



April 2020

Five Reasons Trail Research Matters

Trails are invaluable assets to any community. When it comes to procuring funding, building coalitions, providing the best trail access and more, trail research is one of the best tools available for showing that worth.



[Read more...](#)

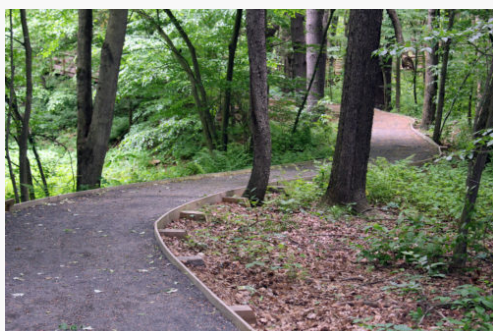
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Thinking of Hitting the Trail During COVID-19? Answer These 5 Questions First.



Before you go on any outdoor adventures you need to ask yourself these questions to confirm if your plans are safe and appropriate.

Introduction to Great Trails Workshops: What Makes a Great Trail Great?



This webinar will provide information on what makes a great trail great and will serve as an introduction to the *National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation*

[Read more...](#)

[Council \(NOHVCC\) Great Trails Workshops. Free to download!](#)
[Read more...](#)

National Recreation Trail (NRT) Highlight

The Sarah Zigler Interpretive Trail in Oregon explains the history of the Jacksonville Woodlands Association and how they get hundreds of kids out on the trail every year.

[Read more...](#)

Photo Gallery: Interpretive Signs and Displays Along Trails

Trails and greenways create an opportunity to teach visitors about history, the environment, and the community.

[Read more...](#)



American Trails is Crowdsourcing Survey Questions and We Need Your Help!

Over the last several months we have had several inquiries such as the one below from New York State (NYS). We would love to collect as many survey examples, both motorized and nonmotorized, as

possible to create a resource library. Please send examples to taylor@americantrails.org.

Inquiry from New York State: *"The NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation (OPRHP) is developing a statewide, nonmotorized Greenways Plan in 2020. The plan will result in a roadmap for linking our up-and-coming Empire State Trail with existing regional and local trail corridors and planned or undeveloped sections. As part of the Plan we will be engaging the public through multiple avenues, including an online survey. Our office is seeking example surveys used for similar efforts in other states. In doing so, we hope to develop some questions that go beyond just use patterns and demographics, and better inform the needs and trends of current and potential trail users across our state."*

Advertisement for Northwest Youth Corps (NYC) 35th Anniversary. The image shows two people hiking on a trail, a logo for NYC with the text "35th Anniversary", and a person holding a large piece of wood. The text reads: "NOW RECRUITING ADULT CREW MEMBERS AND SKILLED LEADERS" and "LEARN MORE".

Trail News and Notes

Click on each article to read more

- [\(Global\) 10 Most Difficult Hiking Trails in Asia](#)
- [\(National\) Virtually Hike the Appalachian Trail with this App](#)
- [\(National\) The Social Distancer's Guide to Urban Etiquette and Ethics](#)
- [\(National\) Enjoy the PCT While Sheltering at Home through this Extraordinary 360 Video of the Trail](#)
- [\(National\) Why a SCOTUS Case Over the Atlantic Pipeline Project Could have](#)

Big Implications

- *(National) BLM Recently Released Engaging with Communities in Public Land Stewardship: A Toolkit for Building and Sustaining Effective BLM Partnerships with Friends Groups*
 - *(National) Applications for SHIFT (Shaping How we Invest For Tomorrow) 2020 Emerging Leaders Program are Now Open*
 - *(Pacific Northwest) Forest Service Accepting Applications for Appointments to Pacific Northwest Trail Advisory Council*
 - *(Kansas) Photos: Travel Across the Kansas Countryside – Without Leaving Wichita*
 - *(North Carolina) You Cannot Only Buy a "Men of the Rail-Trail" Calendar, but You Can Nominate a Model*
 - *(Texas) Texan by Nature Announces 2020 Conservation Wranglers; Paso del Norte Trail Honored*
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Resources and Training

More Webinar Trainings Through Summer Due to COVID-19

With more people working and being stuck at home, we feel like we can serve the trails community by offering increased options with online training in place of the many conferences that have been canceled/postponed this year. Be on the lookout for new FREE webinars being added, including this month, to our Advancing Trails Webinar Series. [Read more...](#)

FREE April 16 Webinar: Equestrian Trail Design and Best Practices from Backcountry to Urban Edge Settings

Best practices for trail design planning, construction, and management in undeveloped natural areas and connecting to urban edge settings. [Register today...](#)

Trail Tools: Survey, Layout, and Measuring Tools

These are the most commonly used Survey, Layout, and Measuring Tools with tips on using them safely and effectively. [Learn more...](#)

A Primer on Trail-Related Liability Issues & Risk Management Techniques

This report concludes that trail-related liability is primarily a management issue. Laws are in place to protect all parties from unwarranted lawsuits and the rest is up to proper design, maintenance, and management. [Learn more...](#)

Wetland Trail Design and Construction

Wetland identification, working with wetlands regulation, and trail development in riparian areas. [Learn more...](#)

FREE Webinar Recording Available for Trails Move People: Articulating the Impact and Amplifying the Voice of the Trails Community

In partnership with NOHVCC, this webinar discusses how trails, for too long, have been taken for granted and the true measure of their impact has not been

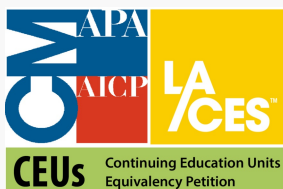
calculated or shared. [Download recording...](#)

Search 1,100+ Trail Businesses for Your Next Trail Project

Visit the new and improved American Trails Online Business Directory where over 1,100 businesses and organizations have been included, and more are being added weekly. Browse by category, recommend a business to add, or add your own business with free and paid options. [Search the online business directory...](#)

American Trails Website Resources

Check out our [training calendar](#) for upcoming conferences and events. You can also find volunteer opportunities [here](#). If you have an opportunity for us to post, please email trailhead@americantrails.org.



Seeking Learning Credits?

American Trails offers learning credits for our Advancing Trails Webinar Series, our International Trails Symposium and Training Institute, and other trail-related conferences, workshops, and webinars. [Learn more...](#)

Featured Trail Industry Manufacturer: Nature Bridges

Nature Bridges is a leading bridge construction company that specializes in top down construction of bridges and pedestrian boardwalks through environmentally sensitive areas. [Learn more about this company...](#)

Sponsor an American Trails Webinar to Reach 600+ Attendees

American Trails is hosting additional webinars over the next several months to bring trainings to many who are stuck at home during COVID-19. The last few webinars American Trails held brought in 600+ attendees per webinar. Sponsor a webinar as a partner for \$250 or make a webinar free to the public for \$3,000 (not including any possible discounts). View the fluid webinar schedule for 2020 [here](#). Mention this ad for an additional 10% discount! [Contact Candace Gallagher to sponsor a webinar today...](#)

Featured Trail Job: Trails Coordinator - Outdoor Recreation

[Indiana Department of Natural Resources](#)

Grow your career with the State of Indiana! With more than 50 executive branch agencies, the State of Indiana is a diverse workforce offering employees stimulating and challenging projects across a broad scope of career opportunities. [Learn more here...](#)



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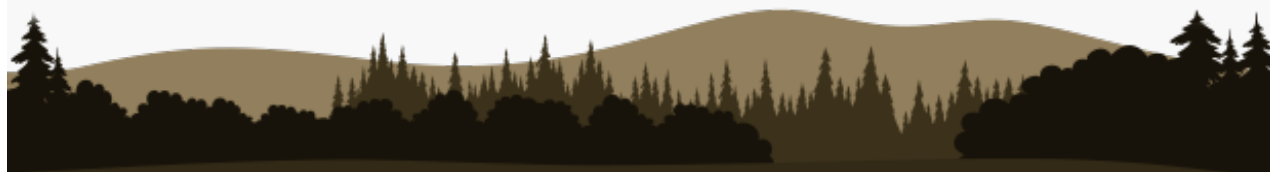
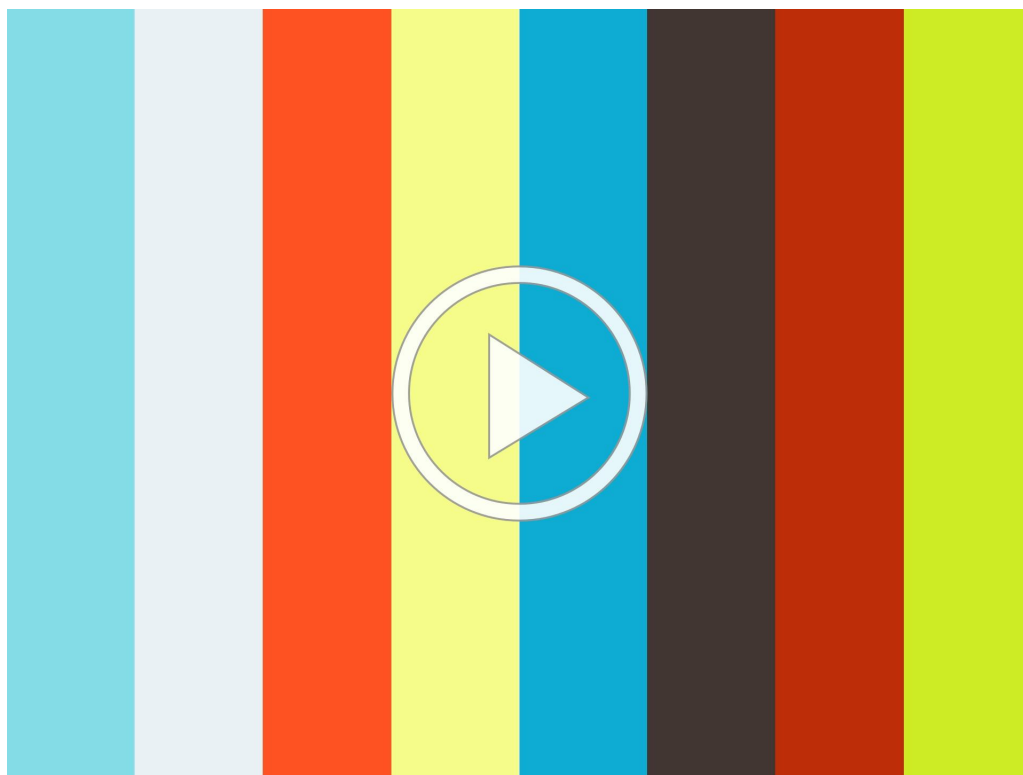
TRAILSNext™ Series Presented by American Trails

The TRAILSNext™ Series brings you cutting edge information from leading experts in the trails world on today's hottest trail topics. These high energy 18-minute presentations were recorded to be made available to folks who were unable to attend this year's International Trails Symposium.

Each month we will be featuring one of these talks in our eNews, and you can purchase the entire series on our website at this [link](#).

This month we are sharing with you "**Trail Stewards**" by presenter Hank Osborn.

Overuse and misuse of the most popular outdoor destinations are threatening the ecological integrity of these special places. In the greater New York metropolitan region, the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference is taking a leadership role in coordinating stewardship efforts to keep up with growing threats. There is no one answer to solving this issue; it is our belief that we can create better outdoor experiences through user education, public participation, and sustainable, on-the-ground solutions. The Trail Conference has joined with land managers and local partners to begin a multi-phased stewardship approach on the Appalachian Trail, at Breakneck Ridge, and in the Catskills. Learn how trail steward and trail-building programs have worked to make the public better informed, more responsible trails users while protecting the resource. Because when trails are used responsibly, they protect both the people who use them and the environment that surrounds them.



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