



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

May 2018 "Trail Tracks" eNewsletter

Saving Trails Since 1988



Final call for presentations for the 2019 International Trails Symposium (ITS)

American Trails is calling for presentation proposals for our 2019 Symposium. **The deadline for proposals is June 1.** The ITS is the premier opportunity for greenways and trails advocates, managers, planners, builders, and users, as well as environmental, tourism, development, and business interests, to come together to strengthen America's remarkable network of trails! What topics do you believe the trails world needs to hear more about? [Submit your proposals today!](#)



American Trails is building a volunteer listing board!

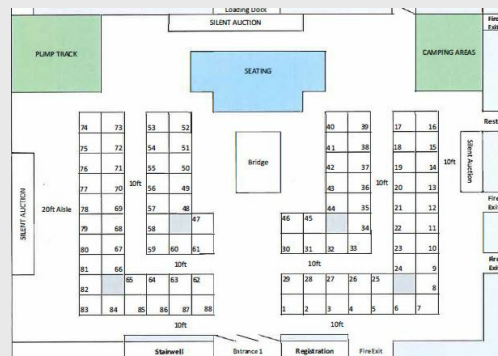
American Trails is already the go-to website for finding great trail job opportunities, and now we would love to connect you to the volunteers your project needs. If you have a need for volunteers, send us information including the project and location, type of work, and contact information for volunteers to reach out to. We will make sure your volunteer opportunity is listed on our website. Please send all relevant information or questions to taylor@americantrails.org.



American Trails is building a volunteer board, and we would love to list your volunteer position!

Early exhibitor opportunities at the 2019 International Trails Symposium

The early bird gets the worm! Receive a 20% discount and the opportunity to choose your booth location in the order your contract is received. Check out the exhibit hall layout and view the variety of sponsorship benefits as an exhibitor at the 2019 Symposium in Syracuse, New York. [Read more and see Exhibitor Contract...](#)



May 24 webinar discusses the International Trails Movement

American Trails is hosting a webinar on May 24 on "A World of Trails: The International Trails Movement." Presented by a panel of internationally based trails experts from five continents, this webinar will discuss how other countries are using trails for environmental, landscape, and cultural preservation; economic development and tourism; and health and fitness benefits. In honor of the presenters, we will automatically be offering closed captioning in the following languages: English, Greek, Korean, and Portuguese. If you require any closed captioning or need another language, please email trailhead@americantrails.org in advance of the webinar. [Read more and register for the webinar...](#)

Are you looking for a trail job?

There are jobs available for a variety of trail-related work. See the American Trails Employment postings for professional as well as entry-level jobs. American Trails posts opportunities for trails and greenways employment, seasonal work for conservation corps, bicycle pedestrian advocacy, trail organizations, state parks, and federal agencies. [View current jobs...](#)



Grant opportunity alert!

The U.S. Department of Transportation is accepting applications for \$1.5 billion in funding through the



U.S. Department of Transportation

Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grants program [formerly known as TIGER]. Trail projects that form part of the multimodal transportation network and provide safe community connections could be eligible. The deadline to submit an application is July 19, 2018.

[Read more...](#)

American Trails celebrated our 30th anniversary on May 3rd

American Trails has officially been a force in the trails world for thirty years, and we are already looking forward to the next thirty. We are asking everyone to help us celebrate this important anniversary by committing to exploring 30 miles of our nation's trails by doing the 30 Miles for 30 Years challenge. This challenge is a self-paced virtual marathon where you can pick the trails you want to explore to reach your goal, while helping us raise funds along the way to invest in trails. See the current challenge leader [here](#), and sign up [here](#) to start your own 30 mile journey.

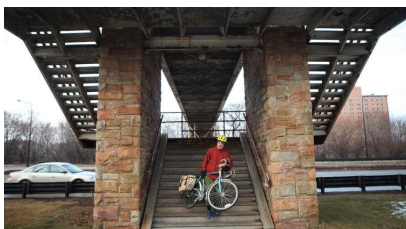
HAPPY 30TH BIRTHDAY

American Trails



How trails pay back communities

This round up in *The Daily Journal*, out of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, gives answers to such questions as "How will trails benefit my restaurant or business? Who's going to pay for it? Will the benefits cover the long term trail maintenance? How can we give practical answers?" [Read more...](#)



Illinois awards \$36 million for bike and pedestrian projects

"The Illinois Transportation Department is awarding almost \$36 million for bike and pedestrian projects around the state, including a pedestrian bridge in west suburban Hillside and another on Chicago's South Side lakefront."

[Read more...](#)

enjoy

Britain is currently celebrating their own "National Walking Month," a way to encourage their residents to get outside more as well as be more active. This story about "Accessible Britain" highlights the ways everyone can take part, no matter what their mobility level is. [Read more...](#)



Breaking Down the Silos

In 1991, at the age of 22, our executive director, Mike Passo, lost feeling below the bellybutton in a mountain biking accident, which ultimately led to epiphanies about how important outdoor recreation is how we define ourselves. He wrote about the experience in the recent edition of the American Trails Magazine. [Read more...](#)

Brothers of the brush hook, an interview with Charlie Dundas

In our 2018 Spring issue of the American Trails Magazine, our executive director, Mike Passo, sat down for an interview with Charlie Dundas. Charlie is a larger than life forest dweller, with a booming voice and a huge white beard. He is gruff, hilarious, and, at times, quite professorial. His stories are fabulous and endless, and you always know exactly where he stands. And he has been building some of the best trails in the world for over 60 years. [Read more...](#)



Featured Recreational Trails Program-funded project: Tennessee Riverpark vision becomes reality in Chattanooga

The development of the Tennessee Riverpark was a turning point for the City of Chattanooga and now its Riverfront Renaissance Story is being told internationally. Today the 13-mile linear park, bikeway, and water trail system runs along the Tennessee River through the heart of downtown Chattanooga. [Read more and see photos...](#)

Featured National Recreation Trail: accessibility improved on Lake Mead trails

The Historic Railroad Trail in Lake Mead National Recreation Area once moved equipment and workers from Boulder City, Nevada to the dam construction site. Five tunnels were constructed to accommodate the over-sized equipment that was used to construct Hoover Dam. Converted to a multi-use pathway, and designated as a National Recreation Trail in 2015, it is a popular trail for visitors to Hoover Dam. [Read more and see photos...](#)

Featured Training: IMBA Trail Labs: training to spur trail development

Is your community the next great mountain biking community? The International Mountain Bicycling Association has launched a series of programs to accelerate the pace of new trail construction, including hosting professional workshops to provide the tools needed to make trail communities happen. [Read more...](#)

Call for presenters for the Advancing Trails Webinar Series

American Trails is looking to fill out 2019 webinar slots and are seeking topics including (but not limited to): effective marketing tools for trails, unique funding tools and revenue opportunities for trails, avoiding conflicts on mixed-use trails, trail bridges, trail maintenance, new trail technology, volunteer recruitment and retainment, etc. If interested, fill out [this form](#) providing details about a potential webinar and email to candace@americantrails.org. [View a list of our archived and upcoming webinars to learn more...](#)



Interested in hosting the 2021 International Trails Symposium?

If your community is interested in hosting the 2021 International Trails Symposium, the **deadline for proposals is June 15**. View the host bid packet online [here](#). If you have any questions, contact candace@americantrails.org.

Webinar Series now offers multi-lingual closed captioning!

The American Trails Advancing Trails Webinar Series now offers **multi-lingual closed captioning in over 100 languages**, thanks to a partnership with [VZP Digital](#). English is automatically offered for all webinars, but a 48-hour advance notice is requested for any other language. Transcripts are included with your webinar purchase. [Browse our upcoming webinars...](#)



Featured Trail Industry Manufacturer: E.T. Techtonics

E.T. Techtonics prefabricated bridges are designed to be aesthetically pleasing in your landscape, and easy to install in remote bridge sites. **Blends into environment:** Their standard color is green, which blends beautifully into the surroundings. **Strong and lightweight:** High strength fiberglass is strong enough to satisfy demanding load carrying requirements, yet light enough to easily transport into difficult to reach locations. **Maintenance-free:** Typically, their spans require no ongoing maintenance. Fiberglass bridges do not rust, rot, and are not subject to insect damage. [Learn more about E.T. Techtonics in the American Trails Online](#)

Training

See upcoming training opportunities by checking out the training calendar on our website!

Find Opportunities

Join the American Trails Network today by becoming a member. For over 30 years, we have been a collective voice for a diverse coalition of trail enthusiasts, professionals, advocates, builders, land managers, conservationists, and friends of the outdoors and livable cities.

Become a Member

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

Trail Tracks is our monthly e-Newsletter with links to www.AmericanTrails.org 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

