



Volunteers Make Trails Happen!

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This publication is available in alternate format (large print, Braille, audio tape, etc.) upon request. Call 608.266.2181 for more information.



Adopt-A-Trail

Wisconsin

State Parks, Forests, Trails, and Recreation Areas



Program and Information

Adopt-A-Trail Application and Permit Included with Brochure

PUB PR-057 2006

State of Wisconsin
Department of Natural Resources
dnr.wi.gov

Adopt-A-Trail Application and Permit
Form 2500-094 (R 8/06) Page 1 of 2

Notice: Information requested on this form is required for any individual or organization who wishes to volunteer services as an Adopt-A-Trail sponsor. The Department will not consider your application unless you provide complete information requested. Completion of this form constitutes an agreement with the Department of Natural Resources, under s. 23.09 (2)(h), Wis. Stats. Personally identifiable information collected will be used for park trail administration and enforcement purposes and may also be made available to requesters as required under Wisconsin Open Records law [ss. 19.31 - 19.39, Wis. Stats.].

Instructions: Send completed form and check to the appropriate park, forest or trail office.

Sponsor Information			
Sponsor Name		Organization Type	
Street Address	City	State	ZIP Code

Sponsor Name as it Should Appear on the Sign
(14 spaces on each of the two lines)

Contact Person Name

Street Address	City	State	ZIP Code
Day Telephone Number (include area code)		Night Telephone Number (include area code)	

Trail Information	
Approximate Number of People Participating In Each Activity Day	Number of Activity Days Sponsor Plans to Schedule this Year (minimum 3)

Name of State Park, Forest or Trail Property You Are Interested In Adopting

First Choice	_____	
Second Choice	_____	

	Trail Name (Attach trail map if available)	From	To
First Choice	_____	_____	_____
Second Choice	_____	_____	_____

Signature

By signing below, the Sponsor acknowledges the nature of the work and agrees to all terms and conditions stated on the back of this application.

Signature of Authorized Representative (Must be 18 years or older)	Title	Date Signed
_____	_____	_____

Leave Blank — Department of Natural Resources Use Only	
Permit Approval	
The Department approves this permit for the Sponsor to participate in the Adopt-A-Trail program for the segment identified above. This permit is valid on this segment of the trail for the time period listed below. This permit is renewable annually with written notice from the property office. The Department of Natural Resources reserves the right to modify or cancel this permit at any time.	
Effective Date	Ending Date
Signature of Property Superintendent	Date Signed

Terms and Conditions

1. Sponsors are to be considered volunteers and not officers, employees, or agents of the State of Wisconsin, Department of Natural Resources. Any injuries, claims, liabilities, suits or costs relating to this permit shall be the sole responsibility of the Sponsors.
2. The Sponsor agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State of Wisconsin, Department of Natural Resources from any injury, cost, suit, liability or award arising from the issuance or exercise of this permit, or because of any adverse effect upon any person or property attributed to the works of the Sponsor.
3. Participants in the group agree to obey and abide by all laws and regulations relating to safety and such terms and conditions as may be required by the Department for special conditions that may exist on a particular adopted trail segment.
4. Trail segments are assigned on a first come, first served basis. Sponsorship approvals are at the discretion of the property superintendent.
5. A minimum of two miles of a linear railroad grade (rail-trail) trail must be adopted. Other trail sponsorships will be assigned based on trail length. Trail segment sponsorships will not overlap. Each segment will be adopted by one sponsor at any given time. Sponsors will not work beyond their assigned trail segment limits. *These terms may be negotiated with the property manager.*
6. Sponsors will participate in a minimum of three activity days per year. Activity dates are to be mutually agreeable to the Sponsors and the property superintendent. Sponsors agree to work during daylight hours only.
7. Sponsors will provide appropriate training prior to any activity day to ensure the safety of all participants. Safety rules will be reviewed each activity day before proceeding to the trail segment.
8. Sponsors will ensure there is one adult supervisor present for every 10 juveniles (under age 16).
9. The property superintendent will supply trash bags for litter pickup and instructions for disposal of litter filled bags. Recyclable items must be separated from non-recyclables. The Sponsor may keep any recyclable materials.
10. Requests for additional supplies and materials should be directed to the property superintendent. Unused supplies and materials furnished by the property may be retained by the Sponsors during the permit period, but must be returned to the property superintendent at the end of the permit period.
11. Any "lost and found" items must be returned to the property superintendent prior to leaving the property.
12. Closed containers or items suspected to be hazardous will not be touched. Any items/situations found by the Sponsors which need further attention from the property staff should be brought to the attention of the property superintendent.
13. Approved vehicle parking will be arranged with the property superintendent. Adopt-A-Trail volunteers are exempt from trail pass/vehicle admission sticker requirements while participating in scheduled activity days. No motor vehicles will be allowed on any trail unless specifically authorized by the property superintendent.
14. Adopt-A-Trail sponsors will be recognized by Department approved signs at trailheads or on property bulletin boards. The location of these signs is at the discretion of the property superintendent. The Department reserves the right to refuse or revise acronyms of group names when preparing signs.
15. A \$20 fee to cover costs of producing and posting Adopt-A-Trail signs should be remitted via check with this form. Checks should be made payable to "Wisconsin DNR," with "Adopt-A-Trail" written in the memo line. If the application is not accepted, the check will be returned.
16. Partisan political groups (groups of people with common political opinions and purposes organized for gaining political influence, governmental control and for directing government policies) shall not be permitted to participate in the Adopt-A-Trail program.
17. **Additional Terms or Conditions:**

Adopt-A-Trail

Individuals or groups may adopt a trail or segment of a trail by volunteering their time to help keep the trail clean and safe. It may be a state trail or a trail within a state park, forest or recreation area. As representatives of the Department of Natural Resources, Adopt-A-Trail sponsors can:

- Collect litter and perform minor trail maintenance.
- Assist with the control of invasive species and planting of native species.
- Record and report to the property manager any major or hazardous trail obstructions.
- Properly dispose of recyclable materials.
- Gather and return any "lost and found" items to the property office.
- Inform visitors about regulations and available facilities.



Adopt-A-Trail sponsors may choose from more than 3,000 miles of trails in the Wisconsin State Park System.

How to Adopt a Trail

1. Fill out the attached "Adopt-A-Trail Application and Permit."
2. Send the completed permit and \$20 check made out to "Wisconsin DNR" to the appropriate park, forest or trail office where you would like to adopt a trail.
3. The property manager will review the permit and notify you of approval.
4. After your permit is approved, you can begin working on your trail. Discuss with the property manager the dates and times you will be out on the trail.
5. The property manager will post two Adopt-A-Trail signs to recognize your sponsorship.



Adopt-A-Trail sponsors adopt at least two miles of trail and participate in at least three activity days per year.

Other Volunteering opportunities in the Wisconsin State Park System

- Volunteer Campground Hosts
- Volunteer Nature Center Hosts
- Volunteer Conservationists
- Volunteer Naturalists
- Visitor Services Volunteers
- Program Volunteers
- Friends Group Volunteers

For more information, visit www.wiparks.net