October 2020

Dealing with Homelessness on Trails

Homelessness on trails is a growing problem across the country. The city of Modesto, California used innovative solutions to tackle this issue.

Read more...

Sometimes All it Takes is One Volunteer

Stefis Demetropoulos of the Florida Forest Service tells the story of how one volunteer can make a difference.

(Sponsored Content) Read more...

Proper Signage Makes a Trail Come Alive

From wayfinding signage that helps the public navigate your trail, to informational signs that educate trail visitors about the area, promote conservation, and create a more interactive experience, proper signage can take trails to the next level.

(Sponsored Content) Read more...
Teaching Kids to be Great Trail Stewards

Our trails have been seeing increasing misuse, so to combat that American Trails has created a packet to teach kids to be great trail stewards. Read more...

The Best Pants for Trail Work

We asked you to give us your recommendations for durable pants that can withstand trail work. These are the results. Read more...

Send in Your Costume Pictures for our 3rd Annual Costume Contest

It's the spooky season, and that means time to put on your costume and hit the trail! Send us your outdoor costume pictures and win cool prizes. Read more...

The National Recreation Trail (NRT) Annual Photo Contest Needs Your Photos

Time to highlight the incredible and diverse trails in our nation! We are accepting NRT photo contest entries until December 15, 2020. Read more...

2020 Coalition for Recreational Trails Annual Achievement Awards

Join the Coalition for Recreational Trails in celebrating the 2020 Tom Petri Annual Achievement Awards! Every year, this award program recognizes top notch trail projects that used Recreational Trails Program funds. We hope you will join us for the virtual 2020 celebration! Read more...
Trail News and Notes
Click on each article to read more

- (National) Forget the Instagram Selfies and Take a Hike on the Path Less Traveled
- (Arizona) Trailhead Talk with United States Senate candidate Martha McSally
- (Arizona) Trailhead Talk with United States Senate candidate Mark Kelly
- (Iowa) Trail Story Culminates Friday with Ribbon Cutting
- (Kentucky) Lexington Finishes Legacy Trail
- (Michigan) Southeast Michigan ORV Park Opens with 113 Acres of Challenging Trails
- (Missouri) The City of Ozark was Awarded Federal Funds to Construct 3,300 Linear Feet of The Chadwick Flyer Trail
- (New York) NY Canal System Photo Contest Shows Beauty, Splendor of a Great Resource (See Winners)
- (Texas) Counters Installed Along A-train Rail Trail
- (Vermont) Keeping a Very Busy Long Trail Accessible to All
- (Washington) Travel Channel Labels Hiking Trail Near Chelan County Border as One of the Scariest Haunted Hiking Trails in the U.S.

Resources and Training

2021 Trails and Outdoor Recreation Summit (TORS) Update: New Fall 2021 Dates
With COVID-19 still being very much on the forefront in so many countries, including the United States, we have decided to push back the 2021 TORS to the Fall of 2021 (from the originally scheduled Spring dates of May 2021). The new 2021 TORS dates will be September 13-17, 2021. Read more...

Equestrian Etiquette - Protecting Trees and Park Structures
Responsible equestrians should actively protect trees and other park structures when out on the trail. Equine expert Lora Goerlich gives her take on this topic. Read more...

MO-MOTO OHV Incorporated – OHV Tourism Economic Impact Overview
OHV recreation is a proven financial stimulus to the tourism market with the average rider spending a minimum of $100 on a single day trip. We should encourage struggling areas to embrace OHV tourism as we have the opportunity to directly impact and benefit financial success of local businesses. Read more...
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. Read more...

Landowner Outreach and Trail Planning
The most important part of the planning process is building relationships with the people affected by the proposed trail and its potential users. Read more...

Training Calendar and Volunteer Opportunities
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. Read more...

Featured Trail Industry Manufacturer: Eco-Counter
With over 15 years of experience, Eco-Counter is the global leader in pedestrian and cyclist counting solutions. Learn more about this company...

Featured Trail Job: Fundraiser/Project Planner For the Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area
The objective is to plan for the development of a volunteer trail maintenance program that will support well-maintained mountain biking and hiking trails to attract recreational tourism. This is an economic development project to benefit the counties of Nicholas, Pocahontas, and Webster, West Virginia. Read more...

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Advancing Trails Webinar Series

October 2020 Webinar Line-up

Free October Webinar Line-Up
Check out our webinars taking place this month. All of the webinars are free, are recorded, include a closed caption transcript, and offer learning credits. Register or download a recording today...
October 1 – Managing High-Use Trails: Why Trail Stewards are a Necessity in Creating Safe, Sustainable Trails
October 8 – Reconnecting Children with Nature: Our Responsibility and Our Opportunity
October 15 – Using Volunteers to Maintain Trails in Parks
October 22 – Make it Count: Collecting and Applying Trail Count Data
October 29 – Perceptions of Conflict Surrounding Future E-Bike Use on the Arizona Trail

Sponsor an American Trails Webinar to Reach 500 to 1,000 Attendees
Mention this ad for a special rate of $2,000! There are only a few webinars up for grabs for our weekly webinar series through the remainder of 2020.

Remaining 2020 and Early 2021 Webinars Available for Sponsorship:

- **November 5, 2020** – Technology in Trail Building or Planning: Drones and LiDAR
- **December 3, 2020** – Innovative Approaches for Sustainable Trails: Crawford Path Case Study
- **January 21, 2021** – Active Transportation and Placemaking
- **January or February 2021** – The Catalytic Impact of Trails on Parks and Recreation

We are continuing to add webinars to our schedule in 2021. If you have a webinar idea, want to present, and/or sponsor a topic listed or not, email candace@americantrails.org.

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