

Building a *new* connection

Community volunteers needed for Saddle Ridge Trail project

Daily staff report
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AVON — Volunteers are needed to build the new Saddle Ridge Trail the weekend of June 15 and 16. If you are interested in volunteering, register with Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado at www.voc.org. Click on "Volunteer," then "Project Calendar," where you will find the Saddle Ridge project. You can call Tessa Christensen, volunteer and project coordinator, at 970-827-5165, or visit The Kind Bikes & Skis in The Riverwalk of Edwards or call them at 970-926-1260 for information.

The trails are on the 478-acre parcel that is located between Avon and Singletree. This land, transferred from the Forest Service to the town of Avon through a multiple government and Eagle Valley Land Trust agreement, now has a permanent conservation easement protecting the land for eternity.

The trail system connecting communities results from partnership between the U.S. Forest Service, the town of Avon, the Singletree Community and the Vail Valley Mountain Bike Association. Working together, they created a trail system enabling hiking and mountain biking just a few steps or pedals from residents' homes.

The West Avon Preserve, as this land is now called, provides an overlook and outdoor recreational spot where residents can watch Avon's annual fireworks show. Scores of hikers and mountain bikers enjoy the trails. With the Eagle Valley Land Trust conservation easement in place on this land, it will be preserved and protected in its natural state.



SPECIAL TO THE DAILY

Pictured above is the Avon Singletree Connector Trail in blue and the to-be-constructed Saddle Ridge Trail in red. A volunteer work day is scheduled for June 15 and 16.