

National Trails Training Partnership



Your resource for trails training

What is NTTP?

NATIONAL TRAILS TRAINING PARTNERSHIP:

A forum of diverse trail organizations and agencies whose mission is to improve opportunities for training for the nationwide trails community.



Need for trail skills training

- Increasing visitation while budgets decline
- Skills lost as experienced staff retire
- Increasing reliance on volunteers
- Cost and difficulty of travel for training
- Reliance on the internet for information



GOALS of NTTP



- Encourage cooperation on training efforts
- Develop a clearinghouse of training and resources at www.TrailsTraining.net
- Identify needs and gaps in existing training
- Promote research to improve trails education
- Facilitate training needed
- Promote models for statewide training
- Help States bring training to local project sponsors

Partnerships



NTTP is a partnership of every Federal land management agency and national trails and outdoor recreation organizations.

Funding from:

- **Federal Highway Admin.**
- **USDA Forest Service**
- **Bureau of Land Management**
- **National Park Service**
- **US Fish and Wildlife Service**

Coordination and website development by:

- **American Trails**

Partnerships

Training providers who are NTTP partners:

- **Businesses and trail contractors**
- **Conservation and ethics groups**
- **Local and state trail groups**
- **National trail organizations**
- **State trails programs**
- **State park and recreation associations**
- **Service and conservation corps**
- **...and many other partners**



Developing and sharing training

- Working with Kim Frederick on economic benefits of training for states and a workshop on “Creating a State Trails Training Program”
- Hosting workshops on Greenways and Trails Forum for Development Professionals, and Trail Crew Leadership Training



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Promoting Training

- eNewsletter for training
- Networking with groups & agencies
- Highlighting new education opportunities
- Promoting training by partners



Brought to you by:

American Trails and the National Trails Training Partnership

Hosts of the Nation's trails training website, TrailsTraining.net

Photo courtesy Jefferson County Open Space Department

A wide variety of training is available during 2009 for volunteers and professionals working to develop trails of all kinds. American Trails and the National Trails Training Partnership are working with agencies and organizations across America to promote trail-related trainings. See dozens of offerings for 2009 on the [online calendar of training events](#).

Join the movement for better skills and better trails!

Training available this year covers the full range of trail activities, and all types of trails from primitive backcountry routes to urban greenways. Training formats include one-day workshops to week-long trail schools, and from basic introductions to trail work to specialized technical skills. A random sample of training topics would include geographic positioning systems, trail adoption, grant writing, advocacy, volunteer management, noxious weed control, land acquisition, and trail design for general and specific uses including equestrians, snowmobiles, mountain bikes, and designated wilderness.



Online training clearinghouse

Finding and promoting trail-related training nationwide



- Calendar of training opportunities
- Database of training providers and experts
- Redesigned website and improved navigation
- Page for training resources for each State
- Trail skills matched with training available

Calendar

- Online training events calendar
- Searchable online database
- Connect with training providers
- Promote local training events



The screenshot shows the website for the National Trails Training Partnership. At the top left is the logo, which features a map of the United States with a yellow path and a graduation cap, surrounded by the text 'NATIONAL TRAILS TRAINING PARTNERSHIP'. To the right of the logo is the title 'National Trails Training Partnership' in large, bold, white letters. Below the title is a navigation menu with links for Home, About Us, Trails, What's Hot, Advocacy, Calendar (highlighted in yellow), Training, Resources, and Business Direct. The main content area is titled 'Calendar of Trails Training' and is hosted by AmericanTrails.org. It provides a description of the training events, a search function, and lists events for 2009 and 2010. A sidebar on the right contains a box titled 'On this page:' with links to the 2009 and 2010 calendars and an option to add to the calendar.

National Trails Training Partnership

Home About Us Trails What's Hot Advocacy **Calendar** Training Resources Business Direct

Calendar of Trails Training
Hosted by AmericanTrails.org

Trail training, workshops, and conferences for 2009 on trail building, planning, management, land protection, organization development, motorized recreation, wilderness, leadership, tools, GIS data, parks, bike/ped facilities, nonmotorized transportation, funding, and stewardship:

SEARCH the ONLINE TRAINING DATABASE by state, topic, keyword, or training provider

2009: Trail training, workshops, and conferences
[January](#), [February](#), [March](#), [April](#), [May](#), [June](#), [July](#), [August](#), [September](#), [October](#), [November](#), [December](#)

2010: [January](#), [February](#), [March](#), [April](#), [May](#), [June](#), [July](#), [August](#), [September](#), [October](#), [November](#), [December](#)

November 2009

November 5, 2009 — Friends of the Lamolle Valley Rail Trail Annual Meeting

- Cambridge, VT
- "What's Happening with the Trail?" Status update by Mike O'Hare and Mike Farmer, LVRT Committee. At the Brown & Jenkins Trading Company at 287 Old Route 15.
- Info: <http://www.lvrt.org/>

November 5-7, 2009 — Association of Outdoor Recreation and Education Conference

- Minneapolis, MN
- Brings outdoor recreation professionals and students together for networking, professional development and information sharing activities and opportunities. The conference includes educational sessions, skill workshops and certifications, keynote addresses.
- Info: <http://www.aore.org/>

November 12-13, 2009 — 7th New Zealand Cycling Conference

- New Plymouth, NZ
- The conference theme is "Communities, connections and the economy". The target audience ranges from central government politicians and policy-makers to cycling advocates.
- Info: <http://www.nzcf.org.nz/conference/2009>

On this page:

- [2009 Calendar](#)
- [2010 Calendar](#)
- [Add to the Calendar](#)

www.TrailsTraining.net your source for trail skills and training



National Trails Training Partnership

Search our Website

Browse Common Topics

- Home
- About Us
- Trails
- What's Hot
- Advocacy
- Calendar
- Training**
- Resources
- Business Directory
- Join Us
- Store

National Trails Training Partnership



Find trails training: Looking for a class or conference? Check the [Online Calendar of training opportunities](#). Have a course to publicize? [Contact us](#) and we'll include it.



Trail Training Ideas for 2009: Working Smarter. Take advantage of the many opportunities to learn new skills, enhance your career, get volunteers trained, and build better trails!

National Trails Training Partnership (NTP) is an alliance of Federal agencies, training providers, nationwide supporters, professional contractors, and providers of products and services.

- Visit the [online calendar of trainings](#)
- Access hundreds of [trail-related resources](#)
- Read the [news](#)
- Learn [how you can help](#)



Browse hundreds of resources: Read articles on every trails topic, search current research papers, and find new ideas and solutions for trail planning, building, maintenance, and management.



Training in your state: Find training providers and resources in state-by-state indexes. [Let us know](#) what we're missing!

Training

- [Calendar of training, courses, and conferences](#)
- [Featured training providers](#)
- [Find training providers in your state](#)
- [Searchable database of training and providers](#)
- [Trails experts who provide custom training](#)
- [Hundreds of articles, resources, and studies on trails and greenways topic](#)

Speak out for trails
American Trails

 [Join Now!](#)

NTP Resources

Who we are
Featured training
Training by state
Calendar
Search the training database

More Resources

Bibliography
Quotations
Glossary
Acronyms
Tools
Cool trail solutions
Trailbuilding
Wildlife and trails
Planning
Maintenance
Volunteers
Products & services

Hosted by AmericanTrails.org

The world's largest online resource for planning, building, funding, managing, and supporting trails and greenways

The screenshot shows the homepage of AmericanTrails.org. At the top left, there is a vertical banner for "20 YEARS American Trails" with the tagline "Ensuring Trails for Our Future". The main header features the "American Trails" logo and the tagline "The World's Largest Online Trails Resource". To the right of the logo is a search bar with a "GO" button and a "Browse Common Topics" dropdown menu. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for Home, About Us, Trails, What's Hot, Calendar, Training, Resources, Partners, Business Directory, Join Us, and Store.

The main content area is divided into several sections. On the left, there is a large image of a paved path through a field with the text "Help us ensure the future of trails" and a "Join Online" button. Below this is a smaller text box: "Our strength lies in the diversity of our membership. Join Online". To the right of the path image is a map of the United States with a "State By State Trails" button and a "Pick" dropdown menu.

On the right side of the page, there is a "Join Us" section with a "Membership" sub-section. The membership section includes the text "See how your membership helps support trails in your community." and a "Join Now" button. Below this is a "Subscribe" section with links for "Magazine", "Newsletter", and "Action Alerts".

At the bottom of the page, there is a "What's Hot" section with a blue bar containing the text "Jobs - Action Alerts - Resources - See More of What's Hot". Below this bar are four featured articles, each with a thumbnail image and a title: "Water Trails" (Scenic paddling trails provide signed routes and facilities.), "Bicycle Sunday" (In Mexico City, bicycles rule the Sunday streets.), "Art on Trails" (UE art students take natural path at Angel Mounds.), and "Website Contest12" (Check out the dozens of great trail-related sites entered in this years website contest.).

At the bottom right of the page, there is a "DWM DESIGN" logo and a "NATIONAL RECREATION TRAILS USA October" logo.

Resources and Library

- Information clearinghouse
- Hundreds of articles sorted by topic
- Adding new topics as needed
- The “Library of Congress” for trails and greenways



The screenshot shows the website for the National Trails Training Partnership. At the top, there is a logo with a map of the United States and a graduation cap, with the text 'NATIONAL TRAILS TRAINING PARTNERSHIP'. To the right of the logo, the title 'National Trails Training Partnership' is displayed in large, bold, white letters against a blue background. Below the title is a navigation menu with links for Home, About Us, Trails, What's Hot, Advocacy, Calendar, Training, Resources (highlighted in yellow), and Business Dir. The main content area is titled 'Resources and Library' and is hosted by AmericanTrails.org. A red callout box asks if the user finds the resources valuable and encourages them to join American Trails Today. Below this, there are several categorized lists of resources:

- Trailbuilding**
 - [Trail construction](#)
 - [Products for trails](#)
 - [Consultants & services](#)
 - ["Cool Trail Solutions"](#)
 - [Tools for trails](#)
 - [Accessible trails and ADA](#)
 - [Bicycle/pedestrian facilities](#)
 - [Bridges and boardwalks](#)
 - [Structures, tunnels, overpasses](#)
- Planning**
 - [Planning trails](#)
 - [Consultants & services](#)
 - [Trail design](#)
 - [Community trail systems](#)
 - [Urban trails](#)
 - [Funding](#)
 - [Federal funding](#)
- Trail Spotlight**
- Management**
 - [Management of trails](#)
 - [Trail maintenance](#)
 - [Adjacent landowners](#)
 - [Federal agencies](#)
 - [Transportation funding](#)
 - [Safety and liability](#)
- Land & rights-of-way**
 - [Acquisition & land preservation](#)
 - [Rails to trails](#)
 - [Greenways & riverways](#)
 - [Utility & transportation corridors](#)
 - [Federal land and policies](#)
- Advocacy**
 - [Advocacy](#)
 - [Benefits of trails](#)
 - [Health & trails](#)
 - [Federal legislation](#)
 - [Motorized trails & recreation](#)

Check the categories below or use the "Quick Jump" menu above to go to the topic you're interested in. The American Trails online library has hundreds of articles, studies, and resources for trails and greenways.

Resources by topic

Bridges and Structures



National Trails Training Partnership

Search our Website
Search GO
Browse Common Topics
Select a Topic

Home Symposium Trails What's Hot Advocacy Calendar Training Resources Business Directory Join Us Store About Us

Resources and Library: Bridges & Structures for Trails

Hosted by AmericanTrails.org

Resources for building major structures for trails and greenways: bridges, boardwalks, overpasses, and tunnels. Includes trailhead facilities such as restrooms. Also see the "Creative Crossings" area on trail bridges.

Tunnels

- Tunnels on trails: A Study of 78 Tunnels on 36 Trails in the United States -- or download the PDF file

Boardwalks

- San Dieguito Boardwalk community service project
- Shenandoah River State Park, VA develops a boardwalk
- Towpath Trail in South Akron includes a floating section that runs a third of a mile
- Boardwalks for accessible trails and nature walks: photo gallery
- Boardwalks along Little Bear Creek through environmentally sensitive areas
- Boardwalk on Happy Creek Nature Trail, WA

On this page:
Tunnels | Bridges | Boardwalks | Facilities | Backcountry

More Trailbuilding Resources

- Trail construction
- Consultants & services
- Cool Trail Solutions photo galleries
- Accessible trails and ADA
- Bicycle/pedestrian facilities
- Bridges and boardwalks
- Structures, tunnels, overpasses

Bridges

- Big Sandy Bridge Team includes National Guard and volunteers in San Joaquin Gorge, CA
- New Riverway Bridge spans the scenic Colorado River in Moab, Utah
- Junction Bridge provides new trail link across Arkansas River in Little Rock
- The Missouri River Pedestrian Bridge in Omaha is 2566 feet long with pylons 266 feet high
- Highway extension evolves into creative bridge project
- Creative Crossings: innovative trail bridge and overpass designs showcased at the 2004 National

Bridges
PHOTO GALLERIES
Cool Trail Solutions

Speak out for trails
American Trails

Join Now!

Better Skills for Better Trails

- Accessibility
- Management
- Planning

Resources by topic

Horses and Equestrian Trails



Resources and Library:

Horses and Equestrian Trails

Hosted by AmericanTrails.org

Riding horses on trails is a traditional activity that is part of our trail heritage. This area covers planning, design, maintenance and management of equestrian trails. Advocacy and stewardship for horse trails, along with environmental issues, are also included.

Advocacy

- [Trail horse users: a perspective on progress](#): by Dr. Gene W. Wood
- [The History of Horse Trails: the fight for trails across America](#), by Denise Maxwell
- [The American Spirit: A Cultural Heritage With The Horse](#), by Kandee Haertel
- [Developing the Equestrian Land Conservation Resource](#)
- [Cardinal Greenway Equestrian Trail hosts Indiana's largest horse trail fund raising event](#)

Publications

- [Review of Recreational Horse Trails in Rural and Wildland Areas: Design, Construction, and Maintenance](#) by Dr. Gene W. Wood

On this page:

[Advocacy](#) | [Publication stewardship](#) | [Management](#)

More Resources

- [Trail Management and Design](#)
- [Trail Design and Construction](#)
- [Planning trails and greenways](#)
- [Advocacy for trails](#)
- [Consultants & services](#)
- [Federal Land Management](#)
- [Report Equestrian Trail Closures or Access Issues on Federal Land](#)

Impacts

- [Land Ethics for Equestrian Trail Users](#): by Dr. Gene Wood
- [Equestrian Trails and Conservation Awareness](#) is a website addressing natural resource conservation issues for recreational horse trail riders
- [Horses in Ecological Reserves: perceptions, impacts, and guidelines](#)
- [Stay Off the Trails During Mud Season](#)
- [Recreational Horse Trails and Water Quality Protection](#)
- [Environmental Aspects of Horses on Trails](#), by Adda Quinn, EnviroHorse
- [Diseases of Humans and Horses \(Zoonosis\): health and water impacts](#)

Safe Trails Forum



National Trails Training Partnership

Search

Quick jump

Home • About us • Trails • What's hot • Calendar • Training • Resources & library • Partners • Join us • Store

Safe Trails Forum

Making trails and greenways safer: resources on liability, insurance, and legal issues; trail maintenance and management for better user experience; crime and accident reporting; safety for trail users; a forum for discussion of these issues. Also see the maintenance topics index for more on management.

Management

- Where rails cross trails: the safety solutions: Grade crossing of a trail in Baldwin, FL uses typical highway railroad crossing; by Craig Della Penna
- Rails-with-Trails: A Preliminary Assessment of Safety and Grade Crossings, November 2005 (pdf 1.4mb)
- Recreational Path Intersection Safety: using the Cross Alert System
- Better park design can prevent crime
- Operations, Maintenance, and Stewardship 10
- More articles and resources on managing and maintaining trails and greenways

In the news

- All about the Safe Trails Forum
- Denver Metro Area Multi-Use Trail Safety Forum
- Trail Safety Forum Notes, April 2006
- We invite you to submit your ideas and experiences with safety, crime, liability, and related issues to American Trails.

User safety

- Anchorage "Trail Watch" makes trails safer for users
- Characteristics of Emerging Road and Trail Users and Their Safety (pdf 80 mb)
- Review: Shattered Air: A True Account of Catastrophe and Courage on Yosemite's Half Dome
- Fatal Bicycle Collision on Denver Area Trail
- Riders and hikers encouraged to "Use Trails, Not Rails"
- Trail Incident Report form from Michigan Mountain Bike Association and National Mountain Bike Patrol (pdf 20 kb)
- Rail trails and safe communities (pdf 593 kb)
- ATC Backcountry Sanitation Manual covers human waste management in the backcountry (pdf 1.6mb)

Liability

- New insurance program available for OHV clubs and parks
- Risk management and insurance takes planning by Doug Wyseman Goals of a Risk Management Program for trails Protection From Liability: Promoting The Use And Development Of Recreational Trails Limiting government liability for "hazardous recreational activities"
- Rail-Trails and Liability: A Primer on Trail-Related Liability Issues & Risk Management Techniques, 2000 (pdf 932 kb)

Do you find the resources on our website valuable? Then please join American Trails today to support the work we do to keep you on the cutting-edge!

Join online now!

► For more on training opportunities for trail design, construction, and management, see the National Trails Training Partnership area.

► More resources:

Bibliography
Quotations
Glossary
Acronyms
Tools
Products & services

► National Trails Symposium: October 19-22, 2006 Quad Cities, IL & IA

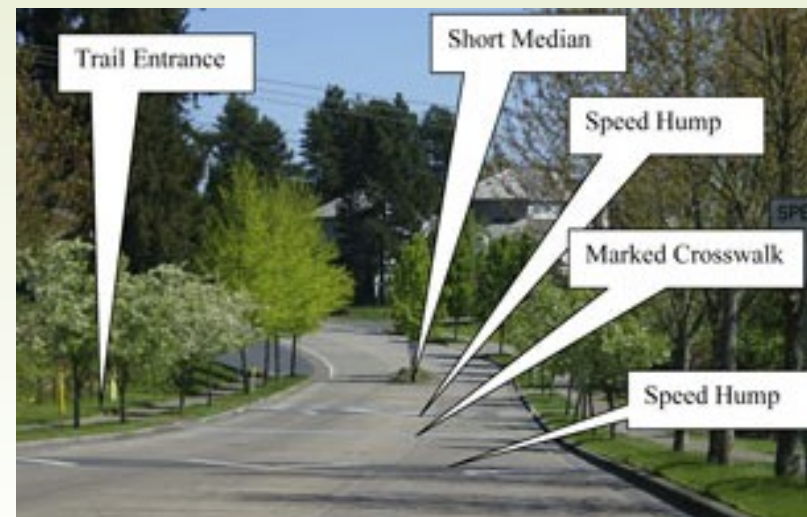
Updated July 23, 2006

Contact us | Mission statement | Board of directors | Member organizations | Site map | Copyright | NRT | NTPP

Research

Identifying resources, new ideas, and needs in priority areas:

- Cost effective sustainable trails
- Creative accessibility solutions
- Improving skills for staff and volunteers
- Safety and liability
- Benefits of trails
- Technology



Cool Trail Solutions

Photos of solutions to typical trail problems

Resources and Library: Cool Trail Solutions

Hosted by AmericanTrails.org

Dual tread trails: multiple use aided by multiple pathways

Trails with two adjacent or parallel treadways, often with different surfaces.

While it is an axiom of trail planning that we can't afford to provide a separate trail for everyone, sometimes it makes sense to have two treads in the same corridor. The examples are from a variety of geographic areas, primarily urban greenways. Where there is a significant amount of bicycle as well as pedestrian traffic, the paving is often extended to 10 or 12 feet wide. Another solution is to provide an adjacent tread of crushed rock for walkers and runners and to allow cyclists to pass slower traffic. Runners often make their own informal trail in the dirt next to the pavement. Where equestrian use is present a typical solution is to simply let the horse riders make their own narrow trail. This keeps them a comfortable distance from others, but only works where steep banks and erosion are not a problem. Mountain bikers also take advantage of topography along the corridor to create a single track with more ups and downs.

Click on any photo to see it full size:

(Commentary by Stuart Macdonald, August 2009)

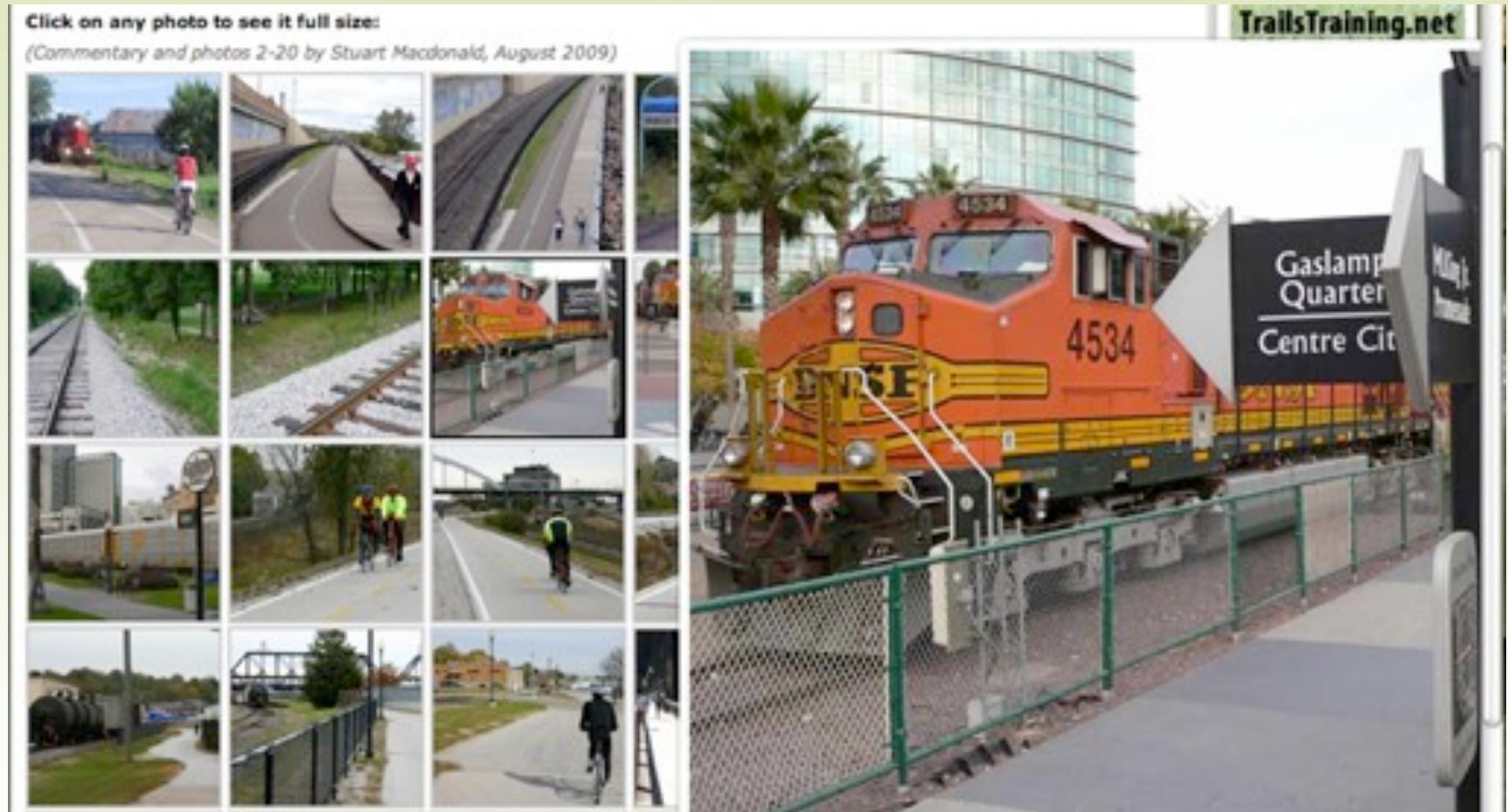


+ More Trailbuilding Resources

- [Cool Trail Solutions index](#)
- [Trail Construction index](#)
- [Greenways index](#)
- [Accessible Trails and ADA](#)
- [Bridges & Structures for Trails](#)
- [Trail Management index](#)

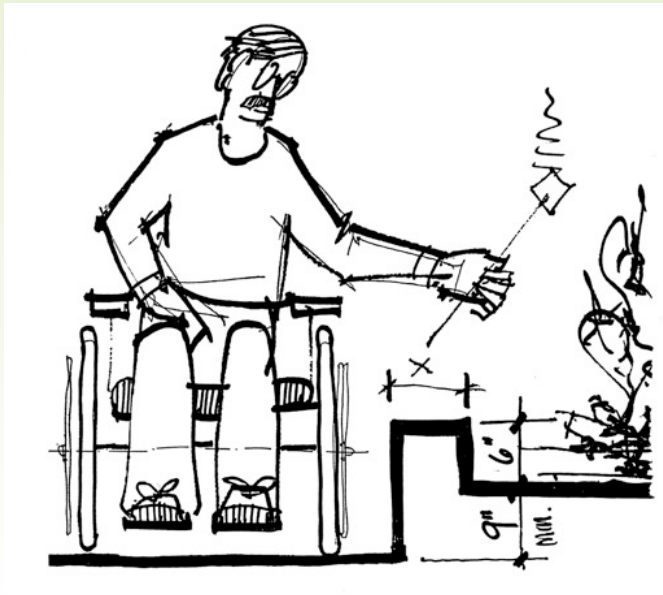
Cool Trail Solutions

Galleries of photos and tips on structures, signs, trail facilities, and accessibility improvements



Accessible Trails

- Interpreting requirements of ADA and agencies
- Recognizing creative efforts for accessibility
- Researching surfacing and design techniques
- Hosting workshops on Accessible Trails
- Promoting more training available to States



Universal Trail Assessment Process

- Working with State trails programs
- Promoting interest in evaluating trail systems
- Expanding training options
- Hosting workshops that introduce UTAP concepts



Trails Curricula for Colleges

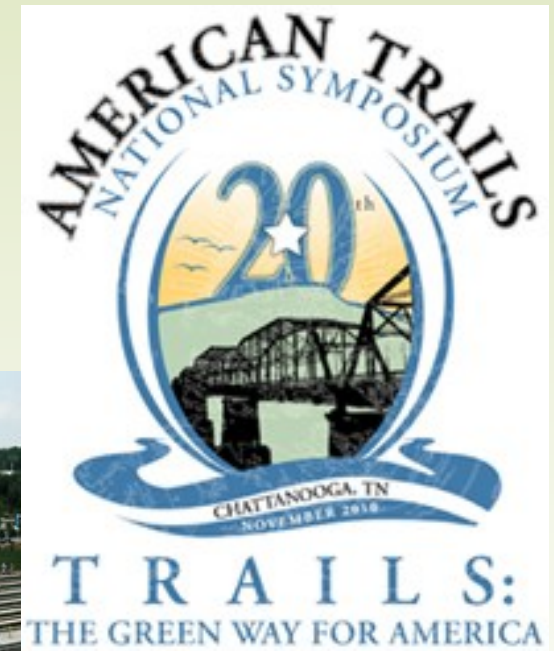
- **Goal:** college-level curricula for online or classroom use
- **Model:** Marshall University OHV courses
- **Needed:** planning, design, and management for trails, greenways, and related facilities
- **Audience:** programs in Recreation, Public Land Management, and Landscape Architecture



American Trails sponsors the 20th National Symposium

Chattanooga, Tennessee ~ November 14-17, 2010

- Promoting new ideas and technology
- Bringing all trail interests together
- Training and seminars
- Site visits and mobile workshops



National Trails Training Partnership

Join us!

- Link to NTTP, online calendar, and resources
- Encourage people to use the NTTP calendar
- Promote news on trails training
- Tell us about new training and publications
- Document trail solutions to share with others
- Identify areas where training is needed



National Trails Training Partnership

For the future of trails training...
skills for the trails of tomorrow!

