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American Trails

TRAIL TRACKS

NEWS FROM AMERICAN TRAILS

August 2021

Digging Into the Numbers Behind the Pandemic Trail Boom

During this unprecedented time, automated count data serves as a crucial tool to track changes, understand use, and make the work of trail managers just a little bit easier.

[Read more...](#)



Celebrating 10 Years of Our Webinar Series

We would love for you to be a part of our BIG celebration in September! You can do this by attending our September webinars and following the action on social media, or providing giveaway items to promote your company to the trails community. Current giveaways total almost \$10,000 from more than 35 amazing donors! [View our giveaways and donors...](#)

Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Highlight: Lafitte Greenway

Wildlife and Trails Primer - How Wildlife Responds to Trails

The construction of a trail is just one impact on the habitat it passes through. The activities of visitors and the response of wildlife are also components of the long-term trail impacts. [Read more...](#)

National Recreation Trails Highlight: Cross Island National Recreation

RTP funding helped convert this utility corridor into a multiuse recreational and transportation trail route. [Read more...](#)

The trail links communities and scenic natural areas on Maryland's Eastern Shore. [Read more...](#)

Planning, design, mapping and sustainable sign products for parks and trails



[learn more](#)

Trail News and Notes

Click on each article to read more.

- [\(Canada\) A Private Golf Club is Refusing to Allow Vancouver to Close a Gap in the Fraser River Trail](#)
- [\(Colorado\) After 35 years, 28-Mile Douglas County Trail Completed](#)
- [\(Maine\) Mapping Site Launches Maine Trails Photo Contest](#)
- [\(Missouri\) Trials Along the Trails: Biking 131 Miles of the Rock Island and Katy](#)
- [\(New York\) Autism Trail Seeks to Break Down Barriers to Deep Nature](#)



Resources and Training

International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) Trail Accelerator Grants

To grow the quantity and quality of mountain bike trail communities, we need to accelerate the pace of trail building. Trail Accelerator Grants provide a jump-start to communities that have the interest and political support to develop trail systems but need assistance to get projects up and running. A Trail Accelerator Grant offers awardees professional trail planning and consultation services to launch their trail development efforts, which can often leverage additional investment from local, regional, and national partners. [Read more...](#)

Outdoor Recreation Roundtable Applauds Funding Opportunity for Rural “Gateway” Communities

The Economic Development Administration announced they will be disbursing \$750 million in American Rescue Plan funds to support travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation economy development in communities that rely on these sectors, including rural gateway communities. Of this \$750 million, \$510 million is designated for state tourism grants and \$240 million is designated for competitive grants to help communities who have been hard-hit by COVID-related challenges in the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors. [Read more...](#)

Applications Now Open for the 2021 Outdoor Recreation Trails+ Grant

Applications for the Outdoor Recreation Trails+ Grant to support New Mexico outdoor recreation infrastructure projects are now open, Director of the Outdoor Recreation Division Axie Navas announced. The deadline to apply is August 31 by 5 pm MT.

[Read more...](#)

Upcoming Regional Trails Training Program (RTTP) Events

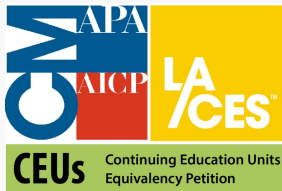
The goal of the RTTP is to provide sustainable, cost-effective online and in-person trail stewardship training to the trail community in Nevada (as well as other states). [Browse upcoming trainings...](#)

Join Our Facebook Group "Trail Workers of America"

This group is created for trail workers, planners, volunteers, and more to connect, ask questions, and discuss trail related issues. [Join here...](#)

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: Trail Boss

Trail Boss is a tiny company that builds a trail tool in their small hometown of Bellingham, WA. That's what they're about. They help the world's most dedicated trail workers craft and care for the trails they love by making a packable tool that lasts. [Learn more about this company...](#)

Featured Trail Job: Appalachian Trail Next Generation Advisory Council Application 2021 (Unpaid Position)

The Next Generation Advisory Council is a group of diverse leaders aged 18-30 selected to inspire, engage, and educate our young people to become involved in the management and stewardship of the Appalachian Trail. [Read more...](#)



**LOOKING FOR
TRAIL JOBS?
[CLICK HERE](#)**

**Advancing Trails Webinar Series and
Learning Credit Opportunities**

Free August Webinars

We record all of our webinars which are available for download at any time in our online store. Each webinar also offers a closed caption transcript and learning credits.

- **August 19** – *Understanding National Water Trails: From Application to Designation*
- **August 26** – *Introduction to Trail Management (Part 3 of 3)*

View a list of all of our upcoming and archived webinars...



Sponsor an American Trails Webinar to Reach 500 to 1,100 Attendees

All webinars below have partner opportunities available (\$250), but the ones marked with an asterisk have public sponsorships available (\$3,000). Send an email to candace@americantrails.org if you are interested in sponsoring a future webinar.

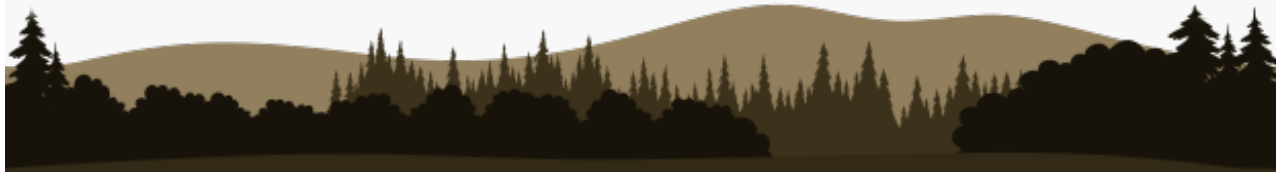
2021 Webinars (With Dates):

- **August 19*** – *Understanding National Water Trails: From Application to Designation*
- **August 26*** – *Introduction to Trail Management (Part 3 of 3)*
- **September 2*** – *The Value of Trail Assessments*
- **September 9*** – *Trails are Common Ground: National Campaign to Reduce Conflict, Promote Respect, and Increase Diversity on Our Trails*
- **September 23*** – *Strategies for Civilian Climate Corps Program Investments*
- **September 28** – *Rails-with-Trails: Best Practices and Lessons Learned*
- **October 28*** – *Trail Ambassador Programs: Tips, Tricks, and Best Practices*
- **November 10** – *Trails Count: Getting the Most Out of Trail Use Data*
- **December 9*** – *Wheels and Legs: Reducing Nonmotorized Trails Conflicts*

2021 Webinars (Dates TBD):

- Adaptive mountain biking/trail design for safety and accessibility
- Dealing with trail maintenance backlog*
- Best practices for trail service procurement professionals*
- Collective impact: trail collaboratives*
- Trail insurance*
- Policy and trails*

We welcome your suggestions to host your own webinar or sponsor a topic of interest (we can assist with finding presenters)!



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