



TRAIL TRACKS

the Trails Information Newsletter
published by AMERICAN TRAILS

Volume 31, Number 2

Editor: Stuart H. Macdonald

FALL 2002

We'll see you November 10-13 at National Trails Symposium

Don't miss the largest trails partnership event of 2002! American Trails and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Office of Greenways & Trails are proud to host the 16th National Trails Symposium in Central Florida, November 10-13. The theme for the Symposium is *Greenways and Trails ~ Crossing the American Landscape*. The Symposium Planning Team has been hard at work developing a cutting-edge program that will feature speakers from around the country and around the world who will share state-of-the-art trail information, technologies, trends, and new initiatives. Meet a variety of knowledgeable people working on trails today, including advocates, agency representatives, land managers, designers, planners, technicians, vendors, developers, and enthusiasts. Learn about successful partnerships among agencies, nonprofits, businesses, and individuals.

More National Trails Symposium news: pg. 18-23

Take advantage of opportunities to see and discuss multi-use and trail-sharing projects. Choose from 85 educational sessions taught by the country's most knowledgeable and talented trail leaders. Leave with resources. Come home with practical information and skills that can be put to use immediately.

For the latest information on the 16th National Trails Symposium, visit us on line: www.AmericanTrails.org. You can register on line and access a variety of details on Florida and Symposium events.



Major sponsors support Symposium and trails

We would like to thank the many generous sponsors who have made the 16th National Trails Symposium possible. See page 21 for the complete list of over 100 sponsors!

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Inside

Two contests for trail lovers.....	3
New National Recreation Trails.....	4
How will new technology affect trails?....	6
More benefits of trails.....	10
Achievement Awards presented by CRT....	13
Groups joining training partnership.....	14
Trails for a "Healthier U.S.".....	16
National Trails Symposium news.....	18
News from America's trails.....	24
Resources.....	26

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Trail Tracks

Trail Tracks (ISSN 1082-8303) is the newsletter of AMERICAN TRAILS, the nonprofit organization dedicated to the creation of trail systems for all Americans by fostering communication and complementary action.

Editor: Stuart H. Macdonald

Subscriptions are \$35 per year or free with membership— see page 24 for membership form.

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National Recreation Trails: a celebration of America

By *Stuart Macdonald*

Why are we emphasizing National Recreation Trails? Because trail groups, states, and federal agencies agree that the NRT Program is a great way to celebrate America's trails and greenways. Even as we struggle with budgets and priorities, more people than ever are using trails, and we need more help from funding as well as volunteers to help care for our parks and public lands.

The NRT Program grew out of a realization that we need as many tools as possible for preserving our trails. To keep our trails system healthy and growing we need to publicize the efforts of volunteers, communities, and agencies on behalf of our pathways. We would like to thank all these people, as well as the NRT managers, for being part of America's community of trails and celebrating with us:

- Trails that celebrate freedom and the great outdoors
- Trails that embody America's values of diversity, community, and volunteerism
- Trails that make our communities more livable
- Trails that showcase preservation of open space and wildlife habitat
- Trails that bring nature to persons with disabilities
- Trails that teach creativity and problem solving
- Trails that celebrate America's history and future

Nominations now accepted for new National Recreation Trails

November 1 is the deadline for nominating your trail for designation as a National Recreation Trail. Great trails that show off the diversity and importance of trails and greenways in America are invited to apply, as well as trails that demonstrate state-of-the-art design and management. The basic requirements are fairly simple:

- The trail managing agency is responsible for submitting the application along with supporting letters, maps, photos, and other documentation.
- The trail must be open to public use and designed, constructed, and maintained to the trail managing agency's standards.
- The trail manager is willing to certify that the trail will be open for public use for at least 10 consecutive years after designation.
- NRT designation must be supported by the landowner(s).
- Application forms for NRT designation are available at www.AmericanTrails.org/NationalRecreationTrails.
- Regional contacts for assistance are also available.

For more information and application forms for National Recreation Trails designation see the NRT Web site:
www.AmericanTrails.org/NationalRecreationTrails

...You can also contact the American Trails office at

NRT@AmericanTrails.org or (530) 547-2060;

...or the NRT Program Coordinator, RTCA Program, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, (Org Code 2235), Washington DC 20240-0001; Phone (202) 354-6920.



Photo contest for NRTs underway

American Trails is sponsoring a contest for photographs of National Recreation Trails across the country. We will provide awards in several categories and show off entries on the NRT Web site. The goal is to highlight the diversity of the NRTs and to make more Americans familiar with these great trails. We're looking for good photos of trail users as well as features of interest, signs, special facilities, management issues, construction and volunteers.

The deadline is June 30, 2003, to give four seasons of photography for entrants. Entries may be displayed on the Web site in the meantime. You may use digital formats (JPEG or TIFF) or slides or quality prints. Digital images may be e-mailed if attachments are under 1.5 mg. Otherwise please mail a CD (not CD-RW) or 100 mg. Zip disk to American Trails. Prints, slides, and photos will be returned if postage and a mailing label are enclosed. Please limit entries to 10 photos per person and identify the NRT as well as the specific location on the trail.

By entering the contest you are giving us permission to use the photos on the Web sites of the NRT Program, American Trails, and the National Park Service, as well as their non-commercial publications. Please use the entry form on the Web site.

For a list of NRTs visit the Web site at www.AmericanTrails.org and click on **National Recreation Trails**. A searchable database will let you see a list of NRTs in your state and provide more information on individual trails. If you're not sure if a trail is an NRT, or if you have questions about the contest, contact American Trails at (530) 547-2060 or NRT@AmericanTrails.org

2nd Annual Web Site Contest announced

Our second annual American Trails Web Site Contest is open to individuals, trail groups, agencies, and businesses who are developing good information sites via the Internet. Details are posted on our Web site at www.AmericanTrails.org. Awards will be made in a variety of categories to recognize trail-related Web sites of all sizes and types.



It's easy to enter or nominate your favorite Web site for recognition:


- Deadline for nominations is March 15, 2003.
- Enter by e-mail from our Web site.
- Nominate an entire Web site or single area.
- Links to all nominated sites will be publicized and added to the American Trails Web site.
- Winners in each category will be featured on line, in print, and throughout cyberspace!


Visit www.AmericanTrails.org and click on "American Trails Web Site Contest" to see all the details, entry forms, and nominations from last year.

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National Recreation Trails Program

New National Recreation Trails designated for 2002

America's *Community of Trails* is the slogan for the National Recreation Trails Program. American Trails is working with the National Park Service to recognize pathways in every state that have been designated through the National Trails System Act. On May 31, **Secretary of Interior Gale Norton** and **National Park Service Director Fran Mainella** designated 26 new National Recreation Trails (NRTs):

California

• Sacramento River Trail and Rail-Trail System

These trails are based on a partnership between the City of Redding, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, Shasta County, and local groups. Once completed, the multi-use trail system will provide 20 miles of public access to the Sacramento River between Shasta Dam and downtown Redding.

Colorado

• Mineral Belt Trail

This 12-mile trail features breathtaking views, interpretation of the State's mining and railroad history, and is a wonderful community resource that connects many important aspects of the historic town of Leadville. Trail activities include hiking and biking in summer and cross-country skiing in winter.

• Poudre River Trail Corridor

This 9-mile trail will interpret an important part of the State's history that Colorado's mountain trails do not— agriculture, irrigation, and western water issues. The trail also runs through farming and ranching communities where there has been little recreational access in the past

Connecticut

• Air Line State Park Trail, South

This 22-mile rail-trail provides recreational and educational opportunities to the towns of East Hampton, Colchester, Hebron, and Lebanon. It borders wetlands and passes through forests, rock-cuts, and meadows. This multi-use trail provides for hiking, cross-country skiing, biking, and horseback riding.

Florida

• General James A. Van Fleet Trail State Park

The 29-mile rail-trail connecting the cities of Mabel and Polk City is one of three state park-managed trails. It passes through the Green Swamp "Area of Critical State Concern," a 322,690-acre wetland. In addition to wildlife observation, the trail provides trail activities like biking and in-line skating.

Florida • Suncoast Trail

The 42-mile trail through Hillsborough, Pasco, and Hernando Counties was the first to be built by the Florida Turnpike Authority. It provides conservation of native landscape buffers as well as trail activities.

Georgia • Silver Comet Trail

This 13-mile rail-trail connects Marietta neighborhoods, numerous side trails, and Heritage Park. Amidst historic woolen mills, this multi-use trail provides access to natural beauty that is unusual in metropolitan areas.

Illinois • Lower Cache River Trail

This trail is the result of a partnership among the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, the U.S Fish & Wildlife Service, and the Nature Conservancy, which is working to preserve a 60,000-acre wetland. The trail runs through a rich southern swamp habitat that includes 11 state champion trees and provides for recreation including fishing and kayaking

Indiana

• Central Canal Towpath

This 5-mile trail follows an historic functioning canal which dates back to 1836 and is a designated American Water Landmark. The multi-use trail also serves as a link to the Monon Rail-Trail and White River Trail.

• Pleasant Run Trail

This 7-mile creekside trail connects Southeast Indianapolis neighborhoods to parks and recreational facilities. In addition to its natural resources, the trail also provides recreation for people who enjoy activities like fishing and biking.

• Monon Rail-Trail

One of the state's first rail-trails, it connects Indianapolis neighborhoods with the State Fair Grounds and Indianapolis Art Center. In 2000, the trail was named one of the ten best examples of landscape architecture in Indiana by the American Society of Landscape Architects.

• White River "Wapahani" Trail

This 20-mile greenway will link the entire Indianapolis metropolitan area. It links neighborhoods with colleges, regional parks, and downtown while providing scenic views and recreation that ranges from canoeing to in-line skating.

Maryland

• Baltimore and Annapolis Trail Park

The 13-mile trail is part of the East Coast Greenway. It traverses forests, wetlands, and historic sites. In addition to its many natural resources, the trail also provides for hiking, horseback riding, and biking.



Celebrates America's great trails

Minnesota

• Gateway State Trail

This 18-mile rail-trail runs from urban St. Paul to the nationally significant St. Croix River Valley. It is a good example of a multi-use trail that provides links to a local and regional network of trails, parks, and greenways.

• Lake Wobegon Trail

This 28-mile trail provides year-round recreation opportunities including hiking, fishing and snowshoeing. Stearns County Parks, Minnesota Department of Transportation, seven cities, and local citizen groups joined in a successful partnership to build the trail.

• North Fork Crow River Trail

Located in Stearns County, this 29-mile backcountry and snow trail provides residents and visitors with ideal snowmobiling opportunities.

North Dakota • Hay Creek Trail

The 5-mile multi-use trail provides Burleigh County with access to a performing arts park, fishing pond, golf course, and fairgrounds. Trail uses include hiking, biking, and wildlife observation.

Oregon

• Historic Columbia River Highway State Trail

Once the first scenic highway in the United States, the road was converted into an 11-mile trail. It features historic bridges, tunnels, and beautifully arched rock masonry walls while providing trail activities and wildlife observation.

Pennsylvania • Schuylkill River Water Trail

This 142-mile water trail through five counties along the historic Schuylkill River is home to scenic vistas, waterfalls, and wetland areas. The trail also provides recreation access for camping and kayaking.

South Dakota

• Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Trail

Located along the Missouri River in Pierre and Fort Pierre, the trail links 30 miles of trails with 50 historic, cultural, and recreational sites. Scenery covers an urban waterfront, dense woodlands, and open prairie vistas surrounded by craggy bluffs. The trail includes Lewis and Clark's camp site, a winter haven for eagles, and award-winning fishing.

South Carolina

• Port Royal Sound Adventure Trail

This 100-mile network of water trails and greenways combines seven State Heritage Preserves, a National Historic Landmark District, National Wildlife Refuge, state park, and military base. The trail also provides for biking, hiking, and horseback riding in addition to water-based recreation.

South Carolina • TNT Motorsports Park

This Chester County park offers 18 miles of trails as well as a 2-acre play area for all-terrain vehicles. Originating due to the lack of off-highway vehicle (OHV) opportunities, this is the State's first privately owned OHV park managed for public use. Non-motorized trail users are also welcome.

Virginia

• New River Trail State Park

This 57-mile rail-trail through four counties in Southwest Virginia follows the historic New River. It links to recreation areas, such as Shot Tower State Historical Park, and provides for hiking, biking, horseback riding, fishing, as well as natural and human history interpretation.

• Rivanna Trail

This 20-mile trail is home to diverse habitats and historic resources and has been nominated as a Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail. In addition, the trail provides recreation activities including hiking and wildlife observation.

Washington

• John Wayne Pioneer Trail

This 108-mile trail crossing the Cascades is an essential link in the cross-state trail that will eventually connect Idaho to the Puget Sound. The interesting railroad history, proximity to Seattle, high levels of use, and links to other trails, make this trail a well-deserving candidate for NRT designation.

• North Cascades National Park/Ross Lake NRA Segment of the Pacific Northwest Trail

This 60-mile trail is a segment of a 1,200-mile trail route that runs from the Continental Divide to the Pacific Ocean. In addition to its many scenic gems, the trail provides for hiking, horseback riding, and wildlife observation.

For more information on the National Recreation Trails Program see the NRT Web site:
www.AmericanTrails.org/NationalRecreationTrails.

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The future of trails

It is not hard to imagine an all-terrain version of the Segway (the equivalent of the mountain bike) expanding access to trail networks in National Forests, state and county parks, and other outdoor venues.

How will new technology affect trail experiences?

By Robert Searns

State of the art, 1974

In the fall of 1974, I took a job with the City of Denver. My assignment was to serve as staff to a mayoral committee building a hike/bike path along the South Platte River. About 18 months later we cut the ribbon on the first trail segment of what was later to become a metro-wide trail and greenway network. We planned and designed the trail system for bicycle, pedestrian and paddle craft use.

Early in 1979 we were close to completing the ten-mile length of trail through the city. At that time, the “ten-speed” bicycle was state-of-the-art trail user technology. Planning tools included the IBM Selectric typewriter, the 35mm camera, aerial photographs (if available) and hand-drawn construction documents. The “fat tire” bicycle (unless you were talking about a 1950’s vintage Schwinn), and in-line skates were just beginning to appear along with personal computers and word processing.

Less than a decade later, as we were completing the extension of the trail into the suburbs, and the cell phone, Geographic Information Systems, GPS, and the World Wide Web were emerging along with all-terrain bicycles, designer cross training shoes, sports drinks, and Spandex.

The shape of things to come

In the opening scene of *Back to the Future, Part II*, the character played by Michael J. Fox is cruising along on a levitational skateboard. Short of the Star Trek Teleporter it is pretty close to the ultimate personal mobility device. No doubt there were many who hoped that Dean Kamen’s IT would have similar anti-gravity capabilities. Short of an uncovering a couple of deceased aliens and a wrecked intergalactic spacecraft in Roswell, New Mexico, the digital-gyroscopic stabilization and steering of the Segway is probably about as sophisticated as it gets— for now.

Nonetheless, the Segway does represent an important breakthrough when it comes to trail planning. It is not so much the technology— in many ways the mountain bike may have been a more significant leap for trail users— but that it will invite a vast new segment of potential users to trails and greenways. Think about it, you just step up on to the thing, turn it on, lean forward a little and it tools along at 15 to 18 miles per hour. A device like the Segway will certainly broaden mobility. Once it becomes affordable, which it no doubt will, every kid (of every age) will have one. Segwaying will rage.

I’ve heard that the Segway people envision their machine— once it’s in common usage— traveling along on city sidewalks. However, I wonder about the practicality of that notion without significant redesign of urban sidewalk systems with their curbs and cross streets. The machine might do better in the street operating in a way similar to bicycles.

These devices will enable and encourage a far broader segment of users including people with disabilities

Urban trails and greenways, on the other hand, might be ideal for Segways, especially on trails that are grade-separated from street traffic—

assuming they are adequately designed and managed to accommodate potential hordes of Segway riders along with those who still choose to travel by muscle power. Also, it is not hard to imagine an all-terrain version of the Segway (the equivalent of the mountain bike) expanding access to trail networks in National Forests, state and county parks, and other outdoor venues.

Can you hear me now? Good?

My brother just bought a new cell phone; only it’s more than just a phone. When you open up the back there is a small keyboard and screen. Push a button or two and you can check your e-mail and even watch a short movie clip. You can use this device just about anywhere. Looking at this device, it is not a big leap to envision a new form of trail technology— a virtual take-along “trail ranger.” Imagine being able to download a “smart” trail map from a Web site. The map could show you trail conditions, level of difficulty, availability of services, even a real time weather report and satellite view of your trail or greenway corridor.



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Trails and Technology:

Add Global Positioning capability and your little handheld gadget could provide all manner of interpretive information with sound and video depicting flora, fauna, geology, and the history of the very spot you are standing on. With such a device you could also upload information to the Web site about your personal trail experience, perhaps an animal you spotted (and maybe photographed with your on-board digital camera). At the end of your trail outing, your “smart map” could tell you how far you traveled, calories burned and cardiovascular benefits realized. Take my word for it—this technology is coming soon.

Spandex, Gortex, and context

In addition to high tech mobility and way-finding devices, trail recreation has spun off a multi-billion dollar sports equipment and garment industry. No doubt, new types of shoes, bicycles, paddle craft and other equipment will continue to emerge enabling and encouraging more people to use trails and greenways. Some technologies such as the rock-hopper mountain bike will generate demand for new types trails and challenge courses. New forms of lightweight clothing will enable more trail recreation use by protecting users from sun, rain and cold. Sports drinks, nutritional bars and other forms of recreational nutrition will also continue to emerge.

Emerging technologies may indeed help create and finance trails and greenways.

Lest these ultimately products become meaningless fashion statements and collector’s items, a much vaster infrastructure of trails, greenways, and recreational open spaces will be needed. One would think that ultimately it would be in the best interest of the companies that manufacture and market these products to aggressively pursue and contribute to the creation of places to use and enjoy their products.

A broadband in your greenbelt

Emerging technologies may indeed help create and finance trails and greenways. Already, in several parts of the U.S., trails provide rights-of-way for fiber optic lines and the operators of the lines pay rent that helps pay for trail construction and maintenance. Conveniently, the trail also serves as a maintenance path for the fiber optic cable. With the emergence of broadband technology— where a single cable carries telephone, Internet, television and other information— communities will have the opportunity to combine greenways and trail corridors with broadband services.

Greenway, greenbelts and trail corridors make excellent routes for both trunk lines and distribution networks within neighborhoods or subdivisions. One could imagine a community setting up its own satellite dish or broadband receiving station (sometimes referred to a “point of presence” or “P.O.P.”) and distributing the signal to individual homes via the community trail and greenbelt system. A community association might operate the system and use a portion of the service fees collected to maintain the greenbelts and trail corridors that accommodate the buried broadband cables.

But, are these gadgets righteous?

As trail users, trail builders and trail advocates, it behooves us to ask some pressing questions about the good, bad, and ugly aspects of these technologies. On the positive side there are some very clear benefits and opportunities. First and foremost, these devices will enable and encourage a far broader segment of users including people with disabilities that might otherwise not have trail access. In my mind there is no question that this would be a benefit.

Secondly, these devices might broaden the constituency for trail building investment particularly in urban areas where a stronger case might be made for viewing trails and greenways as significant transportation infrastructure. One would hope that the manufactures and users of these devices (along with the manufacturers and users of muscle-powered devices) would contribute financially to the construction and maintenance of trails. Herein, there are opportunities for partnerships.

Now here comes the potential down side. How will these devices diminish the trail experience? For those who choose a power assisted personal mobility device over self-propelled

These devices will enable and encourage a far broader segment of users including people with disabilities

modes or a personal digital assistant device over old fashioned reckoning and spontaneity, I suppose it is a question of personal choice. With respect to crowding and safety, I suppose a Segway is no more dangerous than a bicycle on a multi-use trail. Either could come up silently behind you, so the safety lies with the diligence and courtesy of the user. As these devices leave neither noise nor smoke, I think the major conflict would come from the sheer volume of users.

This suggests that more and better-designed facilities would be needed. It might also be necessary to regulate the speed of the power-assisted mobility devices on certain pathways to



the future of recreation

assure compatibility with pedestrian users. We may also need to provide more trails limited to walkers and wheelchair users to give sanctuary to those who want to enjoy a trail without needing to be on alert for Segways and bicycles coming up from behind.

Keeping the fire in the belly

When my grandfather was born, the era of the wide-open American West was coming to a close. His parents still viewed civilization as islands in a world that had vast, even uncharted wilderness. That wilderness was a place of awe, mystery, and certainly peril. There was risk and challenge, but a journey into the great outdoors was an adventure that ignited the "fire in the belly." Two generations later, the wilderness is rapidly being reduced to vulnerable islands in a sea of civilization.

Other profound changes are also impacting our psyches. For us baby-boomers, the passing of our parents' generation ends the last direct connection with the pre-technology era marking the end of a way of life that endured for at least 10,000 years.

Trails, greenways and open space represent one of the few ties we have to that earlier age.

It was an age that depended on foot, animal or wind-propelled transportation. It was a pre-telecommunications time when hand-written and word of mouth were the predominant form of communication.

With these changes, we are experiencing a "quickenning" that can be epitomized by both population and microprocessor speed growth. Trails, greenways, and open space represent one of the few ties we have to that earlier age, but the quality of outdoor experiences have become fragile. Clearly, as trail advocates, we have become the stewards of something very precious and very susceptible to change. Trail technology will certainly enable more trail use and, for some, enrich the trail experience. On the other hand, we must evaluate carefully each change and each new product to be sure that special thread of continuity will stay intact.

Robert M. Searns is the founding owner of Urban Edges, Inc., a planning and development firm based in Denver. He has worked with communities nationwide on greenways, trails, and outdoor resource conservation. He co-authored, with Chuck Flink, Greenways: A Guide to Planning, Design and Development, and contributed to Greenways, The Beginning of an International Movement. Bob is also a member of the Board of Directors of American Trails.



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More Benefits of Trails

Trails are important to home buyers, survey shows

Last April a survey of 2,000 recent home buyers was co-sponsored by the National Association of Home Builders and the National Association of Realtors. The survey asked about the “importance of community amenities,” and trails came in second only to highway access. Those surveyed could check any number of the 18 amenities, and 36 percent picked walking, jogging or biking trails as either “important” or “very important.” Sidewalks, parks, and playgrounds ranked next in importance. Ranking much lower were ball fields, golf courses, and tennis courts.

However, the home buyers indicated that price and home size were far more important than proximity to work, the city or schools. Given three statements to choose from, 62 percent indicated “the top concern was price,” while 31 percent said that “finding a home in the right neighborhood was the top priority.” Just 7 percent of respondents said that “being close to work and minimizing the commute was really important.”

A Power Point slide show of the complete survey conducted by the NAHB, is on line at www.nahb.com/news/smartsurvey2002.htm

Trail activities can help keep mental faculties sharp

From the BeFitNet Alliance, Inc.

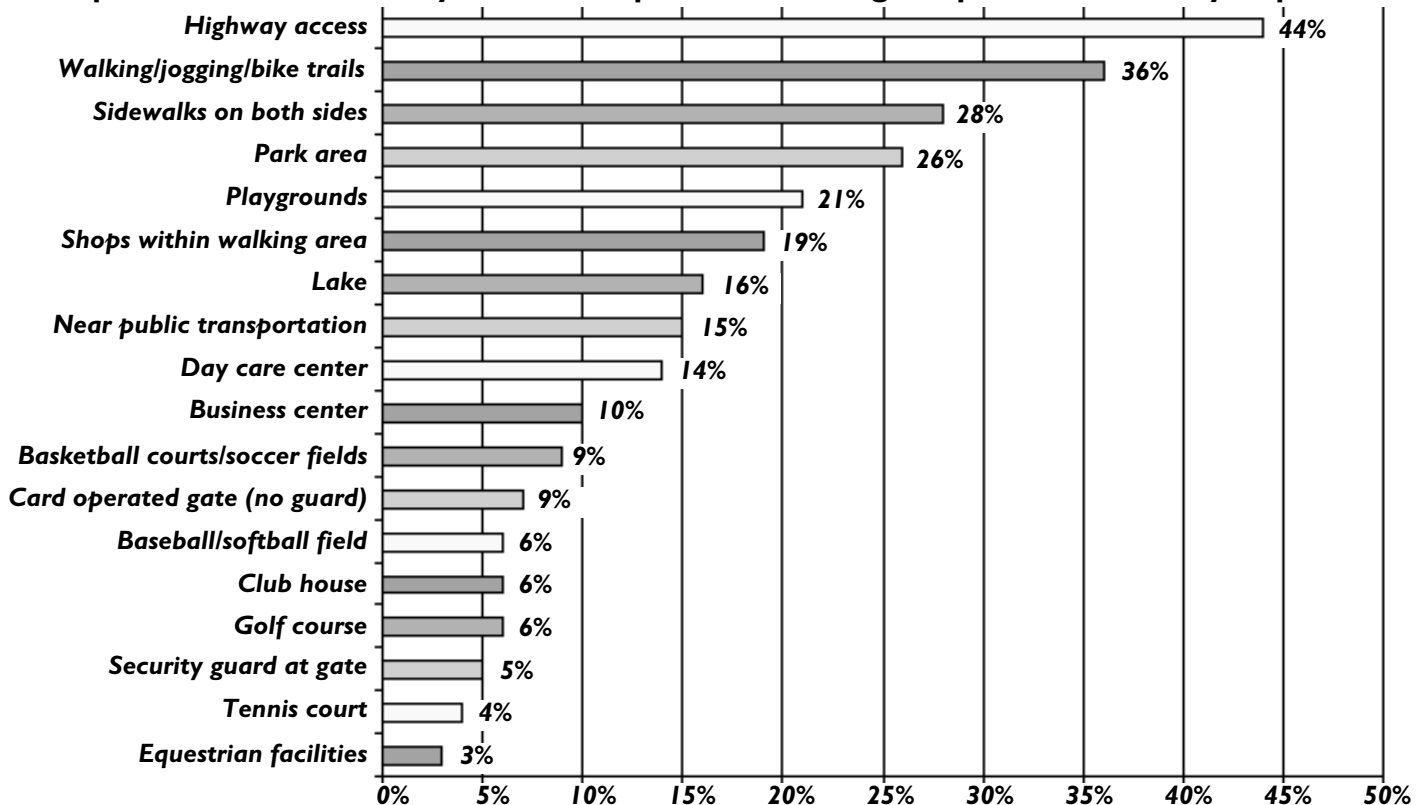
Researchers measuring the number of calories burned during exercise have found consistent results: the more calories burned while walking, the less chance of cognitive decline. In one recent study researchers tested the cognitive abilities of 5,925 women ages 65 and older, and then tested them again six to eight years later. Women who said they walked the least— about a half mile a week— were the most likely to decline cognitively; about 24 percent of them had significant declines in test scores the second time around.

Women who walked the most— an average of 18 miles a week— had the least cognitive decline; about 17 percent of these women had lower test scores the second time. The chance of cognitive decline decreased 13 percent for every extra mile walked a week, says study author Dr. Kristine Yaffe, chief of geriatrics at the Veteran's Administration Medical Center in San Francisco.

For more details of the study visit www.befitnet.com.

HOME BUYERS SURVEY

Importance of Community Amenities: percent checking “Important” to “Very Important”





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Reauthorization of funding programs

Transportation programs supported by trail groups

As we approach the effort to reauthorize the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) in 2003, we would like to remind our readers how many important programs are part of this gigantic federal transportation funding bill. One of the important programs in TEA-21 is the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). Though it currently amounts to a “mere” \$50 million a year, RTP has had a great benefit in creating effective trails programs in every state.

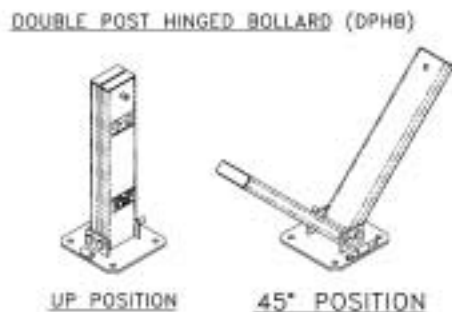
RTP applies the “user-pay/user-benefit” philosophy of the Highway Trust Fund to return monies to the states for maintenance and construction of trails, thus benefiting those who pay the federal motorfuel tax for nonhighway recreation uses. A Congressionally mandated study, conducted by Oak Ridge National Laboratory for the Federal Highway Administration, supports an estimate of \$167 million annually in Highway Trust Fund receipts attributable to the nonhighway recreational activities. A subsequent study has found that the estimate could be as high as \$250 million annually.

Eligible projects include:

- maintenance and restoration of recreational trails
- development and rehabilitation of trailside facilities
- equipment for trail construction and maintenance
- construction of new recreational trails
- acquisition of property for recreational trail corridors
- environmental-mitigation projects

The Recreational Trails Program will have a dramatic and positive impact on the quality of life in America. It has already produced improvements through nearly 4,800 projects nationwide and through catalyzing communication and cooperation among diverse trail enthusiasts, government officials at the federal, state and local levels, and national organizations in the conservation, recreation, and transportation fields.

For more information on efforts to reauthorize the RTP, contact the Coalition for Recreational Trails, 1225 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 450, Washington, D.C. 20005 (202) 682-9530 Fax (202) 682-9529



TEA Programs benefit trails and greenways

From the League of American Bicyclists

The US Department of Transportation is preparing for the reauthorization of the federal transportation bill and is seeking feedback from stakeholders. Bicycle and pedestrian projects have received over \$2 billion in federal support since 1991 and are currently eligible to receive support under several programs in the current legislation.

The federal transportation bill—referred to as ISTEA in 1991, TEA-21 in 1998, and its renewal now labeled TEA-3—authorizes over \$200 billion in support for transportation. It includes several programs of importance to bike, pedestrian, and trail advocates:

Safe Routes to School

SRTS programs link neighborhoods to their schools, encourage children to become more physically active, relieve morning congestion and reduce the cost of school transportation.

Bicycle-Friendly Transportation Systems

Every transportation project and program has an impact on bicyclists and pedestrians. That impact should be positive. T3 should ensure that bikes are accommodated in every project.

Enhancements, CMAQ and other TEA-21 Programs

Many bike/ped projects are currently funded through the Transportation Enhancements programs. No additional categories should be added to the TE program. Explicit language on the eligibility of bicycle projects should be added to other categories, such as Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality, so that state DOT administer support for bicycling through these other programs as well.

To comment go to www.fhwa.dot.gov/reauthorization and click on “input.”. Written comments may be sent to Docket Clerk, US DOT Room PL-401, Docket Number: OST-2002-12170, 400 7th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20590. Deadline: January 1.

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Training Partnership News

Organizations joining National Trails Training Partnership

A great opportunity for anyone interested in furthering their education in the trails field is the National Trails Training Partnership. The goal of this initiative is to make training and resources more available to trail managers, volunteers, agency staff, and nonprofit groups across America.

Initially funded by the Recreational Trails Program of the Federal Highway Administration, the NTTP is growing as more organizations and agencies sign up. American Trails is the lead partner in developing and nurturing this effort, and we'd like to enlist your support. Just visit the Web site at www.NTTP.net and sign up. If you'll let us know about your workshops, classes, publications for sale, and other trail-related resources, we'll help make your group more visible in the trails community.



Resources available at www.NTTP.net

One of the first tasks of the Partnership is to develop an on line clearing house for trails training resources. The Web site for the National Trails Training Partnership is hosted by AmericanTrails.org. You'll find hundreds of articles, resources, and links to organizations as well as a big calendar of trail-related training opportunities. Check it out and put us on your list to receive news releases!

New member organizations

- Appalachian Mountain Club (NH)
- California State Parks/Angeles District (CA)
- Clemson University (WV)
- Conservation Leadership Training Initiative (CO)
- Contrax Enterprise (PA)
- Equestrian Land Resource Center (national)
- Florida Four Wheel Drive Association (FL)
- Gotham City Land Cruisers (NY)
- National Association of Service and Conservation Corps
- Ozark Greenways (MO)
- Urban Edges, Inc. (CO)

Trail Training Partners provide resources

Register with NTTP and let us know about what kinds of trails training and resources you offer. We are eager to promote and publicize the publications and classes made available by NTTP partner organizations. Join us!

Clemson University manages trail system

Clemson University of South Carolina's trails program is located in the College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Life Sciences. The campus manages a 110-mile shared-use trail system embedded in the 17,500-acre Clemson Experimental Forest. While some of the trail construction dates back to the CCC days of the 1930s, most of the trail system was user-developed. The trails program is in the midst of a long-term project of re-design and renovation of this system. Principal users are equestrians and mountain bikers.

To date most of the trails program research and development efforts have been aimed at equestrian trails as this is seen as an area of greatest need. One publication in this area is the booklet on *Recommended Best Management Practices for Equestrian Trails*.

Clemson's trails program has also conducted four major conferences on equestrian trails and several workshops on trail construction. The latest of these workshops was on "Trail Construction with Mechanized Equipment" which was held in March 2002. Clemson also sponsors "Leave No Trace" workshops for equestrian trail users as well as general trail design and construction workshops using the university's trails system. A series of CDs is planned on trail construction in the eastern U.S. and on equestrian trail use with minimum impact.

For more on the classes and publications of the Clemson University trails program see www.clemson.edu/trails.

Join NTTP and help us spread the word

It is simple to register with the National Trails Training Partnership. Just visit us at www.NTTP.net and send in the form about your group and training opportunities. Then put us on your mailing list for events and workshops. Thanks!

For more information see the Web site at www.NTTP.net or contact American Trails at NTTP@AmericanTrails.org or (530) 547-2060.



Coalition promotes health



“Healthier US” aims for more active Americans

From the Centers for Disease Control

In an unprecedented move, eleven federal programs joined forces to promote healthy lifestyles through nutrition, physical activity, and recreation. As part of the unveiling of **President Bush's Healthier U.S. initiative**, Secretaries representing the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Agriculture, Department of the Interior, and the Department of the Army pledged to promote uses and benefits of the nation's public lands and water resources to enhance the physical and psychological health and well being of the American people.

American Trails joined several other national trails and recreation groups who are participating to support the federal efforts.

The agencies recognize that developing, using, and promoting resources such as trail systems will increase access to physical activity opportunities

for our communities and provide an opportunity to integrate messages of physical activity and well being. Enjoying outdoor recreation, within neighborhoods and communities, is being recognized as an important means to help address serious health concerns such as obesity, hypertension, diabetes, depression, and anxiety.

Using systematic reviews of published studies, the Task Force on Community Preventive Services strongly recommended creating access to trails and other places for physical activity. Communication strategies and outreach activities that promote

using trails and facilities are also recommended. Commensurate with this recommendation, a significant component of the new partnership to promote public health and recreation is to increase awareness of the many recreational opportunities that exist in the United States.

Although the nation has a recreational infrastructure, many individuals have limited access to programs and opportunities. This unique collaboration between the four diverse federal agencies will provide a foundation to help expand recreational opportunities for the community.

Working Together

Following the call from Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson for "communities and businesses to work together and create innovative ways to encourage greater physical activity," this partnership creates a unique alliance between a wide variety of federal agencies within the four departments.

Resources such as trail systems will increase access to physical activity opportunities for our communities.

The Memorandum of Understanding identifies collaborative activities to promote public health and recreation, such as:

- Reviewing the condition and design of recreational facilities to ensure the public's active use
- Providing information on the many places where natural environments and recreation opportunities exist
- Developing and strengthening existing coalitions at community, state, regional, and national levels
- Working with the US Department of Transportation to encourage using its funding program to support projects that promote recreation and physical activity
- Using the cooperative agencies' research and social science capabilities to increase physical activity
- Developing joint products and programs that foster public awareness and behavioral changes to increase physical activity

To find out more and how you may be involved contact Centers for Disease Control and Prevention National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity, 4770 Buford Highway, NE, MS1K-24 Atlanta, GA 30341-3717 or call (770) 488-5820.

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- ◆ Blue Ribbon Coalition
- ◆ Cedar Falls Tourism and Visitors Bureau, IA
- ◆ City of Redding, CA
- ◆ Delaware Trails Program-DNREC
- ◆ Delaware Trail Spinners
- ◆ International Mountain Bicycling Association
- ◆ Kawasaki Motor Corp. USA
- ◆ Nat'l Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council
- ◆ Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
- ◆ Rockart Signs and Markers
- ◆ Texas Parks, Wildlife & Recreation
- ◆ ZAC Tool Mfg., Inc., CA

SUPPORTING MEMBERS

- Allegheny Ridge Corporation
- American Council of Snowmobile Associations
- American Motorcyclist Association
- Arrowhead Trails, Inc.
- Backcountry Horsemen of Wash.
- BHA Design, Inc.
- BLM-Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, Utah
- Beneficial Designs
- Peter Bond
- Christopher Douwes
- City of Aspen, CO
- City of Boulder Mountain Parks
- City of Folsom Parks & Rec., CA
- Contra Costa Water Dist., CA
- Ehlert Publishing Group, Inc., MN
- Florida DEP, Greenways & Trails
- Hancock Resources
- International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association
- J. F. Fitzpatrick Industries
- J. L. Darling Corporation
- Jefferson Co. Open Space, CO
- Johnson County Park & Recreation District, KS
- Lehman & Lehman, Inc.
- Livermore Area Recreation & Park District, CA
- Millennium Trails
- Modoc National Forest
- Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
- Motorcycle Industry Council
- Donald A. Neptune, A.I.A., CA
- NPS Rivers & Trails Program, AK

- NPS Rivers & Trails Program, WA
- Nevada State Parks
- Queen Anne's County Dept. of Parks and Recreation, MD
- Riverside County Regional Park & Open Space District
- Round Up Riders of the Rockies
- S. W. Leader, Inc.
- Santa Clara Co. Parks & Rec., CA
- Soil Stabilization Products Co.
- Southern Off Road Bicycle Association (SORBA), GA
- St. Charles County Govt., MO
- Steadfast Bridge Company
- Sutter Equipment Company
- Triangle Greenways Council, NC
- Urban Edges, Inc.
- US Forest Service, East. Reg, WI
- VA Dept. of Conservation & Rec.
- Vanasse, Hangen, Brustlin, Inc.
- Western Trailbuilders Assoc.
- Westvaco
- WI All-Terrain Vehicle Assoc.
- Wisconsin State Parks-DNR

AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

- Allegheny Trail Alliance
- American Association for Leisure and Recreation, VA
- American Society of Landscape Architects
- Appalachian Mountain Club
- Applegate Group, Inc.
- AZ State Committee on Trails
- Arizona Trail Association
- Austin Metro Trails & Greenways
- Backcountry Horsemen of Amer.
- Backcountry Horsemen of WA
- Bay Area Barns & Trails
- Dana Bell
- Buckeye Trail Association
- Bull Creek Foundation
- BLM-Salt Lake City, UT
- BusinessWare, Inc.
- Bylines...
- California Trails Foundation
- The Catamount Trail Assoc., Inc.
- Chattahoochee Trail Horse Assoc.
- Colorado Assoc. of 4WD Clubs
- Continental Divide Trail Alliance
- Dorothy Garske Center, AZ
- Dead Horse Ranch Trails Coalition
- Dune Buggies Inc.
- East Bay Area Trails Council
- East Coast Greenway Alliance
- Equestrian Land Conservation Resource
- Fallbrook Land Conservancy
- Finger Lakes Trail Conference
- Friends of Stevens Creek Trail
- Pam Gluck

- ID Dept. of Parks & Recreation
- Idaho Trails Council, Inc.
- Indiana Horse Council, Inc
- Indiana Trail Riders Assoc., Inc..
- Indy Parks Greenways
- Iowa State Snowmobile Assoc.
- Iowa Trails Council
- Lubbock Lake Landmark, TX
- Marin Municipal Water District, Sky Oaks Ranger Station
- The McConnell Foundation
- Methow Valley Sport Trail Association, WA
- Michigan Horse Council
- Mid-American Regional Council
- Mississippi River Trail
- The Mountaineers, WA
- The Mountaineers Books
- NPS Bandelier National Mon., NM
- Natural Resources Services, RCAA, CA
- New England Trail Riders Assoc.
- North American Trail Ride Conference, NM
- Northwestern Ohio Rails-to-Trails Association, Inc.
- Ohio State Snowmobile Assoc.
- Pacific Crest Trail Assoc.
- Pacific Northwest Trail Assoc.
- Pima County Sheriff's Mounted Posse, AZ
- Red Bluff Trails United
- Rim of the World Trails Assoc.
- Sand Creek Greenway, CO
- Santa Barbara Co. Trails Council
- Santa Monica Mt. Trail Council
- South Carolina Dept. of Parks, Recreation and Tourism
- Southeast Endurance Riders Assoc.
- Tahoe Rim Trail
- Tehama County Education Found.
- Texas Tech University
- Tionesta Valley Snowmobile Club
- Trail Blazer Magazine
- T.R.A.I.L., Inc., CT
- Trail Mix, Inc.
- Trails and Bikeways Council of Greater Redding, CA
- Trails and Open Space Coalition
- Tri-Cities Visitor & Convention Bureau, WA
- Verde Valley Horsemen's Council
- US Forest Service, Girdwood, AK
- VT Association of Snow Travelers
- Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado
- Volunteers for Outdoor Nevada
- Western States Horse Summit
- Whole Access
- WI Four Wheel Drive Assoc.
- Yakima Greenway Foundation
- Yavapai Trails Association, AZ

Scenic Central Florida Will Host

Find a wealth of interest in Central Florida & Orlando

The Symposium location is in the midst of one of America's most diverse regions. Central Florida is rich in recreation and beautiful natural worlds that have been thoughtfully conserved. Its diverse ecosystems are showcased in the national forests and seashores, state parks, greenways, and trails— all within easy reach of centrally located Orlando.

A variety of field trips and mobile workshops will get you outside to experience the beauty and diversity of Central Florida's ecotourism paradise. See pages 22-23 for a list of options. See www.AmericanTrails.org for details.

Trails you can visit include the **Florida National Scenic Trail**, in Ocala National Forest and along the Kissimmee River near Orlando. This beautiful section traverses live oak and sabal palm hammocks, sand pine forests, and open prairies. The **Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway** is a 110-mile recreation and conservation corridor converted from the now-defunct Cross Florida Barge Canal.

Wekiwa Springs State Park offers canoe and hiking trails on the crystalline waters of the Wekiva River, one of Florida's most pristine river systems. The park's 7,800 acres of lush cypress swamps, palmetto-lined streams, hammocks and sand pine scrub capture the spirit of ancient Florida. Nature trails also meander through nearby **Withlacoochee Trail State Park** and **Gen. James A. Van Fleet Trail State Park** while paved trails like the **West Orange Trail** and the **Cross Seminole Trail** offer visitors a recreational experience that winds through local communities.

Other natural attractions include:

- The Withlacoochee State Forest, named one of the World Wildlife Fund's 10 Coolest Places in North America, with 92 miles of trails.
- The Canaveral National Seashore and Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge.



Visiting Florida's Trails?
Know Before You Go

Request a free copy of EcoFlorida Magazine, the Florida nature travel quarterly. To get your copy, please visit our Web site at: www.ecofloridamag.com/freeissue

Visit *American Trails* at www.AmericanTrails.org and click on "National Trails Symposium" for more information and links to the Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Florida Office of Greenways & Trails.

Symposium hotel: Disney's Coronado Springs Resort

This beautiful resort and conference center builds on the traditions of the American Southwest and northern Mexico. In addition to having all the Walt Disney World® opportunities nearby, there is a jogging, biking, and walking path that circles the resort's lake, as well as a health club. Rent bicycles, kayaks and pedal boats on site or try Disney's five convenient championship golf courses.

For more information: <http://disneyworld.disney.go.com>

RESERVATION INFORMATION

- Coronado Springs Resort Reservations: (407) 939-1020
- Call Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 7:00 pm; Saturday-Sunday 8:30 am-4:00 pm Eastern Time
- Please refer to National Trails Symposium when calling.
- Rate for single/double occupancy: \$95/night + 11% tax = \$105.45 total
- Special rate is valid from November 7 through November 16, 2002.
- Add \$15/night per person above double occupancy.
- Book by October 11, 2002 to secure this rate!

Make it a family vacation!

Come early or stay late and enjoy Central Florida's vast beauty and unlimited recreational opportunities or visit one of Walt Disney World's theme parks. Discount tickets offering unlimited admission to all theme parks are an exclusive benefit for conference guests staying at the resort.

Detailed theme park ticket information is available at: www.conventionplus.com/csr. Additional information on the activities at Walt Disney World can be found at <http://disneyworld.disney.go.com>.



16th National Trails Symposium

Opening keynote highlights “Adventures Across America”

On Monday, November 11 the National Trails Symposium will feature an opening keynote luncheon with the theme of “Adventures Across America.” Sponsored by American Honda, the program will commemorate Veterans Day and the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Speakers will be **Dr. Hal Stearns** and **Secretary David B. Struhs**.

David B. Struhs was named secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection by Governor Jeb Bush in 1999. As DEP secretary, Struhs is charged with protecting the functions of Florida’s ecological systems through enhanced coordination of public land acquisition, regulatory and planning programs, and supporting and implementing the department’s goal of “More Protection... Less Process.”

In his presentation, Dr. and Brigadier General **Hal Stearns** takes us back nearly 200 years to tell a story that enriches the lives of us all through a celebration of our past. Return to the past with Hal Stearns for a new appreciation of the courage, fortitude and inventiveness of one of the greatest adventures in the history of our country: the Lewis and Clark Expedition.



“Uncommon valor, a saga of the human race, its accomplishments, its creation, its dreams and aspirations, its failures and triumph,” he writes. “The Lewis and Clark Expedition encompasses all of these and more.”

Teaching and the military have been the dual career paths of Dr. Stearns, who has spent a lifetime studying, pondering and traveling his beloved American West. The rich literature, hardworking and persistent people, fascinating characters, telling events are all part of his history tales. He is a current member of the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commissions in Montana and Nebraska and a board member of the National Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation. At present, Dr. Stearns is a researcher, writer and lecturer on the Great Plains and American West. He is a frequent speaker-historian across the United States, especially on the Lewis and Clark Trail.

Symposium will close with “the Future of Trails”

On Wednesday, November 13 the Closing Keynote Luncheon will feature “The Path Ahead: the Future of Trails and Greenways.” It will include presentations by **Robert M. Searns**, American Trails Board Member and founder of Urban Edges, Inc., and the **Honorable Tom Murphy**, Mayor of Pittsburgh, a leader in the national trails movement.

Tom Murphy is serving his third term as Pittsburgh’s Mayor. Murphy, the son of a steelworker, attracted over \$4 billion in new investment and has worked tirelessly to revitalize old industrial sites and neighborhoods and create recreational opportunities along Pittsburgh’s riverfronts.



Trails are a key element of Tom Murphy’s revitalization plan. A leader in the national rail trail movement he supervised building nearly 20 miles of trails (with 18 additional miles under development) running through the center of the city connecting to the riverfronts with river edge parks and multi-use paths. *Reader’s Digest* recently ranked Pittsburgh one of the top 5 best cities to raise a family and *Money Magazine* listed Pittsburgh among the top cities to live in their 12th annual survey.

Robert Searns will discuss “Trails Across Time/Trails Across Challenge and Adversity.” According to Mr. Searns, “In every crisis, there is both adversity and opportunity. As a nation, we have entered an era of challenge— an era in which we will all be tested. The challenges go beyond terrorism. There are climate issues, economic issues, health issues, social issues and, indeed, a crisis of values. The role of greenway and trail advocates in navigating the coming turbulence will be an important one. We can help navigate what may be a very difficult gauntlet. We can leave a legacy. Leadership will be critical and there are models we can turn to and leaders who will inspire us, such as Mayor Tom Murphy.”

Symposium schedule:

PRE-CONFERENCE • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Most of these field trips run 5 to 10 hours in length and include lunch where appropriate. Cost depends on the activity and duration; see the Web site or registration packet for details and accessibility information.

UNIVERSAL TRAIL ASSESSMENT PROCESS (UTAP) COORDINATOR WORKSHOP

The UTAP inventory process teaches land managers to enhance the safety and enjoyment of trails users by providing accurate, objective information about the on-trail conditions and identify potential access barriers (*two days, Nov. 9 and 10*).

• FLORIDA EAST COAST ADVENTURE

Experience a morning paddle in the beautiful Indian River Lagoon where birds, dolphins and manatees may be observed. After lunch at Dixie Crossroads, visit trails at Turtle Mound Native American site and Canaveral National Seashore.

• FOREVER FLORIDA: CULTURAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND ECO-TOURISM

Explore the Forever Florida nature preserve and working cattle ranch on horseback or swamp buggy.

• FLORIDA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

Enjoy a spectacular six-mile hike along the FNST through hammocks, cabbage palm groves, prairie, and pine flatwoods.

• A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT: Kissimmee River and floodplain restoration

Enjoy a four-hour interpretive pontoon boat ride down the Kissimmee as you observe an extraordinary restoration effort of river/floodplain ecosystem. Learn how this restoration effort is also incorporating trails, and see birds and other wildlife.

• SEMINOLE WEKIVA TRAIL BIKE TOUR (*also offered Nov. 12*)

Enjoy seven miles of Seminole County's newest paved multi-use trail from the seat of a bike. The trail follows an abandoned rail corridor through urban, wooded and residential areas. Learn about trail development and maintenance.

• FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE TOUR: Motorized trail needs and issues

Tour prairie, pine forests, and scrub oak, as a passenger, in 4WD vehicles driven by members of the Florida 4WD Association.

• MOONLIGHT PADDLING ON CALLALISA CREEK

Enjoy kayaking a protected lagoon with a visit to a small island and possible encounters with manatees and dolphins.

PRE-CONFERENCE • SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

• PADDLE WEKIVA WILD AND SCENIC RIVER

Enjoy four hours of kayaking and wildlife viewing on the river fed by Wekiwa Springs and Rock Springs.

• SANTOS "MOUNTAIN" BIKE TRAILS: Bikes and helmets provided

Santos trails provide adventure through the woods and down into old limestone quarries, with a complete range of skill levels.

ISLAND TRAILS DISCOVERY: Ferry or kayak your way across Lake Tohopekaliga to Makinson Island

An interpretive hike along the island trails will take you through vistas of ancient cypress trees and Spanish moss.

• WEST ORANGE TRAIL BIKE TOUR

Enjoy an interpretive bike tour of the West Orange Trail, one of Florida's longest and most popular multi-use trails. Participants will bike approximately 15 miles along a flat paved surface; bike rental available.

• EQUESTRIAN RIDE ON THE CROSS FLORIDA GREENWAY

See the Cross Florida Greenway and America's first Land Bridge from horseback. Saddle up at the Ocala Foxtrotter Ranch for fun and adventure along some of the best trails in the state. Riders can join the equestrian ride regardless of riding level.

• BRIDGE BUILDING AND TRAIL MAINTENANCE ON THE FLORIDA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL

Join the Florida Trail Association to practice using trail maintenance tools while learning Florida's subtropical landscape. Specialty tools will also be demonstrated, and the Student Conservation Association crew will build bridges.

• HIKE TO AMERICA'S FIRST LAND BRIDGE (*also offered Nov. 12*)

The Land Bridge provides safe passage for trail users and wildlife across Interstate 75. It is landscaped with native vegetation and connects many trails on the east and west sides of the Marjorie Harris Carr Cross Florida Greenway.

• UPDATE CLINIC FOR UNIVERSAL TRAIL ASSESSMENT PROCESS COORDINATORS

Refresh and update your UTAP knowledge with the latest measurement techniques and design guidelines.

• AIRBOAT TOUR

Enjoy fresh air and natural Florida scenery while skimming across the top of the St. Johns River, adjacent waterways and marshes in an airboat. See numerous aquatic species up close in their natural habitats during a one hour guided tour.

Accessible trails in the news

Accessible trails and recreation facility guidelines discussed

Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), trails and park facilities are intended to be made accessible to all Americans. The process of deciding what is accessible, and what standards to apply, has been a long one. Recreational trails pose a particular problem, because in most cases the trail itself is a unique experience, unlike standardized facilities like restrooms.

It has been three years since the final report on trails, campgrounds, picnic areas and beaches was submitted to the U.S. Access Board in Washington, DC. This group has authority under ADA to write guidelines for accessible facilities. The federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has looked at costs associated with the proposals over the last two years, and the Access Board expects to release a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the trail regulations sometime in 2003.

In August the OMB cleared the Recreation Facilities Accessibility Guidelines. The recreation facilities guidelines address amusement rides, boating facilities, fishing piers and platforms, golf courses and miniature golf, sports facilities, swimming pools, wading pools, and spas. It was expected to

be published as a Final Rule by the Access Board in the Federal Register by the end of August.

On October 8, 2002, the Access Board is holding a public meeting in Portland, Oregon on guidelines it is developing on accessible public rights-of-way, which includes sidewalks, street crossings, and intersections.

These rules do not include trails outside of street rights-of-way, but would apply to trails within public street rights-of-way and to locations where trails cross public streets. The public may provide comment on draft guidelines the Board released last June. The guidelines, which are posted on the Board's Web site (see below), are available for public comment until October 28, 2002.

For more information on all of these accessible trails and recreation issues, see www.AmericanTrails.org. Click on "Resources & Library" and pick "Accessible Trails."

UTAP trail assessment classes and resources offered

American Trails and Beneficial Designs, Inc., continue to offer the Universal Trail Assessment Coordinator Workshops throughout North America each year. UTAP provides objective, accurate information about the conditions on a trail or in outdoor environments. The assessment results can help trail users determine whether a trail meets their interests and abilities. Land managers can also use the information to identify areas where access may be limited and to determine whether a trail complies with the proposed accessibility guidelines.

Location: Humber Arboretum, Toronto, Canada:

- **October 22-23, 2002 - Universal Trail Assessment Process Coordinator Workshop**

Location: Orlando, Florida, in conjunction with the National Trails Symposium:

- **November 9-10 - UTAP Coordinator Workshop**
- **November 10 - UTAP Update Clinic for Trail Assessment Coordinators**
- **November 13 - TrailWare data-processing for UTAP data**
- **November 14-15- UTAP Coordinator Workshop**

Beneficial Designs will work with you to identify qualified trainers who can teach the workshop at your facility. Why not consider hosting a UTAP Coordinator Workshop?

For information on these and future UTAP workshops contact Kathy Mispagel, Trails Coordinator for Beneficial Designs, (831) 429-8447 ext. 113; fax (831) 423-8450 or e-mail: kathy@beneficialdesigns.com.



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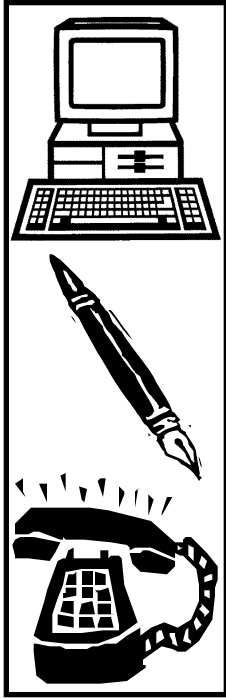
Item No.	Description	Price
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41550	5' Homesteader crosscut saw	ea. \$199⁰⁰
41580	Metal crosscut handle	ea. \$14⁰⁰
41590	Wood crosscut handle	ea. \$19⁰⁰

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1-800-322-4539

Resources

For hundreds of resources on all aspects of trails and greenways, go to www.AmericanTrails.org and click on "Resources & Library."



Equestrian Land Conservation resources

Several publications are available from Equestrian Land Conservation Resource:

- **Getting Organized: Creating an Equestrian Trails Organization** provides step-by-step ideas on how to gather people and resources, create goals and by-laws, prepare and hold an initial meeting, and establish regular meeting formats. An appendix has sample forms and reading lists.
- **Equestrian Land Protection Guide** is a comprehensive 47-page action plan for land protection written specifically for horse people. It covers team development, creating a manageable plan, maximizing resources, negotiating agreements, and building land owner relations.
- **In Their Shoes** is a video on enjoying a trail from the perspective of a horseback rider, hiker, and biker. The three switch modes and obtain a much different perspective. It provides a good discussion piece for meetings on shared-use trails.
- **Equestrian Economic Impacts** provides a basic understanding of how communities benefit from the economic impacts of horses and horse owners.

For information on obtaining these publications contact ECLR at (815) 776-0150 or info@ECLR.org, or visit www.ECLR.org.

Accessible trails and sidewalks detailed

Beneficial Designs, Inc. has completed detailed reports for the Federal Highway Administration to identify best practices and provide guidelines for increasing the accessibility of sidewalk and trail designs, primarily in more developed areas. The documents from this research are available free of charge by faxing a request to FHWA's R&T Report Center at (301) 577-1421:

- **Designing Sidewalks and Trails for Access Part I of II: Review of Existing Guidelines and Practices**
- **Designing Sidewalks and Trails for Access Part II of II: A Best Practices Design Guide.**

Trails for the Twenty-First Century covers trail issues

The second edition of a popular trail planning and design guide is available. **Trails for the Twenty-First Century: Planning, Design, and Management Manual for Multi-Use Trails** was written by Robert M. Searns, Charles A. Flink, Kristine Olka, and the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy. The publishers say that "Trails for the Twenty-First Century is a step-by-step guide to all aspects of the planning, design, and management of multi-use trails. Originally published in 1993, this completely revised and updated edition offers a wealth of new information."

The book's topics include:

- discussions of regulations and federal programs
- recently revised design standards
- current research on topics ranging from trail surfacing to conflict resolution
- information about designing and building trails in environmentally troubled landscapes

Trails for the Twenty-First Century (second edition) is published by Island Press and sells for \$29.95 in paperback.)

Book tells the story of Millennium Trails

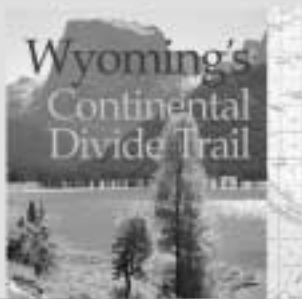
America's Millennium Trails: Pathways for the 21st Century tells the big picture behind each of our 16 National Millennium Trails. The book covers the trail blazers, where each trail leads, and how to begin an exploration of your own. Maps and photographs grace the pages. It also includes descriptions of the State Millennium Legacy Trails, and a state directory of Community Millennium Trails. Special guests contribute vignettes of their personal experiences, and trail leaders tell about their thoughts and experiences with the burgeoning trail network in the United States.

America's Millennium Trails by Kathleen Cordes and Jane Lammers, is available for \$39.95 from AAHPERD publications at (800) 321-0789.



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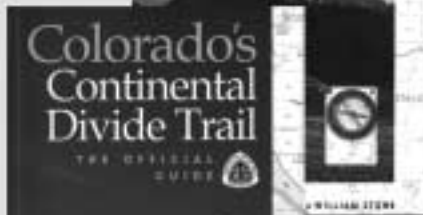
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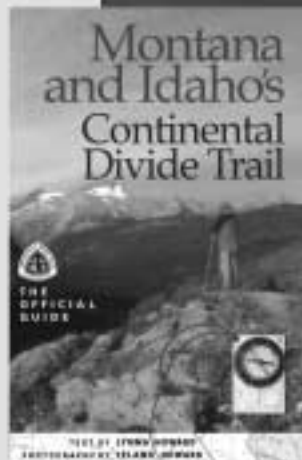
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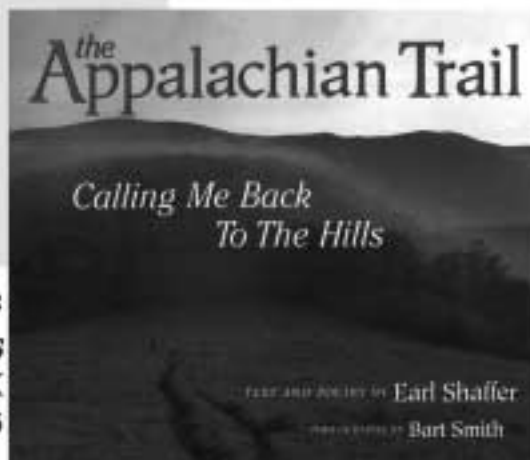
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