



American Trails

Trail News, Training, and Resources

May 2021

Why Trails?

Where would we be without trails? It is a simple question, but it is worth pondering. The longer you sit with this question, the more you will discover the overwhelming impact that trails have on our lives, often in very unexpected ways.

[Read more...](#)

Enjoy the Outdoors™
...with Pilot Rock Benches & Tables

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

LEARN MORE

Pilot Rock

The Coalition for Recreational Trails Call for Nominations for the 2021 Recreational Trails Program Achievement Awards

The nomination form, including any supporting materials and pictures, should be completed by June 30, 2021. [Read more...](#)

Gear Up for National Trails Day on June 5, 2021

National Trails Day is coming up fast, and now is the time to make sure you are prepared for the trail. Here are some

Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Funds Help Bring Changes to Oklahoma State University (OSU) Botanical Garden

The botanical garden at OSU is undergoing improvements with the help of RTP grant funding. [Read more...](#)

Featured National Recreation Trail: Timber Point Trail, Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge, Maine

The trail is located on the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge and is a scenic 1.4-mile loop located in Biddeford Pool

suggestions from the American Trails staff on gear we love. [Read more...](#)

that takes visitors through forests and meadows to the Atlantic Ocean. [Read more...](#)

Sensing the Trail

Levaware systems is offering IoT intelligence to create a new type of trailhead. *(Sponsored content)* [Read more...](#)

Art Ports Allow More Options for Public Art

This new product proposes infrastructural necessities of public art be a part of the permanent active transportation landscape. This manifests in flexible, reusable, foundational footings designed with temporary and permanent public art opportunities in mind. [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.

- [\(Colorado\) Environmental Advocates Sue Boulder Over Rocky Mountain Greenway](#)
- [\(Georgia\) Atlanta's Vast Trail Network Offers Economic Development Route Other Cities May Follow](#)
- [\(Minnesota\) Etiquette When Taking Part in Horseback Trail Riding](#)
- [\(New York\) St. Lawrence County Launches New Trail Challenge to Attract Hikers](#)
- [\(North Carolina\) Wilderness Gateway State Trail to be 100 Miles and Connect Chimney Rock to South Mountains](#)
- [\(Ohio\) Redline Greenway is Now Open, and it's an Instant Cleveland Gem](#)
- [\(South Dakota\) Volunteers Team up with the Black Hills National Forest to Keep Trails Safe](#)
- [\(Tennessee\) Firm Chosen for Chattahoochee River Trail](#)
- [\(Tennessee\) 'Trails Forever' Project in Smokies to Close Popular Trail for Rehabilitation May Through November](#)
- [\(Vermont\) Ripton's Frost Trail Upgraded to Improve Accessibility](#)
- [\(Washington\) Goats Chew the Way Clear for New Sound to Olympics Trail Segment on Bainbridge Island](#)

Trail Policy Landscape

Here are some of the policy and advocacy issues we are tracking.

- [June 5 is National Trails Day – A Day of Service and Advocacy for Hometown Trails](#)

Millions of people have found physical, mental, and emotional restoration on trails during the pandemic. Let's return the favor and care for America's magnificent trail system and ensure everyone in the U.S. can enjoy trails and

natural areas. Together we can care for our hometown trails and advocate for equitable inclusion outside.

- ***Congressman Gomez and Senator Booker Introduce Transit to Trails Act of 2021***
Congressman Jimmy Gomez (CA-34) and Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ) reintroduced a bill in the House and Senate that promotes equitable access to parks, green spaces, and public lands and waters. The Transit to Trails Act creates a grant program to fund projects that make transportation to green spaces and public lands more accessible for critically underserved communities.
- ***Support for the Connecting America's Active Transportation System Act***
The Connecting America's Active Transportation System Act is a major leap forward for America's transportation future. It provides \$2.5 billion in direct funding over five years to help communities and regions across the country to build connected active transportation systems that ensure people can get where they want to go safely by foot, bike, or wheelchair—all while reducing carbon emissions and creating new jobs. Bipartisan co-sponsors Sens. Ed Markey (D-MA), Dan Sullivan (R-AK), and Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) introduced the Senate version of the bill on Feb. 25, 2021. Reps. Chris Pappas (NH-1) and Jared Huffman (CA-2) reintroduced the House version of the bill with 12 additional co-sponsors on May 4, 2021.
- ***Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Full Funding Act***
HR 1864 will more than double RTP funding to at least \$250 million. The program is modeled after the Highway Trust Fund and is funded through taxes paid on gasoline used to fuel snowmobiles, ATVs, and other recreational vehicles that do not use highways. Encourage your legislator to co-sponsor HR 1864 now!



Resources and Training

Trail Tools: Pounding and Hammering

These are the most commonly used pounding and hammering tools with tips on using them safely and effectively. [Read more...](#)

Photo Gallery: Trails with Two Adjacent Treads

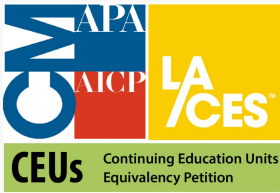
Separate trails in the same corridor provide for different activities. [Read more...](#)

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



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: E.T. Techtonics

E.T. Techtonics, a Creative Pultrusions Product Line, supplies fiberglass pedestrian bridges to national, state, and local trail and park systems nationwide, as well as to commercial and private clients. [Learn more about this company...](#)

Featured Trail Job: Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Program Consultant

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is currently seeking an OHV Program Consultant. The Program Consultant position exists to lead, coordinate, administer, and integrate the work surrounding DNR's off-highway vehicle programs statewide. [Read more...](#)

Featured Training Opportunity

American Trails is partnering with the following organization to offer learning credits:

- Date: On-Demand Webinar + Live Zoom Meeting (June 9, 2021)
- Title: Connecting People to Parks: 2 Case Studies
- Organization: AccelParks
- Cost: \$115 (including learning credits)

The presenter encourages attendees to register by May 20 but registration is open until June 9 (the date of the Zoom meeting). [Learn more and register here...](#)



**LOOKING FOR
TRAIL JOBS?
CLICK HERE**

Advancing Trails Webinar Series and Learning Credit Opportunities

Free May 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.

- May 6 – *Introduction to Trail Planning (Part 1 of 3)*
- May 13 – *Integrating Trails into Park Planning*
- May 20 – *Using Signage to Turn Your Trail into a Destination*

- May 27 – *Creating a SMART Sustainable Safety Sign Initiative Program*

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

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

We plan to continue to offer 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.

2021 Webinars (With Dates) Available for Sponsorship:

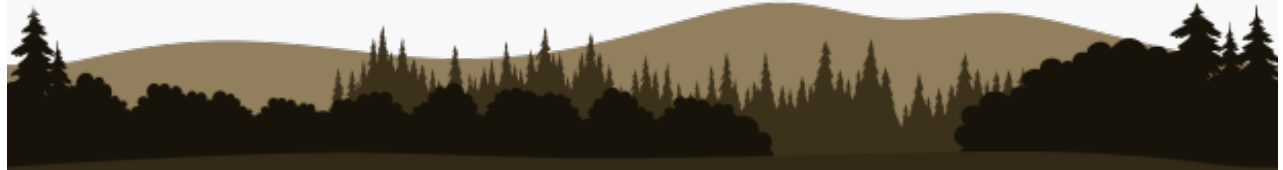
- **May 20, 2021** – *Using Signage to Turn Your Trail into a Destination* (Partner sponsor Voss Signs)
- **May 27, 2021** – *Creating a SMART Sustainable Safety Sign Initiative Program* (Partner sponsor Smart Outdoor, Inc.)
- **June 3, 2021** – *Using Interactive Maps to Engage Trail Users* (Sponsored by Elebase)
- **June 10, 2021*** – Understanding the National Recreation Trails Program
- **June 17, 2021** – *Introduction to Trail Design and Development (Part 2 of 3)* (Sponsored by South Carolina Parks, Recreation, and Tourism)
- **June 24, 2021** – Equestrian Trail Design and Best Practices From Backcountry to Urban Edge Settings (**an update to our April 2020 webinar**) (Sponsored by Tennessee Valley Authority)
- **July 14, 2021*** – Trail Construction Cost Estimates
- **July 22, 2021*** – Trails and Parks: Return on Investment (In partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association)
- **August 26, 2021*** – *Introduction to Trail Management (Part 3 of 3)*

2021 Webinars (Dates TBD) Available for Sponsorship:

- *Wheels and Legs: How Well Do They Mix? Addressing Nonmotorized Trail User Conflicts* (Sponsored by Rhino Marking & Protection Systems)
- *Dealing with Trail Maintenance Backlog Forum** (Partner sponsor Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado)

- Policy and Trails*
- Railroads and Right-of-Ways (*Sponsored by Rhino Marking & Protection Systems*)
- 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)!



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Connect with us

