

Trail News – 9/19/11

1. State Trails Council: Wednesday, September 21, 2011

The [State Trails Council](#) will meet from 6 p.m. until approximately 6:30 p.m. via telephone conference call originating in Room G09 of the State Natural Resources Building (GEF 2), 101 South Webster St., Madison. The agenda includes nominee for the council's snowmobile representative position. Any non-DNR employees attending will need to come to the Plaza Level on the Ground Floor. Please RSVP by noon on September 21 if you plan to attend the meeting. Contact Joseph Warren: e-mail: josephc.warren@wisconsin.gov. The STC's fall meeting will be held on October 28 at Black River Falls.

2. Got Rock? Upcoming Training will Teach How to Work Safely and Effectively with Rock (September 29-30, 2011 at Devil's Lake State Park)

You're invited to learn from one of the best - Mr. Lester Kenway of Trail Services, LLC (<http://trailservices.com/>). Lester is widely recognized in the professional trailbuilding community as the foremost expert on working with rock for trailbuilding. Since 1971, Lester has been involved with trails, including 22 years as the Trail Supervisor at Baxter State Park in Maine.

The training will focus on two main components: rock shaping (stone cutting and shaping - using hand tools and portable motorized equipment), and building trail structures such as steps and retaining walls; and rock moving (rigging - using a wire rope, winches, Griphoist (invented by Lester) and other mechanical equipment; slings and fiber ropes).

Topics covered will include: safety and PPE; equipment selection, care, and applications; "reading" rock; calculating for safety and efficiency (e.g. working load limits); mechanical advantage for pulling; and high-lines. There will be plenty of opportunity for hands-on practice.

The training is open to public trail providers and trail volunteers. It will take place September 29-30, 2011 at Devil's Lake State Park. Be prepared for variable weather. Bring sturdy hiking or leather work boots, leather work gloves, bug spray and a hat. Bring a hardhat if you've got one. A long sleeve shirt and pants are recommended for trail work. Bring a day pack and extra water bottles. For questions, please e-mail: DNRWISateTrails@wi.gov. To sign up, please go to: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2PRZBY7>.

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