

Trail News - 10/19/2011

State Trails Council Meeting

****The October STC meeting location has been changed to Lapham Peak near Delafield, WI.**** The next meeting of the Governor's State Trails Council will be held Friday, October 28, 2011 at the Lapham Peak Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest, W329 N846 County Highway C, Delafield, WI. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and is expected to conclude by 3:00 p.m. The meeting agenda is available online:
<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks/trails/council/agendas/STC20111028agenda.pdf>

The State Trails Council (STC) is 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/>.

Lunch will be catered in for State Trails Council members, DNR staff, and presenters. An agenda for the upcoming meeting and draft minutes from the last STC meeting are available via the Internet address above. *Please RSVP by October 26 to DNRWIStateTrails@wi.gov if you are planning to attend the October 28 meeting.*

Public Meetings for Proposed Hunting on State Ice Age Trail Areas

Meetings have been scheduled to give the public an opportunity to review and comment on proposed hunting seasons for lands purchased by the Department of Natural Resources for the Ice Age Trail.

- 1) Monday, November 14, 2011, 5 - 8 p.m. at Chippewa Moraine State Recreation Area (13394 County Highway M, New Auburn, WI 54757)
- 2) Tuesday, November 15, 2011, 5 - 8 p.m. at Lapham Peak State Forest (W329 N846 County C, Delafield, WI 53018)
- 3) Wednesday, November 16, 2011, 5 - 8 p.m. at Lodi High School (1100 Sauk Street, Lodi, WI 53555)
- 4) Thursday, November 17, 2011, 5 - 8 p.m. at Schmeeckle Reserve (2419 North Point Drive, Stevens Point, WI 54481)

Members of the public will be able to attend the meetings to review, ask questions about, and comment on the proposed seasons. Starting in early November, the proposals will be available for review online, where comments may also be submitted.

Posting for Rail Specialist Position at DOT

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation is hiring a Rail Specialist in their Railroads and Harbors Section. Application deadline is 10/24.
http://wisc.jobs/public/job_view.asp?annoid=54590&jobid=54105&index=true

RESOURCES

- **Economic Value of Outdoor Recreation** Visit outdoorfoundation.org/pdf/ResearchParticipation2011.pdf to see a report recently released by the Outdoor Foundation on the economic value of outdoor recreation. It also has excellent demographic studies of users, analysis of health benefits from outdoor recreation, and a wealth of other data.
- **Trail Stewardship Guidance** Trail stewardship (that is, vegetative management next to a trail) is an important part of providing a great trail experience and ensuring that trails provide benefit to the lands on which they lie, particularly regarding invasive species. The guide was written for the Ice Age Trail by the Ice Age Trail Alliance, but provides sound guidance that applies to all trails. The guide can be downloaded at <http://www.iceagetrail.org/resources-for-iata-leaders>, under the Trail Construction and Maintenance category.
- **New Report on Safe Routes to School** Safe Routes to School is a federal funding program that has helped to fund many trail projects in Wisconsin. With SRTS money, communities are constructing sidewalks, crosswalks and pathways that improve safety for children and encourage them to be more physically active. A new report by the Safe Routes to School National Partnership, *Safe Routes to School: Helping Communities Save Lives and Dollars*, is available for download: <http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/media/file/SRTSNP-2011-Policy-Report.pdf>. A shorter fact sheet based on the report is available: <http://www.saferoutespartnership.org/media/file/SRTS-policy-report-fact-sheet.pdf>. Many factors affecting the Safe Routes to School Program also are considerations for the Transportation Enhancement Activities and the Recreational Trails Program, the two largest sources of trail funding.

For more information about Wisconsin's Safe Routes to School grant program, please visit: <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/aid/saferoutes.htm>.

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>.

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