



American Trails

Trail News, Training, and Resources

February 2021

Submit Your Project to the Trails Move People Survey

Please take a few moments to include your shovel-ready trail project in this survey whose purpose is to quantify the capacity of the trails community to build, maintain, and develop trails now, and to provide input to the Departments of Agriculture and Interior process for prioritizing and awarding Great American Outdoors Act and Land and Water Conservation Fund funding.

[Read more...](#)

2020 National Recreational Trail Photo Contest Winners Announced

The results are in! Here are our picks from the 230 photos submitted for the 2020 photo contest. [Read more...](#)

Hike the Hill is Going Virtual, Register by March 1



Trail partners from across the nation will come together virtually to advocate for legislation, learn about new policies, and meet with federal partners, elected

officials and their staff, and fellow trail organizations. [Read more...](#)

Smart Outdoor Inc. is Bringing Innovative Signs to Trails in New York and Beyond



Smart Outdoor has been contracted to enhance a 34.6-mile trail running from Baldwin Place, NY to The Bronx, NY with new smart signs. [Read more...](#)

Hosting the International Trails Symposium February 2022



2022
INTERNATIONAL
TRAILS
SYMPOSIUM
and TRAINING INSTITUTE

RENO, NEVADA USA
FEBRUARY 22-27, 2022

Due to the pandemic and a prior contract, American Trails (AT) and the Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals (SORP) will go back to individual conferences in different locations rather than a joint conference together in Reno. AT will be hosting the International Trails Symposium and Training Institute in February of 2022 in Reno, NV, while SORP will host their National Outdoor Recreation Conference in Knoxville, TN in May 2022. [Read more...](#)

The United States Department of Interior Announces Plans to Strengthen the Land and Water Conservation Fund

"The Land and Water Conservation Fund has been crucial to protecting public lands, conserving wildlife habitats, and improving access to outdoor recreation. Interior's actions today affirm our support for one of America's most successful and popular conservation programs," said Shannon A. Estenoz, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary - Fish and Wildlife and Parks. "We look forward to further strengthening this successful program to ensure that all communities – from hikers and sportsmen to urban and underserved communities – have access to nature and the great outdoors." [Read more...](#)

An advertisement for Pilot Rock products. The background is a gradient of blue and green. On the left, the text "Enjoy the Outdoors™" is written in a white, cursive font, with "... and Keep It Clean" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it. On the right, the text "Commercial quality products able to withstand years of use and exposure." is written in a white, sans-serif font. Below the text, there are several images of outdoor equipment: a red fire pit, a yellow water filter, a green storage box, and a blue trash can. In the bottom right corner, there is a white button with the text "LEARN MORE" and the "Pilot Rock" logo in a bold, white, sans-serif font.

Commercial quality products able to withstand years of use and exposure.

LEARN MORE

Pilot Rock

Trail News and Notes

Click on each article to read more

- *(International) Panama Launches Project for Green Tourism*
 - *(National) National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program Deadline: March 1*
 - *(New York) Construction to Begin on First-of-its-Kind Autism Nature Trail at Letchworth State Park*
 - *(Ohio) Vote for Cincinnati's Smale Riverfront Park as USA Today's Best River Walk*
 - *(Oregon) Hiking Permits for Oregon's Central Cascades Will Finally Be Implemented This Summer: What to Know*
 - *(Pennsylvania) Martin Luther King Trail Upgrades Underway in \$1.4 Million Project*
 - *(Texas) Construction of Austin's First Ever Dual-Track Urban Trail is Complete*
 - *(Wyoming) Wyoming Pathways to Continue Trails Partnership*
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Planning, design, mapping and sustainable
sign products for parks and trails



[learn more](#)

Resources and Training

Book Review of Journeys North: The Pacific Crest Trail

Jim Schmid shares his review of this recently released book. In Journeys North, legendary trail angel, thru hiker, and former PCTA board member Barney Scout Mann spins a compelling tale of six hikers on the Pacific Crest Trail in 2007 as they walk from Mexico to Canada. [Read more...](#)

Adopt-A-Trail Handbook

See an example of the Adopt-A-Trail Handbook used by the New River Gorge Trail Alliance. [Read more...](#)

Using Partnerships and Cooperation to Get What You Need for Trails

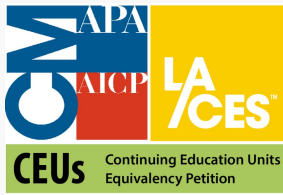
The people who founded American Trails believed strongly in the power of partnerships. The various trail user groups, even at the national level, weren't able to accomplish everything they wanted by working separately, so they worked together to build a new, multi-user trails advocacy organization. [Read more...](#)

Windsor Art Master Plan (Windsor, Colorado)

A public art master plan is an important piece of the public art program in any municipality. It is an invaluable tool that provides everything from visioning, to expected maintenance costs, to public art selection processes. This plan has the potential to provide support for local artists, strengthen the community, and support tourism. Ultimately, this plan can help create a distinct identity for Windsor within the region. [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: R.J. Thomas Mfg. Company Inc. / Pilot Rock



The Pilot Rock product line includes: park and trailside benches, athletic benches, picnic tables, accessible tables, trash and recycling receptacles and lids, bear-proof receptacles and food lockers, bike racks, traffic bollards, utility tables, lantern poles,

wayfinding signage, custom signs, charcoal grills, campfire rings, and more. [Learn more about this company...](#)

Featured Trail Job: Big Bear Trails Program Manager

The Big Bear Trails Program Manager is responsible for working under the direction of the Assistant Executive Director for the Southern California Mountains Foundation and in conjunction with community stakeholder groups and local agencies, City of Big Bear Lake, and County of San Bernardino to recruit, train, organize, and track volunteers working on nonmotorized trail maintenance, improvements, and signage throughout the Big Bear Valley. [Read more...](#)



LOOKING FOR TRAIL JOBS?
CLICK HERE

Advancing Trails Webinar Series

Free February 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 are offered for most. [View a list of all of our upcoming and archived webinars...](#)

- February 4 – *From Industrial Site to Trail Destination*
- February 11 – *The Catalytic Impact of Trails*
- February 18 – *Collective Impact and Sustainable Trails*
- February 25 – *Journeys North: A Thru-Hike of the Pacific Crest Trail*



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

We plan to continue to offering increased options for training via our Advancing Trails Webinar Series in place of the many conferences that have been canceled/postponed this year and are continuing to hold one webinar per week, when possible. It is also our intention to continue to make all of these webinars FREE to the public. But we need your sponsorship dollars to help make this possible!

All webinars noted below have **partner** sponsorships available (\$250) but only the ones marked with an asterisk (*) have **public** sponsorships available (\$3,000 – listed as main sponsor with more recognition). We added MORE benefits for public sponsors in 2021. Email candace@americantrails.org to become a sponsor today and learn more.

Early 2021 Webinars (With Dates) Available for Sponsorship:

- **April 22, 2021*** – *Effective Programs to Improve Access and Use of Trails for Youth from Under-Resourced Communities*
- **April 29, 2021*** – *Assessing Trails: LiDAR Assisted Trail Topography Evaluation (LATTE) (Partner sponsor Voss Signs)*
- **May 13, 2021** – *Integrating Trails into Park Planning (Sponsored by SC Parks, Recreation, and Tourism)*
- **July 2021** – *Equestrian Trail Design and Best Practices From Backcountry to Urban Edge Settings: A Deeper Dive (Sponsored by Tennessee Valley Authority)*

Early 2021 Webinars (Dates TBD) Available for Sponsorship:

- Estimating Trail Costs and Return on Investment (Sponsored by SC Parks, Recreation, and Tourism)
- Wheels and Legs: How Well Do They Mix? Addressing Nonmotorized Trail User Conflicts*
- Dealing with Trail Maintenance Backlog Forum* (Partner sponsor Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado)
- Policy and Trails*
- Railroads and Right-of-ways*
- Trail Ambassador Programs*
- Equity/Access* (Co-hosting with Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals) (4 webinars in September 2021)
- We welcome your suggestions to host your own webinar or sponsor a topic of interest (we can assist with finding presenters)!

