TRAIL TRACKS

April 2023

Why Trails Matter - World Trails Film Festival North American Premiere at International Trails Summit

This event is part of the International Trails Summit (ITS), the world's largest trail industry conference, co-hosted by American Trails and the Professional TrailBuilders Association, featuring the World Trails Network - Hub for the Americas.

The World Trails Film Festival will hold its North American public premiere starting on Tuesday, April 18 with a free showing for ITS attendees, followed by a ticketed event open to the public on Thursday, April 20 at the Nugget

Casino Celebrity Showroom in Reno, Nevada. Previous showings of the festival, also known as Trails Film, have occurred in Skiathos, Greece, Taipei City, Taiwan, and Santiago de Compostela, Spain. All films include English subtitles. View the film trailer here.

Tickets for the public Film Festival cost $15 (purchase here) and will benefit the Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation. Or register for ITS here to attend the free ITS attendee event! Both events will feature different films for the different audiences. A cash bar, chips, and popcorn will be available for purchase.

ITS Spotlight

After four years of planning, ITS is almost here! With 10 key topics and 150+ sessions, there is something for every trail professional, manager, and user. Listen to the podcast below, or view a few of the key session topics that we have created articles for.

Trail EAffect Podcast: Aaryn Kay of PTBA and Mike Passo of American Trails

Aaryn Kay of the Professional Trail Builders Association and Mike Passo of American Trails made a guest appearance on the Trail EAffect podcast to speak about the 2023 International Trails Summit. Find out more ››

Top 10 Requests for Trails and Outdoor Recreation Master Plans

Don't miss Jon and Tony's sessions at ITS on Trail Planning Technology: Drone Data + 3D Modeling, Trail Planning and Design Q&A (a PTBA-sponsored Trail Talk), and Planning to be a Trail Town – Strategies and Pitfalls. Can't make it to ITS? This article by Tony Boone Trails and Chinook Landscape Architecture discusses the top 10 requests for outdoor recreation and trail master plans. Find out more ››

Equitable Access to Trails

If you will be joining us at the ITS in Reno, Nevada April 17-20, don't miss these speakers and their sessions featuring topics related to equitable trails access. Whether or not you are able to make it to Reno, this article will inspire you to think more deeply about how to include a wider variety of trails users in your work. Find out more ››

Connect with Rails-to-Trails Conservancy in Reno

The Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC) team is looking forward to seeing all of you in Reno for the International Trails Summit next week. This is a once-in-a-generation moment for the entire trails, walking and biking movement—unprecedented demand for safe places to walk, bike, and be active outside alongside significant federal, state, and local funding brings new urgency to our work together. We can't wait to be together and explore the opportunities to create, connect and maintain trails across the country. If you haven't already registered, we hope to see you at the special networking happy hour at Great Basin Brewing. RSVP today! Find out more ››

Funding and Legislation

American Trails Announces $500K Fundraising Goal for the Trails Capacity Program

The Trails Capacity Program administered by American Trails is funded by sustaining corporate sponsors and individuals. We are excited about our fundraising goals, and looking forward to opening the program later this year, as funding is secured. Find out more ››

Trail Partner Funding Program Proposals Due April 15th

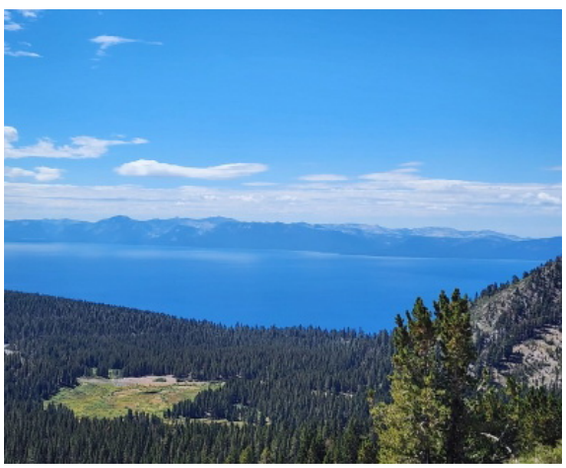
The Trail Stewardship Partner Funding Program will award funds to trails and stewardship organizations for increasing trail maintenance accomplishments and reducing deferred maintenance (trail backlog) on National Forest System trails. Funding will be available for all types of terra trails (summer use trails), for both motorized and non-motorized uses. The focus of this funding is expanding trail maintenance on the National Forests. Find out more ››

Resources Available to Strengthen Rural Communities through Design and Planning Strategies

The National Endowment for the Arts seeks rural communities of 50,000 people or less to apply for the Citizens' Institute on Rural Design program. Details about the program goals, eligibility, benefits, expectations, and a preview of all the application questions can be found in the Request for Applications. You can also go directly to the application in Survey Monkey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/cird2023. The deadline to apply is Friday, April 21.

Featured Trails and Trail News

American Trails and the Professional TrailBuilders Association will join forces to co-host the ITS in Reno, Nevada. The Tahoe Rim Trail is the closest National Recreation Trail in the proximity of Reno. You can also explore Reno's urban trail system, or find your own trails in the Silver State.



Featured National Recreation Trail: Tahoe Rim Trail, California and Nevada

The Tahoe Rim Trail is a scenic backcountry non-motorized trail system looping along the ridgeline surrounding Lake Tahoe. The National Recreation Trail designation for the Tahoe Rim Trail includes 96 miles of the 165-mile trail which runs along the ridges and mountain tops that encircle the Lake Tahoe Basin. Find out more ››

Unwind on Reno's Trails

Need a break from ITS sessions, or just visiting the Reno area? Reno's hiking trails offer outdoor lovers of all levels a way to unwind and unplug. Find out more ››

Nevada Trail Finder

A “One-Stop-Shop” for trails statewide, Nevada Trail Finder connects you to current information and maps about four season-outdoor opportunities and gives you tools to keep track of all your trail adventures. Attend the ITS session and learn how the site was developed, what existing needs it fills, and how the Nevada Department of Outdoor Recreation plans to continue to leverage the platform to increase sustainable trail access across Nevada. Find out more ››

Trails in the News

There are many scenic areas near or adjacent to Reno. We found these news articles that focus on trails in the Reno Tahoe area:

- Accessible Outdoor Activities in Reno Tahoe
- Adventure Knows No Bounds - Accessible Travel in Reno Tahoe
- Where to Hike and Bike in Reno and Tahoe

- Kid-Friendly Hiking Trails in Reno
- Lost Sierra Route will Connect Small Towns in California and Nevada
- Hunter Lake Trail Scenic Views and Ride Above Reno
- Southwest Reno's New Sierra Front Trail Connects Thomas Creek and Ballardini Ranch
- Tahoe Pyramid Trail Turns 20, Community Remembers Founder
- Tahoe Regional Trails Strategy Unveiled, Serves as Blueprint for Connected Trail Network

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Training and Resources

What is an Affinity and Identity-Based Program?

Affinity and identity-based crews and programs offer spaces for young adults from historically marginalized populations, under-represented groups, and individuals with a shared lived experience, culture, and community with the goal of providing an opportunity for growth, learning, healing, and career pathways into the trail building and conservation industry. Find out more ››

Learn American Sign Language (ASL) from Deaf Outdoor Experts

Learn the basic signs you need to know in order to communicate with deaf people while working, recreating, or volunteering in the outdoor field. Find out more ››

rails·to·trails conservancy

Accessible Opportunities to be Active Outside

Join Rails-to-Trails Conservancy for a conversation with adaptive athletes Patrick Sweeney and Emilia Perry, physical therapist Miko Quisumbing, and the IM Able Foundation for a conversation about the accessibility of multi-use trails for people of all abilities. View video here ››

American Hiking Society

Join in Celebrating the 31st Annual National Trails Day® on June 3

Host an event on your local trail to connect to new and existing trail users and volunteers. On average, nearly 1,000 events take place across the country with 24,000 volunteers and 125,000 participants. Register your event by May 1 to maximize event participation and promotion. In celebration of the 31st annual National Trails Day®, registered event hosts can request a FREE event kit with stickers and buffs from AKHG by Duluth Trading Co. as well as a shipment of Athletic Brewing Company non-alcoholic beverages. The deadline to request products is April 19.

International TRAILS SUMMIT

AMERICAN TRAILS — MORE TRAILS. BETTER TRAILS. — Since 1988

PTBA Professional Trail Builders Association

Reno, Nevada April 17-20, 2023

14+ Educational Sessions Slated for Thursday Offsite Day

Adding to the already packed 3.5-day schedule showcasing 150+ sessions, don't miss our Thursday Offsite Day, at Hidden Valley Regional Park. Included in a full registration (or Thursday single day), this half-day will close out the

Summit and will include demonstrations and hands-on learning sessions, as well as a dirt demo **in a field setting** (versus a classroom setting).

And did we mention FREE food trucks all morning? We are excited to be partnering with seven local food trucks to offer breakfast and lunch to attendees, as well as coffee, smoothies, and drink options.

Thursday Field Sessions include:

- 9:00 am – 10:00 am
  - Best Practice Trail Auditing Using Digital Platforms (Site #1)
  - Pack Goats: The Agile Trail Helpers (Pack Goats Site)
  - WayWyser Data Collection Application in Action (Site #2)
  - Setting the Tone: The Power of the Tailgate Safety Talk and How to Prepare and Give Them Effectively (Site #3)
  - Using Drones for Trail Assessment and Planning (Site #4)
  - Using a Clinometer for Trail Layout (Site #5)
  - Cordless Tools for Trails (Site #6)

- 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
  - Best Practice Trail Auditing Using Digital Platforms (Site #1)
  - Pack Goats: The Agile Trail Helpers (Pack Goats Site)
  - WayWyser Data Collection Application in Action (Site #2)
  - High-Efficiency Trail Assessment Process (HETAP) Tools (Site #3)
  - Using Drones for Trail Assessment and Planning (Site #4)
  - Using a Clinometer for Trail Layout (Site #5)
  - Mechanized Trail Building Demo (Site #6)
  - Trail Building by Hand Demo (Site #7)

Free transportation also provided on a continuous basis. Find out more ››

Download the Mobile App for Onsite Notifications

Take your ITS experience to the next level by downloading the Cvent app.

You will receive app notifications to keep you updated on site, as well as:

- See the full schedule
- Explore the maps
- Connect with others
- Chat with exhibitors
- Share photos
- Take session surveys to earn learning credits

You must be a registered attendee or exhibitor in order to have access to the app.

It's easy to download the app

- First, search for **CVENT** in the iTunes or Google Play store.
- Then, search our event: **International Trails Summit** or **ITS2023**

Advancing Trails Webinar Series

American Trails brings agencies, trail builders, planners, architects, advocates, and volunteers the latest in state-of-the-art information on all aspects of trails and greenways.

All webinars are recorded and can be accessed for free via our online store at any time. Recordings of past webinars are also being added to our YouTube channel on a weekly basis.

Free Future Webinars

- May 11: Building a Comprehensive Count Program in Your Park or on Your Trails
- May 18: Informing the Trail Experience: The Process of Signing a Trail
- May 25: Pack Goats: The Agile Trail Helpers
- June 1: Trail Skills Project: Connecting the Trails Community to Training, Expertise, and Professional Development
- June 29: Helping Wheelchair Hikers Find Hiking Trails
- August 24: Porous Flexible Pavement, Asphalt, or Porous Asphalt: Lessons Learned for Multi-Use Trails in the District of Columbia *(registration coming soon)*
- September 21: How Trails Support Healthy Aging for All
- September 28: Engaging, Enabling, and Motivating Families and Diverse Trail Users

Additional Free Learning Credit Opportunities

American Trails is partnering with the following organization(s) to offer free learning credits to attendees.

Send us an email if you wish to offer learning credits for FREE to your attendees for your conference, webinar, workshop, etc. (virtual or in-person).

Successful U.S. Bicycle Route System Designation for State DOT Transportation Professionals – August 8, 2023 – Virtual
In partnership with Adventure Cycling Association
(Details coming soon)

Enter the Trails Workforce
Job Board

Build Your Skills

Training Calendar

Trail Workers of America Group

Join Here

Connect with us!

Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}
{{Organization Address}}
{{Organization Phone}}
{{Organization Website}}

{{Unsubscribe}}

AMERICAN TRAILS

— MORE TRAILS. BETTER TRAILS. —

Since 1988