

TRAILS AND PICNICKING AT SHELBURNE FARMS

Shelburne, Vermont, USA

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Farm-Based Education Network Coordinator





WELCOME TO SHELBURNE FARMS

Shelburne Farms is an education nonprofit on a mission to inspire and cultivate learning for a sustainable future. We believe that transformative learning experiences sow the seeds for a thriving and more just world. Our work seeks to create the space, spark the conversations, and share the stories to inspire educators, students, and learners of all ages to build a better future for everyone.

PROGRAMS: Educational programs for educators and students

PLACE: Our entire historic campus is a living classroom and working farm that invites program participants, visitors, and overnight guests to learn, grow, and be inspired.

PRODUCTS: We practice regenerative agriculture to craft farm products and meals. We produce farmstead cheddar and maple syrup, and mixed veggies and flowers.

“Gradually and silently the charm comes over us;
we know not exactly where or how.”

— FREDERICK LAW OLNSTED, 1852
*WALKS AND TALKS OF AN
AMERICAN FARMER IN ENGLAND*



DARIA BISHOP



1984

The first trail opened in 1984 - a trail up Lone Tree Hill
Right: Marshall Webb constructing trail signs in 1994.

Modeling the visitor experience as a "countryside"
experience, similar to the trail system in England.

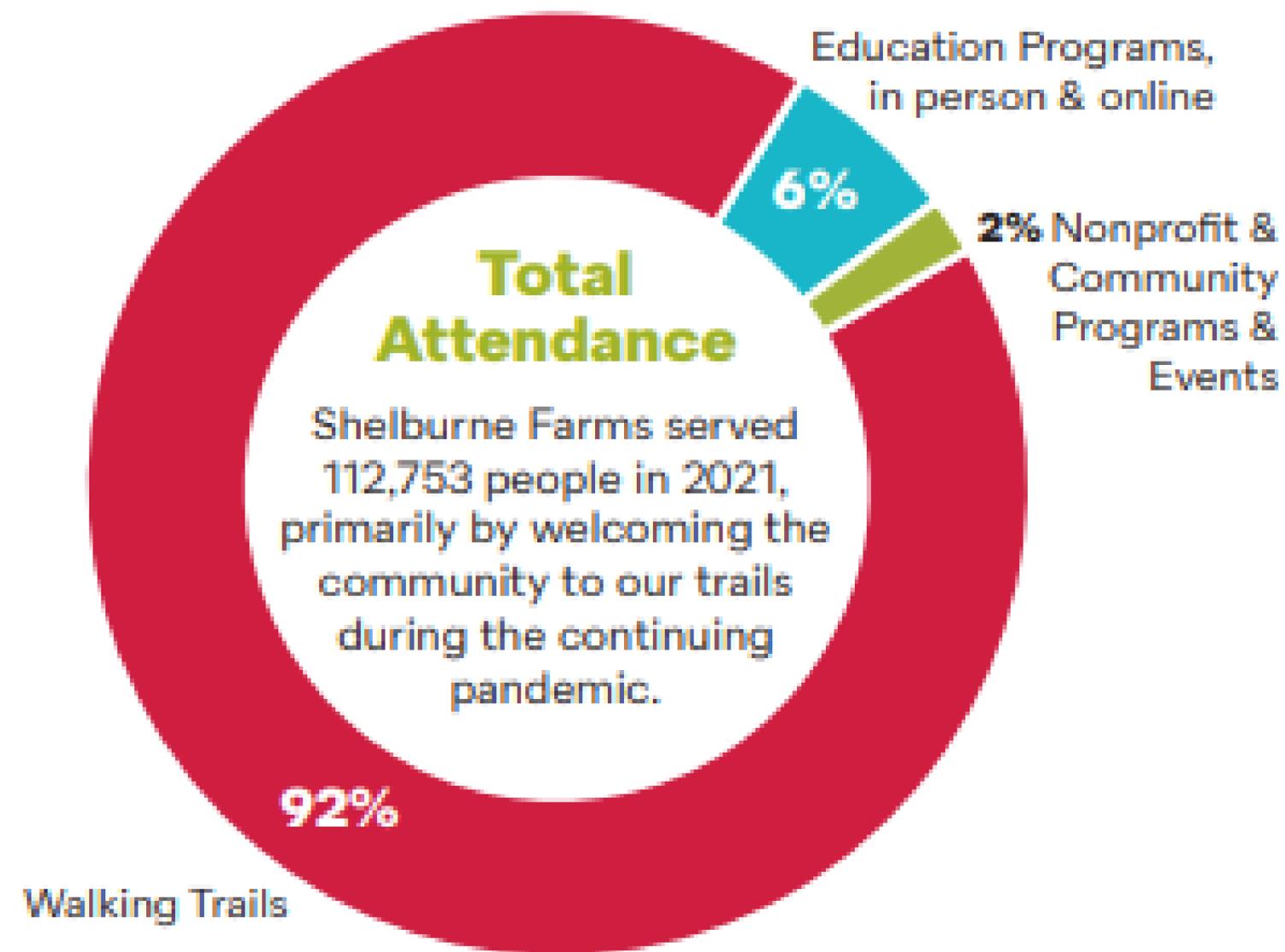


INCREASING VISITATION
OPEN DAWN TO DUSK





Program & Visitor Attendance



TYPES OF TRAILS

Bluestone over a layer of dense dust. No culverts, water sheets off of it, great for strollers. Bright blue is less "natural" looking

Paths / farm roads through pastures

Dirt packed trails over road fabric

Forest Roads



2-3 birdhouses
around the property
where visitors make
cash donations





Photo: Daria Bishop

2022

New Signs!



STORY WALK

Blending trails and education



Photo: KidsVT



SIGNAGE IN THE PARKING LOG

"ICY CONDITIONS: USE CAUTION"

**"WINTER GUIDELINES: ENJOY THE PROPERTY AT YOUR OWN RISK, GROUNDS
AND ARE NOT MAINTAINED NOVEMBER - APRIL.
USE TRACTION GEAR."**





photo: Wally Allen



“Trails are so exciting because it’s our largest public program and we don’t have to do too much for them. Signage will always be an ongoing project, and they require some maintenance, but overall, we just provide this beautiful setting and people get to enjoy it in their own way.”

- Susie Marchand, Agricultural Education Coordinator.

PICNICKING OPTIONS



FARM CART

FARM STORE

INN RESTAURANT

BRING YOUR OWN

ONSITE BAKERY



FARM CART

Food is prepared in our certified commercial kitchen, and transported to the Farm Cart.

Staffing has been a challenge at the Farm Cart



FARM STORE



Food is prepared in our certified commercial kitchen, and sold in individual or family-size portions at the store.

INN RESTAURANT



A seasonal farm to table restaurant

O'BREAD



Onsite bakery in the Farm Barn since the 1970s

THANK YOU!

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