of 20 somethings showed up in their spoiler-bedecked-sportsters and starting doing donuts in the Essex lot. I watched for a while, then I moved my Acadia SUV off the big lot and down to safety by the little barn to switch into ski clothes (that really is a nice bonus option for post grooming).</p> <p>On the plus side, I caught up to a woman walking a golden, and I complimented her on walking off to the side. On the negative side, I was overtaken by two big huskies (with collars). They kept running down the trail, but I never saw owner, despite checking all around the pavilion (no cars by now) and no one walking back up the trail... I hope they know the way home.</p> <p>Cheers and enjoy the snow once it warms back up!</p>
<p>2194 barry 01-17-2020 05:42 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex groomed this afternoon. Snow was coming down at a good clip. So much in fact that in places when I made a 2nd pass, the 1st pass was hardly visible. This is all good as an early packing round with Andy and Mike T. planing on grooming again tomorrow or Sunday (1/19). No classic tracks set. Andy and/or Mike will set tracks. Just as I was finishing up, Mike was there and took the snowmobile w/ the roller over to the steep downhill to the old gardens. It will be good to get that little hi-adventure loop back in action. All went well; plenty of gas left.</p>
<p>2193 Joey Keillor 01-15-2020 10:49 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH groomed tonight and should be in great shape for Thursday RNST practice. Went with light knife renovation, as comb alone didn't do much. Re-set some track, but the re-set was hardly looking better than existing, so I simply left a lot of the existing.</p> <p>Chilly end as it did dip below 0 before I could finish.</p>
<p>2192 Andy Wood 01-15-2020 10:16 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Grant Johnson packed Essex this afternoon. Equipment worked well and he had his first solo groom. Tails are skiable now. Just waiting for the big dump on Friday. Groomers are lined up for the weekend to get the trails ready for next week.</p>
<p>2191 Joe Gyura★ 01-14-2020 06:07 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed Essex this afternoon. Did three passes on the prairie trails, two in the woods. I tried to set classic track, but there was just not enough snow overall - especially in the prairies.</p> <p>Equipment worked well. There is plenty of gas.</p> <p>Grant and Brennan are up next to groom Essex</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2190 Dave 01-14-2020 05:39 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I just got back from QH and the classic track was surprisingly good. Thanks Evan</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2189 Evan 01-14-2020 03:12 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I groomed quarry hill late this morning with the Ginzu groomer. I set a shallow track that can easily be erased if we get more snow tonight. Grass showing in places as well as a few ice patches. I did get out to the west field and groomed. I tried to follow the old trail but it was windblown so I did the best I could. Overall pretty good coverage but we need more snow to use good skis.</p>
<p>2188 mtrantow★ 01-14-2020 02:24 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I took a long lunch and filled up the Essex gas cans, then took out the Skandic and roller to the Garden Hill/Loop.</p> <p>A big thanks to Joan Rabe and her electric chainsaw - - that was a lot of cutting done quickly. Groomers should still bypass that area until there's a bit more snow.</p> <p>Last night's new Snow was starting to drift in the prairies, but I didn't have time to do more. If someone is able to tag-team tonight, we could bust drifts with the Skandic followed by the ATV with the Ginzu.</p> <p>*note* it's still a bit icy under the snow, esp. on S & W facing hills .. the Skandic swerved a bit going up them.</p>
<p>2187 Andy 01-13-2020 08:59 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I made 2 passes around Essex with the Ginzu with the knives up. Snow is thin and trails icy. Ginzu fish tailed slightly while on an icy slope making grooming somewhat exciting. Grass is peaking through on the south prairie loops. I did not groom the The Trail form He__ or the steep hill due to the icy conditions. Trails are skiable but rock skis only. The hope is that the packed snow will bond to the trails making for better grooming and skiing when the snow falls tonight.</p>

	Mike and Joan cut up the trees crossing over the trail leading to the garden loop. We might groom that area again if time and weather allows.
2186 Dave S. 01-13-2020 06:09 PM ET (US)	Groomed QH today at 3:30 PM with the drag and weights. Waited until later in the day for the surface to soften slightly. Hopefully this will allow predicted snow to bond to the trail. In most places I removed the old classic tracks so new tracks can be set in new snow in the next couple days. Did not do the west field. I completed many passes in the Parkwood field. There is enough gas for one more fill.
2185 Peter Wollan 01-10-2020 05:17 PM ET (US)	<p>I groomed QH this afternoon, using the Ginzu with medium knives. Where last week's inch of snow wasn't beaten into ice, it groomed up very nice -- that is, the sport loop and most of Parkwood have very good conditions. There are, however, patches of ice, gravel, and asphalt in several places. The bike path out to the west ball field starts out skiable, but when it gets out into the sunny area it's either ice or bare pavement. The west ball field loop is bare ice on the west side near the trees -- the ATV was sliding sideways for a while. But the eastern half of the loop is beautiful.</p> <p>I skipped the parkwood inner loop, because people have described it as big grass patches, but I didn't actually go look at it. I did look at the horrible hill, and skipped it because the bottom third is ice and gravel. The trail up the hill to the Parkwood loop is very thin in places, and could use shoveling.</p> <p>I did shovel some around the Payne shed, and didn't see much benefit.</p> <p>Equipment worked well. Only one big gas can left, barely started. I didn't smell any gas except while filling.</p>
2184 Tom Mckinley 01-08-2020 09:36 PM ET (US)	<p>No, the existing classic track by the shed was left in tact.</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
2183 Lisa Luetmer 01-08-2020 04:10 PM ET (US)	<p>Groomed Essex today. Iâ€™m hoping it helped hold the little snow we had. Itâ€™s pretty icy. Someone had skied this morning but I could see the big scrapes of ice under their stride. Both the north prairie and south has exposed grass and exposed stretches of ice. I would have to say ski only if you are really desperate. Atv ran well. There is plenty of grass.</p> <p>Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
2182 mtrantow* 01-08-2020 02:24 PM ET (US)	<p>Question to Tom McKinley - did the QH classic tracks by the sheds and the main woods loop get wiped out? Parts of them were actually good for practicing double-poling at Tuesday's practice.</p> <p>Never Mind... Just noticed Tom M. groomed Tuesday morn .. it was great for practice. Edited 01-08-2020 02:31 PM</p>
2181 Tom McKinley* 01-07-2020 02:09 PM ET (US)	<p>Quarry Hill: I groomed with the Saint Marys Drag this morning. It worked pretty well for most of the trail. On very firm/icy spots its barely made a scratch. I was thinking as I was going that a little more weight would have been a good thing. Too bad I had not seen the note about adding barbell weights until after I finished. The Ginzu would have been fine too. I did multiple passes over some areas and it seemed to turn out pretty well. The slight slayer of fresh snow helped the surface as well. I groomed all the trails at except the inner loop on top of Parkwood Hills, and the south facing loop next to the equipment sheds. I did groom the trail out to the west ball field, but its pretty much impassable for skiers unless they have no regard for their skis. Overall the skate lane of the trail is very good. I did shovel snow in a couple of areas. The classic is very poor for most of it. No equipment problems but I too smelled raw gas once or twice while driving the ATV. (Must have been Daves power of suggestion from his report) Also, there are many icy pots around the shed and on the driveway near the gate. Be careful!</p>
2180 Dave Greymont* 01-05-2020 08:17 PM ET (US)	<p>I forgot to mention that I packed the middle of the field at the Parkwood loop. It's a little uneven and may require a second going over with the Ginzu. Hopefully it will set up and be usable for Monday's team practice.</p>
2179 Dave Greymont* 01-05-2020 07:30 PM ET (US)	<p>Quarry Hill: Contrary to what I thought would take a delicate hand with the knives, the trail is pretty much boiler plate and the base if frozen hard. I actually applied heavy pressure with the knives with no fear of cutting through to the dirt. That was the only way I could make any significant improvement to the trail. I groomed all the trails at except the inner loop on top of Parkwood Hills, and the step south facing loop next to the equipment storage sheds (too many</p>

	<p>bare spots). While I groomed the trail out to the west ball field it's pretty sketchy in some areas. Personally, I'd avoid it. Other than the west trail there is only one significant bare spot to avoid right next to the Nature Center. The remainder of the trail is good. No equipment problems but from time to time I smelled raw gas while driving the ATV. (Something to watch)</p>
<p>2178 Andy 01-05-2020 01:21 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I was at Essex this morning. Trails are too icy and thin to groom which might damage equipment. We suspend grooming at Essex until we get more snow.</p>
<p>2177 Mark Foley 01-04-2020 12:02 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed QH Friday night - very pleasant as it was about 40 degrees warmer than the last time I groomed! Refreshed the deck with knives and made the mistake of trying to clean up and reset classic tracks in areas as there wasn't a lot of snow to form new tracks and what is there is pretty crystallized. Inner loop at Parkwood Hills has many bare spots, most of the rest of the trail is surprisingly good. Went over the bike path to the west ball fields a couple times to try to break that up a bit - there is one big bare spot at the T from FMC and I tried to groom around that (but snow pretty thin). Everything worked well.</p>
<p>2176 Joe Gyura★ 01-01-2020 12:55 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed Essex this morning. Set track in wooded trails. I tried Parties but were too thin. The praries have some thin ice sections but are skiable.</p> <p>Equipment worked well, and there is plenty of fuel Thank you Mike!</p> <p>Dan is up next. Then Grant our Andy</p> <p>Thanks</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2175 John Resman 01-01-2020 01:10 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Quarry Hill was groomed Tuesday morning (Dave S.) and Tuesday night (John). Classic tracks were set on Tuesday morning. Only skate lane was refreshed Tuesday night. Cold temps Tuesday night should firm up the skate lane and tracks. Bare spots on top of Parkwood Hills. The snow cover is thin in a few icy spots (Parkwood ball field, near the bridge, and on top of Parkwood Hills). Skiing should be pretty good. Everything went well. One full gas can left with a bit of gas in the other large can.</p>
<p>2174 Chris Brunholzl 12-31-2019 08:28 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Rolled Essex this morning. Trails are okay. Ice and some crusty areas in the open prairies. The snow is blowing and likely drifting.</p> <p>Everything worked and the there are still two big cans of gas.</p>
<p>2173 Ari Walker 12-30-2019 08:59 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Packed Quarry Hill with the roller and finished around 7 PM . Got to everything except for the west ball field. No problems with the ATV but there were water spots, one by the bridge and another by the park ball field. Only the 2 large gas cans are full.</p>
<p>2172 Peter Wollan★ 12-21-2019 12:16 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Harvey and I groomed Quarry Hill this morning, Ginzu with light/no knives. Conditions are great except where the trail is melted out -- only a few spots, but they will grow. We did some shoveling, which might make a difference for the rest of today. The middle loop of Parkwood Hills has a big grass patch, and the top of the south-facing hill above the Paine shed has no snow. Mostly, though, it's good. We left the classic track alone almost everywhere.</p> <p>The snow was good and hard when we began at 8:00, but is already fairly soft now at 11:00, and skaters were beginning to leave deep tracks. Classic was working better.</p>
<p>2171 bsknapper@juno.com 12-21-2019 09:22 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>PGRpdiBkaXI9J2F1dG8nPIRoYW5rcywgTWlRZS4gR2xhZCBjb25kaXRpb25z IHdclmUgZ29vZCBhdCBFfc3NleCB5ZXN0ZXJkYXkuIEVb2QgdG8gc2VIIEJl biBvb3RlIj5PbiBEZWMgMjAsIDIwMTkgMTA6NTYgUE0sIFFUIC0gbXRyYW50 X3F1b3RlIj5PbiBEZWMgMjAsIDIwMTkgMTA6NTYgUE0sIFFUIC0gbXRyYW50 b3cgJmx0O3F0b3BpYy00Ni1FMIVldWF5UTdGeXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20m Z3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJ1dGlvbiIgZ48YmxvY2txdW90 ZSBjbGFzc20icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJnaW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3Jk ZXItbGVmdDoxcHggI2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRkaW5nLWxlZnQ6MmV4Ij48cCBk aXI9Imx0ciI+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkVzc2V4IHdscyB3b25kZXJmdWwgc2tp aW5nIDNwbSB0byA1cG0uJiM5OyBUSEFOSyBZT1UgQkFSUkgISYjMTM7PGJy PgomIzEzOzxicj4KQXMGSSBhcnJpdmVkiGF0IEVzc2V4LCBhbm90aGVyIFJO U1QgQWx1bSBjYW1IHNRaWluZyBvdXQuJm5ic3A7IENocmlzdGhbiBhB3N0 b3V0IHNeXMgaGkYw5kIGdhdmUgdGhliHRodW1icyB1cCBvb3RlIj5PbiBEZWMgMjAsIDIwMTkgMTA6NTYgUE0sIFFUIC0gbXRyYW50</p>

barry 12-20-2019 01:45 PM ET (US)	refresh before any thaw this weekend (boo, hiss). The plug to the ginzu was a little persnickety (to borrow the term from Lisa); it only worked when I pushed it with one hand, but no big deal because I didn't need to change it very often. Sawed off a couple 3" trees which had storm damage and were hanging into the trail; that Silky pruning saw worked very nicely. All went well until I was done and prepped to back the griz into the red barn, and the motor died! and it would not restart (nothing, silence when green button was pushed). The griz may have learned a few new words about then. Finally, I put it into PARK, and it started. Not sure why it died; the instrument panel only showed "ESP". Do any of you mechanics know what esp on the dash stands for? One final reminder note (for myself) is to always put the gear shift into park when done and make sure the light switch is off. I will now update the trails facebook. Thanks all.
2164 Dave Greymont* 12-19-2019 02:06 PM ET (US)	I trained Evan Peterson this morning and he's ready to solo. Please welcome him to the RASC grooming team. We groomed all the trails at QH with a light touch of the knives but left the classic track alone. The base on the trail out to the west ball field is probably only an inch thick so we did not use the knives there. There's bare spots and exposed grass on top of Parkwood Hills. No equipment issues. It was in the 20's when we started but warmed up to 30 degrees with warmer weather in the forecast and no snow. We'll have to carefully consider if grooming is even possible if the trail softens. It would likely need to be done at night or early in the morning if we have cold enough nights.
2163 Dave Greymont* 12-17-2019 11:08 AM ET (US)	Well guys and girls, the idea of having a team captain post grooming reports on the RASC Facebook page for local XC ski conditions was a failure. I think some of you are fine with doing it yourselves while others are not. So, for the remainder of this year, as an alternative to the failed attempt I'll post update the Facebook page for those who don't want to do it themselves. But in order for me to do it efficiently I'm asking that you include in your Quick Topics groomers report a statement of what was done and the trail conditions so that I can simply copy and paste it into the Facebook page. I'll make a list of the groomers that want me to do the Facebook post. If you want me to do it for you, please email me at: birked@charter.net Thank you, Dave G.
2162 mtrantow* 12-16-2019 11:49 PM ET (US)	I threw 3 Otter sleds of snow on the bike path going from the gates to the concrete bridge. It helped, but many RNST kids still cut through to the pavement. Next Groomer: That stretch will need a compaction *going downhill" with either ginzu or roller with comb down. For going up hill, please use the fenceline to the east (just big enough for ATV/Roller/Ginzu) There are a bunch of bare spots/gopher mounds/dirt poking through in both North and South prairie loops, so be sure the knives are up if you see dirt patches. VERY light knives should help everywhere else. The Classic track was holding up very well, so I'd leave that alone. Both Vehicles are full and there are two full gas cans in the Quonset barn. I have the other two gas cans full to bring back. Funny story... Leaving Essex after the RNST practice, I saw the groomer barn door light suddenly come on. Nearly everyone had left except coaches, and I couldn't see anyone standing there due to the hill. Thinking there was someone/something sneaking around down there, I did a quick turn towards the barn, roared up, and put on my brights. That scared off a big, fat cottontail rabbit that was hopping in front of the doors. That motion sensor works very well Dave G!
2161 Dave 12-16-2019 07:31 PM ET (US)	Rochester Public Works is removing the trees over a sewer easement. They will grind the stumps and next spring plant it with grass and keep it mowed. It might be an opportunity in the future to move the ski trail off the paved multi-purpose trail and avoid all the foot traffic. Sent by Dave G.
2160 Tom McKinley* 12-16-2019 05:55 PM ET (US)	QH- I groomed this morning, including Parkwood hills and the west QH park loop. I did refresh the classic track in all sections. I did shovel snow over many thin spots and probably could have done more. The hill on the inner loop in the upper section of parkwood hills has lots of grass coming through. I raised the knives in that section to avoid making it worse. The intersection of the path to QH park and the path leading behind the FMC is thin. I did shovel some more snow on that section. They are doing some kind of logging operation near the power lines running south of the QH park and near the river south of there. They have been driving equipment from QH park as well as from QH Nature Center. So, those paths as not too good. Lug nuts looked ok. I did not check their tightness with a wrench though.
2159 Dave S. 12-15-2019 01:22 PM ET (US)	QH ATV lug nuts and gas: I replaced all of the old type lug nuts on the ATV this morning, drove it and torqued them again. I also filled the gas cans and checked the screws for the comb on the ginzu.

<p>2158 DAVID SQUILLACE 12-14-2019 10:17 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Dave, I have just received the new lug nuts Wednesday. I will try to get them installed tmr. I checked the park and rec atv John Munson was driving. They are just like the new ones I ordered. Dave S</p> <p>Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone</p> <p>----- Original message ----- From: QT - Dave Greymont <qtopic-46-E2UeuyQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Date: 12/14/19 11:49 AM (GMT-06:00) To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
<p>2157 Lisa Luetmer 12-14-2019 04:29 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I groomed Essex this morning. Reset, refreshed track where it needed it. Lucky for me Jim Bennet was out and skiing in track that I didnâ€™t have to touch up. He told me that he thought that there was sufficient snow cover on the 55th street hill (he had ducked under the red caution tape). So I wrapped the taped around the sign and groomed it. I probably should have groome the trail from hell but I didnâ€™t. Sorry. The track setter was very persnickety today. Only worked if I wiggled and coaxed the plug almost every time I needed it to move. Otherwise atv ran well although I think it may have smelled just a little hot but that could just be me worrying about the old bugger. I had the feeling that the ginzu was a bit heavy at first but didnâ€™t really investigate. When I was done however I found that there was a thick buildup of ice on the back. I kicked out big heavy chunks of ice and worked to brush off all of the snow. Made sure I got all of the ice built up on the foot boards off as well because they get so slippery. And I realized I forgot to do the lower trail along the woods in the 55th st prairie. Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2156 Dave 12-14-2019 02:05 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Yep, get the "good" stuff, ethanol free.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2155 12-14-2019 01:59 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>At QH, I can get gas Monday either before or after I groom. If I remember correctly, there a charge card in the gas cabinet to use? I assume that I should get the ethanol free gas? Tom</p>
<p>2154 Dave Greymont★ 12-14-2019 12:49 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Is there a need to routinely check for loose lug nuts? The last few times I used the ATV I grabbed each track and yanked it outwards a couple of times while observing the hub and lug nuts. As long as nothing moved I assumed they were tight. Is this adequate or do we need to do more? Is there a better suggestion?</p>
<p>2153 M Holmes★ 12-14-2019 12:09 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed Quarry Hill this morning, not the most efficient grooming but I think I got everything. No mechanical issues. Skate lane and classic track were refreshed. After refilling the ATV there is roughly only one gallon of gas left, we need gas this weekend. Saw my first skier at ~7am. Great day to get out. M Holmes</p>
<p>2152 John Resman 12-13-2019 01:29 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed Quarry Hill this evening. Skate lane and classic track was refreshed. With today's ski team traffic and tonight's cold temps, the trail should firm up nicely for great skiing. Conditions are good with the usual thin spots on top of Parkwood Hills and the Payne shed steep hill. One large can of gas left. No issues encountered. Nice evening for grooming.</p>
<p>2151 Andy 12-12-2019 03:58 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Just got done orientating Grand Johnson to grooming at Essex. We can now add him to our rotation. We groomed and set track in the southern prairie, the southern woods and the 55th Street prairie. We did not groom the Trail form H--- or the steep down hill. (I did not want to take a rookie down those trails just yet.) Equipment ran well particularly with two people plus towing the Ginzu. I believe Chris and Joe are up next in the rotation.</p>
<p>2150 Dave Greymont★ 12-12-2019 03:54 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>All the Quarry Hill trails were groomed and a classic track set except up in Parkwood Hills. We seem to have enough base now that we can carefully use the knives. Over the years I have established a route with minimal overlapping. Unfortunately it is often in the opposite direction of the previous groomer. This means that I'm setting classic track on the opposite side of the trail and renovating the previous classic track. I think my route is pretty efficient. I was done in little over 2-1/2 hours from start to end. Now time for a hot chocolate.</p>
<p>2149</p>	<p>Finished Essex. Overall looks pretty good in the dark. The drifts were small and fairly firm and</p>

<p>Dan Nath 12-11-2019 09:25 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>the rest didn't have much accumulation. Hopefully it will consolidate in the next few days.</p>
<p>2148 Peter Wollan 12-10-2019 10:28 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mark, thanks! I was steeling myself to do something later today or tomorrow, and I really appreciate your taking it on!</p> <p>I think QH will be good now till after Thursday's practice.</p> <p>On Tue, Dec 10, 2019 at 7:39 AM QT - Mark Foley <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> wrote:</p>
<p>2147 Mark Foley 12-10-2019 08:39 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed QH this morning, used Ginzu with knives to clean up ski tracks from last night. Set classic on most of it. Ran out of time but got about 95% of it with 2 passes. There are a few grassy spots on Parkwood Hills high area and the steep hill by Payne shed. Everything worked fine once I got going, I couldn't get it to move out of Park for a while, like the shifter was frozen, but once it moved, it was fine for shifting after that. .</p>
<p>2146 Joe Gyura★ 12-09-2019 08:41 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed Essex today. Went out at noon just as the snows slowed and before the winds pick up and temps dropped. Rolled with combs down.</p> <p>With the exception of the gas pump, equipment worked great. The gas pump did not work from the foot stand. I moved to the seat and still did not pump. Switched to the old fashion method... Mike, let me know if help is needed to acquire a new pump.</p> <p>The prairies were already drifted, but was able to pack what remained. Did not see any bare spots! The wooded sections cleaned up well. I did groom the "trail from hell" (we should find a better name) and steep hill heading to 55th. I kept the trail closed tape in place as the snow is still thin. Following Lisa's lead, I rolled all of the archery range.</p> <p>By know, I'm sure any evidence of grooming is blown over, but at least what was there is packed. With the cold these next few days, all should set up well for the next snow on Thursday?</p> <p>Dan and Andy up next to groom Essex</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe Edited 12-09-2019 08:44 PM</p>
<p>2145 Joey 12-09-2019 12:37 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Quarry hill was groomed this morning with the St Mary's drag. The goal was to scarify the icy spots, smooth out ruts and prep trail for scant snowfall. Did not use added weights, as there was enough thin/exposed stuff to where it might have been a problem. However, did not get to bike trail out to west ball field. There was exposed pavement and I don't think the drag would have done much on that icy pan w/o weights out there, anyway. Seemed successful and I feel created good surface for the snow fall that kicked up just as I was finishing.</p>
<p>2144 Peter Wollan 12-08-2019 09:12 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Guys, please remember that both QH and Essex post to QT. Mention which one you're talking about -- which Dan did, but not for a few sentences.</p> <p>I don't think the trails will really set up tonight. It's supposed to stay warm (right about 30) till Monday noon. Joey plans to quick groom QH at 7am tomorrow, and then Harvey will roll later in the day, after we've gotten some snow. Might be overkill</p> <p>Peter</p> <p>On Sun, Dec 8, 2019 at 7:28 PM QT - Dan <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> wrote:</p>
<p>2143 Dan 12-08-2019 08:28 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed with the ginzu, knives up. Don't feel like I accomplished much either. Looks like walking and ski traffic were pretty light and should set up tonight. Essex reminds me of the top of my head (getting thin with some bare spots).</p> <p>Funny thing is that the knives worked and the track setter didn't tonight. Another operator error likely, but didn't help that it was dark so i didn't look closely.</p>
<p>2142 Andy</p>	<p>Brennan groomed Essex late morning. Equipment ran well. I skied a loop when he was done. The path to the concrete bride is a sheet of ice. Best to take skis off and walk down to the bridge.</p>

12-06-2019 04:14 PM ET (US)	Southern prairie loops are in good shape all things considering with our marginal snow but ball bearing fast. Woods have leaves and sticks on the surface but skiable. Northern prairie along 55th street are primo! A surprise for what we have. Plan is to leave the trails during the warm up on Saturday and Sunday and groom late Sunday afternoon / evening to pack things down before the snow and deep freeze comes. Dan and I are up next in the rotation.
2141 Dave Greymont★ 12-06-2019 02:39 PM ET (US)	I noticed this morning the the city is plowing the paved paths and it may interfere with the trail out around the west ball field. They plowed from the North down to the gate by the pump house, then drove next to the trail to the intersection with the trail that goes behind the Federal Medical Center (FMC). Then they plowed the trail behind the FMC.
2140 Dave Greymont★ 12-05-2019 05:17 PM ET (US)	Peter and I spent a couple of hours shoveling snow on bare spots on the ski trail this afternoon. Not sure how it'll hold up with the ski team practice. The classic track got mashed in a couple of areas. Go to the Trail Conditions Facebook page for a very nice picture of Peter.
2139 Joe Gyura★ 12-05-2019 01:17 PM ET (US)	Chris, thank you for grooming!! Brennan and Dan are up next to groom Essex. Dave G, sounds like the portable.gas pump at Essex is on its last leg. Could we get a replacement? Thanks! Joe
2138 Dave 12-05-2019 10:31 AM ET (US)	Maybe the circuit breaker is tripped, or maybe the plug or outlet on the back of the ATV needs cleaning with electrical contact cleaner???? Just a thought. Sent by Dave G.
2137 Chris Brunholzl 12-05-2019 08:55 AM ET (US)	I groomed Essex this morning using the Ginzu with knives up and I don't know how much I really accomplished. The hiker tracks (mostly on South Prairie and in the woods) are still present. The North Prairie is still decent, but there are a few bare and icy spots on the East hill and the far West side of the South Prairie. I had to set the gas can on the seat for the pump to work, even with new batteries. There was very little flow and then it stopped when the tank was nearly full. Even though I didn't use the track setter and the knives, I plugged in the cord. I could operate the track setter, but I couldn't lower the knives with the switch on the dash board. Also, the rear light didn't come on when I flipped the dash switch for that. It's probably operator error, but I wanted to mention it. I used less than half of the big can of gas.
2136 Tom McKinley★ 12-05-2019 07:43 AM ET (US)	I groomed Quarry Hill Yesterday morning starting at about 9:30. There are some thin spots but overall still pretty good cover. I first tried to redo the classic track but in some places I was doing more harm than good. So, in sections where the classic track that was there looked ok I left it and did not groom over it. There are a few thin spots which I raised the knives for. I forgot about having the shovel with me otherwise I would have shoveled snow from off the trail onto those spots. The loop down the hill just west of the shed is bare just at the top of the hill. Also, that loop was a little slushy at the bottom. I did groom Parkwood hills section. Snow was good there. A couple thin spots. The path over to Quarry Hill park is quite thin. I made sure I had the knives barely touching/up until I got off the blacktop. I did the normal 2 loops, laying a classic track on the right, around the 2 ball fields. The snow cover was fine in that QH park section. 3 of the 4 gas cans are empty. One of the large ones is about half full. I can do a gas run Saturday morning early. There is probably enough to fill it for another grooming.
2135 Dave Greymont★ 12-04-2019 01:39 PM ET (US)	There are no extra pumps at Quarry Hill. The \$9.99 price at Harbor Freight is lower than the Amazon price.
2134 Dave 12-03-2019 10:09 PM ET (US)	I'd have to check to make sure, but I think there's an extra pump on top of the QH gas cabinet. Sent by Dave G.
2133 mtrantow★ 12-03-2019	I had not seen Barry's report below before I went to practice early. so I dropped off 4 new D-Cell batteries in a baggie by the pump. We should try those first, but I didn't need to fill the ATV so didn't verify the gravity test.

09:06 PM ET (US)	<p>If the pump fails next fill, the same unit is in my latest Harbor Freight flyer (pg 31) for \$9.99.</p> <p>I'll post if I pick one up.</p>
2132 Joe Gyura★ 12-03-2019 12:27 PM ET (US)	<p>Mike and Barry, thank you for grooming Essex!</p> <p>Brennan and Matt are up next to groom Essex</p> <p>Barry, the gas pump has always worked with the container on the boot rest. If fresh battery's did not work from there, my guess is the pump should be replaced.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
2131 Dave 12-02-2019 06:10 PM ET (US)	<p>I spoke with Dave (with that name he has to be a good guy, right?) at Yellowstone Track and he said one option is to drill through the comp and run a machine bolt up from the bottom (counter-sink the head) through the base plate and then put a lock washer and nut on the top. The comb is made up of multiple 12 inch sections so if we needed to replace one it wouldn't be too expensive.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
2130 Dave S. 12-02-2019 05:45 PM ET (US)	<p>Regarding the QH ginzu comb problem:</p> <p>Each forward comb is held in place by nine screws. There are three rows of three screws (a forward, middle and rear screw on each row).</p> <p>However, the two outside combs are missing one forward screw on the outside edge because the frame is welded to the plate at that spot. It is a weak spot because of that design. That is where the comb separated from the mat. We took extra care to try to get the comb tight to the rubber mat by putting blocks of wood under the mat and partly lowering the unit down. We also used a heat gun on the comb to straighten a curve it had developed. It appeared to be a good repair with the screws grabbing tightly.</p> <p>It is possible that running that weak spot over a fallen log or branch could partly separate the comb from the rubber mat. As Dave G. said, if it gives us trouble again we may be able to epoxy the screw holes if the threads are weak or we could order a new comb.</p>
2129 barry 12-02-2019 03:38 PM ET (US)	<p>Just groomed Essex this morning. A little thin in places, but otherwise v good. I did several loops in the archery range; did the E woods; then the S meadow; it was going so well that I hummed about 10 J Denver songs until...I got to the bike path going from archery range to the big bridge (I missed any reports about the erosion disruption there). My first clue was the snow fence by the creek. Quickly I stopped and walked up the trail; way too narrow. I got an F in boat-trailer backing up, so plan B was to unhitch the ginzu and turn it around by hand (that actually worked, slowly but surely it turned), then I turned the griz around and hooked up. No problem! The N meadow went fine as well. The only other adventure was in the shed, when I tried using the battery pump to refill the gas. The pump made noise, but no gas got pumped from the container on the boot rest up to the gas tank. I then put in 2 new batteries from my car (I carry them there just for this situation). It seemed to run a little louder, but no gas got pumped. Well, after some deductive tests, I realized that the battery pump would work by placing the gas can on the seat (it didn't have to overcome 1.5' of gravity), and viola! It worked. I think the pump used to work when the can was down low, maybe not. Or, is the battery pump ready for a replacement? Opinions welcome; if so, I will get a new one.</p> <p>All the bolts seemed to be snug. At least I did not have the adventure that the QH crew had.</p>
2128 Dave Greymont★ 12-02-2019 02:39 PM ET (US)	<p>Dave S. and I reattached the comb on the QH ATV. If it comes lose again we'll have to order a new section of comb. We also discovered that there are two different size lug nuts on the wheels. Some have a larger contour and only thread about half way on to the wheel bolts. Others have a smaller contour and thread fully onto the wheel bolts. Dave S. will order a supply of the smaller contour lug nuts and that may solve the problem with the nuts coming lose.</p>
2127 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 12-02-2019 10:08 AM ET (US)	<p>Thanks Mark.</p> <p>To all,</p> <p>Is there a torque wrench in the shed? What is the correct torque setting for ATV lug nuts? Is this now a checklist item? Mike Holmes</p>
2126 mtrantow★	<p>All Essex vehicles and gas cans are full now.</p> <p>That should last a while (KT card back in ATV clipboard)</p>

12-01-2019 11:19 PM ET (US)	Added Stabil to mower gas tank. Ginzu and Roller up on boards ahead of Sunday night freeze up.
2125 Mark Foley 12-01-2019 09:01 PM ET (US)	Groomed QH tonight with Ginzu, snow was firming up as I was grooming and the snow was drifting in as I was grooming. Everything worked well except that part of the comb seems to be lose and caught up snow leaving a divet in the trail where track was not being set (the lose part lined up with the track setter). Henry was skiing and looked at it and thought it might rivets but it will need to be looked at where it can be tipped up to see it better. Checked the torque on the tracks and the bolts were tight.
2124 mtrantow★ 12-01-2019 01:54 PM ET (US)	Essex has been combed. Most trails are in good shape for Classic/Striding style skiing. Snow is still too soft for skating and walkers divots are still evident. Can't use renovation tines or set track until later today, with colder weather and new snow. RNST team may be practicing at Essex Monday 3:45-5:30pm Joe and Andy working a plan to groom later.
2123 Dave Greymont★ 11-30-2019 01:27 PM ET (US)	Dave Squillace had extra lug nuts in his parts inventory. Henry and Ari were very lucky they got the ATV back to the shed without the track coming off. I added one nut at a time until I had all 4 nuts on and then tightened them (sequentially) to firmly seat the track housing on the ATV. Then I took one nut off at a time and put blue thread lock on the threads and replaced the nuts. Then I did the same with the other three wheels. Then I drove the ATV around behind the shed, forwards and backwards and then rechecked to make sure the nut were tight. The ATV is good to go again but the lug nuts should be checked again after the next grooming. Just two little housekeeping items. When you're done using the leaf blower please leave it with the chute pointing down and the motor end up. Otherwise the electrical connection on the leaf blower gets wet and shorts out. The other item is please be very gentle opening the gas door cover. It should only be opened just short of vertical. If opened further, the bottom of the door hits the top housing of the ATV and either pops the hinge out of the tabs if fits into, or breaks the hinge on the ATV housing. We just replaced all the parts this past fall on the QH ATV at a cost of about \$65.00
2122 Mark Foley 11-29-2019 11:34 PM ET (US)	I had a bad experience with car tire lug nuts coming lose on two vehicles when I put the snow tires on- I had moved to using an air wrench that year. I never had issues before or since when hand tightening and torquing. I am not sure if a new technique was used this year or not on mounting the tracks but we probably should check torque after the first grooming- similar to tire places saying to check after 100 miles of driving. What's the correct torque? Who is getting the lug nuts? Harbor Freight has a 1/2" drive click type torque wrench for \$20 and the one I have from them matches close to my bar one so appears pretty accurate. Mark Foley
2121 Henry/Ari Walker 11-29-2019 07:36 PM ET (US)	In hopes of protecting the trail from the up coming rain, Ari and I began packing QH with the ginzu knives up this evening. Packing may prevent some base loss if we receive light rain. I cut overhanging brush with a loppers while Ari drove. As we entered Parkwood Hills Ari noted that the front steering did not feel right to him. I stopped and checked lug nuts recalling the challenges at Essex. On the front right hand side one lug nut remained having about one or two threads remaining on the lug at most. We tightened up that nut as tight as we could and switched to 2 wheel drive to reduce stress to the front end. We were able to drive back very slowly to the shed without incident and park the ATV. Very close call. Adding extra lug nuts and a 3/4" breaker bar to the tool set would be valuable, why the lug nuts on both ATVs are coming loose this year is not clear. A torque wrench would be valuable as well to assure adequate pressure is applied. DO NOT USE THE ATV until new nuts can be added and torqued to specifications. We may want to use a small amount of blue locktite if this issue continues. Side Note: QH groomers, please remember to groom the walking path to the Prairie House separate from the ski trail. The Nature Center folks did a good job of directing hikers off the nordic path last year having the hiking trail option to the house. It will be important to continue grooming for their programs to access the house.

	<p>Skiing was very good to excellent today. The recent snowfall created "A" ski conditions. I saw 8 HS team members skiing during the period I was on the trail. Good coverage everywhere. Hoping for less rain.</p> <p>Henry</p>
<p>2120 Lisa Luetmer 11-28-2019 12:34 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I rolled Essex with the combs down. I'm grateful that everything ran well....except that awesome little gas pump. Brennan you will need to bring batteries. The woods trails are covered in leaves. The prairie trails are decently skate-able. We have some serious drifting on the long hill near the tree edge of the 55th street prairie. I decided to roll the entire archery range thinking that the team could use the space but we may not need to do it every time we groom? Or maybe it's excessive? There is plenty of gas.</p> <p>Happy Thanksgiving to you all.</p> <p>Lisa</p>
<p>2119 Dave Greymont★ 11-27-2019 08:42 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Peter and I discussed whether or not to roll again with the comb down. With it getting cold tonight and the base too thin to use the knives on the ginzu I decided to roll the whole trail and smooth out the surface. The cherry trail was a mess with trees bent over from the weight of snow. I shook the snow off many of them and they sprang back up, others I had to cut off. I ended up cutting quite a few trees before I was finished rolling. It was really a pleasant night to be out on the ATV. Separately I'll send a map marking the location of the downed trees. There's also a huge tree leaning over dangerously at the junction of the cherry trail and the trail leading to the Payne sheds. We'll need to take a closer look at it and decide if it needs to be taken down. The base is too thin to set a classic track but good enough for your rock skis.</p>
<p>2118 Peter Wollan 11-27-2019 05:40 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH has been rolled with combs up -- except for a couple of spots. There's a big tree (20 inch diameter) across the Prairie trail near the bridge. There are two trees down across the bottom of the sport loop trail, where it joins the woods trail next to the Prairie House; they're smallish, 4" or so, and Dave might have taken care of those by now. The orchard trail - cherry trail- has lots of small stuff down and one smallish tree -- I took only one pass up it, and by then I was cold, wet, and tired, and gave up. I think there are two other smallish trees, maybe on the woods trail? Neither blocks the trail completely. Lots of sticks and leaves. In retrospect, it would have been good to have a team walk the southern, wooded trails to get up sticks and clear trees before rolling.</p> <p>I went out to the west ball fields and did two loops. Out on the grass, it's pretty nice, but the paved trail out from the Nature Center packs down to slush where it's been walked on, and will be ice tomorrow.</p> <p>I did several passes around the Parkwood Hills ball field and around the upper trails. The inner loop of the upper trails has a stretch that's blown clear, down to grass. North of the bridge will be good skiing by Monday, I think, given a few more grooming passes, but getting there might be hard, and the whole sport loop needs a lot of cleaning.</p>
<p>2117 Andy 11-27-2019 05:23 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Joan and I cleared the dead fall across the wooded trail at Essex this afternoon. A big thank you to Joan and her electric chain saw! I classic skied all the trails. Thin in some spots and drifting on the prairies. We'll need more snow before we can use the Ginzu. Happy Thanksgiving All!</p>
<p>2116 Dave 11-27-2019 01:39 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>There's a metal pin across the back end of the gas cover door that clips into the sides at the rear of the top cover opening of the ATV. Then on the front of the gas cover there's a pin that goes into a hole with a grommet to keep the door closed. If the grommet got pulled out we'll need to replace it and any other parts you need. I have the part numbers. I put a little light grease on the grommet of the QH ATV so that the pin would slip in and out easier.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2115 Joe Gyura★ 11-27-2019 01:13 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I finished rolling Essex - combs up. All Essex trails have been rolled. The equipment worked great. Mike, as we discussed, the gas door has come loose. Looks like the entire cover also is loose.</p> <p>Filled the ATV. There is plenty of gas.</p> <p>Lisa and Brennan are up next to groom Essex.</p> <p>Ski report: The trails were rolled with combs up leaving roller ridges in the snow. The snow is soft and thin/bare in areas exposed to the high winds. I believe skating should be avoided to</p>

	minimize damage to the trails. May be able to classic, but would recommend using old skis. We need some cold temps to firm up the trails.
2114 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 11-27-2019 12:29 PM ET (US)	Oops, that's me, Mike Holmes. I guess with another Mike and a Mark involved that won't work. Sorry, Mike H
2113 Dave 11-27-2019 12:20 PM ET (US)	Um, who is "M" Sent by Dave G.
2112 ANDY 11-27-2019 11:29 AM ET (US)	South prairie of Essex has been rolled with the comb up. There is a tree down in the woods that blocks the trail. As Mike noted we need a crew with a chain saw to cut it up and remove it. We'll try for 2:00 today. For those grooming Essex, as you go over the concrete bridge, stay to the right to avoid the bumps and gravel under the snow. Go directly into the archery range and then circle around and then head up the hill to the south prairie route. This will keep you out of the rough flood damaged ground. Joe is grooming the north prairie loops as we speak. Next person to groom should again use the roller but with the comb down. The packing will firm up our base and should be nicely skiable. Still some thin spots to set track. Happy Trails!
2111 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 11-27-2019 11:17 AM ET (US)	Sorry guys, I got to work. M
2110 mtrantow★ 11-27-2019 10:57 AM ET (US)	Essex has started grooming. Andy and Joe did some great work, but we need a work crew at 2 p.m. with chainsaws to remove a tree. If you're available, meet us at Essex parking lot at 2 p.m. Bring your skis!
2109 Dave Greymont★ 11-25-2019 05:57 PM ET (US)	With the help from Peter, Tom, and Harvey, we moved the ginzu and the drag out of the Payne shed at Quarry Hill and tested the knives and track setter. They're parked on up on the rise behind the shed along with the roller. Now, all we need is snow.
2108 Dave Greymont★ 11-13-2019 02:31 PM ET (US)	Park and Rec mowed the edges of the ski trails through the Eastwood woods today. They should be usable for skiing and if snow is adequate for the annual invite. I think we'll find that the fat tire bikers are also riding on the trail.
2107 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 11-12-2019 02:34 PM ET (US)	That's great, nice of him to offer. M
2106 Dave Greymont★ 11-12-2019 09:55 AM ET (US)	At the after season groomers meeting at Andy's farm one of the requests was to have someone glean the information from Quick Topics bulletin board and put the information on the Facebook XC Trail Conditions page. Good news: RNST captain Jacob Ratelle volunteered to take this on. So, in order to make this successful I'm asking that when you post your grooming information on Quick Topics you make a succinct statement at the end of your report regarding the trail such as: Which site (Essex or Quarry Hill) Trail conditions excellent/poor, use good skis or rock skis, if a classic track was set/refreshed, other pertinent information important to the public. I will give Jacob access to Quick Topic and the Facebook login. Thanks, Dave
2105 mtrantow★ 11-08-2019 11:23 PM ET (US)	everything is ready at Essex. The equipment is out, gas cans are filled, and the posts are driven into the ground at trail entry points awaiting the new signs. Someone actually skated on the little pavilion loop I made with the Ginzu!
2104 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 11-06-2019 04:51 PM ET (US)	Let the season begin!
2103	I refilled the gas cans at QH and replaced the record keeping sheets with the ones for grooming.

Dave Greymont★ 11-06-2019 04:46 PM ET (US)	
2102 Dave Greymont★ 10-25-2019 09:49 PM ET (US)	Today Harvey and I put in the lath to mark the Payne shed loop, and the trail around the Parkwood Hills fields.
2101 Lisa Luetmer 10-20-2019 01:18 AM ET (US)	Thank you! Thank you all:) Lisa Sent from my iPhone
2100 Dave Greymont★ 10-19-2019 07:26 PM ET (US)	Today was the annual fall ritual of removing the ATV tires and installing the tracks. Thanks for all the help from Mike Trantow, Joe Gyura, Andy Wood, Dave Squillace, and Mike Holmes. The Indy pit crew can change all 4 tires and fill the gas tank of a race car in a little over 10 seconds. We weren't quite that fast but we had a good time.
2099 Robb Welch 10-18-2019 10:12 AM ET (US)	Mowed Essex Park yesterday. Made 3 passes on all trails except in the woods where I made 2 passes and basically blew the leaves off the trail. Currently no trees down on the trails. Equipment ran good. I filled the ATV up with gas but did not fill the mower as this might have been the last mowing for the year and I wasn't sure if the mower tank gets drained for winter storage. Looks like there is about 8 gallons of gas remaining.
2098 Harvey Bertrand 10-17-2019 06:48 PM ET (US)	I am headed to California, so unfortunately can't make the changeover. Sent from my iPhone
2097 Dave Greymont★ 10-17-2019 06:20 PM ET (US)	Quarry Hill got it's last mowing for the year today. All the equipment worked well except perhaps for the operator. I got a snoot full of ragweed on top of Parkwood Hills. I have the ATV, tracks, and trailer at my house for the Saturday track changeover party. The tail lights, brake lights, and directional lights are not working on the trailer but I found some broken wires. I'll reconnect them tomorrow and hopefully that will fix the problem. There was a doe standing under an apple tree watching me from the inner circle on Parkwood Hills. She then ran down the trail on the inner circle and practically leaped over the outer circle right in front of me. It was pretty neat to watch.
2096 Joan Rabe 10-04-2019 04:42 PM ET (US)	Walked all the woods on east side of Essex. All the trees in those wood have been cut and moved off trail. I picked up all the remaining branches (about a gazillion).
2095 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 10-03-2019 12:44 PM ET (US)	I don't have a bolt cutter but you are welcome to borrow my angle grinder. M
2094 mtrantow★ 10-03-2019 11:44 AM ET (US)	Cooling weather means snow (someday) We still need some weights for the yellow drag at Essex. 2 x 25 lb plate wts with 1" diameter holes would be best. Donations welcome or check your local garage sales and RASC can reimburse it. On a personal note, I need to borrow a bolt cutter for my son Benjamin's broken bike lock cable. If any one has one, I'd like to come get it Friday noon. Thanks in advance, Mike
2093 HenryH★ 09-28-2019 02:51 PM ET (US)	Essex meadow trails mowed today. Wood trails didn't need mowing. No equipment issues. 2+ large gas cans remain.
2092 Mike Holmes 09-25-2019 08:53 PM ET (US)	I mowed Quarry Hill this evening. Everything went well. Gas status: 1 x full 5 gal, 1 x half full 5 gal, 2 x empty 2 gal. ATV and mower were refueled. Beautiful evening.
2091	Laura and I hiked Essex this morning. There are a lot of trees down on the trails. One is a

<p>Lisa Luetmer 09-25-2019 07:01 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>massive red oak. There was even a large oak branch down at the entrance but you could squeak by. More erosion as well. Iâ€™m hoping the city can help with this because it will take a crew of us and it will take a couple days. L</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p> <p>> On Sep 24, 2019, at 11:57 AM, QT@qs3582.pair.com wrote: ></p>
<p>2090 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 09-24-2019 04:47 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Yes, after work. I plan to bug out early so I get more daylight. I am hoping that tonight's storms are not too bad and things dry well during the day. M</p>
<p>2089 Dave 09-24-2019 03:15 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Are you going to mow in the evening after work? Hope we don't get rain tonight.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2088 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 09-24-2019 12:57 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thanks Dave, I plan to mow tomorrow. Mike</p>
<p>2087 Dave Greymont* 09-23-2019 01:38 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>The ATV is back at QH. There's been a problem with the gas tank cover. The grommet has been missing and the hinge is broken on one side. The cover is gone now. I'll get the new parts and we can install them when we do the wheel/track changeover in two weeks. Also, I think the gas gauge is unreliable. This morning it still showed 3/4 full but when you looked into the tank the gas level was low. I added about 2 gallons of gas to fill it up to within about an inch of the white collar.</p>
<p>2086 Joe Gyura* 09-11-2019 05:05 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed Essex trails today. Did three passes on each trail. Did not mow the woods which was not needed. Equipment worked well - thank you Mike and David! There is one full 5 gallon gas can remaining.</p> <p>If needed, Robb and Henry H., are up next to mow Essex.</p> <p>There is still a "mess" by the concrete bridge, so I accessed the south parries via the path just across the steel bridge.</p> <p>I had one mishap that Essex mowers should be aware. There is a sewer cover in the lawn pretty much directly between the pavilion and woods. Do to long grass, I did not see the cover when heading to the north woods. The mower hit and Removed the cover! I tried to replace the cover but was unable to move. Not wanting to leave the pit open fearing someone could trip, so I dragged a picnic table to cover the pit. Just before leaving the city arrived to mow. I informed him of the incident. He said not to worry as it has happed to him on several occasions and that he'll get the cover replaced. I offered to help, but he declined stating it would not be a problem -- ugh... youth... Anyway, there appears to be no damage to the mower which is surprising considering the weight of the lid.</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2085 Dave 09-08-2019 08:09 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thanks Mark.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2084 Mark Foley 09-08-2019 07:37 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed Quarry Hill yesterday in the midst of the QH fall festival. I had to get in a queue to get into the Payne shed area! Fortunately I was on my bike and could slip past as they were turning people away as the field was full of cars). Payne Shed was completely surrounded except for one spot - right where I needed to back the mower out of the shed! Not many people on the ski trails and mowing went well. I cleaned up the downed popular tree just before the start of the less steep trail going up into Parkwood hills trails so we can go straight out from the trails.</p> <p>No issues with the equipment.</p>
<p>2083</p>	<p>Lisa, thank you for mowing Essex!</p>

<p>Joe Gyura★ 09-01-2019 11:23 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Have not seen an update from Dan, but understand he mowed after Laura. I and Robb are up next to mow Essex.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2082 Lisa Luetmer 08-29-2019 06:13 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex was mowed today. Everything ran well. There is plenty of gas. Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2081 DAVID SQUILLACE 08-24-2019 01:37 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I filled the gas cans. Dave S</p> <p>Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone</p> <p>----- Original message ----- From: QT - Peter Wollan <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Date: 8/23/19 3:11 PM (GMT-06:00) To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
<p>2080 DAVID SQUILLACE 08-23-2019 05:05 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Peter, The mower hour meter broke last year. Discussed and decided not to replace. Expensive and short lived, don't need the hours either. No card in the cabinet?</p> <p>Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone</p> <p>----- Original message ----- From: QT - Peter Wollan <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Date: 8/23/19 3:11 PM (GMT-06:00) To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
<p>2079 Peter Wollan 08-23-2019 04:10 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed QH today. Didn't realize it had only been 9 days since last mowing, but it turned out there were sections with long grass anyway. Everything worked fine, except that the mower hours indicator seems to be broken, or at least stuck. And didn't it used to switch to indicating rpm?</p> <p>Refilled the mower, and put the last of the gas into the ATV. It indicates full, but it isn't, quite. All four gas cans are empty, and I didn't see the credit card.</p>
<p>2078 Dave Greymont★ 08-15-2019 07:12 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>37th. Street Tire and Auto put a new tube in the tire. FYI there's an account there under my name (Dave Greymont) I reinstalled the tire, put some air in the other front tire and finished mowing QH. There's about 4 gallons of gs remaining.</p>
<p>2077 Harvey Bertrand 08-14-2019 10:04 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Dave G and Harvey Bertrand got most of the mowing completed at Quarry Hill today. Before we left the shed, we pumped up a flat right front tire on the mower. It was flat again part way through the mowing, so we had to call it a day without finishing. Dave has taken the tire to have it fixed. We found a downed tree near (using my newbie term) the east one-way loop. Dave dispatched it handily with his hand saw set on high speed. Most of the trails had limited growth in the center of the trail, but still called for grooming. Otherwise, a perfect day to be at Quarry Hill!</p>
<p>2076 Joe Gyura★ 08-11-2019 06:45 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Laura thank you for your multiple trips to get Essex mowed!</p> <p>Dave S thanks for your efforts to resolve mower issues! As always very much appreciated!</p>

	<p>Dan and Lisa are up next to mow Essex.</p> <p>It's looking like the city is in no hurry to make the concrete bridge passable. Until then will need to access the south prairie and woods from the bike path after crossing the metal bridge. Let me know of any questions</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>2075 Dan Nath 08-10-2019 11:47 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Operator headspace and timing. It took a minute to realize the way the pto switch is wired, it has two functions.</p>
<p>2074 Dan Nath 08-09-2019 10:11 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I didn't check this page until I got home. It looked like the city had mowed Essex this week, but you got to it Laura!</p> <p>Mower wouldn't start and I had to jump the solenoid to get it going. If I have time, I can look at it this weekend. Mower blades could use some sharpening also.</p>
<p>2073 Laura Z 08-08-2019 02:25 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex is all mowed. Mower worked great! Plenty of gas for awhile.</p> <p>Thanks to Dave S for making a unnecessary trip to check out mower which worked perfect for him. User error on my part. Theory is wire behind red mower engage button on atv was loose which I never checked.</p>
<p>2072 mtrantow★ 08-06-2019 09:10 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I took a look at the mower in the Essex Barn . The battery is fine, just as Joe and Laura said, and the voltage is getting to the solenoid but maybe not to the starter . David Sqillace, if you could contact me maybe we can figure out what's wrong.</p>
<p>2071 Ari W 08-02-2019 09:56 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed QH today there is one tree down by the ball field . Other than that nothing else interesting happened, the mower and ATV worked well. The mower gas tank was over full and sloshed out the cap threads at first.</p>
<p>2070 Dave S. 07-23-2019 05:26 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed QH today. Another group of trees fell on the trail but they were within the capacity of a bow saw that I brought along. Everything worked well.</p>
<p>2069 HenryH★ 07-22-2019 03:30 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed Essex this morning. As Joe's note/picture showed, the creek trail is washed out. Currently the concrete bridge near the archery course is also closed due to flooding debris, so the only access to the south prairie and east trails is via the steel bridge. Equipment worked fine, except the lopping shears which were working until I broke a jaw off. Mower and ATV filled. Down to 1 large can of gas. City mowed worst of the parsnip in north prairie.</p>
<p>2068 mtrantow★ 07-16-2019 12:02 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Barry, did the secret message start out BE SURE TO DRINK YOUR OVALTINE...? My decoder ring broke after that.</p>
<p>2067 B K 07-15-2019 10:58 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>PGRpdiBkaXI9J2F1dG8nPkrHdmlkLCBJJ2xsIDJuZCBNaWtlIFQncyBpZGVh LiBBIGJpZyB0aGFuayB5b3UuJm5ic3A7PGRpdiBkaXI9ImF1dG8iPkJhcnJ5 Jm5ic3A7PC9kaXY+PC9kaXY+PGRpdiBjbGFzcz0iZ21haWxfZXBh0cmEiPjxi cj48ZGI2IGNsYXNzPSJnbWVpbF9xdW90ZSI+T24gSnVsIDE0LCAyMDE5IDM6 MzAgUE0sIFFUIC0gbXRyYW50b3cgJmx0O3F0b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsYWtlIGluE4uV0ksIGFuZCB5b3UucmUg ZG9pbmcgYWxsIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj 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eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx0ci+UVR8JiMxMzs8Ynl+CkRhdmk IFNxdWlsbGFjZSAtIERvIHlvdSBibmpveSBhIHhcnRpY3VsYXJlUm9jaGVz dGVyIGJyZXdpcmcgZXN0YWJsaXNobWVudD8mIzEzOzxicj4KQmVjYXVzZSBj IGZlZWwgSSBvd2UgeW91IGegYmVleicAob3IgdGhyZWUuKS4mbmJzcDsgSSd2 ZSBiZWVuIGVuam95aW5nIHRoZSBsZSQVNDIG1haW50ZW5hbmNlLiYjMTM7PGJyPgpOYW11 IHRoZSBwbGFjZSBhbmQgSSdsbCB0cmVhdCB5b3UgcmlnaHQuLi4gb3IgaW50b3BpYy00Ni1FMlVldWF5UTdG eXdAcXVpY2t0b3BpYy5jb20mZ3Q7IHdyb3RlOjxiciB0eXBIPSJhdHRyaWJl dGlvbilGZ48YmxvY2txdW90ZSBjbGFzcz0icXVvdGUiIHNoeWxlPSJtYXJn aW46MCAwIDAgLjhleDtib3JkZXItbGVmdDoxcHggL2NjYyBzb2xpZDtwYWRk aW5nLWxlZnQ6MwV4Ij48cCBkaXI9Imx</p>

	To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming
2059 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 07-12-2019 10:15 AM ET (US)	I'd suspect the gas cap itself; intuitively it doesn't make sense since if it is not venting the usual symptom is no fuel flow, on the other hand it's a cheap thing to try. I am sure Dave S has a better theory. Mike
2058 birked@charter.net 07-12-2019 10:07 AM ET (US)	Sorry, no idea what is causing the rush of air when removing the gas cap. Maybe Dave Squillace has a thought???? -----From: "QT - Joe Gyura" To: "QT topic subscribers" Cc: Sent: Friday July 12 2019 8:37:52AM Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming
2057 Joe Gyura* 07-12-2019 09:37 AM ET (US)	Robb, thank you for mowing Essex and the extra efforts to remove/clean up downed trees! Henry H and Laura are up next to move Essex. I will take a look at the downed tree in the south prairie to assess how best to remove. I can't speak for QH, but per Robb's Essex update the wild parsnip abundant! When mowing, removing brush, etc at Essex, please be extra careful to ensure you are protected! As the rash and blisters from contact can be serious. Mike and Dave, Robb also mentions that, like Lisa, there was a "rush" of compressed air/fumes when removing the ATV gas cap. Not sure what is causing the issue. Any thoughts? All should be cautious to slowly loosen the cap and let any compressed air/fumes escape before fully removing the cap. Thanks! Joe
2056 Robb Welch 07-11-2019 09:21 PM ET (US)	Mowed Essex this morning. The atv and mower worked well with only one small comment that the mower's metal belt cover is a little loose and making an occasional "clanking" noise. I cleared one small 5" dia. tree from the NW wooded hills area. There is also a fairly large tree down across the trail on the south side of the flat prairie loop in the south western part of the trail. I cut away enough branches to make room for one mower width to get through. There is lots of wild parsnip at the tree fall area (as well as many other portions of the trail). Thanks for having the awesome little saw and branch loppers in the atv. I made three passes in all the open areas and two passes in the wooded areas. The bike path down to the creek from the main parking area is closed and the bike trail near the cement bridge is buckled/moved/messed up after the last flood event. Gas tanks are filled. Two and half large cans of gas remaining.
2055 Joe Gyura* 06-26-2019 03:51 PM ET (US)	Mowed Essex this afternoon All equipment worked well Fortunately I did not experience any of the issues Lisa reported with the ATV and mower. There is plenty of gas Robb and Henry are up next to mow Essex . Thanks! Joe
2054 Joe Gyura* 06-23-2019 09:20 PM ET (US)	Update of downed tree at Essex I went to Essex today to asses mowing needs, and saw that the city has not only taken down the tree, but completely cleared the area of any debris. An amazing job. I sent a note thanking them for their timely efforts. Essex is about ready for a cut I'll mow later this week if it ever stops raining. Joe
2053 Mike Holmes 06-16-2019	Hi Joe, Thanks for the Father's Days wishes and I hope you had a good one yourself.

07:51 PM ET (US)	Take care, Mike
2052 Joe Gyura* 06-16-2019 05:38 PM ET (US)	<p>Update regarding downed tree at Essex.</p> <p>I stopped by Essex yesterday to get a good look at the tree and assess the situation.</p> <p>The tree is tall - one of the tallest in the area. Two of its largest upper limbs broke and are still attached to the trunk. One of the limb ends is resting on the ground, the second is resting on a neighboring tree which is severally bend and partially resting on the first limb. There is a lot of conflicting pressures. I believe they label these as "widow makers". I believe Dave's recommendation to contact the city and leave the job for experts is advisable. Thank you jDave. I'll reach out to Make at Park & Rec. Actually, I'll add it to the list you sent earlier. I'll cc you on the email.</p> <p>The downed limbs forms a rather nice arch over the trail. With plenty of room for the ATV and mower to pass underneath. I'll head back out to Exxex with a small saw and loppers to clean up the small branches / twigs on and around the tree to make passing under easier.</p> <p>Let me know if there are any questions and/or suggestions.</p> <p>I'd also like to wish all a Happy Fathers Day to the dads on this thread.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
2051 Lisa Luetmer 06-14-2019 12:02 AM ET (US)	<p>If it can wait a week I am happy to help. I have in the past backed my truck down the bike path and used a strap to help pull a tree in a safe direction . L</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
2050 Dave G. 06-13-2019 10:24 PM ET (US)	<p>Joe,</p> <p>If that downed tree is too dangerous to handle, let P&R know and they will have the forestry department remove it. We don't want anyone getting hurt.</p> <p>Dave</p>
2049 Joe Gyura 06-13-2019 10:13 PM ET (US)	<p>Laura, thank you for the offer to help!! Due to some recent changes, looks like I may not be available until later next week. There is no rush, as Lisa stated, one can pass underneath the tree with the ATV. And mower. Iâ€™ll reach out with you on some possible times we can meet to remove the tree.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p> <p>Sent from my iPad</p>
2048 Laura Zumbrunnen 06-13-2019 05:32 PM ET (US)	<p>Hi Joe,</p> <p>I can help you early tomorrow afternoon or Monday.</p> <p>Laura</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
2047 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 06-13-2019 12:17 PM ET (US)	<p>Joe,</p> <p>I would be happy to help you but it wouldn't be until ~7pm. Is that too late? Mike</p>
2046 Joe Gyura* 06-13-2019 12:05 PM ET (US)	<p>Lisa thank you for mowing Essex and the update regarding equipment concerns and the downed tree</p> <p>I was poll walking Essex this morning and saw the downed tree It is going to be a challenge to clear If for no other reason than safety it would be great if someone would be willing to help me clear the tree. I have a chainsaw, would just appreciate having someone around in case something bad happens.</p> <p>Thanks!</p>

	Joe
2045 mtrantow★ 06-12-2019 10:15 PM ET (US)	Essex gas cans filled up. Newbie mistake, I forgot the fleet gas card, so used my own. I will submit the receipt to Dave G. I will look into the mower noise and gas tank pressure this weekend.
2044 Lisa Luetmer 06-12-2019 06:50 PM ET (US)	I forgot to report that there is a pretty big tree that broke higher up the trunk and most of it fell on the trail that comes out to the bike trail. Itâ€™s the trail we called section 11 when Jeff and Bruce were building it. Itâ€™s the outer most woods trail where there is that high and low trail option. Itâ€™s where we had groomer track problems last winter. I had my saw with me but itâ€™s more than I would like to tackle alone. The atv can scoot under fine. There were some smaller trees down but it was easy to cut them up and move them. L Sent from my iPhone
2043 Lisa Luetmer 06-12-2019 03:40 PM ET (US)	Essex was mowed today. Although everything ran great I did notice an occasional loud squealing noise from the mower. Itâ€™s not the belt but I think itâ€™s one of the wheels. Could there be a bearing wearing out? And when I needed to gas the atv up the gas cap just about blew off. There was a lot of pressure built up. Iâ€™ve never had that happen. After filling the atv and the mower there is no gas left. All cans are empty. L Sent from my iPhone
2042 Dave S. 06-11-2019 10:27 AM ET (US)	Sprayed for weeds at QH yesterday. Sprayed areas immediately in front of and behind building and around the trailer. Will cut down weeds later. Also spread varmint control around equipment inside building.
2041 Mike Holmes 06-09-2019 08:32 PM ET (US)	Mowed Quarry Hill late this afternoon. Sprinkles were not too bad, traction remained good, and the ATV & mower ran well. The 2 2-gal gas cans are empty. One 5-gal is half full and the other is full. The ATV and mower were topped off when I finished. There are a couple places where there are low hanging branches, since it was my first time mowing I didn't want to get side tracked trimming. A check of the rotation indicates that Joey is up next.
2040 Joe 06-03-2019 02:35 PM ET (US)	Dan, thank you for mowing Essex! Question, are all the gas cans empty and needing to be refilled? I cleared the downed tree at Essex that Laura prayed over. I and Lisa are up next to mow Essex Question for all. I am frequently not receiving emails of updates to this thread, and needing to reenter my email address. Is anyone experiencing the same, or is it just picking on me? Thanks! Joe
2039 Dan Nath 06-02-2019 06:22 PM ET (US)	Mowed the prairies at Essex. Did not mow the woods. Final miles 4547. Filled tanks after. Plenty of mower gas left for mower, emptied the small amount left in the other three for the atv.
2038 Mark Foley 05-31-2019 06:46 PM ET (US)	Mowed Quarry Hill today. About 4 gallons of gas left. The mower wouldn't turn over at first, I wiggled the wires in several areas and then it started. No real problems other than a few soft wet areas on the Parkwood Hills where water appears to be running off
2037 Laura Zumbrunnen 05-22-2019 09:08 PM ET (US)	I mowed Essex and it went great. 2 gas cans left. There is a tree sorta down in the wooded path behind pavilion up to 55th st field. The mower got under it but I said a Hail Mary first. The trail from hell is really eroding away in a spot or two. Also, I couldn't find the hours to record and I am sorry...I know itâ€™s desired. Laura Sent from my iPhone
2036 B K 05-22-2019 08:53 PM ET (US)	PGRpdiBkaXI9J2F1dG8nPk9oIHN1cmUuIEdvb2QgaWRIYS4gVGhhbmtzPC9k aXY+

2035 O'Connor, Michael K., Ph.D. 05-22-2019 07:07 PM ET (US)	Barry, Do you want me to post these minutes to the Trail Grooming web page?
2034 Dave Greymont★ 05-20-2019 04:48 PM ET (US)	Harvey Bertrand went through mower training today. We spent about 3 hours of combined instruction and mowing. Most of the trail really didn't need mowing except for on top of Parkwood Hills. No equipment problems, only operator problems. Neither one of us was successful in backing the mower into the Payne shed.
2033 Barry 05-19-2019 03:31 PM ET (US)	Here are the minutes to our recent post-grooming season meeting. If you would like a copy of these minutes in "WORD" format, please contact me (Barry)at bsknapper@juno.com. Also, IMPORTANT, PLEASE READ AND CONSIDER THE PARAGRAPH WHERE WE ARE SEEKING A QH GROOMING AND MOWING COORDINATOR TO TAKE THE PLACE OF THE RETIRING DAVE GREYMONT. Thank you. <p>2019 Spring RASC Groomers Meeting Andy's Farm May 11, 2019</p> <p>Fellow Groomers, The following Groomers met at Andy's: Mike H., Peter, Dave G., Andy, Grant, Dave S., Joe, Chris, John, Henry W., Ari, Harvey, and Barry.</p> <p>We first took a hike and Harvey and Barry fell behind and later the rest of the group found us. Then we gathered in Andy's stone cabin and refreshments were served. We used Andy's pre-meeting agenda and came up with the following commitments/comments/suggestions/recommendations to help improve grooming in the future.</p> <p>SEEKING A REPLACEMENT GROOMING/MOWING COORDINATOR FOR QUARRY HILL. Dave Greymont has done a very noteworthy job of this for the past many seasons and now is backing off some. Consequently, a replacement is needed. If interested or questions about just what this entails, please contact Dave G. or Andy, or me (Barry).</p> <p>Communication: We as groomers should post a note on QuickTopics AND Facebook -OR- have a non-groomer secretary person who can take updates from QuickTopic and put them on Facebook. We have a couple retired groomers in mind and will contact them to see if they are interested/willing to do this minor (but useful) task.</p> <p>Commitments: John R. will redesign the log sheets. Dave S. requested to keep the Hours entry on the sheets (it is very useful for maintenance).</p> <p>What went well: 1. Fluorescent light at QH. The night groomers and maintenance guys were very appreciative. Suggested finding a way to improve the lighting in the Essex shed.</p> <p>Improvement Opportunities: Maintenance Tips/Reminders: 2. CVC joint problems caused by ice; try to clear it when done. 3. Replace ATV drive belt. 4. On mower motor, routine cleaning of the fins under the motor housing to prevent overheating. 5. RE-TORQUE THE LUG NUTS OFTEN.</p> <p>Grooming Tips/Suggestions: 6. To prevent getting stuck with the Ginzu, do a short test lap. If you get stuck, use the roller. 7. Try to put tracks on inside of trails (whenever practical), and tracks ONLY one side of trail. (Exception: Track both sides of the Meadow Trail up to the Prairie House only.) 8. Try to always groom wide whenever possible regarding heavy snow winters where we inadvertently groom more narrowly. 9. ALWAYS clear tracks on ATV when done either with the blower, or poker, or by bouncing (if you are big and strong like Henry W.).</p>

	<p>Non-Grooming Suggestions:</p> <p>10. Suggestion...contact Mike Schaber City Parks Dept, to see if grass seed can be planted by shed at QH.</p> <p>11. Suggestion...keep a bag of salt at both places (QH and Essex) to reduce ice buildup on the sliding doors.</p> <p>12. WishList/Suggestion...At Essex (especially), put tarps on rafters to prevent bat droppings on the area where the ATV and snowmobile are parked. This would improve life for the maintenance sessions.</p> <p>13. Suggestion...Saw bottom 3” off of sliding doors.</p> <p>14. Suggestion...Install a florescent/LED light at Essex.</p> <p>15. Suggestion...Get a shovel at QH that attaches to the ATV like at Essex.</p> <p>16. Suggestion...Put opaque bags over the “Do Not Walk on Ski Trails” signs for the off-season.</p> <p>17. Ask Mike Schaber if there’s any way to change the grade outside of the Essex shed to redirect snow melt away from the door to prevent the door from freezing closed.</p> <p>18. Before doing any of the above, contact Mike Schaber of the City Parks Dept. to see if these suggestions can be done by the city before we start doing them. (Limit contact with Mike Schaber to either Joe Gyura or Dave Greymont). A post-meeting note is that Dave G. said he will contact Mike Schaber regarding the following.</p> <p>1.Quarry Hill: A: Comment on success of last year's P&R efforts to prevent the north door on the Payne Shed from freezing shut B: Ask to have the exposed bare ground seeded with grass</p> <p>2.Essex A: Repair north door on Quonset Hut (door is rotting and falling apart) B: Evaluate if there is a way to redirect ice/snow melt away from the door so the door doesn’t become frozen shut. C: Increase space allowed for RASC equipment. The hockey rink boards are stored too close to the RASC equipment.</p> <p>Any comments, questions, omissions, or concerns to the above minutes, please contact Barry (bsknapper@juno.com). Thank you all.</p>
<p>2032 Lisa Luetmer 05-13-2019 09:54 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I always love to hear about backing skills and lack of backing skills;) Nice Dave:) Years ago my first high pressure backing moment came when an enraged skunk came charging toward me while mowing the prairie at Essex. Managed to garner enough space so the little stinker could stomp off and find some peace. L</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2031 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 05-13-2019 08:30 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Impressive backing skills.</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2030 Dave Greymont 05-13-2019 07:52 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I did a shake-down cruise mowing the QH trail edges. No equipment problems. The only place the grass truly needed mowing was on top of Parkwood Hills. I did blow off a lot of leaves so what little grass is left on some of the trails isn't smothered. I also picked up a lot of branches so the trail should be pretty clean for the next time it's mowed. I also refilled the 4 gas cans. If anyone is interested, I did back the mower in to the Payne shed on the very first attempt.</p>
<p>2029 Walker, Henry J. 05-06-2019 12:40 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Do you need us to bring anything? Food, drinks? We may be turkey hunting in the AM, Bjorn hit one the other day but didn't get pellets in the head or neck and it flew off. Very disappointed kid but he loves turkey hunting so we are back at it.</p> <p>Henry</p>
<p>2028 Andy Wood★ 05-06-2019 12:09 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Happy Spring Groomers. Just a reminder our post season groomers meeting is at my farm this Saturday 1:00 to when ever. We'll start off with a pole hike around the property which will take about an hour then we'll sit down to discuss grooming for the 2019- 2020 season. Bring hiking poles and trails shoes. Significant others and dogs are welcome. (I have 2 springer spaniels) Address to the farm is: 8485 County Rd 126, Byron, MN. Beer and munchies will be provided.</p>
<p>2027 mtrantow★ 04-26-2019 09:03 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>If you didn't get the message; 4/27 work day on Saturday is cancelled due to the incoming snow. Joe Gyura cut the tree and branches, Joan Rabe picked up the sticks, and I raked and got the ATV and mower out and running tonight.</p> <p>Thanks to David Squillace it all worked first try! We're all ready for mowing whenever summer decides to stay.</p>

	Cheers! Mike
2026 Lisa Luetmer 04-19-2019 05:41 AM ET (US)	Mike sorry Iâ€™m still out of town. I had the dates wrong. Iâ€™m so happy other folks have Essex on their radar though. Itâ€™s a jewel:) I do know we could use a small crew with a couple saws and some Pathfinder 2 to quietly put to rest some thick encroaching buckthorn. We couldnâ€™t have kids around for that though. Itâ€™s on my to-do list before snow flies next fall. I do wish I could hike and pick up sticks with folks. Happy spring. Thanks Mike for your efforts. L Sent from my iPhone
2025 Joan Rabe 04-19-2019 12:25 AM ET (US)	I can work with you that morning, Mike.
2024 mtrantow* 04-18-2019 09:14 PM ET (US)	Well, I am embarrassed. Essex has already been "adopted" by others. I should have signed up sooner (Litter Bit Better opened March 4th). HOWEVER.. that doesn't mean we can't have a work day out at Essex. There will be others out there with garbage bags around the pavilion and trails, but I doubt they will be picking up sticks and moving logs off the trails. My impression from the last snowfall was of a LOT of debris knocked down. That won't be good for the mower machine, or the mower volunteers. So, if anyone is still up for a work-day, I'll be at Essex Saturday morning, April 27th 9-Noon. Joe G, Lisa L, Laura Z, Joan Rabe - any other recent Essex walkers - is it worth putting a call out to the RNST team to help as well? Cheers! Mike
2023 Lisa Luetmer 04-18-2019 07:16 PM ET (US)	Thanks Mike. I would love to help. L Sent from my iPhone
2022 mtrantow* 04-18-2019 01:08 PM ET (US)	* NEW TOPIC* Litter Bit Better Registration The City-wide cleanup is during the week of April 27—May 5, 2019 I will organize to clean up Essex again as an volunteering opportunity for RNST students. We could also get Groomers & Coaches involved in cutting back any downed trees Thoughts?
2021 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 04-12-2019 11:43 PM ET (US)	Good luck in your race. Sent from my iPhone
2020 mtrantow* 04-12-2019 10:30 PM ET (US)	It didn't get cold enough til now, but I will be going up to MSP tomorrow morning. No further Essex grooming by me. If someone wants to try the Scandic with roller Saturday morning early, go for it.
2019 Harvey Bertrand 04-11-2019 06:29 PM ET (US)	I donâ€™t know how I can help, but where there is snow, I want to be. Harvey Sent from my iPhone
2018 Harvey Bertrand 04-11-2019 06:22 PM ET (US)	Fascinating! I look forward to hearing your progress! Harvey Sent from my iPhone

<p>2017 mtrantow★ 04-11-2019 02:41 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex ice cream!</p> <p>I took out the Skandic just to run it and check the conditions. The new snow is a weird "ice-cream" consistency - kind of like spring machine-tilled man-made snow at Welch. It has a strange coloration too, with a tan/pink top layer of ice pellets.</p> <p>It did pack down OK in 55th Street fields and one of the south prairie "legs" with two passes of the snowmobile alone. If it warms up or rains, it probably isn't worth doing more.. but if it gets colder at night or snows some more, I may try rolling some sections Friday (unless someone else wants to join the fun ?).</p> <p>I'm supposed to run a 15K in the Cities Saturday, but I'd much rather ski here! Cheers! Mike</p>
<p>2016 Andy Wood★ 04-10-2019 06:11 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomers! Looks like the afternoon of May 11th will work best for our joint Essex / Quarry Hill post season groomers meeting. We'll meet at our farm at noon for a pole hike and start the meeting at 1:00. The agenda is in Barry's last quick note and I did send a notice to the Essex groomers. Hopefully Dave forwarded the note to the QH groomers. If you need directions to the farm, give me a call. See you there!</p>
<p>2015 Barry 04-04-2019 05:28 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Fellow Groomers, I'm helping Andy set up an end-of-season groomer get-together. Please click the Doodle link and say which 4 hour time slots work for you (Andy has set up 6 that work for him and this is to poll us to help him find the best date that works for the majority of us). https://doodle.com/poll/g7d59v2teperphp8</p> <p>More details to come after we pick the best date. This may not be a "live link", so we may have to cut and paste it into an internet window. Here is the agenda Andy has set up (It does not format nicely here like Andy created it, but I think you can follow):</p> <p>2019 Spring RNST Groomers Meeting Cedar Ridge Farm (Andy's Farm) 8485 County Rd, 126, Byron, MN</p> <p>I. Introductions and pole hike on Cedar Ridge Farm Nordic Trails a. Bring hiking poles and clothes b. Takes about an hour</p> <p>II. Review 2018-19 Season a. What went well? b. Improvement opportunities</p> <p>III. Grooming routes a. Essex / Quarry Hill b. Which side do the classic tracks go on? c. Grooming for races and time trials</p> <p>IV. Equipment a. Maintenance b. Break downs c. Log sheets</p> <p>V. Communications a. Quick notes b. Facebook c. RASC / RNST website</p>
<p>2014 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 03-27-2019 09:22 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thanks Dave. M</p>
<p>2013 Dave Greymont★ 03-26-2019 04:00 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Taking the lead from Essex, Dave S., Peter, and I put away the QH grooming equipment before the backside of the Payne shed turns into a mud bog. There was still a frozen snow patch to pull the equipment over and into the shed.</p>
<p>2012 mtrantow★ 03-26-2019 10:10 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thanks to Joe Gyura and Andy Wood, we got the drags, roller, and Ginzu all put away at Essex.</p> <p>Since grooming is over, now we just have to plan the "Tracks to Tires" conversions on the ATVs.</p>

	<p>FWIW There was still enough snow at 55th Street Fields for one more crust ski ! Just have to hit the transition time from ice to slush</p>
<p>2011 Dave 03-15-2019 12:39 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Out of curiosity, I checked out the bridge this morning. On the up river side the water is within 6 inches (or so) of the bottom beam of the bridge, but on the down river side there's about 3 feet of clearance. There must be a big block of ice beneath the bridge. There's a lot of water flowing under the bridge so I'm not sure that salt is an option. Let's hope it stays cool so the melt slows down.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>2010 Walker, Henry J. 03-14-2019 09:23 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Water is flowing under the bridge this evening taking some ice with it. Risk of bridge loss has dropped. I need to re-support the ends as erosion has occurred.</p> <p>Henry</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>2009 DAVID SQUILLACE 03-14-2019 07:42 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Ice fishing auger</p> <p>Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone</p> <p>----- Original message ----- From: QT - DAVID SQUILLACE <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Date: 3/14/19 5:41 PM (GMT-06:00) To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
<p>2008 DAVID SQUILLACE 03-14-2019 06:41 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Henry: I think a 6 to 12 bags of salt strategically scattered might do some good for the bridge while having a minimal impact on the water. I would be willing to give it a try tmr. Dave S.</p> <p>Sent from Outlook<http://aka.ms/weboutlook>;</p> <p>From: QT@qs3582.pair.com <QT@qs3582.pair.com> Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2019 4:39 PM To: QT topic subscribers Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
<p>2007 DAVID SQUILLACE 03-14-2019 06:02 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I have had a little experience with something like this and found that the BTUs required to make any change in the outcome are simply out of range by many orders of magnitude. Even truckloads of salt can be ineffective although environmentally damaging. Can the bridge be elevated temporarily with traffic barred, or is it firmly anchored? Another thought would be to anchor the upstream side with steel cables to trees. I know these are very unlikely solutions, and you should not try to refute each one, just buckshotting.</p> <p>Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone</p> <p>----- Original message ----- From: QT@qs3582.pair.com Date: 3/14/19 4:39 PM (GMT-06:00) To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
<p>2006 Walker, Henry J. 03-14-2019 05:39 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Speaking of water skiing, the QH bridge is backed up with a significant ice dam almost to the top of the deck. The opposite side is void of ice or water. I'm concerned that ice expansions will push it off its foundations. Minimally, when water does flow, the foundations will be eroded. The boys and I slogged to the bridge with implements to try to create water flow but with little avail other than filling our boots with ice water on the way. The ice next to the bridge was too thick to impact and it was under water by 1 foot removing chain sawing from my list of options. Some water has begun to work through the ice and is blasting out from under the bridge- think mini-</p>

	Niagara falls. If anyone has a solution I would gladly entertain it outside of explosives. Henry
2005 Laura Zumbrunnen 03-14-2019 12:58 PM ET (US)	Thanks for making me smile and laugh! Laura Sent from my iPhone
2004 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 03-14-2019 12:21 PM ET (US)	Thanks for all you do Dave. Let's go fishing! Mike
2003 Dave Greymont★ 03-14-2019 12:16 PM ET (US)	This morning I installed pontoons and an air boat propeller on the ATV and groomed the QH trails. While grooming I observed lots of people out enjoying the trail. There were a couple of bass boats, a few scuba divers, several people water skiing, a bunch of kids on inflatable rafts, and a sailboat on Lake Walker. Thanks to all the groomers for their exceptional performance and dedication grooming the trails. It has been a challenging year. Dave G. :)
2002 Andy Wood★ 03-12-2019 08:48 AM ET (US)	Matt groomed yesterday (3/11) Here is his report I groomed Essex this morning with fairly good results. Some sections have a shallow track but I didn't have time to improve them. The conditions were variable from soft and drifted to hardpack so it is a mix of track conditions. The skate deck looked quite good even with some holes punched in it. I groomed most of the trails including 55th St side but skipped the connector to the NW hill. Other than track setting it generally seemed advantageous to be grooming a firm base. Both shed door bottoms were frozen in ice. There were quite a few skiers out when I left so it's good to see that vs. all the walkers/runners. Thanks to everyone involved in the ATV repair!
2001 John Resman 03-11-2019 10:53 PM ET (US)	Decided to refresh the skate lane on trails at Quarry Hill today around noon. I was thinking of grooming Monday evening but with the rain forecast by Tuesday noon, the trails wouldn't last long. By grooming today, at least some skiers (including the makeup RNST practice skiers) could enjoy the fresh grooming. The trails on the east side were groomed. The trail to the west ballfield was not groomed. I tried resetting the classic track, but it wasn't doing a better job than what Henry did yesterday, so I left it alone. I got stuck on my 3rd pass going up the short steep hill in Parkwood Hills (in the woods with the downhill right turn). I realized too late the Ginzu was picking up lots of heavy snow - hence the difficulty going up the hills. Had to do the typical dig out, unhitch, turn the ginzu around, clean off the snow piles, and then continue on. Three skiers who happened to come by while I was stuck were of great help. I left a mess at that point since I didn't think it was worth going through again and cleaning it up (especially with tomorrow's forecasted rain and warmup). As noted by others, you definitely have to be careful on the Parkwood hills and not venture off the beaten path. The air temp was below freezing but the strong sun was having its effect softening the snow. The pond on the top of the east trail is starting to form. That was the only wet/icy spot on the trails. I suspect by Thursday, we will see several lakes on the Quarry Hill trails. I went out to ski after 6 PM. There had been a lot of skier traffic in just the 4 hours since I had groomed. That was great to see! It's too bad it's getting warm and rainy so soon. Another grooming to clean up today's skier traffic would provide great trail conditions. Oh well, not sure if we'll be grooming anymore this year.
2000 mtrantow★ 03-10-2019 07:12 PM ET (US)	Essex needs your extra weight(s)! Calling all groomers (or friends) who may have an old weight set gathering dust. We need a set of 25 pound disc weights for the drags (10-15 lb sets welcome too). Need 1 inch diameter holes for Essex yellow drag. We have specific weights for the big red St Marys drag, but they're not compatible. I could rig them up, but thought I'd try the "re-use/recycle" route first. If no one has extra, I'll watch the garage sales this Spring.
1999 Henry Walker 03-10-2019	QH is packed via Bjorn who used the Ginzu without knives. The base was soft and deep leaving some ATV tracks without the use of knives. The snow would ball up and pack under the Ginzu using knives. It was futile to pack and set track at the same time so Bjorn elected to pack. When

<p>05:42 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>temperatures drop the next groomer will be able to smooth the deck out better. Bjorn knocked the drifts out of the horrible hills and widened the trail getting stuck once by following an offshoot trail someone left prior. Other than that he had no problems.</p> <p>When Bjorn was finished I attempted to set track but the snow was too sticky and deep. The track setter ran in the ATV track leaving a limited depth trail Parkwood and the field loop plus the cherry loop have classic track although poor quality. A colder day will be more productive for leveling and track setting.</p>
<p>1998 Bjorn walker 03-10-2019 03:55 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Today the trail conditions are tacky. I finished up grooming at 2:52. My dad will be doing the classic track. Lots of drifts in the horrible hills.</p>
<p>1997 Mark Foley 03-08-2019 02:51 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I concur with Peter, staying on the packed trail is key and even staying away from getting to close the edges - I was the one who went off and got stuck on the sport loop - when you start getting close to the edge, the Grizzly seems to slide off if there is some angle on the trail and you have no time to react. With the new snow forecast, it is going to be challenge to know the edge.</p> <p>Mark Foley</p>
<p>1996 Peter Wollan 03-08-2019 02:05 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I groomed QH this morning. I hope it was the right thing to do -- the trail was in great condition when I started, and the ginzu knives might actually have softened it up some. But grooming later in the day wouldn't have been good, I think. It was 22 degrees when I started, and 33 when I finished. Hopefully the surface will still be ok tomorrow morning for the women's ski.</p> <p>Whoever rolls after tomorrow's dump needs to be careful to stay on the packed trail. If you get even a little bit off, you'll get stuck (the parks dept gator did this on the road over towards the west ball fields). I did go up to Parkwood Hills, but made only one pass, and only on the outer loop. The stretch that Dave put flags on feels like one big unconsolidated drift, and I was afraid I wouldn't make it through on one pass, much less two. There's another soft spot on the north end of the sport loop, at the steep hill curve. Somebody did get stuck there, and left something of a hole. Coming downhill through it worked well, though.</p> <p>Good luck to whoever is next!</p>
<p>1995 Lisa Luetmer 03-06-2019 04:15 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I finished grooming Essex today. Joe spent the entire morning retooling the north prairie with the yellow drag and then again with the roller. Thank you Joe. I ginzued and set track. It's still soft in some places and narrow on some corners. Everything ran well. Plenty of gas. L</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>1994 bmwalkmn@gmail.com 03-06-2019 01:55 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Joe, I tilted the red drag up. It'd be careful using it though until the trail settles and sets up really hard - it's very heavy and I think it could auger in pretty easily with such a deep, soft base - Bruce</p>
<p>1993 Joe 03-06-2019 01:26 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>After yesterday's high winds, the Essex north (55th st) prairie had some serious drifts. I was unable to access the red drag as it was not propped on its side and buried under all this lovely snow. I, briefly, tried pulling it out with the ATV and did nothing more than dig a hole with the tracks. It will require a good deal of shoveling to remove. I used the yellow drag and it did an awesome job of breaking up the drifts without additional weights. With today's conditions, additional weights probably would have bogged / dug the sled too deep.</p> <p>I did three passes with the yellow drag. I then did three passes with the roller combs up to help pack the loosened snow. Then a final three passes with combs down. I believe the north prairie can now be groomed with Ginzu and set track.</p> <p>I did one pass of the south prairie with the roller combs down. The drifting there was not as bad as the north, and I believe something the Ginzu can handle.</p> <p>Lisa met me at Essex to continue grooming and hopefully able to set track.</p> <p>Equipment worked well and there is plenty of gas.</p> <p>Matt and Dan are up next to groom Essex. Barry, let me know when you are available/ready, and I'll add you back in the rotation. Lisa, thank you much for acquiring a key for Dan!</p> <p>Joe</p>

<p>1992 Lisa Luetmer 03-05-2019 05:45 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Well I don't know how Matt H groomed last time. He remarked about the numerous times he got stuck his last time out. I got stuck once and turned into that JackJack baby from Incredibles 2. You know how when he gets mad he bursts into flames? Anyways, Matt you are incredible. So, I planted the ginzu and created a giant valley while wallowing around the scene. I knew I had to spin the thing around and head the opposite way. Joe suggested a rope....no rope but found a moldy strap. So with the wheeled jack up and the knives all the way up it spun beautifully. But it now looks like a small spacecraft landed there. Oh my pride hurts. So I finished grooming the woods but quit grooming because the wind was causing so much drifting in the prairies. I'll head back out tomorrow and try to pull out the big red drag and see if I can bust drifts up in the prairies. Stay tuned. Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>1991 Joan Rabe* 03-03-2019 10:17 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>What: Rochester Nordic Women - ski-meet up Date: Saturday, March 9nd, 10 am Place: Quarry Hill</p> <p>Calling all ski team moms, ski team coach & groomer wives/significant others, female ski coaches and groomers, etc. for a group ski. All skill levels welcome. The goal is to help the Rochester Nordic Women community develop their skills, meet each other, and have some fun in the process. Questions can be directed to Sarah H Johnson: sarahanncecilia@yahoo.com</p>
<p>1990 Mike Holmes 03-03-2019 09:30 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Freshened the skate deck at Quarry Hill with light knives. As suggested by Dave G., I stayed off of the Parkwood Hills trails. Equipment ran well, had to tighten the thumb and grip heater control. It was a good opportunity for me to get a little more stick time.</p>
<p>1989 Joe 03-02-2019 05:22 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Joey, I skied QH this morning, and it was wonderful. Thank you!</p> <p>Brennan, thank you for grooming Essex this afternoon. Great to have the trails done with the cold temps through Monday.</p> <p>Lisa is up next to groom Essex, Followed by Matt.</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1988 Joey Keillor 03-02-2019 02:05 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Wrapped up QH grooming this morning. A few tread gouges here and there, but a really nice looking deck overall!</p>
<p>1987 Joey Keillor 03-01-2019 10:38 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH mostly groomed. It was sort of a slog...stuck 3 times. I was real wet by the end from all of the spindrift. The only un-groomed part is the Parkwood hills. I'll get out tomorrow morning and hit those with the roller. I didn't want to get stuck up there a second time. I'm not sure why I was getting stuck...could just be the new snow in addition to the already soft conditions. When it occurred, it was in spots where I slightly lost momentum on an uphill and the treads just dug down into the soft stuff.</p>
<p>1986 Laura 02-28-2019 06:10 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>After reading the last couple of weeks of posts, it seems woefully inadequate at this point to just say thanks. But, thanks so much..Essex and QH have been and are exquisite. It's heavenly to ski them.</p>
<p>1985 Dave Greymont* 02-28-2019 01:25 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I groomed the trails for the ski team Olympics plus a few more. I groomed the Parkwood Hills hills with the Ginzu and placed red flags along the dangerous edge on top. Groomers should stay away from that edge. Maybe it would be best for just the more experienced groomers to hit those trails. There's 5 gallons of gas remaining. Edited 02-28-2019 01:27 PM</p>
<p>1984 Joe 02-27-2019 08:38 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed Essex with light knives and set classic track on all Essex trails -- with the exception of the section Andy mentioned that is the small area south of the woods. I only did one pass on the trail from hell to set track. With the cold temps forecast for tonight, the newly groomed trails should set up. The equipment worked well. There are one large and one small container of gas. Which should be plenty for a while.</p> <p>Andy, my thought moving forward after grooming tonight. Additional passes with the ginzu on</p>

	<p>the parries with light knives to help smooth the rough areas, no need to touch up the classic tracks, one additional pass on the trail from hell, and address the soft area south of the woods you highlighted.</p> <p>Brennan and Barry are up next to groom Essex.</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1983 Joe Gmail 02-27-2019 03:33 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Andy which trail parallel to the east woods? The long one going all the way to river rd or the short one that connects both wood enterences? Sent from my iPhone</p> <p>> On Feb 27, 2019, at 1:48 PM, QT - Andy Wood <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> wrote: > > trail parallel to the east woods</p>
<p>1982 Andy Wood★ 02-27-2019 02:48 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Taking Joe's good advice, Essex has been rolled with the comb down. Areas were still too soft to use the Ginzu. A few items worth noting. 1) the brake pedal on the ATV tends to stick down. Lift it up with your toe or hand after you shift. Otherwise we'll be dragging more than just a groomer ie the brakes! 2) Groom all steep hills going down hill. With the soft snow going up hill on the 55th Street prairie there's a good chance you might bog down and get stuck. 3) I rolled the trail parallel to the east woods only once. The snow was deep and I was starting to bog down even with the roller. I would not take the Ginzu there yet. Next person to groom can use the Ginzu and set track.</p>
<p>1981 Mark Foley 02-26-2019 10:59 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Rolled QH West ball fields, Parkwood Hills ball field, and the steep hill west of Payne Shed. West ball fields were pretty soft so I made about 6 loops to pack it down and 4 loops on Parkwood Hills. Then went over west ball fields and Parkwood Hills ball fields with ginzu and set track. The trail out to the west fields smoothed out pretty nice as it was really rough from foot traffic. Everything worked well.</p>
<p>1980 mtrantow★ 02-26-2019 09:30 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thank you Dan! You did right with many passes *see the Grooming Guide* http://www.rascmn.info/Grooming_data/RASCGroomingGuide_2011.pdf It's better with dry snow and drift to break it up and pack it down. While the big red Saint Mary's drag may have done it quicker, the risk of bogging the ATV down and leaving ruts was too risky. Plus it puts a lot of wear on the machinery. We can use the red or green drag if there's minor drifting after this, but big, deep drifts from severe snow events are another story. Thanks, Mike</p> <p>Next person up should be able to use the Ginzu with light knives everywhere (be careful to raise knives on uphill as some bases are 2+ feet of drift-crete)</p>
<p>1979 Dan Nath 02-26-2019 08:49 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Ran the drag over 55th St and the south prairie. After, I ran the roller over 55th st. Some sections of the prairie I hit close to 10 times to get it smooth. If that's excessive, tell me! Anything over about 12 mph and the drag started bouncing creating fresh ruts si I took it slow. The se corner of the prairie may require some more attention but hopefully it's good enough.</p>
<p>1978 Dave Greymont★ 02-26-2019 03:25 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Yesterday Tom and I rolled all the trails except the west ball field and the Parkwood trails. I rolled those two remaining trails this morning. The snow was very deep and soft. Mark has volunteered to do a second roll tonight. With much apprehension and caution I rolled the trails up into the Parkwood Hills. There's a very dangerous spot up on top. If you go up the west side, turn left at the first intersection and continue up and around clockwise, when you get to the top and are heading south stay far away from the edge and close to the weeds on the right. I was on a drift and when I looked down to the left there was about a 4 foot straight down drop off. If I'd been closer to the edge I think the ATV would have rolled over. After I was finished rolling I used the Ginzu to set a classic track on the trails we packed yesterday. I have to say the Grizzly did one helluva job pulling through the deep snow.</p>
<p>1977 mtrantow★ 02-25-2019 11:43 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex Thanks to Matt Hawkins first blazing trail efforts, Joe Gyura 2nd Clean up, and Chris Brunholzl and friend beating down the prairies with mountain snowmobiles, we're on our way to reclaiming all the trails. I rolled all the prairies with two passes, comb up, but they will need more passes, and possibly a drag ... LATER ... I would wait on that for the ATV to hopefully be fixed (by Wednesday?)</p>

	<p>Good News: the two loops were firming up and I did get ONE pass of the Ginzu down the middle of the East woods loop and the bike-path/Trail-from-Hell loop for tomorrow's practice.</p> <p>Bad News: I buried the Skandic on the first up-hill turn, and then broke off the connection housing from the Skandic rear rack while re-adjusting.</p> <p>OK News: the electrical connection still works, and I was able to use light knives... the track setter works, but I didn't use it yet.</p> <p>Fun Facts/Tips: a grain shovel works very well under the hitch lift wheel so it doesn't auger in.. the safety shovel works to keep the hitch spring open</p>
<p>1976 Barry 02-25-2019 11:29 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Dear Fellow RNST Coaches and Groomers,</p> <p>This is a friendly reminder of our well deserved (heavy on the well deserved) coaches' happy hr this upcoming Thursday (2/28) at Whistle Binkies North in the Fireplace Room (where we usually meet). The plan is to go there right after the conclusion of the RNST Olympics at QH. I told WBN that we would be arriving around 5:45-6pm.Â</p> <p>It has been a great season culminated with a fine Birkebeiner weekend. The weather all season has been challenging at times (including the drive home from Hayward), but we made the most of it. Now it is time to reflect and celebrate all the accomplishments and improvements of our kids, plus the great showing of our kids and alumni and coaches at the Birkie, Mora, Pre-birkie and other citizens' races.</p> <p>Spouses/friends, of course, are invited.</p> <p>Thanks, hope to see you all there. Barry</p>
<p>1975 Joe 02-25-2019 08:47 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>To take advantage of Matt's incredible efforts last night, this morning, Mike groomed the trails Matt covered, first pass with the Skandic then again with the roller, combs up. This afternoon, I did the same rolling with combs down. The trail is still pretty soft, but will hopefully firm up with the cold night. If time allows, I will do another pass before ski team practice on Tuesday.</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1974 Joe 02-25-2019 11:04 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Matt, tried to pack Essex last night with the Skandic. Did not go well. Matt, hope all is well. Thanks for all of your efforts! Below is Matt's update.</p> <p>At the moment, we are assessing how best to move forward. The parts to fix the Essex ATV are not yet available. Once we are able to groom, Andy, Barry and/or Brennan are up next.</p> <p>Matt's update:</p> <p>Hey people, Things did not go very well out there on the Skandic. The drifts are deep, steep and often soft. I actually lost track of how many times I got stuck so that means a lot. I think I have some decent skills with that machine but I was nearly defeated many times. I got stuck in the woods, I got stuck in the south prairie, I got stuck at the pavilion, etc, etc. Imagine having to drive the Skandic while walking beside it in knee to waist deep snow after getting stuck or trying to avoid getting stuck and you'll have a pretty good idea of the conditions. Having to dig out a chute to extricate the snowmobile from the shed was probably a good clue. During my couple hours of fun I WAS able to pack the archery range, the east woods trail, the uphill entrance to the south prairie, and the paved trail loop back around to the Trail from Hell. I would not go back out on the snowmobile without a big shovel (throw that emergency shovel away) and a couple of people for backup. Actually even then I would not go back out on it so I strongly advise against trying. The lock was frozen again and I barely got it open so to avoid big problems for the next groomer I hooked it over the latch but didn't close it. Best of luck to anyone who tries the Skandic but getting the ATV going again seems like the best bet.</p> <p>Cheers, Matt</p>
<p>1973 Joe 02-21-2019 04:14 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I rolled, combs down, two passes on all Essex trails. Equipment worked well. Matt is up next to groom Essex. Good thing as don't believe anyone else is around.</p> <p>After rolling yesterday afternoon and rather cool night, I first tried the Ginzu. Not a good decision.... (no one ever said I was bright...). I didn't get twenty feet and the Ginzu slid off the side of the trail making it impossible for the snowmobile to continue. The city has removed the</p>

	<p>small house where the keeper used to reside! Doing so, a good deal of snow has been removed basically creating a small drop off at the edge of trail where the Ginzu had slipped. I disconnected the Ginzu, hooked up the roller and groomed. When done, I ran several passes around the Ginzu and made an easy path back to where we park. I dug out most of the snow from around and under the Ginzu. Then, fortunately, I was able to move the Ginzu front on to the trail where I was able attach the snowmobile and pull it out. A bit more excitement than I hoped, but was able to get the Ginzu returned.</p> <p>Matt, I noticed there is a fair amount of snow under the Ginzu which collected when returning the loose non trail snow. If you choose to use the Ginzu, you may want to remove some from under the front. I was too tired at this time to stop and do more digging. Sorry....</p> <p>I also had a difficult time inserting the key into the shed padlock. Andy had a similar problem. Matt, or whoever goes next, should bring something to help deice the padlock if frozen.</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1972 Joe 02-20-2019 09:25 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Dan and I rolled Essex this afternoon. Two passes on all trails, combs up. The snowmobile worked well. I will groom tomorrow morning with either the roller or ginzu. The snow was deep and soft today. If it set up well tonight, hoping to use the ginzu and set classic track tomorrow.</p> <p>Wishing all participating in the Birkie the best!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1971 Dave Greymont★ 02-20-2019 07:24 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Wednesday 2/20: Tom rolled QH today and I asked him to skip the Park Wood Hills out of safety concerns. After Tom was done, I groomed again with the Ginzu and set track. Then I went back and got the roller and packed the service road to the Prairie House and packed the Park Wood Hills trails. With driving the ATV through the deep snow the tracks picked up lots of snow. I did my best to clean them but there was still a lot of snow I couldn't remove.</p> <p>I'm leaving for Hayward tomorrow so if trails need grooming over the weekend maybe the QH groomers can work it out among themselves for who grooms. I informed Lori and Pam at the Nature Center that because of the Birkebeiner groomers will be away so they are aware the trails may not get groomed. There's 5 gallons of gas left.</p>
<p>1970 Joe 02-18-2019 08:26 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Lisa spent almost the entire day grooming Essex. She started at 10:00 and was just leaving when I arrived at 3:00 for the race. As many are aware, the ATV broke requiring Lisa to switch to the snowmobile and eventually swap from the roller to ginzu. A big thank you to Lisa for the extra grooming efforts that left a fabulous trail for today's race. An equal effort and thank you to Mike, Dave and Jeff, for their efforts patching the ATV so it could be returned to the shed for repairs. Mike and Dave also spent the remainder of the day in key support roles for the race. A big thank you!</p> <p>Laura, than you for filling the Essex gas containers!</p> <p>Joe and Matt are up next to groom Essex. I'll try to get out on Tue to set track which was removed in prep today's race.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1969 mtrantow★ 02-18-2019 07:50 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>We managed to pull off the RNST Time Trial due to a lot of great volunteers. Thanks esp. to Lisa L, Dave G, Jeff R for working on the ATV after one track fell off. Thanks to Andy W, Dan Nath, Barry, Brennan, and anyone else who groomed this week. Essex is still in great shape for skate, but most of tracks are gone.</p> <p>I renovated the middle of the course, but it will all need two passes on the outside and track reset.</p>
<p>1968 Lisa Luetmer 02-18-2019 07:43 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I rolled and then ginzued Essex today. It was soft in some places but setting up nicely in most areas. I hope the race went well for the kids. Spent some time on the old Skandic. I forgot how fun it was to groom with it. I obliterated the track for the race. Sorry about that. The track will need to be reset. I can't thank enough the pit crew today at Essex. Jeff Robertson, Dave Greymont and Mike T worked really hard all day helping with the groomer and getting the park race ready. L</p>

	Sent from my iPhone
1967 Dave S 02-18-2019 05:34 PM ET (US)	I groomed all Quarry Hill trails today with the ginzu and set new classic tracks. Mostly firm with a few soft spots but setting up nicely. Excellent conditions!
1966 Andy Wood★ 02-17-2019 06:15 PM ET (US)	Essex trails have all been rolled with the comb down. The 55th St. trails were blown in but we took care of that with two passes with the roller and 2 passes with the Ginzu. With the drifting, tracks will need to be re-set for the entire system. With one more pass with the Ginzu plus packing the archery (start) area again, we should be all set for a fun time trial tomorrow.
1965 Barry 02-16-2019 05:55 PM ET (US)	I just combed and set tracks on the NW prairie at Essex in prep for a Sunday of skiers and, more importantly, the time trial on Monday afternoon. Andy recommended that is all I needed to do, and with limited time, I gave it multiple passes. All worked very well. The gas is getting low. Speaking of gas, I always say a little prayer before hitting the button on the battery powered gas pump. So far so good; that little gadget is so nice.
1964 Mike Holmes 02-16-2019 11:31 AM ET (US)	Just finished my first solo grooming at Quarry Hill. Bottom line, no one got hurt. Groomed with the Ginzu and still getting the hang of adjusting the knives. Drifting in the ball field so I reset the classic track. Drifting in the Parkwood Hills loops and unfortunately I got stuck going up the NW outer loop, sorry about that. Equipment ran well and no problems with the blower. Other than getting stuck I think it went well. If you ski there today and see something I should know about don't hesitate to send me a message. Thankful I can get a chance.
1963 bsknapper@juno.com 02-16-2019 09:43 AM ET (US)	Yes, it is my (Barry's) note coming out garbage! Aarg! It must be when I try replying on my cell phone, it is bad. Now I am on my desktop and hopefully it will work. Here is what I said: Andy, I can do some grooming this morning. First off, what's the Drag? Where is it stored? I will touch base w/ Andy via telephone if I do not hear a reply soon. Bottom line is that I can groom this morning. Who wouldda thought that 2 of us groomers have the same initials. Thanks, Barry You don't quit Nordic skiing* because you grow old; you grow old because you quit Nordic skiing*. (* the original anonymous quote says tennis)
1962 Lisa Luetmer 02-16-2019 09:26 AM ET (US)	John I was wondering the same thing. And I think its Barry's posts. L Sent from my iPhone
1961 John R 02-16-2019 09:13 AM ET (US)	I wonder why Brennan's posts are coming in as garbled text. It's happened the last two times. Brennan, I wonder if it's the device you're posting from. Anything different from previous times you've posted?
1960 B K 02-16-2019 08:51 AM ET (US)	PGRpdiBkaXI9J2F1dG8nPkFuZHksIEkgY2FuIGRvIHNVbWUgZ3Jvb21pbmcmg dGhpcyBtb3JuaW5nLiBGaXJzdCBvZmYsIHdoYXQncyB0aGUgRHJhZz8gV2hl cmUgaXMgaXQgc3RvcmlkPyZuYnNwOzwvZGl2Pg==
1959 Andy Wood★ 02-15-2019 06:10 PM ET (US)	Just returned from grooming Essex and teaching Sarah the skills of grooming. Once Sarah and Dan do a solo grooming run and are comfortable with the routine and equipment we can put them on the rotation. Now for the challenge. The 55 St prairie is really drifted over. It is not ready for the time trial on Monday yet. I took a pass with the red drag and almost augered in. Took two more passes with the yellow drag and it was still hairy on the drifts and deep snow. The trail is chopped up but still way too soft for the Ginzu. So we need to groom again tomorrow for sure. Here is my suggestion: 1. Couple more passes with the yellow drag. 2. Several passes with the roller to pack it down 3. When firm enough go over with the Ginzu and hopefully set track. Sarah and I groomed and set track where needed on all the trails south of the river. They will need refreshing by Sunday or Monday depending on how much snow we get on Sunday. I rolled a wide area in the archery range for the start. That will need refreshing with the Ginzu. We also need to roll and comb the garden loop but that is not a priority now since that is not on the time trial course Lisa, Brennan and Barry are on deck. If you guys could get out Saturday that would be fantastic.

	<p>If you are not familiar with using the drag or not comfortable using it, let Mike, Joe or myself know. I may go out again tomorrow after I ski and work on the 55th St trail if no one can make it.</p>
<p>1958 Walker, Henry J. 02-14-2019 02:46 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>The QH snowmobile participant has repeated his park activity and included a 50+ mph trip through the Parkwood Hills neighborhood this time. Yellow Polaris without a license. Middle aged male (around 40), stocky, medium height. He has been talked to very cordially by one of our ski community members who had the wherewithal to follow his tracks up the road to where he parked his machine temporarily. If you see him driving down the road and/or through the park again, get a picture if you can and send it in to the police.</p>
<p>1957 Dave Greymont* 02-14-2019 02:28 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I gave Tom McKinley and orientation to Quarry Hill grooming equipment and together we groomed QH and set track where needed. It was really a nice morning to be out on the trails. We did use the leaf blower even though one side of the extension cord plug is burned and the plug should be replaced.</p>
<p>1956 Barry 02-14-2019 01:40 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Announcing the end of season Coaches' and Groomers' Happy Hou5r</p> <p>Dear Fellow Coaches and Groomers,</p> <p>It has been a great winter for our team in many respects (early snow, great kids, Maplelag, Rochester Invite, lots of snow lately), and a frustrating season at times (January melt, record wind chills, 55 degree temp swing). However, we all hung in there and are now looking forward to an intrateam meet, Birke, and last but not least, our annual Team Olympics.</p> <p>All that is followed by our well deserved RNST Coaches' Happy Hour. Traditionally lately, it has been held after the last practice day of the season. That puts it two weeks from tonight (Thursday, Feb 28 starting around 5:45-6pm). We have had it lately at Whistle Binkies North.</p> <p>I will confirm for sure that WBN can have us then. In the meantime, please mark your calendars. I will send out another confirmation/note the week of the 28th.</p> <p>I will also invite all the groomers to this event too as they are the unsung heroes keeping our trails up.</p> <p>Thanks all, Barry</p>
<p>1955 Joe 02-13-2019 06:13 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Matt rolled Essex this morning thank you Matt! This afternoon I groomed and set track. The skate lane is a bit soft the classic track looks great Both should set up well tonight. The equipment worked well there is plenty of gas The additional slats in the North Prairie were a big help thank you Mike</p> <p>Andy and Lisa are Up Next to groom Essex</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1954 Peter Wollan 02-13-2019 03:47 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH has been groomed. I started with the Ginzu, and it did ok for a while. I set track out to the west ball fields, around the meadow, and around the main loop of the sport loop. However, by then it was clear that the snow was too soft and deep to get the Ginzu up any kind of hill, and even with the knives up I'd hit areas of deep fresh snow which didn't groom well. So I came back and switched to the roller. So the north end of the sport loop, and everything north of Henry's Bridge, has been rolled, again.</p> <p>Parkwood Hills got some drifting, and what seems to be much more snow than the other trails, and rolling helped a lot. I think John and I together have rerouted a part of the inner Parkwood loop. It looks ok, but I'm not sure it's where it's supposed to be.</p> <p>The blower worked ok, in spite of the blackened extension cord plug. I got out the new fuel pump and transferred the batteries from the old one to the new, but didn't actually use it. It does turn on.</p>
<p>1953 Dave 02-13-2019 06:33 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>I had the same problem with the blower and I think it was from snow/wetness in the area where the extension cord plugs into the blower. Those fuel pumps last only so long before they die. There's a new one on top of the gas cabinet.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>1952</p>	<p>Quarry Hill was rolled tonight. No major issues. Of course the spindrift issue is valid at Quarry</p>

<p>John R 02-13-2019 12:43 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Hill also. With my snow pants, I was able to stay dry. The fluffy snow accumulates everywhere behind you, around your feet, and every other nook and cranny.</p> <p>There are major advantages to grooming in daylight - especially with the limited range of the ATV headlight and when the entire landscape is white. On top of the Parkwood Hills, as I was rolling the inner loop a big gust of wind blew snow all around me, fogged up my glasses, and suddenly I had no idea where the trail was. It was just white all around. I stopped, got off into a 3 foot snowdrift and tried to figure out how far off the trail I was. I happened to be about 10 - 15 yards away from the trail. Hopefully my later passes on the loop have the rolled trail in a better spot. Peter will find out tomorrow during daylight grooming how far off I was on my first pass. Maybe all of the drifting snow will cover up my errant ways. It was pretty windy on top of the hill while grooming.</p> <p>Issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When I was cleaning snow off the tracks with the blower, I noticed a burning smell. Looking at the plug on the blower, I saw smoke right around the plug and extension cord. The end result was the extension cord and blower connection was blackened and burned. Not sure what happened. The extension cord might not be good to use anymore. We might have to get a new one. The blower could be brought to someone's home to be looked at. No one should use the blower until we figure out what happened. 2. The gas pump isn't working. I replaced the batteries. It made a noise when turned on, but not the typical noise. No fuel was being pumped. Oh well, something else to be checked out. Maybe someone can bring it home to be looked at where it's a bit warmer. <p>Peter is planning to do a ginzu groom tomorrow morning.</p>
<p>1951 mtrantow★ 02-13-2019 12:07 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex Grooming after Barry The Skandic snowmobile ran great this afternoon with the small yellow drag to bust up the drifts that were already obliterating the north prairie off 55th street. Tonight I took out the Grizzly ATV with just the black otter sled to replace the lathe markers on 55th street. I also cut down some branches/logs that were intruding into the lanes.</p> <p>That silky saw is awesome!</p> <p>Re: Barry's comment about spin-drift.. that was very true for me too this afternoon; I ended up with a wet butt. So tonight, I wore my duck-hunting rain tops and bottoms over my snow suit, and I stayed completely dry!</p> <p>I did a couple extra passes in the archery range in prep for Monday's time trial. I also roughed in the gardens and the "bike trail-cul-de-sac"</p> <p>I hope Matt and Andy can pack it down for a great base!</p>
<p>1950 Barry 02-12-2019 05:27 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I just finished rolling Essex. The grizzly worked fine. There is plenty of gas remaining. It was pretty windy on the prairies (both N and S). On the N prairie, I probably deviated from the old route a little (the old route was just not showing through much). Other sections went very well and it was enjoyable...except for one thing I did not think about. That is that being a balmy 23 degrees, I only wore long johns and some old Docker pants, thinking that would keep my legs plenty warm, NOT. The spin drift in the windy parts soon coated all of me, especially my pants, and they quickly melted and became wet. So, whoever grooms next (Matt?), I highly suggest you wear some water proof pants.</p>
<p>1949 mtrantow★ 02-12-2019 04:55 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex: with the mountain bike team borrowing the scandic this weekend I will take it out this afternoon to try to bust up drifts ahead of rolling. Barry and Matt, if you want to follow with an ATV rolling that would be best to settle it before ginzu tomorrow</p>
<p>1948 Dave Greymont★ 02-11-2019 01:30 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I groomed QH with the Ginzu this morning and re-set the classic track. I also filled the gas cans in preparation for the next snow storm. That snowmobile came from the east side of East Circle Dr. Coming down the steep eastern Park Wood Hills trail you can see where he came across the road and clipped a sign on the side of the hill and came onto the trail. Once he got down to the ball field he stayed off the ski trail.</p>
<p>1947 Henry Walker 02-10-2019</p>	<p>QH groomers and skiers beware, someone has driven a snowmobile down the ski trails from the North Hills and up the bike path. Please keep an eye out and try to get the license or a good description of the snowmobile before they injure someone.</p>

	Joe
1936 Dave S 02-07-2019 07:19 PM ET (US)	Finished rolling QH at 5 pm today. At 2:30 I was hot and turned off the grip heaters, by 4 the wind picked up, temps fell, and it was a full on blizzard at the top of the north hill. There are several body divots on the north hill from novice skiers who wandered up there - I believe they were empty. I turned the grip heaters back on, but they did not stop the snow from getting in every tiny opening of clothing. It was brutal, but I rolled all trails at least twice if not three or four times. Many skiers out before the wind picked up. Like Lisa indicated, you may not know I did a thing by tomorrow.
1935 Lisa Luetmer 02-07-2019 06:36 PM ET (US)	Essex was rolled this afternoon. My hope was to pack what I could before the winds kicked in. 55th St field was a sea of frozen drifts. I'm embarrassed to say I got quite lost trying to roll there and found myself straying wildly off course (wished I hadn't broken off a couple of those laths earlier this winter). It's like concrete so I was never in danger of getting stuck. I had to bag it in the end because it was blowing shut. We'll need to use the drag when it warms up. Everything ran great. There is one gas can 3/4 full. L Sent from my iPhone
1934 Joe 02-06-2019 06:07 PM ET (US)	I rolled two passes on each trail at Essex. The equipment worked great, thank you Mike, and there is one full container of gas which is plenty. Lisa and Barry are up next to groom Essex. Joe
1933 Peter Wollan 02-06-2019 12:39 PM ET (US)	Quarry Hill was rolled this morning. I used the comb, and the result looked pretty, but it's soft, and where there is ice the snow breaks free easily. There are several areas on the sport loop where there are big chunks of ice. The roller did break them up to some extent -- I took a couple extra passes in a few places to try to break them up more, but they're still there. The Orchard trail has some deep ice ruts, which the roller helped but didn't fix completely. I went up Parkwood, and on the second pass of the outer loop I discovered that you can have glare ice even on a steep hill -- had to back down. The inner loop I only made one pass, because I had started to slip a couple of places and wasn't willing to chance a second pass. I didn't try the steep hill, but a couple of snowshoers and a skier had come up it, so it probably would have been ok. I think more snow will be needed, and another rolling, before using the Ginzu.
1932 Andy Wood* 02-06-2019 10:46 AM ET (US)	Essex has been rolled this morning. Equipment worked well. Snow packed down to about 2 inches above the ice. It is VERY slippery since the snow has not adhered to the ice yet. In fact the ATV was slipping with all four tracks on even gradual up hills. The corners and curves were a bit "hairy" particularly on the "Trail from Hell". There is not enough snow yet to use the Ginzu or set track. I would advise waiting several hours and re roll this evening. We will need to wait to see how much snow we get tonight and tomorrow and judge on using the Ginzu or not. The trail is skiable. It's just soft and you will not get a good edge with the ice under the snow.
1931 Andy Wood* 02-04-2019 02:34 PM ET (US)	I attempted to take the drag over the Essex trails this morning. The trails are solid ice with some of the rivers and lakes of melting snow flowing in the low areas. I had a difficult time controlling the ATV on the down hills and decided it was just not safe to groom and bagged it. The lock on the shed froze but I was able to get it open but not close. I have the lock at home thawing out and will replace it this afternoon. For now I advise suspending grooming until we get enough snow to adhere to the underling ice and we can roll and smooth out.
1930 Dave Greymont* 02-04-2019 02:08 PM ET (US)	I pulled the green drag multiple times over some of the QH trails this morning and I think I did more good than damage. The damage was when I went through a puddle (unavoidable) and pulled ice out on to the trail. I hope the Ginzu will clean it up. Trail notes below: 1. The drag hardly scratched the surface on the trail to the west ball field and then it appeared the trail was plowed again from the junction with the trail by the medical center. I wouldn't even try to Ginzu this trail. 2. The Cherry trail is flooding. DON'T GO THERE! 3. I only groomed the Meadow trail from the new Prairie House to the north. The Meadow trail from the Prairie House back down to the Nature Center is flooded.

	<p>4. There's a lake by Henry's bridge so I didn't go across the bridge to groom the Park Wood Hills loop 5. The Payne Shed loop is flooded. 6. There's a significant puddle where the culvert goes under the trail on the east side.</p> <p>Other stuff. Don't drop the drag on your foot. It really hurts. The gate padlock was almost frozen shut. I managed to open it and when leaving I sprayed it liberally with Tri-Flow but it wouldn't lock. So it's just hooked through the chain to keep the gate closed.</p> <p>Edited 02-04-2019 02:09 PM</p>
1929 Dave 02-03-2019 04:13 PM ET (US)	Thanks Mike Sent by Dave G.
1928 Mike Holmes 02-03-2019 03:59 PM ET (US)	Filled the 4 gas cans at Quarry Hill with no ethanol premium, receipt is with the card, 12.98 gallons \$35.56. Now all we need is some snow this week.
1927 Andy Wood★ 02-02-2019 06:29 PM ET (US)	Got both the Essex ATV and snowmobile fired up. Classic skied the trails 3 times. Tracks are holding up well. The skate lane was getting soft and slow. I'm going to wait until things re-freeze before I groom. Grooming now would do more harm than good. I'll go out and groom about noon on Monday so it should be in good shape for the RNST by 4:00. Happy Trails!
1926 Andy Wood★ 02-01-2019 08:32 PM ET (US)	Matt groomed Essex last night and this morning. The ATV did not start. Luckily the snowmobile eventually fired up. Matt did a terrific job using the roller, drag and Ginzu to break up the drifts. Tracks are set and skate lane packed and combed. I did two loops of classic and the tracks are in great shape. Skate lane is still a bit soft in some places but great skiing. I will put the battery on charge if I can find it tomorrow morning. If everything starts, I'll groom tomorrow evening once the temperatures go down.
1925 Dave Greymont★ 02-01-2019 06:48 PM ET (US)	QH groomed and track set. The Ginzu is leaving a divot in the middle of the trail about an inch deep and 5 inches wide. I could only examine the bottom of the outer edged of the comb and couldn't see anything that's causing the divot. There must be a chunk of ice or something further underneath the comb. The leaf blower slowed down and smelled hot. I think it was just due to wetness where the extension cord plugs into the blower. Good timing on the grooming, QH is having a candle light ski tonight. The snow is dry and not sticking together. I'm afraid the trail will be quickly trashed. Saw 9 deer while grooming. The ATV is full but there's only about a gallon of gas remaining in the cans. Would someone be good enough to get gas?
1924 Joe 01-28-2019 09:47 PM ET (US)	Essex trails were groomed - pretty much all day.. Brennan rolled all trails this morning. Berry was to follow with the ginzu, but realizing the trails were still too soft, he rolled the trails a second time. I then groomed later in the afternoon with the ginzu and setting classic track. I just got back from a brief night ski on classics and it was wonderful! Brennan and Berry, thank you for your efforts! Matt and Andy are up next to groom Essex. The equipment worked great! Thank you Mike. There is plenty of gas. Joe
1923 DAVID SQUILLACE 01-28-2019 06:47 PM ET (US)	Yes, in retrospect, it would have been better to roll a second time and let it set overnight. A fair number of skiers testing it out. Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone ----- Original message ----- From: QT - John Resman <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Date: 1/28/19 5:05 PM (GMT-06:00) To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming
1922	Dave, interesting on your experience with the ginzu. When checking the snow after rolling, it

John Resman 01-28-2019 06:05 PM ET (US)	was pretty soft. I was wondering how the ginzu would do. Based on your experience, sounds like another rolling would have been easier - and then we'd have to wait for the snow to set up overnight - and then the ginzu might work OK. It will be interesting to what the Essex experience is.
1921 Dave S 01-28-2019 05:39 PM ET (US)	Groomed QH this afternoon. I used the ginzu on the less hilly parts. The ginzu collected large amounts of heavy snow that I had to remove often and I did get stuck once. I was not able to set classic tracks; it was all I could do to just stay afloat. Also, the weight of the ginzu caused the ATV tracks to dig into the trail more than I liked, so I switched to the drum. That worked better and was the only way to get up the north hills.
1920 John Resman 01-28-2019 11:23 AM ET (US)	Quarry Hill was rolled this morning. Everything went reasonably well. Hopefully a reasonable path was made in the open areas. With the north wind and blowing snow, my visibility was impaired at times with my glasses.
1919 mtrantow★ 01-23-2019 06:38 PM ET (US)	I have a special request for any groomers willing to help shovel and renovate thin areas of Eastwood on Friday afternoon... before the RNST invite on Saturday afternoon. Please email miketrantow@gmail.com if you can help
1918 Lisa Luetmer 01-23-2019 03:23 PM ET (US)	I groomed Essex this morning. The cover is so thin that in places the atv tracks spread a film of dirt. I mostly left the track alone because 1) the light dusting was skiing in nicely and 2) even with a light touch I did more harm than good. Everything worked well and there is plenty of gas. L Sent from my iPhone
1917 Dave S 01-23-2019 01:53 PM ET (US)	Groomed QH this morning including the west field and north hill. There are some thin spots throughout that can be avoided with a little effort. I used very light knives on about half of the trails but had to lift the knives up to avoid damaging the thin snow on the other half of the trails. Equipment worked well and the snow must have bonded to the base because I never got stuck and never slid around. I left most of the classic track as is. I am planning to put new bolts on the hitch connector on the ATV and devising a better system to protect the ginzu connector from snow and moisture.
1916 Dave Greymont★ 01-22-2019 05:21 PM ET (US)	I set a classic track for Don Pankowski's kids this afternoon. While I was there I went around the other trails with the "dumb track-setter". So there's a track for us classic skiers. In some places there's track on both sides of the trail but Dave S. is going to groom tomorrow and he can groom over one set of the tracks where it's narrow.
1915 Dave Greymont★ 01-21-2019 01:11 PM ET (US)	QH odds and ends: 1. Gas cans are refilled 2. I reattached the outlet for the Ginzu to the plate on the back of the ATV. The bolts that I had were slightly too large but I was able to force one of them through the previous hole. The other hole didn't line up with the first. So, there's just one bolt securing the outlet to the plate but it's pretty solid. 3. With the snow transformed I was able to pull the Ginzu off the ice and it's parked back up on the hill next to the roller. 4. I tested the track-setter and it seemed to be working fine. 5. I have the "dumb" track-setter at my house and will return it Wednesday when I groom a track for Don's kids.
1914 Andy Wood★ 01-20-2019 06:15 PM ET (US)	Essex has been rolled, packed, track set and again renovated. Joe and Paul did a great tag team yesterday rolling followed by the Ginzu and setting track. I classic skied this morning and it was fantastic! There are several thin spots in the classic tracks which you have to jump out of occasionally but other wise fine. Thanks fellas! This afternoon I renovated the skate lane where there was a lot of walker damage and some doggy klisters. I left the classic tracks alone. I did not do the north river trail ("Trail from Hell") since it was just too thin. Equipment ran well. We are out of documentation sheets and will need fuel soon. Essex should be primo!
1913 Dave Greymont★ 01-19-2019 06:41 PM ET (US)	I rolled Eastwood this afternoon and probably the hardest part was loading and unloading the equipment on the trailer. I pretty much followed the old trail except when I wondered off not knowing exactly where I was supposed to be. I did notice some slipping of the tracks on the ice but if I sat far back on the ATV seat it seemed to help. I did not groom the trail through the woods because I didn't want to get stuck, and instead groomed a loop out on the driving range. With no wind and lots of sunshine it was a nice day for grooming. With MLK holiday on Monday, the first time city employees will groom is Tuesday.
1912	Mark,

<p>Dave 01-19-2019 06:31 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>You are a hero and kudos for your effort this morning. Your assessment was correct that using the Ginzu was a mistake. GUYS, PLEASE IF YOU'RE STUGGLING LIKE MARK'S EXPERIENCE EITHER PUT THE EQUIPMENT AWAY, OR USE SOMETHING ELSE. THIS WAS WAY WAY ABOVE THE CALL OF DUTY.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>1911 Mark Foley 01-19-2019 03:33 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I rarely noticed the cold, most of the time I had my jacket off or unzipped - it was a pretty good workout wrestling with the ginzu and pulling snow from under it! My experience in backing up and hooking up the ginzu is much better now... and by the time I was done, I definitely was a snowman! Mark Foley</p>
<p>1910 Lisa Luetmer 01-19-2019 03:05 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>To Mark: And 7) It was bitter cold out.</p> <p>You and Henry along with the snowmen at Essex, Joe and Paul are my heroes. L</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>1909 Dave 01-19-2019 02:32 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Ugh! That must have been the worst grooming experience ever. I expect skiing will be treacherous with the ice beneath the snow. I'm going to get the ATV and take it over to Eastwood and use their roller to pack a trail in preparation for next Friday's Rochester Invite. I'll try to stay just off to the side of the previous trail to avoid the ice and I'm not going to pack the woods trail.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>1908 Joe 01-19-2019 02:23 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Rolled Essex this morning. Combs down, two passes on all trails. The snow is powder and not compacting well, so I believe having the combs down was optimal. Equipment worked well, and there is plenty of gas. Paul is grooming Essex this afternoon with the ginzu and, hopefully able to set classic track.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1907 Mark Foley 01-19-2019 01:42 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH was groomed this morning - the good: it was a beautiful morning with all the snow and sunshine. The bad: 1) I did a lot of it with the ginzu and that was probably a mistake with all the ice under the snow. I probably got stuck on ice 25 times and probably unhooked and manually moved the ginzu a dozen times to position the 4 wheeled on material other than ice (I guess that should be considered operator error as I didn't learn from the first times of getting stuck!). There is a lot of ice under the snow and will be a challenge with the ginzu unless this snow sets up and we get the next 3-4" in the forecast for early next week to build the base. 2) The city is now plowing the bike path between the prison and the west ball field parking lot. I groomed on the sides of it since they had freshly plowed it this morning but if this is going to continue we may have to look at moving our trail west to where there is a sewer line they keep mowed. 3) The track setter on ginzu didn't work for the first few times I plugged it in but after many times of reconnecting the ginzu, it started to work - so I did set some classic track. 4) the bolts that hold the receiver for the ginzu plug are gone, so the plug is floating 5) I started on the last can of gas and 6) I left the ginzu where I got stuck the last time in front of the shed - it is not up on the little rise where it was stored before.</p>
<p>1906 Dave 01-18-2019 10:02 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>You da man!</p> <p>Thanks Henry good idea to roll the trail tonight. David Brudwick said the Eastwood trails are all ice too. I may try to roll them later tomorrow.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>1905 Henry Walker 01-18-2019 09:49 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH was rolled to start building a new base prior to the storm completing. Hopefully the deck will set up overnight allowing the ginzu to pack a nice trail Saturday AM. I groomed the West ball field where I was surprised to see the trail had been plowed off between the prison trail up to the west parking lot. Enough snow had fallen after it was plowed to pack, but it was definitely thin. Snow was deep in most areas.</p> <p>Two short hill sections on the trail were extremely ice laden and impossible to climb up. The first is to the right after leaving the Payne field and heading up the hill where you can turn left by the pines or right up the next little climb. Going right includes the short hill where it was glare ice, you have to go down and not up. The other ice section is on the horribly hilly hills where I again</p>

	<p>was stuck halfway up the hill due to ice. The roller is easier to back down a hill than the ginzu. The snow will hopefully stick but if not, groom down those sections and not up.</p> <p>Equipment worked well and other than glare ice in two spots I had no issues. A bit cold with windchill I'll admit but we may pick up some blow-in snow as a result.</p>
<p>1904 Dave S 01-17-2019 04:26 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Sorry Mike, but the talk about things other than snow is not likely to end soon. As part of the annual equipment usage report, Dave G and Dave S discovered that the hour/tach meters on both mowers no longer work. Yes, you read right, "mowers". They have potted lithium batteries that are not replaceable and we have not decided whether to replace the entire unit (about \$70 each). Now back to continued frustration. . . .</p>
<p>1903 mtrantow★ 01-11-2019 02:38 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Dave, you know it's a frustrating grooming season when it's two weeks from the last grooming to an entry comparing GPS to the ATV speedometer. ;-)</p> <p>I have given up on Rochester and S.MN for the next 10 days. I am migrating back across the border to the "home country", Northern WI, where we have ski-able snow. 45.875207, -89.912136 If anyone wants to escape, and drive 4.5 hrs, we have room. 15 minutes from Minocqua Winter Park, 1 hr from ABR and Wolverine</p> <p>Long range forecast has possible snow next Friday and Sunday .. I hope it holds... then maybe the Essex Groomers can check the ATV and your math!</p>
<p>1902 Dave Greymont★ 01-11-2019 02:16 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>ATV true speed: From the grooming guide: The ATV with tracks registers in mph and is off by a factor of 0.6. Thus if it reads 10 mph, you are traveling at 6mph The ATV's speed as indicated by the speedometer should be kept between 8 – 16 MPH for grooming. I double checked the QH ATV today against my GPS and the above statement is true. ATV speedometer @ 10 mph GPS = 6.2 mph ATV speedometer @ 15 mph GPS = 9 mph ATV speedometer @ 20 mph GPS = 12 mph</p> <p>So, if there's normal conditions it's reasonable to groom with the ATV at 15 mph according to it's speedometer.</p> <p>Because of the ability to make adjustments to the speedometer it would be a good idea to confirm the same is also true for the Essex ATV.</p>
<p>1901 Ari Walker 12-29-2018 08:32 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I groomed QH today with my dad after the last dusting of snow came down in order to keep the 3/4" fluff from blowing off. We didn't groom to the West ball field but did groom everything else. The Payne shed trail is still too thin to ski. The horrible hills are too thin in the middle loop but fine on the outer loop. Trail conditions overall vary from a little thin in some places to very good in others. Ice has coated the dirty areas and a thin layer of snow stuck pretty well in most places. Quite a few leaves blew onto the trail and a few places the snow didn't stick to the ice, like the beginning of the field by the Nature center, you can easily double pole through these areas however. Not great conditions yet QH skiing is better than expected after all of the rain we received.</p> <p>Grooming went well, no issues. Used the Ginzu without knives.</p>
<p>1900 Peter Wollan 12-23-2018 01:22 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed Quarry Hill today. Used the Ginzu, with light to no knives. Did everything but the west ball field loop -- apparently the asphalt trail out to it is mostly bare. The trails are in surprisingly good condition -- even excellent in stretches. There are some grassy/dirty spots, particularly going up to Parkwood Hills, the northernmost hill/curve on the outer loop, and much of the inner loop. Most of the outer Parkwood Hills loop is good, though. I didn't groom the steep hill, but someone had come up it and survived. Other thin sections are the hill and curve at the north end of the sport loop, the flat stretch of the sport loop, and the Payne Shed area -- the spot where the trail comes out of the trees is pretty bare for maybe 10 feet.</p> <p>But, there is still good skiing. If we get snow and not rain Wed/Thur, we'll be fine.</p>
<p>1899 Dave Greymont★ 12-22-2018 11:19 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Update to yesterday's grooming. I skied QH this morning and the trail turned out better than I thought. I'd rate it as good to fair. I ran into another skier that said it was "awesome". With only a little care you can certainly use your good skis and the trail with the crumpled up ice/snow surface mixture is very fast. Get out and ski before the surface is brushed off by other skiers.</p>

	<p>Peter, when you groom tomorrow I think you could use either the drag, or the Ginzu with the knives just below the surface.</p>
<p>1898 Dave Greymont★ 12-21-2018 05:14 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I pulled the drag around most of the QH trails and I think it was the correct device. It took three passes on most of the trails because the drag is narrower than the Ginzu. With the thaw and re-freeze I'm not sure that I did much more than scratch up the surface and smooth out some of the footprints and ski divots, but hopefully there's some improvement. I went out to the west ball field and that was a mistake. The trail on top of the asphalt is nothing but icy frozen footprints. I started towards the trail up into the Parkwood Hills but turned around because it appeared too thin for the drag. It's probably okay once you got past the thin spot. I only tilled up a very little amount of dirt but you'd still want to use your "B" skis. I put caution tape across the top of the trail from/to the Payne sheds to close it off. It can be simply unhooked from a branch on the tree if driving the ATV through. If anyone skis QH perhaps they can provide better feedback.</p>
<p>1897 Dave 12-19-2018 05:56 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mike, I think we probably will be. Will you be able to find us? Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>1896 Walker, Henry J. 12-19-2018 05:48 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Once it gets dark we may limit our productivity but we may be out yet at 6pm. Henry</p>
<p>1895 Holmes, Michael W., M.S. 12-19-2018 05:44 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I can't get there until after 6, are you guys still going to be at it? Mike</p>
<p>1894 Dave Greymont★ 12-19-2018 05:43 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>FYI: I just posted this message on the trail conditions Facebook page: SAVE OUR SKI TRAILS! The ski trails have really deteriorated due to the warm weather. They are soft, mushy with some dirt exposed. The forecast is for somewhat colder temperatures. We ask for your cooperation to stay off the trails until they firm up. (You're not going to have a very good skiing experience anyway.) QUARRY HILL: On Friday night (12/21) if the weather cooperates the grooming volunteers are planning on shoveling snow over as many bare spots as possible, and then the trail will be groomed Saturday morning..</p>
<p>1893 mtrantow★ 12-17-2018 09:42 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I took my old classic waxless out and patched up a few dirt spots on Essex 55th street fields. Those loops are looking really good from Matt's grooming (Thanks!). I put "Do Not Enter" tape at the peak of Trail from Hell and the bottom of the hill to the south.. it's just dirt and ice. I did not check out any other sections, but I'll ski the rest tomorrow morning and make sure the gas cans are filled and gas card is in clipboard ... Tues morn might be the last below 32 til Thurs night ... and I'll be up North WI 12/19 til 12/26. Joe, if conditions improve by Christmas, please have next groomer remove the tape from the Trail from Hell. Merry Christmas Everyone!</p>
<p>1892 Dave Greymont★ 12-17-2018 06:06 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Our master mechanic (Dave Squillace) could find no electrical problem causing the circuit breaker to pop when trying to raise the track setter. He discovered that because the track setter had been kept in pretty much a horizontal position the weight of the accumulated snow was overloading the system. In the future, the track setter should be kept in a more vertical position.</p>
<p>1891 Joe 12-17-2018 02:00 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Matt, thank you for grooming Essex! Much appreciated. Paul and Joe are up next to groom Essex. I have updated the website rotation. Dave, in a separate email discussion, we agreed for the reasons you pointed out, not to patch trails until later. Following is Matt's update: Guys, I groomed Essex this morning and the trail has survived mostly intact. I went over</p>

	<p>everything except for a few connectors and the garden. For the most part the skate deck is very good but there are many dirt/grass areas exposed now. All of those areas can be easily avoided except for on the trail from hell which cannot be skied and should probably be taped off. I would say shoveling at this point is not necessary and it may be better to save the effort for after the warm up. If any one feels like skiing today for a second opinion go for it as conditions are amazingly good. I went down the one way hill once and pulled the knives up over the big rock, we should try to blast that out before it causes any equipment or bodily damage.</p>
<p>1890 Dave 12-17-2018 01:46 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I just checked the weather forecast and it's going to be 40 degrees tomorrow, and then Wednesday it's rain or snow showers. It's your call about shoveling but with this forecast it might be a losing effort. Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>1889 Joan Rabe★ 12-17-2018 01:30 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>If there is agreement on shoveling at Essex or QH, I can help this evening after practice or tomorrow morning. I'll throw my snow boots and a shovel in the car today, just in case.</p>
<p>1888 mtrantow★ 12-17-2018 12:09 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Joe/Andy - I am conflicted on if it is worth while to get a shovel brigade out to Essex and try to patch/cover the bare spots and dirt/debris. I skate skied all of Essex Saturday and everything was negotiable, except for the Trail from Hell above the creek. I have no idea how much it degraded Sunday.</p> <p>Forecast is showing warm Tues/Wed/Thurs, but then it cools off (with no new snow likely til Christmas Eve day)</p> <p>Maybe we could just focus on one or more of: 55th street field loops, Pavilion area and the East woods loops? Others may already be trashed.</p> <p>We'd have to catch the cold refreeze, and I really only have tonight after practice free, but maybe Tuesday morning early?</p> <p>Anyone else up for some "free-range" shovelling and driving the ATV & Otter sled?</p>
<p>1887 Henry Walker★ 12-17-2018 07:33 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH was groomed last night after the temperatures cooled down from a warmish day. The deck had firmed up well making light knives effective. Footprints were not eliminated as the base is too thin to cut the trail deep enough to fill them in. The classic track was not modified either even though it wasn't perfect in some places. The thinking was that it would do more harm than good with the thin base.</p> <p>Several thin spots are showing dark soil, easy to ski around at this point. If anyone is willing to shovel snow onto the bare spots we may survive this warm up into cooler temperatures coming later in the week. Really good skiing conditions prevail throughout most of the trail. I didn't tape off the Payne shed loop with southern exposure as it was late when I finished.</p> <p>Ginzu and ATV worked well.</p>
<p>1886 Dave Squillace 12-16-2018 04:25 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>The QH track setter is now working. We were unable to pinpoint the problem, but after doing many things, we were unable to make it fail again.</p> <p>The knives too. "What" you say? "The knives were always working. Down is Up and Up is Down, it is a Seuss world with the knives!" "No," I say "It is not, Down is Down and Up is Up. It's been turned 'round!"</p>
<p>1885 Dave Greymont★ 12-16-2018 12:57 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I refilled the QH gas cans this morning.</p> <p>The short steep south facing hill near the Payne Sheds has no snow at the crest of the hill on one side of the loop and should not be groomed. It might be best just to close that loop trail. I put the roll of yellow caution tape in the front box of the ATV. Henry, when you're grooming later today see if you can figure out a good way to stretch the tape across the ends of the loop.</p>
<p>1884 DAVID SQUILLACE 12-15-2018 05:25 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Dave, I will take a look at it tmr. Dave S</p> <p>Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone</p>

	<p>----- Original message ----- From: QT - Dave Greymont <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Date: 12/15/18 11:06 AM (GMT-06:00) To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subscribers@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
1883 Dave Greymont★ 12-15-2018 12:06 PM ET (US)	Eric Sorenson and I groomed QH this morning. He did really well and is ready to solo. We packed the trail to the Prairie House and smoothed out the ruts. I don't think we need to groom it again until it snows again. I'll ask Pam to do staff education so everyone that drives the gator to the Prairie House uses this path. I made one mistake. It had warmed up by the time we finished grooming so I decided to test whether or not I could reset the classic track on the loop by the Payne sheds. I don't think I improved the track and when I tried to raise the track setter the circuit breaker popped out and the track setter is stuck in the down position. The circuit breaker popped out and the dash light dimmed even when the Ginzu was disconnected from the ATV. I suspect there must be a short in the switch or the wiring under the dash. I've called Dave Squillace to take a look at it. The trail should be groomed again Sunday evening. If Dave S. isn't available to fix the short I'll disconnect the track setter so the Ginzu can be used. The gas is low and I'll try to refill the gas cans either today or tomorrow. It was about 10 degrees when we started this morning and over 30 degrees at 10:30. UGH! Not good. Edited 12-15-2018 12:10 PM
1882 O'Connor, Michael K., Ph.D. 12-14-2018 10:14 PM ET (US)	Just checked the forecast. Temps are only expected to go over 32F tomorrow between 1-4 pm. So I would expect heavy use of the trails tomorrow for much of the morning. Not really appropriate to close the trails while temps are below freezing. Similar forecast for Sunday. In the past we have only closed them when temps remain above freezing even a nighttime. Michael Sent from my iPad
1881 Joe 12-14-2018 08:47 PM ET (US)	With the warm weather forecast for the weekend, would it be prudent to post a message that QH and Essex trails are closed? I did not ski today fearing it would dig up the soft snow. Joe
1880 Joe 12-14-2018 08:44 PM ET (US)	Barry, thank you for grooming Essex!! Good to hear all went well with the exception of a lost board. Matt and Paul are up nex to groom Essex. I have updated the groomer rotation website. Thanks! Joe
1879 Barry 12-14-2018 03:10 PM ET (US)	I groomed Essex this morning. Everything worked well. I shoveled some snow on one dirty area on the NW prairie slope. The grip warmers worked super (and I kept it on 2). One note, I am missing the board that the lift wheel rests on for the ginzu; it was gone when I finished up and was ready to crank the wheel up. I found another board in the shed. So, if any of you skiers or groomers find a board on the trail (that apparently got drug a ways by a bozo groomer), maybe return it to the shed. Plenty of gas. Many thanks to the maint guys who keep the Grizzly running. Also, I cannot get over how nice the battery gas pump is compared to the good old days where we had to pour the gas. Cheers!
1878 Dave Greymont★ 12-12-2018 05:38 PM ET (US)	Heads Up, Chester Woods: They just groomed the ski trail and their report was that the trail was in "good" condition. I skied there this morning and the groomer tilled up leaves, weeds, and probably dirt in many places along the trail. They need more snow to have a good trail. As of this morning there was only one rut from a fat tire cyclist on a short part of the trail. I like skiing at Chester Woods but if I went back I wouldn't take my best skis.
1877 Joe 12-12-2018 01:54 PM ET (US)	I too am of the opinion, the situation can't be entirely resolved. At best minimized. Which I believe we have made progress. I like the idea of signs stating to walk on the side opposite of the tracks. I also believe stopping to, politely, inform walkers of the guidelines and why goes a long way, as well as thanking those that do walk on the sides! Fortunately, it's been a while since I've encountered an "I pay taxes" individual. Those are simply no win situations, and best left alone. Henry, I'm not sure posting something in the PB editorial would be optimal. Several years ago an avid cyclist posted and update in the editorial of his frustrations with the addition of rumble

	<p>strips. It drew a large negative response from drivers stating bicycles do not belong on the road Many of the negative comments were downright scary. After that occurrence is when I started doing more gravel road riding. I fear a posting would turn into a bashing.</p> <p>I skied Essex this morning. There are foot tracks down the middle of every trail, with the exception of the north prairie.</p> <p>Ending on a positive note: did not see any fat tire tracks ! :-)</p>
<p>1876 bsknapper@juno.com 12-12-2018 11:19 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mike, I feel your frustration. Joe, you are probably right about not changing the minds and attitude of walkers (it's reminiscent of our divided view of global climate change situation :-)). As Joe suggested, and as I have seen at St Marys in Winona, there are signs asking walkers to stay to the edge of the ski trails - and at St Marys walkers seem to respect that request . Oh well. Thanks Mike for grooming last night. I am next. It will probably need a regroom by Friday or Saturday. Thanks,Barry You don't quit Nordic skiing* because you grow old; you grow old because you quit Nordic skiing*.(* the original anonymous quote says tennis)</p>
<p>1875 Dave 12-12-2018 11:04 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>I feel your frustration but I think it's a no win situation unless the city steps up and bans walking on the trails like other communities have done. Part of the problem is that we've built these wonderful summer hiking trails and people get accustomed to using them in the summer and they damn well will not change their use of the trail in the winter just because it's groomed for skiing. I personally don't think we'll ever stop walkers from using the trail. Since we can't stop them, maybe we need to put up signs asking people to walk off the edge of the groomedsurface (but also not walk on the classic track). I chased a deer down the trail the other day when I was skiing. Can we design a sign to tell the deer to stay off the trails too? :)</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>1874 Walker, Henry J. 12-12-2018 09:21 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Good effort, it is really hard to stay calm and polite when someone is being a jerk. We find that very few actually read signs when they are posted nor do they really want to know or care about pertinent information, the interaction plays out on an emotional level rather than on an informational basis. Some do pay attention, a spectrum exists. Those that don't care are really hard to deal with. We may need to disseminate information in a more public way like posting it throughout the electronic world and in the Post Bulletin on a monthly basis. Advertisers want viewers to see an add like 16 times so people become accustomed to thinking about a given store before they realize it. It seems like we are failing to effectively get our message out - 'if you respect the trail and walk down the side we can both use the same resource'. The "US vs THEM" scenario has proven very ineffective at many levels, unfortunately it is becoming more of a norm. Do you think it would help to put a picture of the HS team on our signs indicating the reason why we are trying to maintain the trail? Being self-centered is harder to do when kids are the focus.</p>
<p>1873 mtrantow★ 12-12-2018 12:28 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>The Good, The Bad, and the The Ugly. *warning-extended version Directors Cut* But not the Clint Eastwood Film... just my luck on the trails with "Bad Actors"</p> <p>The Good: Essex gas cans are refilled (92 octane) and all the equipment is working well. I checked with Barry Knapp and decided to jump in and refresh the skate lanes. That seemed to work well, and I even groomed with Ginzu the down the steep hill to the "gardens loop"</p> <p>The Bad: Lots of walkers had been out on the trails, but at least there were few terrible divots and NO new fat biker ruts. I had a hard time adjusting the knives to "Goldilocks" light renovation... sometimes too soft, sometimes too hard, sometimes Juuuusst Right.</p> <p>The Ugly: As I was finishing up and receiving kudos for grooming activities from Robb Mitchell who was night skiing (another GOOD), we saw some lights bobbing quickly through the woods. Two dogs running all over the place were followed by their owner walking down the middle of the skate lane. When he saw us, he started walking on the side, but I decided to drive over and talk to him. I mentioned that the paved trails were multi-use, but we'd like to keep walkers off the woods trails. I got the usual, "I'm a taxpayer" and "I don't see why you have to take all the trails in the the winter. Where were you in summer?" It was really hard to keep my cool at this point. I tried to inform him that: it's not taxpayer money paying for the trail upkeep, that RASC mows the trails in summer for everyone, and grooms them in winter for skiers, and that all the costs are from RASC members and the volunteers ... and That we do it for the High School team as well. I</p>

	<p>also suggested that maybe he was one of the good guys who walks on the side and picks up after his dogs. However, I mentioned that others leave divots and dog poop on the trails which ruins it for everyone.</p> <p>*SIGH* I wish I could say it made a difference, but he kept talking over me, so I just don't know ...</p> <p>*</p> <p>I would like to draft a factual 8x10 sheet that we keep in the ATVs boxes that we could hand out to walkers/runners, bikers, etc.</p> <p>example bullet points: Agreements with the City, Trail upkeep responsibilities, Costs and Volunteer hours, Benefits to the High School kids, suggestions to snowshoe or be like them (on the side) , also City Leash laws and curbing dogs/picking poo</p> <p>PLUS, a map on the backside with the multi-use/paved trails marked, distinct from the woods/grass trails, and a diagram of lanes: Classic/Skate/Snow-shoe-walker</p> <p>*</p> <p>BTW - we could have them out at the kiosks as well... I used to print Essex maps like Bruce Walk did, but I got out of the habit, and the Essex dispenser got trashed. I would need to update the map and get a new sheet holder</p> <p>*</p> <p>Is this a good idea? Or am I just rabble-rousing again? Can we get Mike Nigbur to "sign off" on it.</p>
<p>1872 joey keillor 12-11-2018 03:03 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH trail conditions are amazing (Eastwood was great, too, and probably Essex, as well). Just skied over lunch. Would highly recommend getting out to take advantage. Who knows what the future brings?</p>
<p>1871 Dave Greymont* 12-10-2018 07:03 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Just a reminder to groomers. Please post a message on the Facebook Trails Condition site after grooming. Lots of people look at this page for updated grooming reports. The login is: rascrtrails@gmail.com and the password is rascgroomer</p> <p>Thank you</p>
<p>1870 Joey Keillor 12-10-2018 02:54 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>One more note: I reset track in a couple of scant places. However, the new track wasn't very good because the base isn't deep enough to really claw into it with the knives (thus providing enough duff for deep-set track). I would suggest holding off on any new track setting unless track is basically destroyed. It won't be as good as the initial track set, which was really solid (and mostly still very good). We'll need another snowstorm before track can be reset over the whole course in a quality fashion.</p>
<p>1869 Joey Keillor 12-09-2018 10:43 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH groomed Sunday night. Things went well...trail groomed up nicely. Down to one large gas can.</p>
<p>1868 Joe 12-09-2018 10:09 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Brennan, thank you for grooming Essex!!</p> <p>Barry and Matt are up next @ Essex. I have updated the grooming rotation website. http://rochesteractivesportsclub.wildapricot.org/page-1563197</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1867 Dave Greymont* 12-08-2018 12:34 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mike Holmes and I groomed QH this morning. We had a couple of minor issues in Parkwood hills. The 2-wheel/4-wheel button must have been accidentally hit because going up the hill we got stuck and spun the rear tracks throwing up some grass. Once the 4-wheel drive was re-engaged, no problem. We also ran over a branch and dragged it beneath the comb leaving a divot along the trail. We groomed a rectangle in the middle of the field at David Herbert's request for either working on technique or games on skis. It likely needs to be groomed once more to firm it up. The lights also went out on the hand warmer module. But, when I touched the "select" button they came back on. There's about 6 gallons of gas remaining in the shed. Mike is go to go solo.</p>
<p>1866 Joe 12-07-2018 12:28 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Lisa, thank you for grooming and all the "extra" tasks you worked at Essex! Very much appreciated.</p> <p>Brennan and Berry are up next to groom Essex. Please remember to bring extra warm gloves as the ATV hand warmer is currently broken.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>

<p>1865 Lisa Luetmer 12-06-2018 04:50 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex is groomed. Everything operated well and there is enough gas. Essex has some troubled spots with dirt showing from gopher mounds and an especially bad stretch on the bike trail where dirt clods weren't graded very well after a summer flood. I shoveled snow on several places but a sunny day will do some damage. I would be happy to work with someone and fill the otter sled and do some repairs if we don't get some snow soon. There is quite a bit of debris in the woods. Also, I took the liberty to widen turns and parts of the trail where conscientious hikers are walking along the edge. Not that we have to groom more but it does keep us from getting too narrow as we get more snow down the line. Dave S. was out to measure the handle grip for repair parts. He found the shorted wire that shot that flame out when Laura groomed. It melted a hole in the rubber grip. I'm grateful for all of you that keep our equipment going. Dave had also changed the oil just a few days ago. There is a lot of maintenance work that goes on behind the scenes that we don't know about so thank you all. L</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>1864 Mark Foley 12-05-2018 11:35 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed QH tonight, set track in places where it was missing or not in good shape. Everything worked well.</p>
<p>1863 Laura Zumbrunnen 12-05-2018 10:09 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>oops...didn't mean to post that to group. sorry for clutter!</p> <p>On Wed, Dec 5, 2018 at 9:07 AM QT - Laura Zumbrunnen <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> wrote:</p>
<p>1862 Laura Zumbrunnen 12-05-2018 10:07 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thanks, Andy. I'm all ears on the contact...who is s/he? I'm an OMC person. My shoulder has been an issue most of my adult life but never like past year. My shoulder was really sore and arm numb yesterday after grooming plus I could barely turn the ginzu. It makes me sad to leave...but I know I just can't do it anymore. The groomer is a beast for me on a good day. Thanks for the kind words and thanks for all you do!!! Laura</p> <p>On Tue, Dec 4, 2018 at 8:06 PM QT - Andy Wood <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> wrote:</p>
<p>1861 mtrantow★ 12-04-2018 11:21 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Per Laura's observation, the Essex ATV hand warmer has a short on the left grip... so don't use that option until I can remove and fix it.</p> <p>I rolled the Essex 55th Street straight-away that was drifted in, as well as the lower gardens. I advise against using the ginzu on either section for now</p>
<p>1860 Dave Squillace 12-04-2018 09:52 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I groomed Quarry Hill this afternoon with light knives on the Ginzu. Did the West park area and North hill areas also. The trails are in fairly nice condition with only a few thin spots.</p>
<p>1859 Andy Wood★ 12-04-2018 09:06 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Laura you can't leave us?? Bummer about the shoulder. I know a good PT that does great work on shoulders at OMC.</p>
<p>1858 mtrantow★ 12-04-2018 03:15 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thank you for grooming Essex "one last time" Laura! Echoing the others, we'll really miss you.</p> <p>BTW - Old Groomers never retire .. they just supervise! 'Hope you can still get out and enjoy some skiing this season.</p> <p>I will look into the left hand-warmer Wednesday ... sounds like a short and insulation melting.</p> <p>Cheers! Mike</p>
<p>1857 Laura 12-04-2018</p>	<p>Oh, I forgot to post there is a little hole in the left plastic handle that got red. I saw a little flame (like a small match) come out of it so turned off the grip warmers and didn't notice it again. Sadly, even at 25F, my fingers got really cold in really warm gloves:) So, maybe what's behind</p>

02:50 PM ET (US)	<p>the hole is a big deal?</p> <p>And, Lisa, you are way, way, way too kind. Surely you meant "one of the SLOWEST groomers Essex ever had"!</p>
1856 Lisa Luetmer 12-04-2018 02:38 PM ET (US)	<p>Laur you were one of the best groomers Essex ever had. Up there with Bruce Walk and Greg Rowley.....and those two didnâ€™t have to deal with mice popping out of the side molding and crawling up their boots while grooming;) Will miss your QT reports too.</p> <p>L</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
1855 Dave 12-04-2018 01:17 PM ET (US)	<p>Laura, Thanks for all your grooming. I've got arthritis in both my shoulders so I know how driving the ATV will aggravate them. We all get slower but like you say, don't stop. Hope to see you out on the trails.</p> <p>Happy skiing, Dave G</p>
1854 Joe 12-04-2018 01:16 PM ET (US)	<p>Laura, soo sorry to hear of your shoulder. You will be greatly missed and can't thank you enough for all that you have done! I also want you to know that, as difficult it must have been, you make the correct decision to listen to your body. This is a volunteer role, not a well financed career. You are always welcome to return, should things improve!! Look forward to seeing you on the trails - or in your driveway :-)</p> <p>Joe</p>
1853 Laura 12-04-2018 12:42 PM ET (US)	<p>Thanks, Joe, for meeting me and hooking up the ginzu! Essex was groomed and track set...for my last time. Whatever I did to my right shoulder many years ago is making it too hard for me to steer the groomer. Sorry for such a last minute pull-out!! THANK YOU ALL FOR THE GROOMING, COACHING and all else you do to keep skiing so fun and so available to all of us!!! I will miss being a part of such a stellar group of people. Have slowed down but haven't stopped skiing so hope to see you on the trails.</p>
1852 mtrantow* 12-03-2018 07:32 PM ET (US)	<p>Essex grooming: I touched up Essex trails before and during the RNST practice. It just needs one pass with light knives in some areas.. and that can happen anytime... practice tomorrow is at Quarry Hill</p>
1851 Laura Zumbrunnen 12-03-2018 12:59 PM ET (US)	<p>Great news!! I will likely bow out next year with Lisa. My sore shoulder canâ€™t handle the groomer so well. Laura</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
1850 Dave Greymont* 12-03-2018 10:13 AM ET (US)	<p>Kristin Sorenson deserves the credit for suggesting Eric and Mike as possible grooming volunteers.</p>
1849 Lisa Luetmer 12-02-2018 08:23 PM ET (US)	<p>And thank you Dave for, once again, helping our trail maintenance family thrive and grow! Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
1848 Lisa Luetmer 12-02-2018 08:20 PM ET (US)	<p>Welcome Eric and Mike!! More Snowmen;) Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
1847 Joe Gyura 12-02-2018 08:18 PM ET (US)	<p>Awesome..... Eric and Mike welcome, and thank you for joining the grooming team! Appreciate your willingness to help!</p> <p>Joe</p> <p>Sent from my iPad</p>
1846 Dave Greymont* 12-02-2018	<p>Yeah, I have two new grooming volunteers that have enrolled in the "Greymont Graduate School of Grooming", Mike Holmes and Eric Sorenson. I spent time with them this afternoon for equipment orientation and some practice using the Ginzu with instruction on use of the knives</p>

08:09 PM ET (US)	and the track setter. I think probably the hardest thing for a rookie is learning to drive the ATV the proper distance from the edge of the trail. That skill comes pretty quick tho. I will work with these two until they feel comfortable going solo. Mike and I set track on the south and west trails, and then I finished setting track on the remainder of the trails. I also filled the gas cans. Last summer we decided to only use premium, non-alcohol gas in the ATV. NOW EVERYBODY GET OUT AND SKI!!!!
1845 Laura Z 12-02-2018 04:58 PM ET (US)	I can groom after the team skis on Monday. Laura Sent from my iPad
1844 Joe Gyura★ 12-02-2018 03:01 PM ET (US)	Andy and I tag-teamed to roll, groom and set track at Essex. Kept the roller comb up to add extra weight and ginzu had comb down. Worked great to set a nice skate and classic lanes. Equipment worked well. Thank you, Mike!! Laura and Lisa are up next to groom Essex. Thanks! Joe
1843 Peter Wollan 12-02-2018 02:09 PM ET (US)	QH has been rolled and combed again this morning. Lots of people out -- walking, snowshoeing, and even a few skiers. The snow looks in really good shape, still a bit soft for skating but nice for classic, even with no track. Gas is low. 3 of the 4 cans are empty, and the last one (a big one) is only half full.
1842 John Resman 12-02-2018 09:22 AM ET (US)	Quarry Hill was rolled last night. Three passes on the east trails - only two passes on the trail to the Quarry Hill playground. On the trail at the Parkwood Hills playground, I cut across the infield between first and third base to avoid the narrow area along the 3rd base line which always seems to get wet when the weather warms up. The snow was not sticking to the rollers - though I did have to knock snow off a few times during the first 100 or so meters of rolling - then it pretty much stayed off. My first time grooming in a snowstorm! By the time I started grooming, the 2nd wave of snow began to fall. It was snowing pretty hard by the time I finished. It will be interesting to see if Sunday's groomers will be able to tell any difference or if they can see the rolled sections in the open, windblown areas. Thanks Dave for putting up the wood lath. It sure helped finding the trail when it's dark outside and the snow is coming down!
1841 mtrantow★ 11-16-2018 05:04 PM ET (US)	Essex News! The Skandic is back in the shed, running again with a new DESS key (an expensive and manual proposition I hope to never repeat) Joe and Andy got out the roller and Ginzu today when I returned the snowmobile. All the Ginzu motors worked. Thanks for the "lunch run" Guys ! PS. the trailer is back at QH .. the rear brake and turn signals worked, but the wheel lights and running lights were sporadic. Joe G. may take a swing at rolling tomorrow if we get enough - - Think Snow!
1840 mtrantow★ 11-10-2018 09:06 PM ET (US)	Thanks to Dave Greymont and Andy Wood, we got the Essex ATV switched from Tires to Tracks (maybe a new record 12:10-1:55). We also got the Skandic on the trailer and dropped off at River Valley Sports to program the DESS key (should be ready Monday). Hopefully the weather will stay cool and we'll get more snow.
1839 Dave Greymont★ 11-07-2018 03:20 PM ET (US)	Dave Squillace and I were able to repair the trailer lights by splicing the chewed up wires back together. We will replace the whole wiring harness next spring/summer when it's warmer outside. The trailer and ATV have been returned to QH. We also put Stabil in the mower's gas tank.
1838	Dave Squillace and I put the tracks on the QH ATV. We set a new world's record of 1:53 for the

<p>Dave Greymont★ 11-05-2018 04:21 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>change-over. Mice have chewed up the trailer wiring and the lights don't work. Dave S. is picking up a new wiring harness. I'm keeping the club trailer and ATV at my house so Dave/I can work on the trailer wiring in my garage where it's dry. Check the Birke Facebook page. First ski tracks on the new bridge over OO.</p>
<p>1837 Dave Greymont★ 10-31-2018 05:41 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed the Parkwood Hills trails today. No equipment problems. Although, the ATBV's gas gauge isn't working properly and sticks on "full". I didn't fill the mower's gas tank when I finished mowing. There is quite a bit of gas remaining in the tank.</p>
<p>1836 mtrantow★ 10-20-2018 05:05 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Greetings from Portugal! Thanks for mowing Joe. Depending on the weather, we could run the mower dry... But it's fine if we don't. I can just add stabilizer. Next up is tires to tracks Nov 11.</p>
<p>1835 Joe 10-18-2018 02:41 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed all the woods (two passes) at Essex to clear leaves for Saturday's race. The prairies do not need to be mowed. Would have preferred mowing tomorrow, but I'm unavailable. Most of the leaves have fallen, so should be in great shape. All equipment worked well. There is plenty of gas. Seeing this will most likely be the last mow, I did not top off the mower gas. Thanks! Joe</p>
<p>1834 John Resman 10-16-2018 09:56 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>While doing a recon of the Tour de Essex course, I saw park and rec mowing down the northwest prairie field. In a few short sections, it makes it a little hard to see the actual trail without the longer grass. The mower managed to put numerous 1 - 2" wide and 1" deep ruts in our trail. It looks like the outside edges of the mower were dragging on the ground. Nothing a few feet of snow won't cover up! Just looking at last year's winter snowfalls. Rochester had 5' of snow last year at the airport (60.2"). Sounds like plenty for a good winter of skiing - though we know the numbers can be deceiving. April - 17" March - 7" February - 9.5" January - 16.2" December - 7.2" November - 0.7" October - 2.6"</p>
<p>1833 Dave Greymont★ 10-14-2018 02:44 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>The QH ATV is at T-roy's Repair.</p>
<p>1832 Dave Greymont★ 10-13-2018 07:25 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Ugh, more ATV "fun". This morning I installed one-way signs for the east trail (closest to East Circle Drive) going to the Parkwood Hills trails. The trail is designated to only ski up the hill and not down. The west trail is a two-way trail. While putting up the sign at the top of the hill I noticed the grass needed mowing. This afternoon I tried to drive the ATV/mower up the west hill and the tires started slipping and spinning again (except for the left rear wheel. I locked the differential but that made no difference. (See my note below from 9/30). I should get the ATV driver of the year award because I managed to turn the ATV and mower around on the hill. I couldn't disconnect the mower because it would have rolled down the hill. When I got back down to flat ground I looked at the left rear side of the ATV and discovered that the drive shaft for the left rear wheel had separated from the differential case. The housing is broken where the shaft connects. I'll make arrangements to take the ATV in for repairs.</p>
<p>1831 mtrantow★ 10-03-2018 02:31 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex ATV - all good again for late season mowing (once we dry out) - we located the "leak" - the Coolant reservoir/overflow cap is missing - it is duct-taped for now, David sourcing a replacement - the check engine light was due to me missing a reconnection on the air filter housing.. reconnected-all-good-now.</p>

	Thanks to David Squillace again!
1830 Walker, Henry J. 09-30-2018 09:13 PM ET (US)	Will take on the double oak late Monday or Wed. Thanks for mowing. Henry Sent from my iPhone
1829 Dave Greymont★ 09-30-2018 08:30 PM ET (US)	Just finished mowing QH. It might be the last time it needs to be mowed this year. About half way through mowing I heard a metallic clunking coming from beneath the ATV. There was a clunk when moving forward at a regular interval like each time something made a complete revolution. I looked under the ATV and couldn't see anything wrong so I decided to take it back to the shed before something more serious happened. Well, the noise went away so I finished mowing. The only thing I experienced that was strange was that climbing a hill the right rear tire would spin, but the left rear would not. The grass may have been getting greasy late in the day. My experience is that when something makes a strange noise it doesn't usually fix itself. Could it be something in the differential or the 4-wheel drive mechanism???? Henry, there's a large double trunk oak tree down across the woods trail. It's just south of the intersection of the woods trail and the trail that goes to the Payne sheds. I had to unhook the mower and turn the ATV around. Do you have time to cut it up?
1828 Joe Gmail 09-30-2018 05:58 PM ET (US)	Dave, that should be fine. Robb said he only could not finish the woods. The grass there grows much slower than the prairies, so we should be okay especially with the cooler temps. Not sure how backed up T-Roy is. Wonder if we should schedule a time? Who does the scheduling for the ATV service? Joe Sent from my iPhone
1827 DAVID SQUILLACE 09-30-2018 05:07 PM ET (US)	I would like to give the machine an hour to check for possible "simple" problems that might cause the electronic self-diagnostic system error. Most likely it will still need to go to T-Roys. Can we hold until I get there early this week? I am thinking Monday or Tuesday. Dave S.Sent from Outlook< http://aka.ms/weboutlook >; From: QT - Dave <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Sent: Sunday, September 30, 2018 3:59 PM To: QT topic subscribers Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming
1826 Dave 09-30-2018 04:59 PM ET (US)	Agree, time to take it to T-Roy's Sent by Dave G.
1825 Joe 09-30-2018 03:41 PM ET (US)	Robb, I just saw your update! Thank you for mowing Essex! Sorry to hear of the problems. If needed, I'm up next to mow Essex. Mike, I agree it's time to have the ATV serviced. Especially if you and David can't find the leak and engine light source. Does anyone disagree? If not, how do we pursue? Thanks! Joe
1824 Joe 09-30-2018 08:35 AM ET (US)	Lisa and Pat, thank you!!
1823 Mike Trantow 09-30-2018 08:33 AM ET (US)	Very cool! Thanks! On Sat, Sep 29, 2018, 9:24 PM QT - Lisa Luetmer <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> wrote:
1822 Lisa Luetmer 09-29-2018 10:24 PM ET (US)	The Luetmerâ€™s had two hours left on the stump grinder we rented this morning so we went to Essex and Patrick ground out several stumps along the Robertson Expressway (so named by Dave Greymont). He also ground down those two big stumps in front of the little red barn. They were hazards in the winter when the snow covered them just enough that I couldnâ€™t see

	<p>them.....then Iâ€™d run into them. L</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>1821 Robb Welch 09-29-2018 10:13 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed Essex this afternoon. Mower worked great. The ATV was fine for the first 45 minutes. About that time I saw and smelled one small puff of smoke from the area under the cover near my left knee. I thought the puff smelled like coolant. I visually checked for any leaks or further smoke but all looked good. About 45 minutes later I saw and smelled one more small puff of smoke once again from the area near my left knee under the cover. This time I thought it smelled more like oil. Once again I looked for leaks and also if I could smell anything more but did not see anything. I mowed for another 20 minutes and then noticed the "engine symbol" illuminated on the dash board. I took the ATV back to the shed at that point. With the exception of the above descriptions the equipment seemed to be performing normally. No additional smoke, engine sounded normal and brakes worked fine. Even back at the shed the ATV seemed quite normal. I mowed everything but the woods trails on the east side of the park. There is one medium size tree partially blocking the top most trail on the 55th street prairie. The edges of the trails had been cut back about 3' on each side, so there was no overhanging growth and I was able to cut 3 mower widths wide with relative ease (that is with the exception of the lumpy terrain at the edges and the gopher's dirt mounds).</p> <p>Both mower and ATV are filled with gas. Remaining ATV gas is approximately 6 gallons and mower gas is about 2 gallons.</p> <p>I would recommend that the ATV be checked out for the illuminated "engine symbol" prior to the next mower using it.</p>
<p>1820 Joan Rabe★ 09-28-2018 11:41 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>I finally got rid of the large low hanging branch over the south woods trail at Essex. Also cut up a tree that had fallen across that loop and pushed it as far as we could into the woods at the side of the trail. Thanks to Linda Birnbaum for helping me. No thanks at all to the mosquitos, which were surprisingly plentiful.</p>
<p>1819 mtrantow★ 09-28-2018 11:26 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex ATV & Mower back in service.</p> <p>*one note I keep forgetting*</p> <p>I could not find the Skandic snowmobile "key". It should have been on the peg with the ATV key, but it's been missing the last month.</p> <p>Not on the ground or anywhere I looked. Last time I had it was early August when I ran the Snowmobile (monthly).</p> <p>It was on a long black kill-switch tether cable coiled like a telephone cord.. and it is a round kill-switch cap vs insertable key</p>
<p>1818 mtrantow★ 09-26-2018 10:49 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thanks to David Squillace (and wife) for cleaning up the Essex ATV, and ordering parts.</p> <p>I have reinstalled the cleaned and oiled air filter, strategically placing some mothball bags, and using the new fasteners to reattach all the panels</p> <p>We did not locate the source of the fluid that squirted onto Lisa. Today the left and right brake seem to be working fine on a practice run. (it's possible that was coolant?).</p> <p>*** So next Essex mower, please pay attention to coolant and brakes. ***</p> <p>Unfortunately, the last thing I had time to do before the coaches meeting tonight was to try to start the mower</p> <p>Good News: it started great. Bad News: when I engaged the blades, the belt jumped off .. I will get to that tomorrow and post again *sigh*</p>
<p>1817 mtrantow★ 09-15-2018 04:04 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I would greatly appreciate that David. I may be able to take a look and maybe clean it up tonight, but tomorrow is booked for me.</p>
<p>1816 DAVID SQUILLACE 09-15-2018 02:39 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I would be able to look at it tomorrow, and then dig in deeper Tuesday. I mow QH on Monday. Is that OK Mike and Joe? Dave S.</p> <p>Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone</p> <p>----- Original message -----</p>

	<p>From: QT - Lisa Luetmer <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Date: 9/14/18 6:37 PM (GMT-06:00) To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
<p>1815 Lisa Luetmer 09-14-2018 07:37 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I think there is a leak in the atv brake line and I'm sorry but it needs to be looked at. I was about 2/3rds done mowing at Essex and while braking warm fluid squirted out on my leg and dribbled onto the muffler. I stopped mowing right away and put it away. I couldn't see where the fluid came from because the side panel blocked my view. Did not mow the 55th street prairie. Mower ran great and both are gassed up. Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>1814 Dave Greymont★ 09-12-2018 01:42 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>All, I wanted to express my appreciation to everyone that attended Vicki's service. Your presence and support helped get me through the day. You are way more than RASC volunteers, you are truly good friends. On behalf of my family, thank you.</p>
<p>1813 Joan Rabe★ 09-09-2018 10:42 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I cut up some trees that fell last week across the trail in the woods on the east side of Essex, and with the help of friendly walkers, moved them off the trail. There is still a large live branch hanging low over the trail, because it was bent down by one of the fallen trees. Since it wasn't a buckthorn, I left it alone for now, to see if it recovers its uprightness. Mowers should be able to get through, just don't let it whack you in the face.</p>
<p>1812 mtrantow★ 09-05-2018 04:03 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thanks for mowing and the update Henry. I'll get out to Essex to fill the gas cans, drop off some sheets, and fix the mower wire connection.</p>
<p>1811 Joe 09-05-2018 03:01 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Henry, thank you for mowing Essex!! I have updated the rotation.</p> <p>If my records are accurate, looks like Lisa and Robb are up next to mow Essex.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1810 HenryH★ 09-05-2018 09:03 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex was mowed Monday 9/3. The white wire on the mower came loose at the snap-together connector twice. Connector seems to have little retention strength. Re-taped the connector to try to get it to stay together. If the mower engine dies, check this wire. Refilled mower and 4-wheeler. Small gas can full. Both large cans empty. Also need some more log sheets.</p>
<p>1809 John Resman 09-03-2018 09:44 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Quarry Hill trails were mowed on Sunday. All of the equipment worked well. As mentioned before, there's erosion by the new culvert on the east side trail that we'll have to deal with this fall. Not sure if it's a matter of just putting more dirt around there or coming up with a better solution. There's one full 5 gallon tank of gas left.</p>
<p>1808 Dave Greymont★ 09-03-2018 06:19 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>For those who may have been wondering about my absence in RASC activities, my wife (Vicki) has been ill. She passed away peacefully last Wednesday at Season's Hospice. We will have a celebration of life service for her this coming Wednesday at Ranfranz Funeral Home. (Obit was in Saturday's paper). If you wish to attend, please dress comfortably (but no jeans please). The family will dress "business casual/casual".</p>
<p>1807 Lisa Luetmer 08-22-2018 09:55 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Laura and I hiked Essex yesterday and the city has come through and mowed back everything a good 2-3 feet on each side of both prairie and woods. It looks fantastic! Thank you Joe for influencing that. Welcome Bjorn to the team! If you can back the mowing rig, you can parallel park your dads truck no problem;) Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>1806 Joe 08-22-2018 09:49 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Paul, thank you for mowing Essex. Good to hear all went well. I have updated the rotation website.</p> <p>Lisa and Henry H. are up next to mow Essex.</p> <p>Thanks, everyone!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1805 Bjorn Walker</p>	<p>I mowed QH last Sunday after a refresher review of how to run the ATV and mower. I even backed the mower out of the shed and a long ways into the field, hey can I skip parallel parking</p>

08-21-2018 10:02 PM ET (US)	for a driver's license by passing the mower backup test? Everything worked well, no equipment issues or problems while on the trail. Gas tanks were filled and door closed and locked and yes dad, I shut the lights off in the shed before I left.
1804 Paul Ehling* 08-21-2018 07:49 PM ET (US)	I mowed Essex on Sat, Aug 18. All equipment ran well. Can someone move the carrots on the RASC site to the next person? Thanks, Paul
1803 Joe 08-10-2018 03:37 PM ET (US)	Laura, thank you for mowing Essex! Paul and Lisa are up next to mow Essex. The groomer page has been updated. Thanks! Joe
1802 Laura Z 08-10-2018 01:41 PM ET (US)	Mowed Essex yesterday. All was fine except the mower arm detached from the mower. Seemed impossible 'cuz the clip was still on the arm. I put it back and it was fine. Enough gas for another mowing.
1801 DAVID SQUILLACE 08-05-2018 05:47 PM ET (US)	I will put some air in that tire on Monday or Tuesday. I know the pressure was correct in June. Dave S. Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone ----- Original message ----- From: QT - Peter Wollan <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Date: 8/5/18 3:30 PM (GMT-06:00) To: QT topic subscribers <qtopic-subs@quicktopic.com> Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming
1800 Peter Wollan 08-05-2018 04:30 PM ET (US)	Mowed Quarry Hill today. Machines all worked well. The right front tire on the mower is flat. Sorry, I can't guarantee it wasn't flat when I started -- I looked over everything, but didn't consciously focus on the mower tires. On the upper sport loop, where a tube has been passed under the trail for water control: the outlet, on the "inner" side of the trail, has started eroding back into the trail. It could use some maintenance there, maybe some gravel? Peter
1799 Joe 08-02-2018 01:42 PM ET (US)	Mowed Essex this morning. All equipment worked well. Laura and Paul are up next to mow Essex. The above comment "All equipment worked well." was not possible without the help and support provided by David Squillace. As posted below, the Essex mower stoped working on July 27 and after countless hours of effort, working in hot, sometimes in the rain. laying on the ground on areas of the mower that are almost impossible to reach/view. Since the 27th, David worked almost every day troubleshooting, and working with the manufacture on possible causes and solution. I believe there were at least three occasions where we thought the issue was resolved only to be denied. Yesterday afternoon, David installed a new cable to the PTO switch that appears to have solved the blade starting problem. I can't thank David enough for all of his efforts and commitment to resolving the problem as quickly as possible. Without a doubt, he has gone far and above the "call of duty". David, thank you again for all of your help!!! Joe
1798	Joe:

<p>DAVID SQUILLACE 07-26-2018 06:41 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I just went to QH to look at that mower concerning the green wire. I am pretty sure that wire is for the low oil engine cutoff with which some of the Vanguard engines are equipped. Alternatively, it could be an engine oil temperature switch. However, in looking at the QH mower, I suddenly knew what is wrong with the Essex mower. My bad. I am 90% sure that I can fix it in 10 minutes tonight so hopefully you can mow tomorrow. I will let you know with a call this evening. Dave S.</p> <p>Sent from Outlook<http://aka.ms/weboutlook>;</p> <hr/> <p>From: QT - Joe <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2018 1:32 PM To: QT topic subscribers Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
<p>1797 Joe 07-26-2018 02:32 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex mower is not working.</p> <p>I went to mow Essex this morning. the mower started with no problems, although I was not able to get the blades to turn on.. i've verified all cables were connected and that both switches on the ATV and Mower were in the on position . While doing some poking around I found a severed green wire coming from the enclosure on top of the mower engine going to something possibly a solenoid located by the oil filter With everything calling for blade on I touched the two wires together and the blade started running It seemed odd that the blades remained running even though the wire was still disconnected I decided to take advantage of the situation and mow. I got about 1/4 of the South Prairie mowed and the blades stopped running I tried touching the wires together as before but was not able to turn on the blades I went home to gather material to patch the severed wire Once fixed the mower blades still would not turn on Not sure of the purpose for the green wire and what it attaches to and whether it was just a fluke that the blades turn on. Mike and David would appreciate any help The grass in the South Prairie are fairly long and should not go much longer without mowing If I can I would be more than happy to join either of you to help fix the mower</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe Edited 07-26-2018 02:33 PM</p>
<p>1796 Joey keillor 07-26-2018 11:03 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Q-Hill mowed yesterday (July 25). All is well.</p>
<p>1795 Jeff Robertson 07-19-2018 09:16 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Hi Quarry Hill Mowers We are planning to use the Quarry Hill ATV for the Gamehaven mountain bike race next weekend(July 29). We plan to pick it up Friday afternoon (7/27) and return it Monday morning(7/30). Hope this doesn't screw up you mowing schedule. Jeff</p>
<p>1794 Peter Wollan 07-17-2018 12:41 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH gas cans filled. Checked ATV and mower, they were already full.</p> <p>Dave Squillace was there, working on the starter issue -- he thinks he found (and fixed) the problem.</p> <p>Peter</p>
<p>1793 mtrantow★ 07-16-2018 09:19 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Gas cans filled at Essex (over 13 gal total). Topped off ATV too. Mower was already filled to brim. Kwiktrip card back in clipboard</p>
<p>1792 Lisa Luetmer 07-16-2018 10:44 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>I forgot to tell folks that I donâ€™t turn the key on the mower anymore because it does weird thing. I just hold the key on and it starts after a few seconds (like it needs to think about it). And I accidentally took the red ear muffs! Iâ€™ll return this week. Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>1791</p>	<p>Mowed Quarry Hill today. Similar to the Essex mower, it took about 6 times of turning the key</p>

Mark Foley 07-15-2018 07:19 PM ET (US)	to get it to get the starter to go. No other issues. I used up the last of the gas at QH but was able to fill the ATV and mower with what was there.
1790 Joe 07-14-2018 08:42 AM ET (US)	Robb, thank you for mowing Essex! I've updated the rotation. I, then Laura are up next to mow Essex. Thanks! Joe
1789 Robb Welch 07-14-2018 07:33 AM ET (US)	Mowed Essex on Thursday afternoon. The mower took multiple key turns before it would "click" and start but ran great afterward. The mower rpm display was blank so I just set the throttle based on past experience. Also did not see the pair of hearing protection head muffs that have been there in the past but did find some foam ear plugs. After refilling ATV and mower there is approximately 4 gallons of gas remaining in the cans.
1788 Peter Wollan 07-06-2018 04:01 PM ET (US)	Mowed Quarry Hill today (Friday). No problems, other than some confusion about what needed mowing and what didn't. I didn't try Henry's Hill, thinking it might be slippery with the recent rain. The two small gas cans, and one of the big ones, are all empty. I started on the second big one, but it's still mostly full. Peter
1787 Joe 07-03-2018 08:36 PM ET (US)	Henry, thank you for mowing Essex and posting status! Robb and Joe are up next to mow Essex. Thanks, all! Joe
1786 HenryH★ 07-03-2018 01:37 PM ET (US)	Essex mowed. No issues. 1-6gal tank & part of small can full.
1785 DAVID SQUILLACE 06-27-2018 06:38 PM ET (US)	Mowed Quarry Hill today. Sawed and removed two large trees completely blocking trail and one medium nearly blocking trail. Also used loppers to cut many branches and smaller trees to clear the trail. Mower and ATV are working fine. Dave S. Sent from Outlook< http://aka.ms/weboutlook >; From: QT - Dave Greymont <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2018 1:06 PM To: QT topic subscribers Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming
1784 Dave Greymont★ 06-27-2018 02:06 PM ET (US)	I have four tickets to the Green Bay Packers annual shareholders meeting (yawn) on Wednesday July 25th. at 7 PM if anyone wants them. The following day is the first training camp practice well as the beginning of a free four day festival that will help celebrate the Packers 100 Seasons. First come, first served. Email me if interested at: birked@charter.net Dave G
1783 mtrantow★ 06-26-2018 05:32 PM ET (US)	Essex gas cans filled. There are 3 sharpened mower blades in the little barn on table by door. I won't be able to try installing them till after the 4th. If someone else wants a go at them,feel free.
1782 Joe 06-24-2018 10:48 PM ET (US)	Lisa, thank you for mowing! And, Joan, thank you for clearing the downed tree! Robb and Henry H, are up next to mow Essex.

	Thanks! Joe
1781 Joan RabE 06-24-2018 04:49 PM ET (US)	Cleared out the tree on the trail from hell.
1780 Lisa Luetmer 06-23-2018 10:54 PM ET (US)	Hi folks sorry but the tree that is down is actually on the trail from hell not the pavilion trail. L Sent from my iPhone
1779 Lisa Luetmer 06-23-2018 01:05 PM ET (US)	Forgot to report there is a tree down on the trail behind the pavilion. Didn't know it and I was coming from the west. Had to back out:0 Lisa Sent from my iPhone
1778 Lisa Luetmer 06-23-2018 12:42 PM ET (US)	Essex was mowed yesterday. Everything ran well but when I first turned on the key of the atv (no motor running yet) it was doing a strange thing where it was cycling between 4 wheel drive and two. It was weird. I'd watch the four wheel picture pop up (it made a zzzzt sound). Then pop off. I hope we can believe the button. There is 3/4 of big gas can left. I was wondering when we had the blades sharpened. I'm thinking it's been a while. I felt like I had to over parts so it would look nice. L Sent from my iPhone
1777 John Resman 06-18-2018 07:05 PM ET (US)	Yes, checking the level in the mower gas tank is quirky. I've used the plastic retainer hanging down from the cap to see how far down the liquid level is. The mower doesn't seem to use gas very quickly, so I hardly ever have filled the gas tank (or maybe it's because it's a reasonable sized gas tank).
1776 Dave Greymont★ 06-18-2018 06:23 PM ET (US)	I filled the QH gas cans and topped off the mower and ATV. There's 10 gallons of gas remaining. Filling the mower's gas tank is kinda quirky. Reflections appear to make it look full when it's really not. I have to shine the flashlight down into the tank to tell how full it really is.
1775 John Resman 06-18-2018 09:59 AM ET (US)	Quarry Hill trails were mowed on Sunday. The grass in the center of the trails was not very long, so the mowing was more of an edge grass control exercise. No issues with ATV or mower. Mower started first time. Comments: 1. Gate was open when I arrived. I closed and locked the gate when I left. 2. Henry's fence has some damage. One of the posts was knocked sideways (standing at an angle), and one of the crosspieces fell out. Not sure if someone banged into it or if the wood had weakened at the ground. 3. Confirmed the following principle when I was on top of Parkwood Hills - "If you forget to check the mower gas, the gas will run out at the farthest point from the shed." Shortly after I started mowing, I thought - "oh, I forgot to check the mower gas - oh well, I'll keep going and see what happens". 4. A very young, dead fawn was on the trail on top of Parkwood Hills.
1774 mtrantow★ 06-14-2018 04:46 PM ET (US)	D Batteries replaced in Essex pump. I bought Extra too, if QH folks need some
1773 Ari Walker 06-11-2018 09:08 PM ET (US)	Mowed QH this evening after the trail dried out after the rain. Constuction equipment damaged some of the trail east of the prairie house. Mower and the ATV worked well but I could not find the gas cabinet key so I will fill up tomorrow.
1772 mtrantow★ 06-07-2018 04:08 PM ET (US)	I still have the Essex KwikTrip Fleet gas card - will fill the tanks after work.
1771 Joe 06-06-2018	There is a red button by the right hand grip If The button is out it is in two wheel with The button depressed four wheel. I don't believe it is good for the machine to keep it in four wheel in dry conditions — no snow. But I believe it would be OK temporarily switching to four wheel if

06:09 PM ET (US)	unable to pull the more up a hill . Without a doubt much safer than trying to turn everything around .
1770 Laura Zumbrunnen 06-06-2018 05:59 PM ET (US)	Ohhh....I was trying to recall how to make the all wheels show up and couldn't remember nor figure it out. How to do that again??? I had it in L.
1769 Joe 06-06-2018 05:52 PM ET (US)	Laura, sorry to hear you had so many problems! When I mowed last week the ATV had no problem pulling the mower up hills and the grass then also was very tall I wonder if the problem was having the ATV in 2 versus 4 Wheel Drive? Joe
1768 Laura Zumbrunnen 06-06-2018 05:20 PM ET (US)	Thanks, Dave. Glad to hear clicking is normal. The grass was barely damp and VERY VERY long. I raised the mower but probably not high enough. Next year we have to start sooner.
1767 Dave 06-06-2018 05:17 PM ET (US)	I don't recall the details, but the starter clicking several times before it catches and turns the motor over is common to the type of starter that's on the mower. If the grass was really-really long, maybe needed to raise the height of the blades???? Somethings wrong if the ATV couldn't pull the mower up the hills. Was the grass still wet? If the tires are worn out we should get them replaced. Sent by Dave G.
1766 Laura Z 06-06-2018 04:47 PM ET (US)	THANKS, Joan, for sawing and clearing that big tree!!!! That was the highlight. Mowing for the first time today was nasty!!! Required 3-4mph. Both mowers were challenged. ATV couldn't pull up mower on little hills even w/ mower off and more acceleration (3 times had to take off mower and turn it around on a hill w/o it running over me...too hard) and it slid a little sideways kinda easily going down...does it need new tires? Front ones are bald. Also, first 5 starts of mower just clicked. Finally, it started...seems on the edge of something not good. Next groomer: SORRY, could only half-fill both mower and ATV...no more gas. Also, all gas pump batteries are dead (whoever invented that stupid gas spout pourer is a descendant of Rube Goldberg). Forgot to gather the dead batteries (now 4) to dispose of. Did I whine enough? I'll probably regret it but this was worse than my worst grooming...all about expectations. Mowing is usually easy.
1765 mtrantow★ 06-05-2018 09:05 PM ET (US)	Many thanks to Andy Wood and Joe Gyura for helping me get the Essex ATV tracks-to-tires conversion done. (And shifting the Skandic over) Ready for mowing!
1764 Dave 06-03-2018 06:32 AM ET (US)	Oh good. Thanks Jeff Sent by Dave G.
1763 Jeff Robertson 06-02-2018 10:19 PM ET (US)	Dave Bill Baker picked up the brush hog at QH on Friday to mow the Eastwood Mtn Bike trails. I gave him the gas can (half full to use. We will get it back, It has taken him a little longer than expected. Jeff
1762 Dave Greymont★ 06-02-2018 08:35 PM ET (US)	QH was mowed today. All the equipment worked fine. When I arrived the gate was open. I imagine a city worker left it unlocked. One of the 2 gallon gas cans has disappeared. We'd better lock up the empty cans as well as the cans with gas. John Resman, you're up next. Next weekend would probably be the right time. (Henry, don't forget about that downed tree) Thanks
1761 Joan Rabe 05-31-2018 05:09 PM ET (US)	I saw that dead tree across the trail this morning while walking. I plan to clear it out of there tomorrow afternoon. Joan
1760 Lisa Luetmer 05-31-2018 03:37 PM ET (US)	Thank you Joe for mowing. It was really tall. There is a messy dead Elm across the trail we call section 11. Just past the cut through to the Robertson Parkway. Lisa Sent from my iPhone
1759	Mowed both prairies at Essex. The grass was really long. in many places the mower was unable

Joe 05-31-2018 02:22 PM ET (US)	to cleanly cut. Will need another pass next week once the tracks are swapped off the ATV The woods could use a mowing but can wait until next week. Thanks! Joe
1758 mtrantow★ 05-30-2018 12:32 PM ET (US)	Sorry folks, I'm up north WI at the cabin.. I won't be back to swap Essex ATV Tracks to Tires until Tuesday June 5th That said, I left my tool bag with 17mm sockets in the Essex barn by the ATV if anyone is eager to get mowing started. (Tracks to Tires *is* easier, but still a 2hr job for two people) Mike Trantow
1757 Walker, Henry J. 05-28-2018 04:40 PM ET (US)	Will cut the tree off when it cools down. Sent from my iPhone
1756 Dave 05-28-2018 03:55 PM ET (US)	Yup, David Squillace did it quite a while ago. Sent by Dave G.
1755 Joe Gyura 05-28-2018 03:22 PM ET (US)	Have the tracks / wheels been swapped on the QH ATV? I don't believe they have on Essex
1754 Joey keillor 05-28-2018 01:54 PM ET (US)	Quarry Hill mowed. Really needed it! There is a downed tree just north of the new prairie house...in the wooded trail area.
1753 Dave Greymont★ 04-23-2018 06:08 PM ET (US)	Spring odds and ends: Removed the lights from the Eastwood Golf Course fairway. The remainder of the trail lights can be done at a later date. Moved the club's trailer from the dirt storage "shed" to the west side of the Payne shed. Picked up the lath marking the Payne loop. Moved the Ginzu and the roller close to the back door of the Payne shed. The back door was still frozen shut and I had to use the ice chipper to get it opened.
1752 mtrantow★ 04-19-2018 01:31 PM ET (US)	It's all good, really! I'm just glad that other skiers got out and enjoyed this gift (non-skiers may say curse). Otherwise I'd feel guilty using RASC resources for my personal skiing ;-) Even with the warm up today, we might get 2-3 more days out of the 4" base ... I may try rolling again Thurs night/Friday morn after it gets below 0 C. Skiing should be good til 9am Friday morning
1751 Laura Z 04-19-2018 01:02 PM ET (US)	I'm so busted! Because of my refusal to accept winter in April, I've not even politely responded to Mike's requests for rolling. I've even been driving over the snow in our driveway instead of shoveling. I'm mad; it's depressing to have snow in April. Until this AM...I caved. Grabbed my rock skis (finally have a pair) and took off. Who do you suppose was the 1st skier I saw? MIKE T! With a big smile. I apologized and then we came up his theme song: "rollin' rollin' rollin'...gotta keep on rollin'..while it keeps on snowin'" repeats over and over:)
1750 mtrantow★ 04-15-2018 11:32 PM ET (US)	Essex has decent skiing after two rounds of grooming, but the classic tracks kept filling in with the snow and wind. Trails should be good for a couple days or a week depending on rain and sun. Anyone willing to roll Monday morning or late, let me know. The dumb track setter is still behind roller, weights in little barn. If weather stays cold through next Saturday, I may rethink renovation by ginzu.
1749 mtrantow★ 04-04-2018 06:41 PM ET (US)	I chipped out the QH dump track setter from the glacier behind the shed and took it to Essex. It is still currently attached to the Roller there. (Essex weights inside little red barn). Classic Track setting went pretty well, but I did hit some dirt and grass, while staying out on the edge. Thanks to Joe's earlier grooming, I finished in one pass and managed to ski it all. The tracks were already firming up and even getting icy in shade. Skate lane should firm up with colder temps too. If we really do get more rounds of snow, I may drag the Ginzu out.

	<p>There is one large gas can with enough for a fill or two; I took 2 small cans, a large can and the fleet card to fill them up.</p> <p>Enjoy!</p>
<p>1748 Joe 04-04-2018 01:36 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I rolled Essex this morning Did two passes on the north and south prairies the woods and archery range I did not work any paved trails or the trail from hell There is a LOT of snow! Skating is doable but I suspect it will be quite soft I plan to go back out with classic skis</p> <p>All equipment worked well there is plenty of gas only problem was ice on the door lock which I needed to scrape away</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1747 Joan Rabe 04-03-2018 09:38 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mike, My radio DJ brother heard me talking to a friend about whether to ski tomorrow based on your post, and he created this Facebook post for his station. (Y105fm) https://www.facebook.com/y105fmROCH/posts/10155639319054071</p> <p>Joan Rabe</p>
<p>1746 Dave 04-03-2018 04:37 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mike, If you get the QH dumb track setter you might have to chip it out of the perma - ice behind the shed. The extra weights are also frozen in ice next to the green drag.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>1745 mtrantow★ 04-03-2018 03:58 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Though April showers (snow) may come your way... They bring the plowers that push snow away!</p> <p>OK, I'm jealous of watching Birkie and Minocqua grooming reports. I skied yesterday at Hyland Park which was mucked up by branch trimming (they gave up on grooming too soon)</p> <p>Being the Optimist I am, I used my "monthly Skandic start/run maintenance" to roll a double pass on much of Essex trails on the 4 inches of snow that fell so far. It worked in most places, but there's ice underneath in some spots. I didn't do the bike trail nor "trail from hell" north of creek.</p> <p>I left the roller out, but *IF* we decide to groom again, the ATV will work better and leave less ruts. That's assuming the Temps stay low.</p> <p>I don't think it's worth pulling out the Ginzu at Essex, but I'd be willing to go get the QH track setter and hitch that up behind the roller if we get more snow and it sets up.</p> <p>Cheers!</p>
<p>1744 Dave 03-26-2018 05:02 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mike, T-Roys recommended sticking dryer sheets in every opening of the ATV to try to discourage the mice from chewing up the wiring.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>1743 mtrantow★ 03-26-2018 04:59 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I got all the equipment back in the big barn at Essex .. it was good timing since the ice slab to the north of the doors was still large enough to shift vehicles and grooming gear without mud.</p> <p>That should almost guarantee we have one more big snowfall, unlike the recent near misses.</p> <p>The ATV, mower, Skandic, roller, Ginzu, Otter-sled and gas cans are all packed in a fairly compact space. We'll see what movement of equipment the city has to do in there.</p> <p>I'm hoping we don't have to move anything until May's warmer weather to exchange tracks for tires.</p> <p>Cheers! Mike T.</p>
<p>1742 DAVID SQUILLACE 03-13-2018</p>	<p>I groomed QH at 9 am this morning (Tuesday). Yes, the Gator did drive over our ski trail after I groomed it yesterday. It was difficult to work that stretch this morning. I brought an aluminum shovel with me and moved some snow to bare spots on the trail. Not perfect, but better. I did not</p>

<p>01:32 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>do the Parkwood hills loops on the top of the hill, but I did take the alternate loop through the ball field with several passes and set a classic track through there. I did not do the west ball field. Opening the door was the hardest part of the morning. Dave S.</p> <p>Sent from Outlook<http://aka.ms/weboutlook>;</p> <hr/> <p>From: QT - DAVID SQUILLACE <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Sent: Monday, March 12, 2018 11:36 AM To: QT topic subscribers Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
<p>1741 DAVID SQUILLACE 03-12-2018 12:36 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed QH this morning while still below freezing. I did groom the Parkwood Hills area. Did not do the classic tracks and did not do the west loop. You already know the good, bad, and the ugly about QH, but there is still mostly good trail for some fine late winter skiing. Dave S.</p> <p>Sent from Outlook<http://aka.ms/weboutlook>;</p> <hr/> <p>From: QT - mtrantow <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Sent: Friday, March 9, 2018 9:00 PM To: QT topic subscribers Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
<p>1740 mtrantow★ 03-09-2018 10:00 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I had my hallelujah moment skating Essex tonight. Thanks Joe!</p> <p>Walkers have made a good dent in the east woods but the classic track looks great for Saturday.</p>
<p>1739 Lisa Luetmer 03-09-2018 09:53 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thank you Dave. I really appreciate your efforts. L</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>1738 Dave Greymont★ 03-09-2018 08:50 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I picked up the ATV from T-Roys repair and returned it to the Essex Quonset hut and the trailer back to QH. The problem with the ATV was the stator failed. If curious about what a stator is, see YouTube https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G_7FD_ZhKSg It generates electricity to charge the battery, but if it fails, there is also no spark to run the engine. According to Troy, heat and electrical load contributes to the stator failing. So, pulling the grooming equipment or mower makes the engine run hotter, and operating the ginzu knives, track setter, lights, and hand warmers is an extra electrical load.</p>
<p>1737 John 03-09-2018 01:33 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Laura, if you were born again at Essex you'll have to thank Joe!</p>
<p>1736 Laura 03-09-2018 01:07 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Was born again at QH this AM...wasn't the first on all trails but some. Thanks, John, just gorgeous!! Some COOL skier ahead of me would swoop down and throw sticks off the trail in stride. Who does that?? 9/10 times, I end up taking my poles off and so instead I rationalize next time:) Edited 03-09-2018 01:09 PM</p>
<p>1735 Joe 03-09-2018 11:01 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed Essex early this morning The classic tracks were in good shape I only set track where needed Groomed two passes on all skate lanes with knives fairly deep to break up heavy foot traffic Did not groom the trail from hell</p> <p>There is plenty of gas in the snowmobile so did not top off being so late in the grooming season.</p> <p>If needed Matt and Paul are up next to room Essex</p> <p>Enjoy!</p> <p>Joe</p>

<p>1734 John Resman 03-09-2018 12:15 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Quarry Hill was groomed Thursday evening. The skating lane was refreshed. Trail should set up well with cold temps tonight. The classic tracks are in very good condition over most of the trail system, so they were not touched. They should last through the weekend. Areas not groomed - trail to west ballfield and west ballfield trail, steep hill loop by Payne shed (south facing exposed hill has a lot of dirt exposed), connector loop from Payne shed to steep hill loop (big ice patch where it connects to steep hill loop). The main icy area is in the lower section of the cherry hill trail where drainage tile was placed this past summer. The upper east trail ice pond was mainly covered by snow. The area north of the Walker bridge had a good snow covering. Trail conditions should be nice this weekend.</p> <p>There was a bunch of foot and dog traffic on the trails. Dog paws seem to be attracted to the classic trail in several spots.</p> <p>David - thanks for lubricating the door. I guess our summer project will be to figure out a way to minimize freezing at that door. The plastic cap for the electric connector to the ATV is no longer attached to the string. Another task for warmer weather. No other issues during grooming.</p> <p>Who will have first tracks - groomer? skier? dog walker? - no tracks yet at 10:30 PM!</p>
<p>1733 DAVID SQUILLACE 03-08-2018 08:34 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Sounds good! Dave S.</p> <p>Sent from Outlook<http://aka.ms/weboutlook>;</p> <p>From: QT - John Resman <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Sent: Thursday, March 8, 2018 7:22 PM To: QT topic subscribers Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
<p>1732 John Resman 03-08-2018 08:22 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>David, I'm planning on refreshing the skate lanes at Quarry Hill tonight - for one reason, I'd like to ski tomorrow on a recently groomed trail :-). You can monitor the conditions over the weekend and determine if you want to groom Sat eve/Sunday morning - depending on how much traffic we get. I'm guessing another groom might not be needed tomorrow with lower Friday traffic.</p>
<p>1731 DAVID SQUILLACE 03-08-2018 07:04 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH Groomers: I went to QH Payne Shed and lubricated the suspension rollers in the overhead track and the guide roller and flange at the bottom of the door. I also added salt to the trench below the door. Between the trench below and the lubricated rollers, the door became a one-handed operation! Just a WARNING. . . while sliding the door back and forth with one hand, I got a little energetic and the door suddenly stopped midway. The suspension rollers on one end popped out of the track. It was easy to lift the door and get the rollers back into the track, but if you push outward on the door, they can pop out.</p> <p>I also skied QH and conditions were quite good and other skiers also commented how nice it was. I was thinking of grooming with the ginzu to pack the skate lane again on Friday evening or Saturday morning before warmer weather arrives. The more distant trails were not heavily traveled, but the popular ones were tracked. If I don't hear otherwise, I will plan to do that. Dave S.</p> <p>Sent from Outlook<http://aka.ms/weboutlook>;</p> <p>From: QT - Peter Wollan <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Sent: Wednesday, March 7, 2018 12:52 PM To: QT topic subscribers Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
<p>1730 Joe Gyura 03-07-2018 02:46 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Matt and Paul are up next to Groome Essex</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1729 Mike Trantow</p>	<p>Essex classic tracks are holding up pretty well. the skate Lane was very soft According to some skiers I talked to. It could use some reconditioning with light knives tonight or tomorrow once it</p>

03-07-2018 02:14 PM ET (US)	gets cold and firms up leaving the classic tracks alone if possible
1728 Peter Wollan 03-07-2018 01:52 PM ET (US)	Groomed Quarry Hill this morning. In spite of the low temperatures last night, the snow is still wet, and even after yesterday's rolling and today's ginzu, it's pretty soft. Looks nice, though. It might firm up after another cold night. There are a few thin spots (grass showing through), deep spots (soft), and wet spots. Lots of people out. Ari and Bjorn did some impressive excavation of the door, but it stuck and jammed anyway. Maybe some lubricant on the top rollers or track would help.
1727 Ari Walker 03-06-2018 09:41 PM ET (US)	At Quarry hill the door was frozen shut with about 3 inches of ice so we spent some time chipping it out. We dug a good sized trench for the next person. Other than that I packed the snow with the roller and comb, there is no classic track. No difficulties except the ATV slipping on the snow around the sharp corners. Gas is full.
1726 Andy Wood* 03-06-2018 07:13 PM ET (US)	Most of Essex has been groomed and tracks set. If we have a freeze tonight the tracks will be firm, fast and fun!! Snowmobile ran great, just a challenge to turn on the tight corners with moist snow. (Some I just did not make). I did not groom around the island loop due to standing slush where I almost got stuck. I also did not groom the trail from hell due to the tight turns and the slippery snow. There is also a deep rut which you can jump over just south of the archery range. I did not have time to cut the down tree above the garden so groomed around it. The saw is in the back of the snowmobile if someone wants to give it a try on the next grooming. It is supposed to be cool the rest of the week. Hopefully we can get in a few more loops before the spring melt down. Happy Trails!!
1725 Joan RabE 03-06-2018 06:28 PM ET (US)	I'll take care of the slingshot tree at Essex tomorrow morning. Joan
1724 Barry 03-06-2018 02:24 PM ET (US)	Rolled Essex this morning (a big thanks to Joe for meeting me out there and familiarizing me with the skidoo - previously I have done the atv). It went well; I only got stuck once on a tight uphill curve. If and when someone grooms next at Essex, bring along a portable bucksaw. There is a dead tree down on the bike trail above the old gardens. I broke off enough of the branches to make a safe passage, but was not heavy enough to be able to brake off the bigger parts (it was like a sling shot where I was the rock and the tree was the rubber band and the rubber band did not brake, but the rock went flying). I nearly landed on my backside several times until I called uncle! and gave up.
1723 Dave Greymont* 03-05-2018 07:09 PM ET (US)	The QH gas cans were refilled.
1722 Dave 02-27-2018 03:14 PM ET (US)	Thanks Peter, That may very well be the last grooming of the year. Sent by Dave G.
1721 Peter Wollan 02-27-2018 11:54 AM ET (US)	Groomed QH this morning. The trails came out looking beautiful, but judging by the tracks people were leaving it's very soft. Classic tracks are mostly in good shape; the tracker didn't have much effect the times I tried to improve them. I did Parkwood as well as the rest of the east trails. Didn't do the west ball field. There's a little ice at the beginning of the meadow trail, and more on the trail going up to Parkwood. The water flowing over the northeast trail has become 50 feet of brown ice and water. The door needed some digging to open. No other issues.
1720 Barry 02-26-2018 03:18 PM ET (US)	Just a reminder of the groomers and rst coaches (well deserved) happy hour this Thursday (3/1) around 6pm at Whistle Binkies North Fireside Room. A big thanks to all groomers!
1719 Joe 02-26-2018	Was able to groom Essex this morning. The trails were pretty well chewed up from yesterday's traffic and abundance of foot traffic. Used light knives to help break up foot tracks. Do to time, I left the classic tracks alone. Essex should be in great shape for today's practice.

<p>11:02 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mike, I was able to lower the knives at the start, but was unable to get them, and the track, to work later and when done - regardless of efforts to ensure the plug was set.</p> <p>There is plenty of gas.</p> <p>Barry is up next to groom Essex.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1718 Joe Gyura★ 02-25-2018 06:03 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Dave, just an update on how well digging a trench below the doors and adding salt worked. I got to Essex around 9 this morning, and there was "no snow" to remove in the trench areas! I unlocked the doors and slid both open without a problem. No shoveling, etc. to clear the way for the doors to open. It was amazing. Would love to take credit for that idea..... but can't...</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1717 Dave Greymont★ 02-25-2018 01:31 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Taking the idea from Essex, this morning I chipped out the trench beneath the QH shed door a little bit more and put rock salt in the trench. I think it should be pretty harmless unless our resident woodchuck decides to eat it. There's more rock salt in a bin in the otter sled if needed.</p>
<p>1716 Joe Gyura★ 02-25-2018 01:21 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>This morning, I groomed and set track @ Essex. The track appeared to be soft, I'm hoping it holds up through today's warm up for Monday's practice.</p> <p>Everything worked well and there is plenty of gas. Thank you, Mike!</p> <p>Berry is up next to groom Essex.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1715 Ari Walker 02-25-2018 11:04 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Came back from Birkie/Korte to beat the storm and was able to groom QH trails before 10:00AM today. Shed doors were frozen shut and needed some ice chipper action. Snow was soft and the ginzu packed the trail well. Some drifting occurred but hadn't hardened yet. Groomed west ball field. Classic track was set most everywhere including the Northern Hills section. Everything went well.</p>
<p>1714 Joan RabE 02-23-2018 01:16 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>While skiing at Quarry Hill this morning, I noticed a small blue tarp cover that had blown into the trees near the shed that the groomer lives in. I stuffed it into the Ginsu</p>
<p>1713 Joe Gyura★ 02-23-2018 12:17 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>For anyone that is in Rochester, I groomed and set track at Essex. Looks wonderful and plan to enjoy it after lunch and warming up...</p> <p>Everything worked well and there is plenty of gas for tomorrows forecasted 3" to 5".</p> <p>As an fyi, I let P&R know that the Quonset hut doors, besides being frozen, were jamming and difficult to open/close and asked if something could be done once the weather is a bit more pleasant to work outside. Today, both doors were freed of ice, a small trench was dug out under both doors, salt laid in the trench to prohibit icing, and they moved easily!! I'll get a note out to P&R (Mike) to thank him for their help and efforts.</p> <p>Wishing all Birkie skiers the best!!!!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1712 Dave Greymont★ 02-20-2018 04:38 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I "groomed" QH with the drag. The hardest part was chipping the door open, and breaking the drag away from being frozen in the ice pack. Went over all the trails twice expect I didn't groom the Parkwood Hill trails, and the trail out to the west ball field. Conditions are icy near the Nature Center but improve north of the new Prairie House. The front cutter bar on the drag needs to be lowered. It doesn't touch the surface of the snow. Or, perhaps I was going too fast and was lifting the front end of the drag. Don't know if going over the trail now with the Ginzu would improve it or not.</p>

<p>1711 Joe Gyura★ 02-18-2018 01:43 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mike, thank you for grooming Essex last night. I, and many others, skied the trails this morning and they were awesome!! Thank you! I skated, but from what I saw of the classic tracks did not look bad.</p> <p>Barry is away this week, so I'm up next to groom Essex. Current forecast is calling for the rain, sleet, ice, snow to end early Tuesday evening. That appears to be the earliest point something could be done. I suspect starting with the drag would be optimal if we do indeed get the forecast rain/sleet.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1710 mtrantow★ 02-17-2018 11:41 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex Maintenance: I filled the two smaller gas cans so all are full now. Hope that holds through Birkie weekend since I will be up in Hayward next week Thurs-Sunday.</p> <p>Thanks to Jeff Robertson, Dave Greymont, Joe Gyura and Andy Wood for getting the Essex ATV out of the shed and onto the trailer (without it running). Hopefully Troy will be able to find the problem I failed to diagnose.</p> <p>Essex Grooming : I took the Ginzu out with the Skandic Skidoo and groomed all the trails. I think the skate lanes renovated up fairly well with light knives, but the classic tracks didn't get very deep due to underlying ice pack. I took the roller down to the "gardens"</p> <p>Joe, everything worked pretty well since there's enough base even on pavement... the south prairie island circle is really icy at the south arc.</p> <p>You should be able to wait until after the Monday snow.</p>
<p>1709 Joan Rabe 02-17-2018 12:40 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>A big thank you to Dave for smoothing out Quarry Hill trails. With the little bit of snow we got on Thursday night, that made the trails usable for me and my Chinese students on Friday morning. Without Dave's work, it would have been a lumpy mess. We had to negotiate a bit of ice at the beginning of the meadow trail, but it was very skiable after that.</p>
<p>1708 Dave Greymont★ 02-15-2018 09:55 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH groomed this evening. All the equipment worked fine (well, the operator might have been a little goofy). Got the trails pretty well smoothed out before tonight's freeze. The east trail is flooded again where the water comes from under East Circle Dr. The only issue is the back door freezing solid. I chipped away at the bottom of the door inside and outside and was finally able to wedge it open. There's still water flowing into the channel I made so the door will freeze again. I left the door cracked open about 1/2 inch so you can get the ice chipper into the opening to help open the door.</p>
<p>1707 Joe 02-15-2018 09:20 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I am up next to groom Essex, as Berry, and most others, will be at the Birkie.</p> <p>It has been quite a while since I have been on the snowmobile, so should be interesting if we get any measureable snow Monday!</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1706 Andy Wood★ 02-15-2018 01:01 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>We will need to hold off on grooming Essex until we get the snowmobile back on Saturday. The ATV is going in for repairs. I believe Barry is on deck but he maybe out of town so Matt and Paul are up. If you are unfamiliar with the snowmobile, myself, Joe and Mike can assist and step in, if available.</p>
<p>1705 Dave 02-14-2018 06:34 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I've ordered "one-way" and "one way do not enter" signs for QH. I can sure order some for Essex if you're all in agreement. They cost about \$18.00 each so not too expensive.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>1704 Joe 02-14-2018 06:21 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Lisa, not surprised and thank you for closing the trail.</p> <p>I wonder if we could get more life out of that trail in low snow conditions if we made it one way from west to east - only ski up hill, not plow down which I believe is most damaging. If this would help, do we have "one way" signs?</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1703 Lisa Luetmer</p>	<p>I ran into Dave Herbert (while skiing) at Essex this after noon. Not literally, but anyways, he told me that the trail from hell was really bad so I put the orange fence up and closed the trail. L</p>

02-14-2018 06:13 PM ET (US)	Sent from my iPhone
1702 Barry 02-12-2018 11:11 AM ET (US)	Hi Brennan, say, I will be unavailable starting next Sunday (2/18) and for the next 7 days after. If you will be around next week (the week I am gone), could we trade? By that, Could I do any Essex grooming this week then you would be up for the week after. Joe and Andy, if this works for Brennan, please let me know when I should do Essex next. Thanks! Ari, nice to have you on the grooming team.
1701 Lisa Luetmer 02-11-2018 10:51 PM ET (US)	Ari welcome to the groomer team. Thank you for your efforts. Itâ€™s beyond impressive that a young student like you chooses to serve your community as a snowman;) Lisa Sent from my iPhone
1700 Dave 02-11-2018 06:40 PM ET (US)	Nice work Ari Sent by Dave G.
1699 Ari Walker 02-11-2018 06:17 PM ET (US)	QH trails were groomed today. The classic track was in great shape so I focused on the skate deck with a bit of help from my dad. I groomed a wide track around Parkwood Hills for Olympic style pursuit racing as well as a large area in the middle of Parkwood so larger groups can practice. Minimal knives did the trick. Everything worked well and gas is full. Trails are in great shape with lots of classic skiers out.
1698 Dave 02-10-2018 07:05 AM ET (US)	Thanks Eric, I'll be heading over to QH for a morning ski. Sent by Dave G.
1697 Eric Reeve 02-09-2018 11:55 PM ET (US)	I just finished refreshing the Quarry Hill trails. Light Hindu knives did the trick. I did set a track throughout most of the system. Some spots look better than others. I also included the West ball fields. Equipment worked great, plenty of gas, happy skiing. Eric
1696 mtrantow★ 02-09-2018 10:42 PM ET (US)	I second Joe's kudos to Laura. Essex was very nice for classic ski everywhere. Gas cans have been filled up.
1695 Joe 02-09-2018 03:58 PM ET (US)	Laura, thank you for grooming Essex! You did an awesome job. I was fortunate to ski soon after you finished, and it was amazing. The trail from hell (N of creek), was fine traveling from W to E. It is thin Snow on the hill and I suspect it won't last long with skiers snow plowing down. Brennan and Barry are up next to groom Essex. Thanks! Joe
1694 Laura 02-09-2018 01:15 PM ET (US)	Essex groomed for skate and classic. Trail from Hell was groomed one pass (no tracks) and seemed OK so moved sign to side. Gas is getting a bit low. No mice!!
1693 Dave 02-08-2018 07:12 PM ET (US)	Yup, you'd never know there had been a problem there. Get Outlook for Android
1692 DAVID SQUILLACE 02-08-2018 06:23 PM ET (US)	Dave: Did the new snow cover the ice and make it skiable? Dave S.

	<p>Sent from Outlook<http://aka.ms/weboutlook>;</p> <p>From: QT - Dave Greymont <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2018 4:23 PM To: QT topic subscribers Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming</p>
1691 Dave Greymont★ 02-08-2018 05:23 PM ET (US)	<p>After grooming Chester Woods Lake again I returned the equipment to QH. While there I drove up and inspected the area where water had been flowing across the trail. I believe Rochester Public Works has the problem solved. There is no evidence of any water or ice. YEA! I also filled all the gas cans. Now it's time for my afternoon nap.</p>
1690 Laura 02-08-2018 09:00 AM ET (US)	<p>just learned there is a forecast of 2-3" tonight...so I will groom tomorrow if it comes.</p>
1689 Laura Z 02-07-2018 09:33 PM ET (US)	<p>I can do Monday after the weekend if that works...gone all weekend. Laura Sent from my iPad</p>
1688 Joe 02-07-2018 09:15 PM ET (US)	<p>Lisa groomed Essex this morning, and did an amazing job, as the trails are in great shape! Thank you Lisa!</p> <p>Laura and Brennan are up next to groom Essex.</p> <p>Thanks.</p> <p>Joe</p>
1687 Lisa Luetmer 02-07-2018 01:37 PM ET (US)	<p>Essex groomed and track refreshed. I always leave feeling like I forgot to do something. For sure I forgot to pass down the short, steep little hill to where the gardens used to be. Sorry. The conditions are incredible (maybe a little soft?). I think the efforts by Bruce and mike (drag with weights and ginzu after) created a fantastic deck. I think also the fact that the city mowed back the prairie wider, Bruce was able to steal snow from the edges and even out the deck. Itâ€™s beautiful. There is enough gas.</p> <p>L</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
1686 Dave Greymont★ 02-07-2018 12:37 PM ET (US)	<p>David Squillace and I groomed a 2K loop on Chester Woods Lake for tomorrow's ski team time trial. Before we were even done an ice fisherman walked right down the middle of the groomed trail. So, I kept the ATV and roller at my house and will refresh the CH lake trail tomorrow just prior to the time trial. I also have the gas cans and will refill them. I'll return everything tomorrow afternoon.</p> <p>EUREKA! Mystery solved. With the ATV out of the shed we found the missing gas cabinet key on the chipboard where the ATV had been parked.</p>
1685 John Resman 02-06-2018 12:21 AM ET (US)	<p>Entire Quarry Hill trail system was groomed and tracked this evening. Resetting the track worked well in most areas and OK in other areas. I groomed the trail through the infield of the Parkwood Hills ball diamond (as we've been doing the last couple of weeks) figuring the trail behind the diamond gets wet/slushy pretty quickly in warm weather - so might as well keep the trail on the infield in good shape. There was some drifting on the top of the Parkwood hills.</p>
1684 Andy Wood★ 02-05-2018 10:30 PM ET (US)	<p>Essex was groomed and track set this evening. It should be really good tomorrow morning when everything sets up. Only trail not groomed was the north river trail (the "Trail from Hell"). The 55th street trails were soft and the ATV dug in a bit on the upper loop trail. Equipment worked well. ATV is starting hard so will probably need a good tune up post season.</p>
1683 Dave Greymont★ 02-05-2018 12:19 PM ET (US)	<p>The whereabouts of the missing gas cabinet key remains a mystery. After daylight I searched the ground inside the shed but didn't find it. Then I cut off the lock but didn't find the key inside the cabinet. We had an extra padlock that was previously used on the trailer that I used as the replacement gas cabinet lock. And, I have a spare key on my key chain. I'm also going to have a spare key made for the ATV, (just in case).</p> <p>Afterwards I was admiring Mark's pristine groomed trail by the Nature Center just as two park</p>

	trucks drove in an up towards the new Prairie House. Arghhhhh! After today's snow, I think QH will be back in business as a place for the ski team to practice.
1682 Barry 02-05-2018 10:58 AM ET (US)	<p>Fellow Groomers, It is time to get our well deserved groomers' and coaches' end-of-season happy hour on the calendar. Below is a note I sent out to the RNST coaches; this notice is for all you groomers as well.</p> <p>Going by the date and success from last season, it seems like a good date is Thursday, March 1. That is our last RNST practice of the season and that practice will probably be the RNST Olympics.</p> <p>We can gather at Whistle Binkies North right after the RNST Olympics convenes (around 5:50pm). I will also send this message to the Groomers Team as they are a big part of our ski team success.</p> <p>So, please mark your calendars. And, of course, spouses, significant others, dates, etc are also welcome.</p> <p>Thanks, hope to see you all there. Barry (and the rest of the e-o-s happy hour planning committee)</p>
1681 Dave 02-04-2018 10:21 PM ET (US)	<p>No worries, I'll take care of it.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
1680 Mark Foley 02-04-2018 09:44 PM ET (US)	<p>Groomed and set track at QH including west ball fields tonight. About 4 gallons of gas left. Equipment all worked well, somehow I misplaced the key for the gas cabinet - it might be locked inside...along with 4 wheeler key.</p>
1679 Joe Gyura★ 02-04-2018 01:05 PM ET (US)	<p>Paul groomed, and set track, @ Essex Sunday morning. Thank you, Paul!</p> <p>Andy and Lisa are up next to groom Essex.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
1678 Joe Gyura★ 02-03-2018 06:17 PM ET (US)	<p>Matt, groomed Essex Friday night. Thanks you, Matt!! I, and many others, enjoyed great skiing today at Essex!</p> <p>Matt did not groom the trail from hell (north creek) because of thin snow conditions and ice. It's not safe to ski. I put up a red fence at the east entrance showing the trail is closed.</p> <p>Paul is planning to groom Essex Saturday evening or Sunday morning. Thank you, Paul!</p> <p>Andy and Lisa are up next after Paul to groom Essex.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
1677 Joey keillor 02-03-2018 01:09 PM ET (US)	<p>QH groomed. Didn't loop out to the west ballfield and didn't groom the mini-hill loop by the shed (that one exposed spot on the hill crest has no snow on it. I thought it was looking quite skiable, and there were quite a few people out doing so.</p>
1676 Mark Foley 02-01-2018 08:18 AM ET (US)	<p>I worked the area around the QH Nature Center and trails to west ball fields with the drag and Ginzu with minimal success last night. There is maybe 1/2" of snow on top of the hard pack and ice that I could free (about 10 passes with drag and Ginzu around the nature center, 4 passes to west ball fields). It is better than it was (I skied through that area earlier in the evening before grooming and it was pretty iced up/hard pack), skiable but still far from good skiing conditions. West ball fields are in pretty good condition.</p> <p>Mark Foley</p>

<p>1675 Peter Wollan 01-31-2018 04:00 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH was groomed with the Ginzu. Results were pretty good, though the snow probably needs to set up. Track setting was only successful on 30-40% of the trail -- much of the track is shallow, and in the very icy areas there's no track at all. There are good tracks on the Parkwood hills ball field, up top of Parkwood hills, and pretty much all of the area north and uphill from the meadows. The trail up to Parkwood Hills is very icy. The meadows trail is skiable, but the track isn't good. The area around the Nature Center is a skating rink. I couldn't get over to the cornfield -- cars blocked the only way through the ice wall.</p> <p>I came upon Dave shoveling snow onto the ice north of the bridge. He's making a difference.</p> <p>Peter</p>
<p>1674 Joe Gyura★ 01-31-2018 01:03 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Last night, Mike did a great job of loosing up the ice on the Essex trails. Thank you, Mike!</p> <p>I groomed Essex early this morning with the Ginzu, drag down and knives just scraping. I set classic track, but unfortunately it would be hard to tell in many/most areas. The equipment worked great and there is plenty of gas. Thanks again, Mike!</p> <p>Matt and Paul are up next to groom Essex.</p> <p>Get out and enjoy before tonights deep freeze.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1673 Henry Walker 01-30-2018 10:12 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH was renovated with the green drag excluding the west ball fields. Extra weights were added to dig slightly deeper into the many uneven areas and ice to good effect. The trail is significantly improved after several rounds, I would say conditions are good to very good with two exceptions. Smooth ice is where the drag is challenged to have viable impact and the North side of the bridge as well as the start of the trail near the nature center are both smooth. They are better from repeated passes but not to snowman standards. Some snow shoveling would do wonders for both areas but my back wasn't willing to be complicit to the notion. The majority of trail bed is ready for ginzu treatment using light knives to beautify the trail, it is very skiable as is. The drag was left outside if needed again.</p> <p>Where two classic tracks were set I removed one because the tracks were ice laden with frequent loss of wall structure. The drag was able to scarify enough snow that setting a new track in the resulting softer substrate should provide a decent if not consistent result.</p> <p>ATV worked very well, thanks to Dave S. for filling gas cans. During a warmer day a bit of ice chipping may be beneficial to the door exiting the shed.</p>
<p>1672 mtrantow★ 01-30-2018 08:01 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex I am going to drag the middle of all the trails to renovate the hard pack tonight. I will take the skandic so the atv and gonzu are free</p> <p>Edited 01-30-2018 08:05 PM</p>
<p>1671 Bruce Walk 01-30-2018 10:42 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mike, I can give you an old pair of atomics, pretty straight and longer than 185 - vintage 1980s</p> <p>Bruce</p>
<p>1670 mtrantow★ 01-30-2018 10:25 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Old-school Alpine ski Request - sorry to bother folks with a non-Nordic item... but I figure this team may be a good source.</p> <p>Need: 1 old pair of Alpine skis to be turned into a Boy Scout Klondike sled.. preferably 185cm/73" or longer</p> <p>If you have a pair gathering dust, I'll take them. (all my old pairs were turned into a bench)</p> <p>Thanks, Mike</p>
<p>1669 mtrantow★ 01-30-2018 12:35 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Essex got a little beat up and packed/scraped down in some areas by the team practice. I skied it tonight and there were some hard pan areas. Whoever grooms next should be able to renovate with light knives on ginzu</p> <p>... per Bruce Walk: the trail survived the practice reasonably well, the next groomer could probably get it back to close to where it is by doing 3 passes - one on each side first to loosen and move around</p>

	everything the team pushes to the side, and then a final center pass to renovate that and get that high wear area packed flat.
1668 Dave S. 01-29-2018 06:49 PM ET (US)	The upper east loop of QH has been groomed (snow hauled in to cover ice) and is now reopened. Still advise caution crossing the icy area. Also groomed nearly all trails on the south side of the creek/bridge. I filled the gas containers.
1667 mtrantow★ 01-29-2018 01:21 AM ET (US)	Essex update: There were a lot of skiers at Essex today enjoying Barry's grooming, Bruce Walk and I included. At the end of the day, we decided to try to renovate the icy patches. Bruce took out the red drag scarifier, and I followed with the Ginzu with light knives. I think it all came out OK for the RNST team, but we did obliterate the classic tracks. Bruce will refill tanks, but the ATV was topped off. I would still caution any skiers from taking the trail just to the north of the creek.. it was icy before renovation, and I'm not sure how much effect we had there. Same with the concrete bridge and the hill approach to it. If we could get some shovels and the otter sled, we might be able to cover the "fence detour" by the old house.
1666 Barry 01-28-2018 01:24 PM ET (US)	Sunday noon. Groomed Essex this am. All went well (other than needing assistance from Andy to get the atv started). The small bridge was icy, as was the S side of the loop around the island in the S meadow. It was too crusty to put classic tracks, although I tried to groom around the existing tracks whenever possible. Again, I thank the brilliant groomer who supplied the grooming shed w/ the battery powered gas pump. Speaking of gas, the Essex supply is getting a little low w/ only one half filled 6 gal tank and one smaller tank left.
1665 Dave Greymont★ 01-27-2018 07:13 PM ET (US)	6 PM: Quarry Hill trails were refreshed except for the west ball field. I started out in that direction but after I crossed the bridge it was all ice in front of me so I turned around at the bike trail intersection. I also attempted to reset the classic track but with mixed success. Some of it is good, but in places where it was thin and frozen it was not possible to set track. I think the skating lane turned out very good with the exception of a few icy areas. The ATV is full of gas, but the cans are about empty and need to be refilled.
1664 John Resman 01-27-2018 03:21 PM ET (US)	Quarry Hill was groomed this morning. I had to "body slam" the entrance door - maybe the temperature variations have caused it to go out of alignment. The ATV door was frozen, so the spud bar (is that the right name?) was used to chip away the ice - the door eventually opened. At least the ginzu wasn't frozen to the ground. Replacing the wheel with a piece of wood on the trailer jack is a great idea. I don't remember it from last year - so either I forgot that we had it last year or it's new this year. Grooming went relatively well. Generally, the knives were able to break up the hard pack snow pretty well. There were spots where it was too icy to do much. The meadow trail and the woods trail heading north from the nature center were the iciest. The shed hill loop was not groomed - it's pretty icy at the bottom and the south facing hill is pretty open on top. Parkwood hills trails are pretty reasonable - a few icy spots in the hills. The trail leading to the hills is a bit icy but very manageable. As Dave mentioned, Lake Walker is quite the sight. I think a polar plunge is scheduled for Sunday. After crossing the bridge when heading north to Parkwood, I had to veer off to the bicycle path to avoid Lake Walker. I groomed alongside the bike path almost all the way to Parkwood. It was too wet in the ditch to cross over back to the normal trail. In the Parkwood playground, I groomed a new path across the infield to avoid the lake behind the fence. The west ball field is in good condition, but the trail to the ball field is pretty icy. I groomed two up/down passes in an attempt to break up the icy snow - not sure how well it turned out. I saw a first today while grooming - a jogging stroller on the meadow trail! The meadow trail is pretty hard-packed/icy so it didn't do much damage to the trail but you don't see wheel tracks on the ski trails very often. I skied after grooming. It was generally good. The hard packed/icy areas where the knives could just generate some shavings were already getting smooth from traffic. A lot of people were out

	skiing - more classic than skating. If anyone has time, I'm sure another grooming tonight or early tomorrow morning would be helpful for conditions since it's getting above freezing again today. Edited 01-27-2018 03:47 PM
1663 Dave Greymont★ 01-27-2018 12:30 PM ET (US)	If you thought the QH wet area by the east trail was bad, you should see "Lake Walker" just north of Henry's bridge. There was a Disney Cruise Ship and a couple of jet skiers on the lake this morning. I met John while he was grooming and he isn't able to do anything with the frozen-icy classic track. It's going to be in the low 30's this afternoon and then colder after that. If we had any chance of trying to renovate and re-set the classic track it would be this afternoon (if it softens up). Does anyone want to give it a try and if you find it's not working just stop and put the equipment back in the shed?
1662 Dave Greymont★ 01-26-2018 05:35 AM ET (US)	We used the QH ATV for the Rochester Invite yesterday. There's about 5 gallons of gas remaining. I transferred the gas from the "leaky-spout" can to the new can but managed to spill a small amount on the particle board in the shed. I threw some snow on top of the spill so it should be okay but there may be a gas smell in the shed. John, I really liked your new overhead light in the shed.
1661 Laura 01-25-2018 05:19 PM ET (US)	p.s. I ran into Lisa while skiing, and she said I should report this in case they built a nest inside ATV and chew wiring: shortly after I started grooming, I looked down and there was a mouse by my foot and then a couple more ran out from under ATV. Sorry, but I don't do nests.
1660 Laura 01-25-2018 01:25 PM ET (US)	Essex groomed for skate/classic. Equipment worked fine; lots of gas. Many kudos from people out skiing commenting they are very grateful to volunteer groomers.
1659 Joe 01-24-2018 03:07 PM ET (US)	Lisa spent several hours today cleaning up downed / low hanging branches off the Essex trails. It was a very wet job resulting from all the snow falling off the tree limbs being addressed. Thank you for all your efforts, Lisa!! Laura is planning to groom Essex Thursday morning. Brennan and Barry are up after Laura. Thanks!
1658 Dave 01-23-2018 11:17 PM ET (US)	There are two city employees working for the department of Park and Rec that do the grooming. I believe the goal is to try to groom Eastwood three times a week and Soldier's Field once a week. Although, I'm not entirely sure. Sent by Dave G.
1657 Bruce W. 01-23-2018 10:30 PM ET (US)	Mike, the City reinstated grooming at Soldiers Field last season however I don't know if they've changed anything for this year. Perhaps Dave has more up-to-date information.
1656 mtrantow★ 01-23-2018 10:10 PM ET (US)	There is a question to the Rochester Nordic Ski Trails Facebook page that I didn't know how to answer. Alisa Flannigan: Is soldiers field going to get groomed this year? Does the City do that? or has it been RASC in the past ... Dave Greymont? or Bruce Walk?
1655 Dave S. 01-23-2018 04:44 PM ET (US)	Groomed QH with Ginzu today. Sawed many trees and branches also. Trail is in good to great condition except in a few wet spots and a few spots with branch debris.
1654 Chester Woods Park Staff 01-23-2018 03:44 PM ET (US)	The trails were groomed this morning and track was set. The trails are in good shape other than a couple of icy spots
1653 Dave Greymont★ 01-23-2018 02:37 PM ET (US)	Teaching Dave Squillace to use the Ginzu this morning I made a rookie mistake. I thought the knives were up, but in fact they were down. We had a lot of snow build up in front of the Ginzu and bogged down. Once the knives were up, no more problems. I tightened the ATV bracket holding the female outlet for the Ginzu. Dave may post an additional update once he finishes grooming Quarry Hill.

<p>1652 Andy Wood★ 01-23-2018 12:40 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I groomed and set track on most of the trails this morning. Hopefully it sets up well. Skiing should be GREAT. There is a tree leaning over the trail on the north east bike trail. We may want to get a crew out their with a chain saw to remove it. Equipment all worked will. Tank is full and should be set for the next grooming. The trail will need to be refreshed by Thursday depending on usage (and walkers.....grrrrffff!!)</p> <p>Happy Trails!</p>
<p>1651 Eric Reeve 01-23-2018 06:45 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Rolled QH last night with combs down. Finished up around 10 and it was a perfect night to be out there. The roller picked up and retained the wet snow early on, but that improved as the temps dropped a bit. The trails will benefit from a Ginzu run to smooth everything out. All equipment worked great. The windshield took some beating from the low hanging branches and there was a fair amount of stick removal from the trail. The two big gas cans were nearly full.</p> <p>Happy skiing! Eric Edited 01-23-2018 06:45 AM</p>
<p>1650 Mike Trantow 01-23-2018 12:24 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Thanks Joe.. If you have time to fix the extension cord, please have at it. I'll be busy with Eastwood Invitational and plan to go up to our N. WI cabin this weekend</p> <p>Cheers! Mike</p>
<p>1649 Joe 01-22-2018 10:41 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed Essex this evening, with roller and combs up. Worked great, as it appeared to compact a good 5". Did two passes on all trails. It's ready for the ginzu and setting track.</p> <p>Mike, the equipment worked well, and there is plenty of gas. Thank you!! Note: while using the blower to clean the tracks, it stopped working as the extension cord female connection is bad. It needs to be fixed or replaced. I'd be more than happy to fix. Just let me know.</p> <p>Safety Note to groomers: I groomed with the roller comb up. When done grooming, and disconnecting the roller from the ATV, The hitch portion quickly disengaged due to the weight of snow on the comb. The travel was a good 12", enough it could have taken me out if I was leaning a little bit lower while removing the roller from the ATV. Just a word of caution.</p> <p>Andy is up next to groom Essex.</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1648 Dave 01-22-2018 04:00 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Uffda! Thanks Peter Sounds like it was a challenge out there.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>1647 Peter Wollan 01-22-2018 03:53 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH has been rolled/packed. I started at about 11:30, and finished about 2:00. By then, the parts I had done first had 1-3 inches of new snow on them. There's a lot of snow -- 8" in open places like Parkwood Hills, less under trees -- maybe only 1-2 inches there, and very wet. Everything is very wet, but fortunately not very cold. I thought my clothes were waterproof, but no.</p> <p>Equipment worked well. The ATV has two connection boxes on the back rail; for one of them, the bolts are loose -- nuts fell off?</p> <p>I did a half-assed job in a few places. I couldn't figure out where Don's classic loop in the field stopped, so I just drove out to the road and back. For the loop at the shed, I started out on the wrong side of the stakes, but then ran into some puddles, so just left it as I had done it. Then, on the north side of the meadow, the loops that go up to the closed section, there were some trees bent over and blocking the trail -- I went around as well as I could, but then missed a couple of segments. Whoever goes next -- later today? -- might want to bring along a tool to deal with them.</p> <p>The snow brought down lots of small sticks, a few large sticks, and a couple of trees. I picked up what I could and had patience for. As I walked home, I heard a largish tree come down, but I think it wasn't near a ski trail.</p> <p>Streets are slippery, particularly after they've been plowed.</p>

	Peter
1646 Laura Zumbrunnen 01-19-2018 03:01 PM ET (US)	Thanks to whoever closed off the swimming stretch of the biathlon loop at QH...I tried it Wed and rifles are a better combo:) Sent from my iPhone
1645 Jeff Radke 01-17-2018 01:59 PM ET (US)	Quarry Hill has been refreshed and track has been set where possible. I'm not sure the grooming degree works for someone my age. I made some rookie errors with the track setter and the knife positions but overall there is good skiing with a few grassy spots. Thanks for everybody's good wishes. See you in Vallhala!
1644 Lisa Luetmer 01-17-2018 01:06 PM ET (US)	Jeff radke you have done so much for us. And part of me says damn it Jeff we need you. But most of me says have a great adventure in beautiful Idaho. Weâ€™ll be here if you ever need us. Lisa Sent from my iPhone
1643 Dave Greymont* 01-17-2018 12:23 PM ET (US)	If you're not aware, we're losing one of our volunteers. Jeff Radke is moving from the flat farmlands of Minnesota to Boise Idaho and near the Sawtooth Mountains. He's excited about having new opportunities for outdoor adventures. Jeff has been one of the key persons on the Quarry Hill team. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from the Greymont College of Grooming, mowed in the summers and was our master mechanic fixing and maintaining just about everything including changing out the ATV tracks and tires spring and fall. I'll personally miss all his help. All in all, Jeff is just one heck of a good guy and I wish him the very best in all of his new endeavors.
1642 bsknapper@juno.com 01-17-2018 11:34 AM ET (US)	Pretty good idea; especially for an old-geezer (only kidding, you are doing much better than other old geezers - much younger than you). Also, thanks for the note to Kristin. Maybe she and Don P will figure it out. Thanks for all you do. B "The good thing about science is that it's true whether or not you believe in it." Neil deGrasse Tyson
1641 Dave Greymont* 01-17-2018 11:26 AM ET (US)	When I filled the gas cans I used a pair of side cutters to cut off the annoying tabs on the collars of the spouts that you have to depress in order unscrew the spout from the can. Best thing I've done all day.
1640 Dave 01-17-2018 11:18 AM ET (US)	Thanks Dave but I've filled them. Sent by Dave G.
1639 Jeff Radke 01-17-2018 07:54 AM ET (US)	Donâ€™t worry about the gas cans, Iâ€™ll fill them when Iâ€™m done this am. Sent from my iPhone
1638 DAVID SQUILLACE 01-17-2018 07:49 AM ET (US)	Dave I can fill the gas cans today. I am going that way today anyway. Dave S Sent from Outlook< http://aka.ms/weboutlook >; From: QT - Dave Greymont <qtopic-46-E2UeuayQ7Fyw@quicktopic.com> Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 6:05 PM To: QT topic subscribers Subject: RASC_XCSkiTrailGrooming
1637 mtrantow* 01-16-2018 10:28 PM ET (US)	Paul Ehling groomed much of Essex tonight with ATV and ginzu, including some Classic tracks set. He plans to finish up the rest before Thursday practice. I took the Skandic and rolled the NE Hill and "garden loop" .. I still wouldn't advise taking the ginzu down there on the section nearest the road.
1636 Dave Greymont*	I groomed a classic track for Don Pankowski's Community Ed class on the east side of the parking lot. Afterwards I had enough time left before ski team practice to groom and set a classic

01-16-2018 07:05 PM ET (US)	track on about half +/- of the QH trails. Jeff Radke will finish setting a classic track on Wednesday. Remaining gas is low so I'll refill the gas cans on Wednesday. The culvert that P&R installed on the East trail has failed (maybe frozen?) and an icy puddle has developed.
1635 mtrantow★ 01-16-2018 02:19 PM ET (US)	Essex Roller/comb pin replaced. Batteries replaced in pump. I topped off the ATV and the smallest/best-spout gas can. I grabbed the larger gas cans and I will fill them and return them tonight after RNST practice. Paul, I may take the Skandic out tonight and run the roller over the NEW NE "gardens" hill and loop .. let me know when you'll be out there (507)990-3551 Cheers! Mike
1634 John Resman 01-15-2018 11:22 PM ET (US)	Jeff, Thanks for grooming, mowing, and maintaining the Quarry Hill equipment these past years. We have all appreciated the time you've given to the grooming/mowing team. The Quarry Hill team will miss you. Maybe you'll find a grooming team to join in Idaho! Best wishes on your move to Idaho.
1633 Joe 01-15-2018 09:07 PM ET (US)	Matt, thank you for grooming Essex last night!! All went well (thank you, Mike) and Matt suggests the trails are ready for the Ginzu and setting track. Paul and Joe are up next. Paul is planning to groom Tuesday evening. The ski tea is planning to practice at Essex Thursday. I will be out of town from Wed until Sunday. After me in rotation are Lisa and Laura. Thanks! Joe
1632 Jeff Radke 01-15-2018 02:01 PM ET (US)	Groomed Quarry Hill this am. Started with Ginzu but snow just piled up in front of it. I rolled all trails and out to the west ball park. The coverage is pretty good with only some wind blown areas showing a little grass. I did notice an issue, where the water crosses the upper ridge path. As I drove over the icy spot the roller picked up a lot of ice and snow ruining the comb effect and throwing big clumps of snow onto the trail. Maybe there needs to be a culvert with a wooden bridge flush with the trail? This will probably be my last grooming run as I am moving to Idaho. I am very proud to have been a part of this club. Everyone has been top notch! Snowman forever.
1631 Dave 01-15-2018 08:51 AM ET (US)	Well, with little to no feedback I guess my concerns were unfounded. Although, it's sometimes helpful to open up the opportunity for a conversation about things people may be thinking about but are reluctant to comment on, or voice an opinion on. Thanks, Grandpa Dave
1630 Joe 01-13-2018 08:33 PM ET (US)	Barry and Andy, thank you for grooming Essex! Matt and then Paul are up next to groom Essex. Forecast is calling for another 1 to 2 inches Sunday night! Thanks, all! Joe
1629 Barry 01-13-2018 08:07 PM ET (US)	Groomers, just a reminder of the RNST annual money raiser. It is tomorrow (Sunday, 1/13). It is painless! All you need to do is purchase food, beverage, or both at Victoria's Italian Restaurant tomorrow between the hours of 4pm and 9pm, tell the waiter that you are there for the RNST money raiser, and RNST/RASC will get 25% of the bill. The money goes towards the grooming equipment, maintenance, etc. So, take your family, friends, and neighbors tomorrow. It can be take home or dine in. On behalf of the team, Thanks!
1628 Jeff Radke 01-13-2018 07:32 PM ET (US)	Go hand warmers! I found one last swipe down the middle of the wider sections really levels it out. Sent from my iPhone
1627 Joey keillor 01-13-2018 07:27 PM ET (US)	I may be an outlier, but I wasn't cold at all while grooming that night. That said, you'd hate to have some sort of an accident (ie jack knifing groomer landing on top of you) in that kind of weather. So Grandpa Dave has a valid concern.

	<p>With the 3-pass situation, there are some trail segments that are only two-pass wide, and some of the three pass segments are areas where you find yourself overlapping anyway, making a 3-pass no more time consuming than the usual. Therefore, as mentioned in previous post, it didn't seem to add much in the way of time or extra laps. I would be interested to hear some other people's experience with the three-pass system, though.</p>
<p>1626 Dave Greymont★ 01-13-2018 01:42 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mike Trantow and I groomed a 4.75K classic track and skating lane around Chester Woods Lake this morning. Fortunately I brought along my torch because the QH gate lock was frozen. There's about 5 gallons of gas remaining. The spout doesn't fit properly on the can and leaks if you try to pour. I purposely left the spout loose so you can easily remove it and use the battery operated pump. When leaving the gate lock was frozen again. I thawed it with my torch and then soaked it with Tri-Flo. Just an FYI, Chester Woods Park staff/volunteers will not groom the lake due to liability issues.</p>
<p>1625 Andy Wood★ 01-13-2018 01:34 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Barry and I just finished grooming Essex. Wooded trails are in good skating shape. No track set due to low snow cover. South prairie loops were rolled and combed with the snowmobile. There are bare spots on the top of the hills in the south prairie. The north prairie was not groomed due to lake of snow on the trails. Wooded trails got combed with the Ginzu and ATV. We did groom the trails leading down to the old gardens. Snow is thin in the garden and but the hill leading down the hill will make a good interval work out! Note: The gas gauge on the snowmobile is stuck indicating full. Tank is full but just be aware it may not indicate lower as we burn fuel. Happy Trails!</p>
<p>1624 Andy Wood★ 01-12-2018 04:49 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Brennan did a great job grooming last night at Essex. I skied Essex this afternoon and it is very skiable. Only area you can't ski is the trail next to 55th Street. The southern prairie is OK but there are lumps and some grass. Suggested grooming plan for Essex. Southern prairie use the roller with the comb down. With the wooded trails use the Ginzu with the knives up. Still too thin to set tracks. Maybe after the snow we are supposed to get on Sunday. Time for another snow dance everyone!! Happy Trails!</p>
<p>1623 Laura Zumbrunnen 01-12-2018 01:50 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>..it was gorgeous. Had the place to myself this am. Thanks, Joey. Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>1622 Dave 01-12-2018 10:50 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Joey did a heroic job of grooming last night in the dark and cold. "Grandpa Dave" was actually worried about him. I wonder if like the ski team we should set minimum temperature/wind chill limits for grooming. I truly appreciate and value the time the volunteers spend grooming and am reluctant to have them spend any more time than absolutely necessary. I'd like any feedback or thoughts on the benefit vs time spent making 3 passes instead of 2. Thank you, Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>1621 Joey keillor 01-11-2018 11:04 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH groomed tonight. Looked like pretty good skiing. I took advantage of the brush clearing from this summer to run a wide, 3-pass trail in most areas. Maybe we keep doing that, maybe not as it took a little more time. Although it seemed like I did less unnecessary repeating that usual, so maybe 3 passes helped with that. The cut off by the new building was a benefit as it helped avoid unnecessary repetition. Still, it boggles the mind that such a nice structure could be built w/o a plan for access. Who was the architect/builder? I can promise that there will be a paved trail to the building in the near future.</p>
<p>1620 Joe 01-11-2018 09:07 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Brennan rolled Essex this afternoon. Reported that the prairies are marginal, and the woods a bit better. Suggested a second roll on Friday in the woods would be helpful. Brennan, thank you for braving the very cold, windy conditions today to make optimal use of today's snow!! Berry and Matt are up next to groom Essex.</p>
<p>1619 Mark Foley 01-08-2018 06:30 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Groomed QH Sunday night, used ginzu with light knives to break up surface which was pretty hard and without knives the comb had little effect. Tried to just go deep enough to take out ski tracks with decent success in smoother sections but hit leaves and grass in places. Groomed out to west ball fields as well. No major problems. Ginzu comb was frozen to the ground when I got there as one part was under the shed eave and snow melt had form ice under it; chipping the</p>

	ground under it popped it free. Replaced the batteries in gas pump (forgot the dead ones on the shelf). Plenty of gas.
1618 Dave Greymont* 01-05-2018 03:54 PM ET (US)	I used a torch to thaw the frozen lock on the RASC trailer at Quarry Hill and then I moved the trailer under the roof of the "dirt shed". I have the lock at home to further dry it out and lubricate it so hopefully it won't freeze again. When I put the lock back on the trailer I'll cover it with a plastic bag to try to prevent it from freezing again.
1617 Lisa Luetmer 01-04-2018 05:59 PM ET (US)	I rolled with the comb down today. I tried to keep the track intact but i couldn't avoid rolling over it on the trail from hell. I don't think i improved the trail very much because the ski tracks and ruts are froze in a little. The base is thin but it seemed soft in places. There are a lot of leaves and sticks down but the prairie trails are holding up okay. Everything ran well. Plenty of gas. Lisa Sent from my iPhone
1616 Lisa Luetmer 01-03-2018 09:49 PM ET (US)	Thank you Mike and Laura. I'm up next. Will refresh/comb Thursday or Friday. Sent from my iPhone
1615 Dave S. 01-03-2018 02:26 PM ET (US)	Dave S. and Dave G. rolled and combed QH today. Did not set classic tracks. Most of the trails look nearly good enough for good skis, but hills, pine needles, and oak leaves make some spots poorer.
1614 Laura 01-03-2018 12:09 PM ET (US)	OH WOW, Mike...it was gorgeous where you Ginzu'd!!!! I couldn't even tell where I groomed. 55th is vastly improved and you did a 2 pass there...so nice!! I loved it.
1613 mtrantow* 01-03-2018 12:06 PM ET (US)	Essex: Sorry for "butting in", but I was itching for some classic skiing and wanted to see if I could set a track at Essex. It worked, mostly, but we just didn't get enough for GOOD classic skiing. I only did a one-pass Ginzu (comb skirt only-no blades) with set track in most of the trails (skipped the steep hill from 55th fields). Skate skiing is a mix of Fair/Good, but still has debris and some dirt humps in spots. Classic tracks have some spots of grass and dirt, but are Fair, with a few Good sections for "rock"/C-skis. The rest of the skate deck has light loose snow over Laura's work, so it's fine to leave alone. Next person up could refresh/comb on Thursday or Friday. Edited 01-03-2018 12:07 PM
1612 Joe 01-02-2018 09:07 PM ET (US)	Laura, thank you for grooming Essex in today's very cold conditions!! Hope you are okay. Lisa and Brennan are up next to groom Essex. Thanks! Joe
1611 Laura 01-02-2018 05:32 PM ET (US)	Essex rolled and dragged this afternoon. It's pretty good...some heavy debris spots in woods. I'll probably skip 55th field when I ski tomorrow. Gas is good.
1610 Laura 12-29-2017 04:36 PM ET (US)	I won't be able to groom until Tuesday.
1609 Joe 12-28-2017 04:34 PM ET (US)	Rolled Essex this afternoon. All went well. It's still pretty thin with grass poking through in many areas. I questioned the benefits with such minimal snow, but appeared to pack the new snow, so hoping to minimize it being blown away. If we get another 21, and it remains cold keeping the snow powdery I wonder if rolling is optimal vs the ginzu which may move the snow, vs pack. The equipment worked great. Thank you Mike! One minor occurrence. The ATV was left in reverse and was difficult to put into park when starting. I think it was a bit stiff, like me, from the cold. There is plenty of gas.

	<p>Laura and Lisa are up next to groom Essex.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1608 Dave 12-22-2017 04:30 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mike/Andy, I posted your grooming report on the RASC Facebook trail conditions site. For those that have forgotten, the log in is: rascetrails@gmail.com and the password is: rascgroomer.</p> <p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>1607 Andy Wood★ 12-22-2017 03:37 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mike and I rolled and combed all of Essex. Trails are thin and a bit soft. There is grass and some dirt coming through. You can bet skis will break through the snow on the asphalt bike trails. Trails are skiable but definitely rock or C skis. Things might improve once the trail sets up a bit overnight. I'd recommend a golf course.</p>
<p>1606 Dave Greymont 12-22-2017 12:05 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I rolled/combed QH this morning except for the west ball field. There was no point in trying to pack on the asphalt bike path. There wasn't much moisture in the snow and it packed down to a very thin cover with grass poking through. Hopefully it was worth the effort to prep it for the next snowfall. All the equipment worked fine. I was going to move the trailer under the roof of the dirt shed but the trailer lock was frozen. I soaked it with Tri-Flow but that didn't help. I'll have to take a torch next time to thaw the lock. Personally, I wouldn't ski at QH but I'm sure others will.</p>
<p>1605 Lisa Luetmer 12-06-2017 09:46 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>I forgot to post at thanksgiving time that Laura and I finished cutting out leaning and nuisance trees around the grove at the base of the prairie as well as the west bridge. All were treated with pathfinder 2. Also, the snow fence was secured on the west bridge as well. And yesterday I ran out and cleaned up some recently downed trees on the Robertson Expressway. And, I widened the entry way on the woods connector at the top of the prairie. It was obvious by looking at that stupid cherry tree it was clear it was abusing our mower and possibly the groomer.</p> <p>There are two picnic tables just off to the side of the trail from hell that could pose a problem for skiers trying to ski down that big hill (to the right as you face the trail). Just wondering if that's intentional because in the past we have debated the safety risks of skiing down it. It's sure nice to have the hill for skiing up. Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>1604 Jeff Radke 11-15-2017 11:26 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Iâ€™ll take a look at the ATV this weekend. Order out of chaos!</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>1603 Laura Zumbrunnen 11-15-2017 04:06 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I feel your pain (inside my cozy warm room) and am so grateful for all you do!! Can't wait to ski and it wouldn't happen w/o you. Laura</p>
<p>1602 Dave Greymont★ 11-15-2017 03:56 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>A chilly day at QH. I put up the new "PC" polite no walking on the ski trail signs today. Henry, I'm not sure I found all of your posts so let me know if I missed any. Then the discouraging part of the day. Jim Craighead worked on the ATV socket for the Ginzu wiring but the actuators failed to work when I tested them. Someone was good enough to break off or remove all the lath I had put around the Parkwood playground fields to mark our grooming route. And then I noticed someone stole the signs I had tied to trees on the north east extension warning of the steep downhill and turn, and the sign designating the trail as one way. AARRGGHH!</p>
<p>1601 Dave Greymont★ 10-31-2017 03:28 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I refilled the QH gas cans today. I never noticed this before but one of the 5 gallon cans has a shorter threaded neck on it and the spout is difficult to get off and doesn't seal good when tightened. I also left the "lath tool" in the trailer next to the Payne shed.</p>
<p>1600 Dave Greymont★ 10-24-2017 05:46 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed the Payne shed loop and put in lath to mark the edges.</p>
<p>1599</p>	<p>Many thanks to Jeff Radke, David Squillace, Andy Wood, and Mike Trantow for their help this</p>

<p>Dave Greymont★ 10-22-2017 02:37 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>morning taking off the ATV's summer wheels and installing the tracks for winter grooming. Every thing went well and the one extra person made a big difference. We were done with the change-over in about 3 hours. The gas in the QH mower has also been stabilized, and the club's snowmobile moved back to Essex.</p> <p>THINK SNOW!!!!</p>
<p>1598 Joe Gyura 10-20-2017 08:30 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Cleared leaves off the Essex wood trails and mowed in select areas. Should be in great shape for Saturday.</p> <p>Equipment worked great. There is plenty of gas</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1597 Joe 10-10-2017 02:12 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Robb, thank you for mowing Essex! Sorry to hear you had so many problems. Lisa and Joe are up next to mow Essex. Actually should be Joe(me)considering all the trail work done by Lisa and Laura. Not sure the grass will grow much by the 21st trail run. Will need to keep a watch and if needed, remember to bring a tire pump.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1596 Jeff Radke 10-10-2017 01:55 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>If the mower switch is like the QH switch, wiggle it in the "on " position a couple of times. Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>1595 Robb Welch★ 10-10-2017 01:46 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed all trails at Essex yesterday. Right front tire on mower was half flat when I did my visual inspection, but once I filled it with air (with a manual floor pump I got from my house) it seemed to be fine. I also noticed that one of the 3" long pins that hold the mower hitch arm sleeve in position on the mower frame was missing. I found a spare pin in the black case (mounted of front of ATV) and installed it. We may want to get a new spare pin or two to have on hand. The mower also had difficulty starting, initially it would just make a single click sound, but after repeated key turns (at least 12 - 15 attempts) it finally turned over, started and ran fine after that. There is one 5 gal gas can remaining.</p> <p>The edges of the trails had been widened by about 3 feet per side (by the city?). Where possible I mowed out into this area. Some of the extra width was just too bumpy or had obstructions sticking out to high for our mower.</p>
<p>1594 Joe 09-22-2017 12:24 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Laura and Lisa, thank you for all of your hard work and achievements! Very much appreciated. Let us know if any help is needed for the Fall outing - which hard to believe starts today as I set in my air-conditioned home - crazy weather for sure....</p>
<p>1593 Laura 09-22-2017 10:30 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Lisa and I teamed up to cut back buckthorn and box elder leaning into the Essex trails on the far side of prairie island; it's now safer and more navigable for hiking/skiing/trail maintenance. We plan to finish up the island this Fall.</p> <p>Notes: 1. box elder encroachment by metal bridge 2. the big hill and trail-from-hell could use some help fighting erosion; they appear to be losing the battle</p>
<p>1592 Dave Greymont★ 09-19-2017 06:19 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH was mowed today. It's been two weeks since it was last mowed and the grass still wasn't particularly long except for on top of Parkwood Hills. We're getting to the end of the mowing season. I mowed the Payne Shed field loop but you have to look real close to see where it was mowed. No equipment problems but I did have to turn the key several times before it would spin the motor over. Lots of water flowing from the recent rains. I had to unhook the mower and turn around on the cherry trail because of the "swamp". I just received an email from Mike Nigbur (P&R) about looking into the problem.</p>
<p>1591 Joe 09-18-2017 05:08 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Lisa, thank you. I totally missed Paul's update in that string of emails.</p> <p>Paul, thank you for mowing Essex!</p> <p>Looks like Robb and Lisa are up next to mow Essex - assuming there will be another need...</p>

	Thanks! Joe
1590 Lisa Luetmer 09-18-2017 04:12 PM ET (US)	I believe Paul mowed the 14th. Lisa Sent from my iPhone
1589 Joe 09-18-2017 02:22 PM ET (US)	Robb was at Essex on Saturday and it appears to have been mowed. Has anyone mowed Essex? Thanks! Joe
1588 Joe 09-12-2017 04:16 PM ET (US)	Was out to Essex. Most sections will be ready for mowing by this weekend, or a little later. Looks like Paul and Robb are up next. Joan, I did see the downed sign. Was able to get it righted, but it's now showing in the wrong direction. I didn't have the time to correct. We are planning a "clean up" day at Essex. Will add that to the list of tasks. Thanks! Joe
1587 Joan Rabe* 09-05-2017 05:52 PM ET (US)	Joe, The flattened sign at Essex is in the eastern third of this satellite view of the park: https://www.google.com/maps/search/broken+...7,19z/data=!3m1!1e3 Easiest way to get there would be to walk in along the bike path that enters the park near that blue house in the bottom right of that image. Joan
1586 Dave 09-05-2017 05:26 PM ET (US)	Thanks Peter, I've been trying to reach P&R about the water flow problem but no reply from them. I'm up next to mow. Dave Sent by Dave G.
1585 Peter Wollan 09-05-2017 04:31 PM ET (US)	Mowed QH today. No equipment issues. The Orchard trail has a longish stretch of water and mud -- it's trying to become a stream. And, the ruts on the construction road are deep. On the good side, though, the new dirt north of Henry's Bridge is nice. Peter
1584 Joe 09-04-2017 09:23 PM ET (US)	Joan, thank you for all of your help!! It is greatly appreciated. Not sure where the sign is down and what effort / tools will be needed to fix. I'll make a trip out to Essex and let you know if I have any questions. Thanks again, Joan!g Joe
1583 Joan Rabe* 09-03-2017 08:36 PM ET (US)	I walked all the woods trails at Essex this weekend with chainsaw and loppers. Got rid of everything that might cause a problem for skiers. Noted that the "don't mess with this ski trail" sign that's at the intersection of the bike trail parallel to West River Pkwy and the bottom of a hill was knocked down, probably by the city brush mower. I didn't have the muscle or tools to right it. By the way, you can now get into the park from east or west on West River Pkwy, or from north on West River Road, and the bike trail has been restored as well. New bridge not open yet, though.
1582 Jeff Radke	I put some jumper cables on the QH starter this am and it fired up each time a gave it juice. I then reconnected the battery to the ignition and got the click, click, click and then start. I did find

09-03-2017 12:23 PM ET (US)	that if you wag the key in the on position a couple of times it will fire reliably. (For now!) We can see how it goes, a new switch is easy. Sent from my iPhone
1581 Jeff Radke 08-31-2017 08:40 PM ET (US)	To me it sounds like the starter. When they go a solenoid switch sticks and gets unstuck intermittently until eventually it completely sticks and it won't turn engine anymore. That could be any time. I learned that it can be checked with a jumper cable from the battery, bypassing the ignition. I give it try this weekend. Sent from my iPhone
1580 Dave Greymont* 08-31-2017 07:49 PM ET (US)	Installed the new battery in the QH mower. I still had to turn the key 3 or 4 times before the starter would turnover the motor. But, it seems to me this has been happening for quite some time. We may need further service on the mower if it won't start. I also refilled the 3 empty gas cans. Edited 08-31-2017 07:53 PM
1579 Joan Rabe* 08-31-2017 03:15 PM ET (US)	Per Lisa's message of 8/30, I'll take my chain saw over to Essex on Saturday to "beat back the problem areas". Joan Rabe
1578 Lisa Luetmer 08-31-2017 12:01 PM ET (US)	Just a note about Laura's mower incident. She was mowing slowly downhill. She's guessing the pin failed/sheared off and the frightening thing was that the mower smacked into the atv. She really kept her head and I'm relieved she's okay. The wiring is all intact and mower is fine. If she had been going uphill a runaway mower could be really bad as well. I had this happen on the prairie a few years ago. The tall weeds must have snagged the pin's wire clip and the pin came out. Luckily the mower ran into the prairie. We definitely need to beef up the pin and as a good friend suggested perhaps a safety chain? L Sent from my iPhone
1577 Lisa Luetmer 08-31-2017 11:52 AM ET (US)	Love the idea of posting on website with a hearty thank you. Let me know who I should address and I will write a thank you. Wait until you see what they did. It's incredible. It's exactly what we needed but couldn't dream of asking. L Sent from my iPhone
1576 Joe 08-31-2017 11:47 AM ET (US)	Laura, thank you for mowing Essex, and Lisa coming to the "pin" rescue! Paul and Rob are up next to mow Essex. Wonderful news regarding the cities efforts to help with the Essex trails. I'll need to get out to see what they did. Lisa, I do believe a thank you note would be a nice touch. Especially knowing their help also is needed at QH. Another though on how we can say thank you... could we take photos of the Essex trails to post on the RASC website and thanking the city? Would be more public which may be appreciated? Just a thought. Let me know if doable and I'll grab some pictures. Joe
1575 Laura 08-31-2017 09:47 AM ET (US)	Ditto on amazing job by city!!! Mowed Essex Wed afternoon. Belt was fine. Lost the mower at one point (going slow). Pin came out and looked weird (was on inside of path at time so didn't get knocked out by anything). Lisa came to rescue letting me know another pin was in peanut butter jar in front. Another pin would be handy in case anyone else gets chased by the mower. Fortunately, I was looking back lots 'cuz of belt.
1574 Lisa Luetmer 08-30-2017 11:44 PM ET (US)	Laura and I hiked all of Essex today. The city came through with their big brush mowers and widened each side of every trail - woods and prairie ! I'm just blown away at the effort. I would like to send a hand written thank you to the person who facilitated this and a big thank you to Joe and Dave for your time working with them. They also brought in fill and fixed the huge gully wash at the base of the hill. That looks fantastic. Still need a little chain sawing to beat back a couple problem areas but essex looks incredible. Also, left the new belt by the mower. We might as well mow with the belt that's on it until it fails. L Sent from my iPhone
1573	Will do.

<p>Dave 08-30-2017 10:37 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Sent by Dave G.</p>
<p>1572 Peter Wollan 08-30-2017 09:02 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Sorry, I didn't hear about the trail run. I'm available to do stuff if needed.</p> <p>I'm planning to mow QH Tuesday or Wednesday next week. Let me know if the replacement battery appears or doesn't.</p> <p>Peter</p>
<p>1571 Dave Greymont★ 08-30-2017 07:42 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I mowed a single 5 foot wide path right down the middle of the QH trail in preparation for Saturdays trail run. I figured that once the runners get strung out they'll be running single file so one pass should be adequate. Interestingly, I noticed that there was dirt taken from the waste pile by the Payne Shed and a load dumped on the trail north of "Henry's" bridge. But, there are tire marks going up the east trail. I don't know if it was from moving the dirt, or the equipment they used to paint arrows on the trail to mark the race route. I'm still waiting for the replacement battery for the mower but it started with a charge on the old battery. Peter, you're still up in the rotation.</p>
<p>1570 Lisa Luetmer 08-25-2017 06:09 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Hi John. The Essex mower started to do that after the second season with it. Now it seems that if you turn the key and wait she decides when to turn over. I hold my breath. The new belt for the Essex mower is in at T.E.C. They looked up the last time I was in (2015). I was really concerned when I saw the belt Henry replaced. All of the blue Kevlar coating was rubbed off and chunks were missing and it was really frayed. I asked the guy there and he thought it would be a good idea to check the pullies. Otherwise it must have been slipping a lot. He also told me that these belts don't get stretched it just when they wear they seat deeper in the pulley. Will have the belt at Essex by Sunday. L</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>1569 John Resman 08-25-2017 02:24 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Quarry Hill was mowed - grass wasn't too tall. Looks like someone went around the trail edge with the small brush hog. That certainly helped clear the overgrown brush on the side of the trails - Thanks.</p> <p>When turning the key to start the motor, the first several times, all it did was click - the starter wasn't turning over. I was wondering if it was going to start at all. Just kind of checked things out, but didn't really change anything. Tried it a few more times, and then it started. Has anyone else had this issue?</p> <p>Hopefully we can get some dirt moved into the deep ruts north of the Walker bridge before ski season. I pretty much stayed to the trail sides in that section.</p>
<p>1568 Joe 08-13-2017 06:12 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed Essex this afternoon. Mower not working...</p> <p>Mowed the South prairie and woods. Got about a 1/3 through the fist pass of the North prairie, and the mower started making a noise and then stopped cutting. I checked he blade switches, connections and all were fine. I suspect the mower blade belt(s)are the issue. Once I got back to the shed. Noticed the left rear mower wheel (looking from ATV back) is low.</p> <p>Otherwise all went well. Filled the ATV, and there is plenty of gas. The north prairie was in need of mowing. Would have started there if known.</p> <p>Mike, let me know if you have any questions.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1567 Jeff Radke 08-12-2017 04:09 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed Quarry Hill today. No issues.</p> <p>There quite a few vehicle tracks on the trails that were recent. I wonder if people are joy riding on the trails occasionally? If so we may want to consider gating a couple of access points.</p>
<p>1566 Dave Greymont 08-05-2017 01:22 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mark, thanks for mowing. Agree with your comments about the over growth. I doubt P&R will help, but it doesn't hurt to ask.</p> <p>Jeff Radke, you're up next in the mowing rotation.</p>

<p>1565 Mark Foley 08-05-2017 11:38 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed Quarry Hill last night, everything worked fine, pushed back a lot of weeds along sides the trails and widened the trail through the prairie - it was only a "2 track" in width in some places from construction vehicles.</p> <p>Are there plans to bring in a brush hog to push back all the buckthorn, honeysuckle, raspberries, etc that are really crowding in some sections of the trails? Can the City Parks come through with their big mower behind the tractor and do it for us this fall? Also, we are significantly losing the grass in the bottom portion of the Cherry trail from all the flowing water.</p> <p>One lesson learned - I tried to take a shortcut from the prairie trail to get back to the shed and followed the construction "road" and it had a lot of water puddles so the mower got sprayed with a lot of mud - I cleaned off a lot of it but it will still be dirty.</p>
<p>1564 joegyura@yahoo.com 08-03-2017 05:14 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Lisa, thank you!!! Laura and Joe are up next to mow Essex.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1563 Lisa Luetmer 08-03-2017 04:39 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I mowed Essex yesterday. Everything ran well. There are two full smaller cans and half of a five gallon can. I put the big tool box back on so I could put my chain saw in it. I cut up a downed elm (not very big) on the pavilion trail. There were a couple more to clean up but I didn't need to use it again because for times I can't count someone has diligently been cutting out downed trees all summer. Forgive me but I can't remember your name but we sure appreciate your efforts. Maybe this fall we can have a trail day and clean up some of the leaners and encroachers:) Lisa</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
<p>1562 joegyura@yahoo.com 07-18-2017 03:14 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Henry H., thank you for mowing Essex!! Lisa and/or Laura are up next to mow Essex.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1561 Dave Greymont★ 07-18-2017 11:00 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>It's easy to pump up the mower tires with just a bicycle pump but it's a Schrader valve like on a car tire.</p>
<p>1560 HenryH★ 07-18-2017 08:56 AM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed Essex Mon 7/17/2017. 1 lg can of gas & 2 small ones still full. Mike, you may want to check the right front tire on the mower. It seemed soft in comparison to others-not flat but maybe a little low.</p>
<p>1559 Dave Squillace 07-05-2017 07:49 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed Quarry Hill today. Everything worked well.</p> <p>Dave S.</p>
<p>1558 joegyura@yahoo.com 06-30-2017 04:49 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Robb, thank you for mowing!! Henry H. is up next to mow Essex followed by me.</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1557 mtrantow★ 06-29-2017 11:12 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I'll print some more sheets and refill the gas cans this weekend</p>
<p>1556 Robb Welch 06-29-2017 09:34 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Mowed Essex Park this afternoon. It had been 12 days since the last cut and that seemed about the right amount of time. Wild parsnip is lining the trails with much of it at 5' - 6' tall. Long pants, long sleeve shirt and gloves helped keep that nasty stuff off. Equipment ran great. After filling the ATV and mower there is approximately 2.5 gallons of gas remaining. Also Essex is out of log sheets to record equipment use. Does someone have the ability to print more. If not I can generate a new one.</p> <p>Robb</p>
<p>1555 Peter Wollan★</p>	<p>QH is mowed. I did Parkwood Hills and some of the lower trails yesterday, and finished up today. No problems. Parkwood Hills was pretty shaggy, and will probably need to be mowed</p>

06-27-2017 05:00 PM ET (US)	again in a week or 10 days. The lower trails could go longer. Might want to do a Hills-only mow next. There is a deep center rut just north of the bridge. It will need some trail building sometime. Peter
1554 Lisa Luetmer 06-23-2017 08:10 PM ET (US)	Sorry I fired off my last qt before I saw Joe's. Thank you joe for keeping us on track. L Sent from my iPhone
1553 Robb Welch★ 06-23-2017 11:39 AM ET (US)	I am good to mow Essex next. I will check the grass height this evening and make plans to cut when needed.
1552 Lisa Luetmer 06-23-2017 11:02 AM ET (US)	Thank you Paul for mowing Essex last Saturday. Sorry to post this so late. It sounds like Joe is up next but summer is busy so be free to swap out Joe if you need to. I'm available this week. I don't have executive powers to move the carrots to the next mower. And Ive been out of town this week but I heard it rained a lot so we may be mowing soon. Also, I'm very sure by now the wild parsnip will be very high and nasty. L Sent from my iPhone
1551 joegyura@yahoo.com 06-23-2017 10:47 AM ET (US)	Paul mowed Essex on June 17. Thank you, Paul! Robb is up next followed by Henry H. and possibly me depending on timing. I'm currently unavailable to mow. Thanks! Joe
1550 Jeff Radke 06-19-2017 05:47 PM ET (US)	:) Sent from my iPhone
1549 Lisa Luetmer 06-19-2017 05:42 PM ET (US)	Priceless:) Nice going M.M. Greymont. Lisa Sent from my iPhone
1548 Dave Greymont★ 06-19-2017 05:28 PM ET (US)	Master mechanic Greymont has fixed the QH mower. I took the battery charger to QH to give the mower battery a boost. First I disconnected and cleaned the cables and checked for loose fittings. I discovered a 6-wire harness with a connector and plug. There were just barely plugged together by thread. I seated the plug firmly in the connector and WALLAH, the mower starts, stops, and runs like a charm. I'll be submitting my bill for the diagnostics and repair. What's the going rate? :)
1547 Jeff Radke 06-15-2017 09:15 PM ET (US)	I'll take a look at it. I see replacement carburetors for under \$40.00. I think they are pretty easy to replace. It was suggested to me that this is the best way once they have a problem. I will be willing to do the job. Sent from my iPhone
1546 Dave Greymont★ 06-15-2017 07:38 PM ET (US)	I took the mower to my mechanic and he cleaned the carburetor. There's a brass plate inside of it with about a half-dozen tiny holes that were clogged. My mechanic has a drill with a diameter of ~ a hair that he used to open the holes and then also used carburetor cleaner. I took the mower back to QH and it started and ran great. I cut the remainder of the trails. You have to make 3 passes now on most of the trails so it takes longer to mow. When I returned to the shed I turned the key off and the mower continued to run. DAMN! The only way I could stop it was to close the gas shut-off valve. When it died I opened it again. Then I tried to start it and the starter just "ticked/clicked" and wouldn't turn the engine over. Jeff, when you have time maybe you could take another look at it? No rush. Also, the tires on the mower need some air if you have a pump. Definitely not having fun.
1545 Jeff Radke	Let me know what the trouble is.

06-14-2017 11:45 AM ET (US)	Sent from my iPhone
1544 Dave Greymont* 06-14-2017 10:08 AM ET (US)	If Jeff can get the mower running, I'll mow what's left at QH tomorrow. John, can you give me an idea of where you mowed? Peter, you're correct, you'll be up next in the rotation.
1543 Jeff Radke 06-14-2017 08:26 AM ET (US)	I'll stop after work and take a look at it. Sent from my iPhone
1542 John Resman 06-14-2017 08:25 AM ET (US)	Mowed Quarry Hill Tuesday evening but didn't finish. I was about 1/3 of the way through when the mower stopped running. It sounded like the gas had run out. There was gas in the tank, but it was low, so I headed back to the shed to fill it up. Filled it up about 2/3, but then the mower engine wouldn't start. It turned over, but never started. I waited a few minutes (not knowing if I could have flooded the engine) but no success. Tried it again after a few minutes, and it still wouldn't start. Returned the mower back to the shed and called it an evening.
1541 Jeff Radke 06-03-2017 03:29 PM ET (US)	Quarry Hill was mowed this morning. Everything worked well, no sputtering of the mower that I could hear. Excited to see how the new construction looks when done. No need to pay me for mowing today, the Gods arranged for a free Nordic Track just a couple of blocks from my house on the way home. They may be concerned about my technique! I am too!
1540 Laura Z 06-02-2017 05:34 PM ET (US)	Mowed Essex. No issues
1539 mtrantow* 05-31-2017 12:20 PM ET (US)	Essex gas cans filled up today. I didn't have time to trouble-shoot the mower switch yet Edited 05-31-2017 09:05 PM
1538 joegyura@yahoo.com 05-30-2017 09:47 PM ET (US)	Laura and Lisa, thank you for all that you have done!!! I'm up next to mow. Per Lisa's update, Will plan to mow in a weeks time. Thanks!! Joe
1537 Lisa Luetmer 05-30-2017 05:42 PM ET (US)	I brought an assortment of pins to Essex today and got mowing. The grass was really high. I cranked up the height and went slow. I did have to go over it in some places. I did figure out that you can drive between the two hills (one now blocked) to go around the bad erosion (mower off). It's a bit bumpy so I went slow. Otherwise, I accessed the prairie by going past the west bridge and following the bike path to the top of the hill. Everything worked well. Both mower and atv are filled. All gas cans are empty. We need to get the hockey boards moved. With the space I had to work with I think the next person could pull the atv out of the shed and try to pull the mower out to hook up. Will need decent backing skills to get it parked again..... We should mow in a week because it looks a bit chopped and I had to mow a bit high. I lowered the deck back down before I left. Also, the mower switch is kind of strange. You have to hold it down and keep holding it before it begins to turn over. L Sent from my iPhone
1536 Lisa Luetmer 05-28-2017 12:00 PM ET (US)	Thank you Dave and joe for moving the snowmobile! We could never have functioned with it where it was. Laura your efforts to go mow should count as your turn!!! I'm up to mow as soon as you guys tell me which hitch to mow with (I can look it up too). I may have to get the brush hog out to mow the new connector that branches toward the woods trail. Our mower shouldn't be mowing that stuff. Also will mow high and then the next person can mow a few days after me to get us back to a reasonable grass height. Also, we do need a spokesperson from our group that can create a relationship with the city regarding shed space, occasional mowing by them to beat back the tall stuff we can't keep back and our everlasting erosion issues at the base of the hill. Any ideas? Lisa Sent from my iPhone
1535	I failed the obstacle course...managed to find the hitch but not the pin. Pin from other

Laura Z 05-28-2017 11:13 AM ET (US)	snowmobile too little. Leaving again. No mowing. Whoever finds the pin wins...not it.
1534 Laura Z 05-27-2017 10:17 PM ET (US)	Thank you soooooo much!!!! Only the shed and Lisa witnessed my meltdown yesterday...it wasn't pretty. I will mow tomorrow.
1533 Dave Greymont* 05-27-2017 10:09 PM ET (US)	Success, the snowmobile is in the QH shed parked on some particle board. We had one shot at unloading it and it ended up kinda in the middle. It would have been better if we had gotten it closer to the wall. I guess if P&R needs it moved we'll have to get a crew to move it. The snowmobile key is in the gas cabinet. We pumped into the Ginzu and the plastic wheel on the jack collapsed. I'll get it fixed.
1532 Joe Gyura 05-27-2017 04:20 PM ET (US)	Dave if you are available I could help this evening moving the snowmobile. Sometime after dinner would be optimal. Joe
1531 Dave Greymont* 05-27-2017 10:21 AM ET (US)	Not sure my response went through last night. There's room in the shed at QH for the snowmobile until the boards are moved at Essex. I could pick it up with the RASC trailer if someone could meet me at Essex to help load it. I think I could unload it at QH by myself.
1530 Andy Wood* 05-26-2017 03:58 PM ET (US)	There is really limited space in the Essex shed due to the hockey boards. I wonder if we should store the snow mobile at another location until the Park Department can move the hockey rink boards. I'm gone this weekend, back Tuesday evening. Does anyone else have a trailer and/or shed to store the snowmobile in temporarily?
1529 Laura Z 05-26-2017 03:02 PM ET (US)	So I went to mow but the snowmobile is blocking the mower. The Atv and snowmobile need to be swapped. I don't remember how to drive snowmobile. So, I am leaving. Maybe someone can swap them and let me know. I'll mow later.
1528 Andy Wood* 05-25-2017 09:40 PM ET (US)	I returned the Essex ATV to the Essex shed this evening. Should be ready to go. Both the rear brakes were replaced. Somehow both got very hot and melted the components, shoes and calipers. We can only guess that the brakes were dragging. Had to move the snowmobile over to make room for all of the equipment. We may have to ask the Park Department if they can move the hockey rink boards so we have more space for the Ginzu, roller plus the ATV, mower and snowmobile. Happy mowing! The grass looks a little high!
1527 mtrantow* 05-25-2017 12:03 AM ET (US)	I replaced the battery in the Essex mower, put in some gas, and it started right up. Now we just need the ATV back
1526 Mark Foley 05-24-2017 11:10 PM ET (US)	Mowed QH tonight, some areas were definitely in need of mowing, others not too bad. Equipment worked well - mower started right up and ran well. A lot of water in spots on the trails, especially Cherry Trail. I didn't follow it like Dave did but it appears the water comes off the hill and goes back into the woods on the same side of the trail so I wonder if we can reroute it to stay in the woods and off the trail in that area. Some washout/ruts in the middle of the trail near the Walker bridge to watch for when moving. The construction of the new building at QH in the meadow has the potential to cause some issues on the trails - it looks like they are bringing equipment and supplies in through the gate to Payne shed, taking a quick left on a hiking trail before going on the South Loop, over the hill and down the ski trail and onto what was a hiking trail to the meadow. There was a trail of sorts around the construction area the ski trail goes through the construction zone but wasn't sure where to reconnect to our old trail so mowed two options.
1525 Laura Z 05-16-2017 10:07 AM ET (US)	I will mow tomorrow if Atv is back. Lisa and I are swapping.
1524 joegyura@yahoo.com 05-16-2017 09:17 AM ET (US)	I payed a visit to Essex last Friday. Fortunately the grass was not as long as I had expected. I suspect by now it's ready to be mowed -- assuming the ATV is back from the shop and mower ready. Note: the gravel section at the bottom of the hill to access the south trails and east woods is

	<p>washed away making it impossible to cross with the mower. Will need to access those sections from the far west paved trail. Can someone talk with the city to if it can be repaired?</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1523 Mike Trantow 05-08-2017 03:32 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Unfortunately, I think we have to delay Essex mowing. I don't believe we have the Essex ATV back from repair yet (right rear brake damaged).</p> <p>There is some service I need to do on the Mower too I pulled the mower battery last fall to store inside and was charging it up yesterday. I also should exchange out the blades for the sharpened ones in the little red barn.</p> <p>We also need a crew to move the Ginzu, Roller and other gear in the big quonset barn around.</p> <p>We <i>could</i> do that this upcoming Sunday, if you're not fishing or celebrating Mother's Day. May 14 - - maybe the ATV will be back then.</p>
<p>1522 joegyura@yahoo.com 05-08-2017 02:33 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I've updated the Essex mow rotation. Lisa is up first followed by Laura. Robb checked the grass height and believes it may be ready for a mow later this week. I will check and post when ready.</p> <p>Following are the current volunteers. Please let me know if you are no long available to mow, and if anyone else is interested in helping.</p> <p>Lisa Luetmer, Laura Zumbrunnen, Paul Ehling, Robb Welch, Henry Hocraffer, Joe Gyura, Mike Trantow (maintenance).</p> <p>Thanks!</p> <p>Joe</p>
<p>1521 Dave Greymont★ 05-05-2017 05:19 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>David Squillace went through the Greymont School of Mowing today. He's the new "rookie" volunteer. Peter, you've now moved from rookie to regular crew. :) Just for training purposes and avoiding frustrations with trying to do a lot of backing up, we only mowed the outside edges of the trail. There were only a few places where the middle needed to be mowed anyway. Some of the intersections will need to be cleaned up with the next mowing. A couple of things everyone should be aware of: 1. They're constructing a new building in the meadow but you can get around it. Be careful not to cut off the green marker signs for the sewer. 2. There's a big wet spot on the east trail with the water running to the west and another big wet spot on the Cherry Trail. 3. Jeff. the mower engine is doing a lot of "popping" when running. No rush but maybe you could take a look at it. It might just need a new spark plug.</p> <p>I always thought the water on the east trail was coming from a spring. We followed the water back to the east and it's actually coming out of a culvert next to East Circle Drive. The culvert goes under both the North and South lanes of East Circle Drive and the water is coming down the ditch on the east side of East Circle Drive, then under the roadway, and out the west side and continues across the east trail and across the Cherry Trail.</p>
<p>1520 Dave Greymont★ 04-29-2017 01:27 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>The pit crew of Wood, Trantow, Radke, and Greymont swapped out the tracks on both ATV's for tires this morning. That went pretty good but things turned bad when changing the oil. We couldn't get the oil filter off the Essex ATV. Also, the left hand brake and the foot brake are not working on the Essex ATV. Andy will drop it off at T-roy's Repair to get it fixed and do the oil change.</p>
<p>1519 Henry Walker 04-01-2017 12:11 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH equipment was returned to the shed and the mower was positioned for summer use. The city packed the shed with equipment this year blocking the ditch witch until removed. Once the City's summer schedule of mowing empty's the shed, we can rearrange RASC's equipment to improve use and flow (i.e. provide plenty of space for backing up the mower). We will inquire about the completion of the new Essex equipment shed and how that may affect RASC's storage capacity in the current sheds.</p> <p>FYI to other groomers/mowers. A grant was submitted to the DNR for a scheduled replacement of QH's ATV which has seen many trips to the the mechanic. We will be notified if successful (or not) in June. If the grant is successful the replacement will be a John Deere Gator with tracks as recommended by YTS and ABR. Future funding through the DNR is hard to predict. As a result, the current ATV will be retained and used for summer mowing and as a backup if either site experiences long term equipment issues.</p>
<p>1518</p>	<p>For the past years I have taken my own riding mower over to Eastwood and mowed the ski trail</p>

<p>Dave Greymont★ 03-20-2017 06:33 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>through the woods. Like other areas I mowed almost weekly in the spring and then not so frequently later in the summer. My mower is breaking down and so am so I'm giving up mowing the trail. Without mowing it will become overgrown with weeds and thistles and be unusable for skiing next winter. Last fall we met with Park and Rec to see if they would take over mowing the trail and they declined and we left with meeting with the understanding that the trail would be abandoned. That decision could be reversed if someone else would volunteer to mow the trail. Last year the forestry service removed a lot of the dead elms and buck thorn and the trail was widened and much more suitable for skate skiing. It's a nice trail and it would be a loss if no one takes over summer mowing.</p>
<p>1517 Dave Greymont★ 03-02-2017 02:36 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>QH was refreshed this morning in preparation for the RNST Olympics. There's dirt showing through in just a couple of places. With the "summer" forecast coming this could very well be the last grooming for QH this season. Get out and ski while you still can.</p>
<p>1516 Andy Wood★ 03-01-2017 08:48 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Oh oh..... did I leave the light on the Essex ATV??? My bad!!</p>
<p>1515 mtrantow★ 03-01-2017 07:22 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Barry Knapp groomed the majority of Essex with the snowmobile and ginzu while I charged the ATV battery. He set classic track as well. By 5pm I got the ATV started and I finished up the 55th street fields and set track (thin in spots). The loop along both sides of the creek are not worth skiing due to bare spots and slush. The rest seems Good, and I'll ski it tonight. We might hold enough snow through the weekend, but then we'll probably be done.</p>
<p>1514 Peter Wollan 03-01-2017 05:47 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I started grooming QH this afternoon with the ginzu, and it didn't like the warm snow -- built up a huge snowball in front of the knives. So I switched to the roller, and rolled/packed everything. It worked well. If it sets up tonight as it should, conditions will be pretty good tomorrow. There are lots of thin spots, though.</p> <p>I don't think it will be necessary to run the ginzu over the trails tomorrow, but if I'm wrong please let me know -- I could groom again tomorrow morning.</p> <p>Peter</p>
<p>1513 mtrantow★ 02-28-2017 10:39 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Barry, Wednesday should be good for grooming.. hopefully with new snow. I dropped off the third gas can refilled to Essex shed tonight. The rear light was on the ATV and seemed a bit dim. It's probably been on since last grooming, so *if* it starts, let it run a bit at idle to warm up before engaging drive.</p> <p>If the ATV doesn't start, text me at 507-990-3551</p>
<p>1512 Barry 02-27-2017 09:28 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I am up to groom Essex next. We practiced at Essex tonight and Andy's fine grooming yesterday pm made it much better. I chatted w/ Dave G tonight about when to groom. A little rain is in the forecast for tomorrow, and we decided to wait until Wednesday. That way, it should be in pretty good shape if RNST decides to have their final practice (Team Olympics) at Essex instead of QH. There were a few thin spots, but mostly it was good. I just hope we do not get too much of a thaw before Thursday.</p>
<p>1511 Jeff Robertson 02-27-2017 04:18 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>I delivered the snowmobile and Otter sled back to Essex. Both were perfect for grooming the wider mountain bike trails and setting the fat bike course. Like the ski trails it was difficult to get the trails packed hard - to much snow at one time and no time to set up.</p> <p>Jeff</p>
<p>1510 Barry 02-27-2017 03:31 PM ET (US)</p>	<p>Dear Fellow rnst groomers and coaches,</p> <p>A reminder that our well deserved groomers and coaches happy hour is this Thursday (3/2) at Whistle Binkies North at around 5:40pm. It will convene right after the conclusion of the RNST Olympics (our final practice of the year). Hope you can all make it...and hope you all can make the Olympics practice...both events are guaranteed to be a good time. Mark your calendar.</p> <p>Also, if any of you were at the Barnebirkie fun run last Thurs at Hayward (2 of my granddaughters were there), here is a youtube of it with Mark Rosen of ch 4 sports doing the play by play. Also, note the white cow bells he was jingling were loaned from my wife. Enjoy.</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NcOXi84RRXcA</p>

	Thanks, Barry
1509 Dave 02-27-2017 02:50 PM ET (US)	Done Sent by Dave G.
1508 mtrantow★ 02-27-2017 02:14 PM ET (US)	Dave G. could you pick up another flashlight for Essex too? I tried to refresh the ones from ATV & Snowmobile. One just needed new batteries, but the other was so corroded internally I had to trash it.
1507 Jeff Radke 02-27-2017 02:04 PM ET (US)	If they can't plow the access road maybe the area in front of the gate so that we could park would be enough? Sent from my iPhone
1506 Dave Greymont★ 02-27-2017 01:33 PM ET (US)	QH Stuff: The driveway into the Payne sheds is plowed and the electricity is back on. I've asked to have the driveway plowed routinely but the P&R manager has to go through a priority process to get it approved. I refilled all the gas cans. The flashlight is kaput. New batteries didn't help. I'll get a new flashlight for the shed. Jeff, I think your penlight is on top of the cabinet in the shed. Happy skiing till it melts again
1505 mtrantow★ 02-27-2017 10:48 AM ET (US)	Essex was a nice ski this morning (Classic). Andy's grooming renovated a lot of it (thanks!) There are still some soft areas both Skate and Classic. A regroom with knives after the ski team tonight should get it into good shape until it gets cold again... Maybe hold off til it cools below freezing again Tuesday night
1504 Dave 02-27-2017 06:32 AM ET (US)	Thanks Mark. Another reason we need to have the road into the sheds plowed routinely instead of me having to ask to have it done. I'll work on it with P&R Dave Sent by Dave G.
1503 Mark Foley 02-27-2017 01:09 AM ET (US)	QH was groomed tonight, mostly left the classic tracks alone. Used the knives a lot to get rid of footprints and ski tracks and also break up the new snow to pack it down. Got stuck a few times with the knives down and spinning when I hit a patch of soft snow. Groomed to the west ball fields - the path out there was really rough but going over it a few times with the Ginzu made it come around pretty well. The equipment all worked fine and I used up the last of the gas at QH, ATV shows full on the gauge but just barely got to that point. The only "issue" I had was that I parked on the side of the road going into QH since Park & Rec hadn't plowed yet. The police noticed my van, ran the plates, checked that the ATV was gone (and couldn't hear it), checked that I was on the RASC grooming list, and then went to my house (about 11pm) to talk to my wife to see if I was gone longer than expected. Pretty impressive what they check on us to make sure everything was OK!
1502 Andy Wood★ 02-26-2017 10:12 PM ET (US)	Essex was groomed and track re-set. Lots of ruts and bumps smoothed out. With the soft snow there were areas where the classic track was totally washed out. The equipment worked faultlessly. With the cooler temps over night the track should set up well and be great skiing tomorrow I was surprised to see one skier out after I finished. Barry or Lisa are on deck. I'm guessing we'll need a refresh after the ski team enjoys the trails tomorrow. Let's see what the weather brings. Happy Trails!
1501 Laura Zumbrunnen 02-26-2017 02:37 PM ET (US)	Absolutely!! You definitely get 20% from me and deserve far more! Thanks for grooming.
1500 Joe Gyura★ 02-25-2017 08:56 PM ET (US)	Paul, thank you for grooming Essex today!! The trails were in great shape and being used by many! Common for a new / first snow the base was soft as reported by many skiers. Essex could use a refresh with the Ginzu to clean up the deep ruts left by today's skiers in the soft base. Up next to groom Essex are Barry and Lisa. Or if anyone else has time.. Thanks!

Joe

1500-2612 of 2612 messages



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