

Wisconsin DNR Trail News 07/01/2008
There are five news items in this message.

1. The next meeting of the Governor's State Trails Council will be held on Friday, July 11, 2008 near Prairie du Chien

The next meeting of the Governor's State Trails Council will be held Friday, July 11, 2008 at [Wyalusing State Park](#), 13081 State Park Lane, Bagley, WI 53801. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the Peterson Shelter and is expected to conclude by 2:00 p.m. To get to the Peterson Shelter, follow the main road (State Park Lane) from the Wyalusing front entrance past the ball field and volley ball court. The shelter is on top of the ridge next to the concession stand and Wisconsin Ridge Campground. Lunch will be catered in for State Trails Council members, DNR staff, and selected guests.

Members of the State Trails Council (STC) are appointed by the Governor under the authority of statute 15.347(16) to provide state trail user groups and individuals a voice in the statewide trails program. The STC also provides a forum for dealing with solutions to conflicts between and within trail user groups and trail providers. Additionally, the STC provides advice and consultation to the Department of Natural Resources regarding the planning, acquisition, development, and management of trails in Wisconsin. Additional information about the Governor's State Trails Council, is available on the internet: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks/trails/council>.

An agenda for the upcoming meeting and draft minutes from the April 15 meeting will be mailed out to State Trails Council members and to those who request them. The agenda is also available on the [internet](#). A draft resolution regarding the "Complete Streets Initiative" will be voted on at the meeting and is available for viewing on-line [here](#). At their April 15, 2008 meeting, the Governor's State Trails Council (STC) agreed to establish a [temporary \(ad hoc\) committee](#) responsible for examining and proposing changes to the structure and organization of the State Trails Council in order to ensure that the STC is efficient, effective and inclusive of all citizens and trail user groups. That committee will hold their first meeting following the regular meeting of the STC. Those appointed to membership on the committee have been notified and will be listed on the [committee webpage](#).

Please send correspondence regarding this July 2008 State Trails Council meeting to Joseph Warren (josephc.warren@wi.gov, 608-267-7487). Please let Joe know by Thursday, July 3, 2008 if you are planning to attend the July 11 STC meeting.

2. August 13-14, 2008: 8th Biennial Wisconsin State Pedestrian and Bicycle Conference

The Governor's Bicycle Council, Wisconsin Walks, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, West Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin, and the City of Eau Claire are pleased to announce the **2008 Wisconsin State Pedestrian and Bicycle Conference**. This year's event will be held at the [Ramada Convention Center in Eau Claire, Wisconsin](#) and promises to be *the* premier educational and networking event for transportation professionals, educators, public health specialists, park and recreation managers, elected officials, planners and citizens who are involved in the creation of bicycle and pedestrian friendly environments.

A block of hotel rooms at the Ramada Convention Center in Eau Claire has been reserved for this function at the rate of \$62 per night for single or double occupancy. Please call 1-800-950-6121 and ask to reserve rooms under the *Bicycle and Pedestrian Conference*.

Registration fee prior to August 1 is \$90 (\$50 student) for the two-day conference and will include one dinner, two lunches, one breakfast and all breaks. Registration after August 1 is \$125 (\$75 student). For additional registration information, contact Ann Schell: 715-836-2918, aschell@wcvrpc.org. To register click on the following web address: <http://www.wcvrpc.org/bikepedconference.html>.

BONUS EVENT:

On August 14-15, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation will sponsor a 2-day pedestrian safety workshop, *How to Develop a Pedestrian Safety Plan*, in conjunction with the Pedestrian and Bicycle Conference (same location). The workshop is free of charge but limited to 35 participants. For more information and to register, contact: Larry Corsi - 608-267-3154, larry.corsi@dot.state.wi.us.

3. Apply for Rivers & Trails Assistance--Deadline: August 1

The National Park Service's Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program helps partners plan successful locally-led outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation projects.

August 1, 2008 is the deadline for the next round of assistance from the RTCA Program. Applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss project ideas with [RTCA staff](#) before submitting an [application](#). Visit www.nps.gov/rtca for more information.

4. Hiking Trail Grants Available to Nonprofit Trail Organizations

The American Hiking Society is now accepting applications for its 2009 National Trails Fund. The National Trails Fund is an ambitious effort to preserve community hiking trails across the nation. Since the grant program's inception 10 years ago, 89 different hiking trail projects have received a combined \$340,000. This year, Nature Valley's Save the Trails program donated \$50,000 to double the size of the 2009 National Trails Fund. This means that 10 applicants will each be awarded \$5,000.

Non-profit organizations may apply for a 2009 National Trails Fund grant by visiting www.wheresyours.com or www.americanhiking.org. In addition to the written proposal, applicants are required to upload video or images. Applications are due on **August 15, 2008**.

On Sept. 30, 2008, the American Hiking Society will post its top 20 submissions on www.americanhiking.org for public voting during the month of October. The top 10 entries, announced in April 2009, will each receive \$5,000 to repair their respective trails.

The mission of the grant program is to help provide people with the funding to keep their community hiking trails in good condition to preserve access to our nation's pristine park lands. It is greatly appreciated that you are helping spread the word about the fund. Video and photos are available on the following news release to help tell the story: <http://prnewswire.com/mnr/naturevalley/33439/>.

5. Stewardship Development Grant Program Announced

This year's Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Development Grants for organized Friends groups is now officially accepting applications. The program offers an exciting opportunity for Department of Natural Resources (DNR) property managers and Friends groups to meet the needs of their parks, trails, and forests. Applications (with all paperwork completed!) are due to the Bureau of Parks and Recreation by **November 15, 2008**.

A total of \$250,000 is available each year for grants under this program, with a limit of \$20,000 per property. Grants are awarded for up to 50% of project costs. The other 50% of project costs shall be provided by the project sponsor. Up to 50% of the sponsor's share of project costs (25% of total project cost) may be in-kind contributions such as donated materials, equipment, services, and labor. Application packets were mailed to property manager and Friends Groups this week. For more information about the program, contact your local DNR property manager.

END Trail News, 07/01/2008

This is a subscription service for trail news from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Subscribers to this service will receive e-mails periodically from DNR about upcoming Governor's Wisconsin State Trails Council (STC) meetings and other trail news. For more information about Wisconsin State Trails or the STC, visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks/trails/index.html>.

To subscribe or unsubscribe to this list, please visit: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks/trails/listserv.asp>.