September 2020

12 Resources for Building Trail Stewards

Use this library of resources, articles, and trainings to create an army of effective trail stewards.

Read more...

Recreational Trail Program Funds Help Create Sign Language Program

Kartchner Caverns State Park provides tours that see over 150,000 people annually and the information that rangers provide on the tours is crucial to the experience. The Deaf and Hard of Hearing community has been missing out on a vital part of the experience, until now. Read more...

The National Recreation Trail (NRT) Annual Photo Contest is Open!

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

How Permeable Pavers Make a Difference

Permeable Pavers provide stable, low-impact pathway through Rookery Bay

Student Conservation Association (SCA) Alumni Week (Sept. 21-26)
Mark your calendar for SCA’s second annual Alumni Engagement Week! We’re working hard to bring SCA alumni even more ways to make useful connections, acquire key industry knowledge, discover exciting career opportunities, and have a little fun. Read more…

Trail News and Notes
Click on each article to read more

- (National) Busy Trails, a Spreading Virus and Back-Ordered Bikes: Marks of our Coronavirus Summer
- (Florida) Miami-Dade ‘Blueways’ Plan Aims to Increase Water Access
- (Florida) New Pedestrian and Bike Paths in Tampa Funded by $24 Million in Federal Grants
- (Iowa) ‘Plain, Cookie-Cutter’ Ankeny Seeks to Jazz Up its Image With ‘Iconic’ Bike Trail Improvements
- (Michigan) Help the ‘Trails State’ Shape Michigan’s Trails Management Plan: DNR
- (Montana) Billings Receives $11.6 Million in Federal Grant for Inner Belt Loop and Bike Trails
- (Pennsylvania) Richland B&O Bike Trail Celebrates 25 Years
- (South Carolina) ‘Transformative’ Project Could Bring Miles of Walking Trails to Myrtle Beach
- (Texas) Round Rock Greenbelt Signs Show How to Work Out Using Park Benches
- (Texas) Unique New Park and Hiking Trail Breaks Ground in Downtown Houston
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...

Webinar – United States Forest Service Risk Assessment Guidance
Presented by the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council, this webinar will describe the new Forest Service guidance that will impact the way volunteers and others assess risk in projects. Read more...

Horse–friendly Zoning Practices in American Communities
Zoning is very important concept for horse community members to understand, because it effects how and where you may keep your horses, and even how they can be used within a community. Read more...

The Health Benefits of Motorized Trail Riding
Trail Riding promotes physical activity in those who might otherwise forego exercise altogether. All physical activity is beneficial. Read more...

Strategy and Plan of Action for the Water Trails Community
Water trails are a unique form of recreation – in its simplest form it consists of floating with minor balance and navigation. However, the ability to reach the water’s edge is probably one of the largest obstacles to participation. 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.

Trail Marking Handbook Survey
The answers to these questions will be used to create a commonsense trail marking handbook for the people building and planning trails. Read more...

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: iZone Imaging
iZone Imaging is the trusted partner in providing durable signage and graphics from the only completely in-house manufacturing facility dedicated to producing CHPL (Custom High Pressure Laminate) products. Learn more about this company...

Featured Trail Job: Executive Director of the Florida Trail Association
The Executive Director will develop and provide a clear vision and action plan for the
Board, staff and all stakeholders. They will target organizational stability, long-term viability, financial growth and independence going forward. Read more...

Advancing Trails Webinar Series

September 2020 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...

- September 10 – Effective Wayfinding Signage: Trail System Planning, Design, and Implementation
- September 17 – Making Connections: The National Digital Trails Network Project
- September 24 – Trail Marking Standards Across Varying Landscapes

Chance to win $50 REI Gift Card for Sept. 24 Webinar Attendees
The presenters for our upcoming September 24 webinar, Trail Marking Standards Across Varying Landscapes, want to ensure they have the most effective and relevant content in the webinar. They want to give attendees the opportunity to ask questions or tell us about unique challenges that you have experienced ahead of time. Everyone who completes this survey will be entered to win a $50 gift card from REI! Click here to take the survey...

October 2020 Webinar Line-Up: New York State Partnership

American Trails is excited to partner with the New York State Recreation and Park Society Conference and select sessions that were cancelled due to COVID-19. These sessions will be held as part of the Advancing Trails Webinar Series in October 2020.

These webinars are free to the public, thanks to a generous sponsorship from New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, the Recreational Trails Program, and the Federal Highway Administration.

October 1 Marks 100th Webinar! American Trails is excited to celebrate the 100th webinar in the Advancing Trails Webinar Series with the first webinar in the NY webinar series. Those that attend the live webinar on October 1 will have the chance to win fun giveaways. Be on the lookout for more details soon!
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

Sponsor an American Trails Webinar to Reach 500-900 Attendees

There are only a few webinars up for grabs for our weekly webinar series through the remainder of 2020. Email candace@americantrails.org to become a sponsor today. For a special rate of $2,000 if you mention this ad, sponsor an American Trails webinar to make it FREE to the public!

2020 Webinars Available for Sponsorship:

- **September 17** – Making Connections: The National Digital Trails Network Project
- **October 29** – Perceptions of Conflict Surrounding Future E-Bike Use Along the Arizona Trail
- **November 5** – Technology in Trail Building or Planning: Drones and LiDAR
- **Other Ideas?** – We have a couple openings and would love your ideas for a webinar!