

American Trails

For those who build, maintain, use, and dream of trails...

American Trails saves your trails, promotes trail access, and lets you know about trail opportunities. Get involved -- LEARN, CONNECT, ACT, ENJOY!

Saving Trails Since 1988

September 2017 "Trail Tracks" eNewsletter

What's Hot

Sept. 21 Webinar: Integrating Transportation and Recreation Networks

Christopher Douwes and Laura Toole of the Federal Highway Administration will explore ways of connecting communities by integrating transportation and recreation infrastructure. This program was featured at the 2017 International Trails Symposium and is presented as part of the American Trails Webinar Series. [Read more and register for the Webinar...](#)

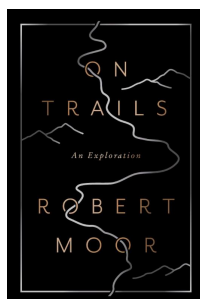


Photo contest for National Recreation Trails

Enter the annual contest for photos of designated National Recreation Trails! American Trails sponsors the annual contest 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 special facilities, art on the trails, management issues, construction, and volunteers. Deadline for submissions is December 15, 2017. [Read more and enter your photos...](#)



Features



Jim Schmid reviews *On the Trail: An Exploration* by Robert Moore

Robert Moor's physical journey started with his 2009 thru-hike on the Appalachian Trail and led to another seven years of travel around the world. Jim Schmid reviews *On Trails*, which he describes as "an inspired exploration of the collective wisdom of trails." [Read more and see photos...](#)

Featured Recreational Trails Program project: Fisher Towers, UT



Managed by the Bureau of Land Management, this 2.2-mile backcountry trail provides access to one of the most unique geological hikes in North America. A designated National Recreation Trail, the hike follows the base of gigantic vertical red rocks in the Moab and Arches National Monument area. [Read more and see photos...](#)



Featured National Recreation Trail: Croft Farm Trail, NJ

The Croft Farm Trail system of trails is located on a National Register of Historic Places designated 18th Century farmstead that is now Cherry Hill Township Open Space land. The New Jersey Audubon selected the Croft Farm area as one of the stops on their state-wide Birding and Wildlife Viewing Trails. [Read more and see photos...](#)

News

11,000 sign petition to clear homeless from Santa Ana River Trail

The *Orange County Register* reports that "Frustrated over miles of homeless encampments on the Santa Ana River Trail, more than 11,000 citizens have signed a petition demanding back their national recreation site, and officials are considering a state of emergency." [Read more and see photos...](#)



After 107 years bridge starts new life for Columbus People Trail

In Columbus, Indiana *The Republic* reports on a 1910 road bridge now refurbished as a new trail bridge. The People Trail system, more than 27 miles long, takes you through the natural beauty of several parks, past significant modern architecture, and through quaint residential areas. [Read more and see photos...](#)

Photo gallery: Cleveland's Towpath Trail, both the old and the new

To celebrate the trail's growth, Fresh Water photographer Bob Perkoski set out to photograph the Towpath Trail, documenting both the old and the new and their seamless connection through beautiful Cleveland and beyond. [Read more and see photos...](#)

Video: Lower Yahara River Trail opens in Wisconsin

The Lower Yahara River Trail connects Lake Farm County Park in Madison with McDaniel Park in McFarland. The \$8 million trail, which includes the longest bicycle bridge and boardwalk in Wisconsin, opened to the public Aug. 27, 2017. [Watch video of the trail...](#)

First U.S. city maps urban trails on Google Street View

After a yearlong process covering more than 400 miles, Philadelphia is officially the first city in the U.S. to have its urban trail system mapped on Google Street View. After two Parks & Recreation employees spent months carrying a 50-pound Google Trekker backpack, the hi-res images were sent to Google to be processed into a 360-degree platform. [Read more and see photos...](#)

International News

Autumn 2017 edition of *Trails Around the World* now available

A new edition of *Trails Around the World*, the magazine of the World

Trails Network, is now up on the Web. American Trails is a supporter of the organization, which "strives to connect the diverse trails of the world to promote the creation, enhancement, and protection of outstanding trail experiences." [Access the online magazine...](#)



Trans Canada Trail now linked across all 13 provinces

The Great Trail in Canada is aptly named – it's now the longest hiking trail in the world at 14,864 miles. It was built over the last 25 years, snaking through 13 provinces and territories. The trail, which is comprised of over 400 individual paths, just officially opened at the end of August. [Read more and see photos...](#)

Walk on Water: Ireland's first floating boardwalk opens

Ireland's first-ever "floating walkway" has been unveiled as part of a new, 600m-long boardwalk on the River Shannon. The Shannon Blueway Boardwalk is at Acres Lake in Drumshanbo, Co. Leitrim. It was installed by Waterways Ireland, with the aid of €500,000 from the Department's Rural Recreation Fund. [Read more and see photos...](#)

TRAINING & RESOURCES

State Funding Mechanisms for Outdoor Recreation Report Released

A new report from the Outdoor Industry Association focuses on state funding mechanisms that support outdoor recreation with detailed case studies of seven states. Even in an era of divisive political polarization, voters continually and strongly support these programs, with over 80% of funding for recreation and conservation generated at the state and local level. [Download the 48-page report \(pdf 2.1 mb\)...](#)



American Trails Webinar for October: Trail User Counting

Chris Linn with Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission presents "Trail Users Count! Automated Bicyclist and Pedestrian Trail User Counting in Greater Philadelphia." He will explore how data, metrics, and advanced tools are being used to further trail development. [Read more and register for the Webinar...](#)

"Reducing Crime One Trail at a Time" available as recorded Webinar

The latest in dozens of American Trails' recorded Webinars covers methods of enhancing trail security and safety perceptions through environmental design. [Read more and access the Webinar recording...](#)

Trail Building and Stewardship Training workshops

Mass Audubon, with Massachusetts Dept. of Conservation and Recreation, is sponsoring the second annual trail building and stewardship training series. Topics include bridges for a variety of trail users, how to design and construct a trail re-route, and how to build stone staircases, and chainsaw skills. [Read more...](#)

Fall/Winter 2017 trail training opportunities

For more current training opportunities for trail skills across the country, see the [Online Trails Training Calendar for details...](#)

Contact us with your scheduled training opportunities at ntp@americantrails.org.

October 2017

October 1-3, 2017 – Southeast Greenways & Trails Summit

- Durham, NC
- Info: www.greenway.org/events/southeast-greenways-trails-summit

October 2, 2017 – Colorado Bicycle Summit

- Denver, CO
- Info: <https://www.bicyclecolorado.org/featured-event/colorado-bicycle-summit/>

October 5-7, 2017 – Montana Trails, Recreation, and Park Conference

- Missoula, MT

- Info: <http://www.mtrpa.info/mtrpa-conference/>

October 6-7, 2017 – Trail Building and Stewardship Skills

- Easthampton and Northampton, MA

- Info: www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/wildlife-sanctuaries/arcadia/trail-building-training-series

October 11-12, 2017 – Sustainable Trails For All Workshop

- Greenfield, NH

- Info: Deb DeCicco at 603-547-1475 or sustainabletrailsworkshops@gmail.com

October 16-18, 2017 – Trail of Tears Conference and Symposium

- Pocola, OK

- Info: <http://www.nationaltota.com/>

October 16-19, 2017 – Sustainable Trail Design and Layout, Construction, and Maintenance

- Wentworth, NC

- Info: johnsont1587@rockinghamcc.edu

October 18-22, 2017 – National Paddlesports Conference

- Bryson City, NC

- Info: <http://www.americancanoe.org/page/NPC>

October 19, 2017 – Webinar: Trail Users Count! Automated Trail User Counting in Greater Philadelphia

- 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Pacific / 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Eastern

- Info: <http://www.americantrails.org/resources/ManageMaintain/webinar-trail-users-count.html>

October 20-21, 2017 – Building With Stone

- Plainfield, MA

- Info: www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/wildlife-sanctuaries/arcadia/trail-building-training-series

October 20-23, 2017 – ASLA Annual Meeting and EXPO

- Los Angeles, CA

- Info: <https://www.aslameeting.com/>

October 21-22, 2017 – Arizona Trail Association: Trail Design and Layout

- Patagonia, AZ

- Info: <http://www.aztrail.org/volunteers/training.html>

November 2017

November 1-3, 2017 – AORE Annual Conference

- Roanoke, VA

- Info: http://www.aore.org/about_the_conference.php

November 2, 2017 – Trail Crossings in Wetlands: Bog Bridge

- Leominster, MA

- Info: <http://www.masstrailsconference.com/workshop-details.html>

November 2, 2017 – Constructing accessible trails with stabilized stone dust

- Leominster, MA

- Info: <http://www.masstrailsconference.com/workshop-details.html>

November 2, 2017 – Washington State Trails Coalition Caucus Meeting

- Mukilteo, WA

- Info: Ben Monte Calvo, WSTC President, at president@washingtonstatetrails.org and <http://washingtonstatetrailscoalition.org/>

November 2-4, 2017 – Chainsaw Safety Training for Trail Volunteers

- Leominster, MA

- Info: <http://www.masstrailsconference.com/workshop-details.html>

November 3-4, 2017 – Massachusetts Trails Conference

- Leominster, MA

- Info: <http://www.masstrailsconference.com/>

November 3-4, 2017 – 6th Annual NC Bike/Walk Summit

- Wilmington, NC

- Info: <http://www.bikewalknc.org/nc-bicycle-summit/>

November 9, 2017 – Webinar: Electric Bicycles: A Primer on the Technology & Land Manager Tools

- 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Pacific / 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Eastern

- Info: <http://www.americantrails.org/resources/ManageMaintain/webinar-trail-users-count.html>

November 10, 2017 – Game of Logging Level 3 – Storm Damage Removal

- Williamsburg, MA

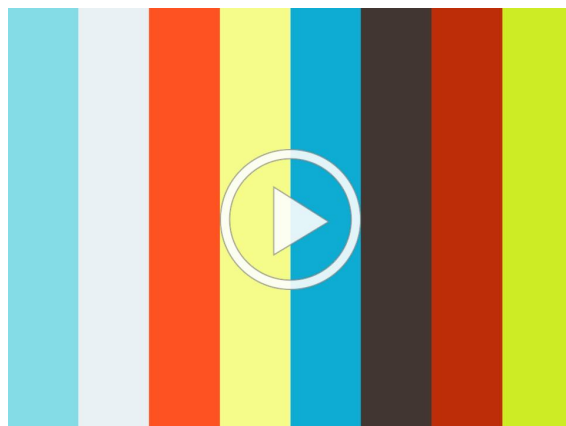
- Info: www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/wildlife-sanctuaries/arcadia/trail-building-training-series

November 22-23, 2017 – Trailhead Canada 2017

- Gatineau, Quebec, Canada
- Info: www.eventbrite.com/e/trailhead-canada-2017-sponsorship-opportunities-tickets-19411621683

Contact us with your scheduled training opportunities at nntp@americantrails.org.

Become a Member



JOIN THE AMERICAN TRAILS NETWORK

Working together - works! There is strength in numbers!

For over 28 years, [American Trails](http://www.AmericanTrails.org) has been a collective voice for a diverse coalition of enthusiasts, professionals, advocates, builders, land managers, conservationists, and friends of the outdoors and livable cities.

American Trails will continue to keep you informed on both trail know-how and issues critical to the future of trails. With your help, we can increase funding for trails, keep more trails open, and improve the health and well-being of Americans of all ages and abilities, including our children.

American Trails is a tax-exempt, nonprofit charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations are tax-deductible.

QUICK LINKS

- **American Trails** - maintains *one of the world's most comprehensive online go-to sources for planning, designing, building, funding, managing, enhancing, and supporting trails, greenways, and blueways* at www.AmericanTrails.org.
- **SAVE THE DATE: [2019 International Trails Symposium](#)** in Syracuse, NY – April 28 to May 1, 2019
- Visit [American Trails "Supporting Trails" web page](#) for alerts and legislation.
- Read about great Recreational Trails Program funded projects by visiting the Federal Highway Administration's [RTP Database website](#).
- Find products and services for trails in our [Online Business Directory](#).
- Visit our [Blog](#).
- Join us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter!](#)
- Learn about and find [National Recreation Trails \(NRT\)](#) near you today!
- The [Online Trails Training Calendar](#) connects you with courses, conferences, and trail-related training.
- Purchase books, maps, memberships, and webinars through the [American Trails Online Store](#).
- Need Trails Training? Visit www.TrailsTraining.net.
- [Cool Trail Solutions](#): view galleries of trail projects, enhancements, and facilities to give you ideas and see how others solved typical trails and greenways problems.
- If you appreciate the myriad of resources we provide on our website to help you do your work better, please help support American Trails ~ by [joining the American Trails Network](#) today.

Trail Tracks is our monthly e-Newsletter with links to www.AmericanTrails.org *one of the world's most comprehensive online resources for planning, designing, building, funding, managing, and enhancing trails, greenways, and blueways*. We also bring you news from the halls of Congress, new studies and resources, interesting articles, events, training opportunities, and the latest in trail products and services. Check out

the topics above for what's new in the trails world!

Visit our
website

