

Trail News – 6/6/14

Next Meeting of the Governor's State Trails Council: Thursday, July 31

The next meeting of the Governor's State Trails Council will be held Thursday, July 31, 2014 in the James P. Coughlin Center located at 625 East County Road Y, Winnebago County Office Building, Oshkosh, WI. The meeting will be in Conference Room "A" from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

The State Trails Council 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.

Agenda items will include council member updates, DNR report and other trail issues. Information about the STC is available online at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/stc/>

Please RSVP by July 24, 2014 (DNRWISateTrails@wisconsin.gov) if you are planning to attend the July 31 meeting. Lunch will be provided for State Trails Council members and DNR staff.

2014 DNR Trail Training Courses Open for Registration

The DNR will be leading a pair of four day training courses to learn current trail design, construction, and maintenance techniques. Each day of the training will have a classroom component along with hands-on application. Attendees must be able to attend and participate in all four days of the training. You'll learn how to create natural (dirt) surface trails that:

- Minimize impact to resources
- Minimize maintenance
- Do not go beyond capacity of the land
- Keep users on the trail

Each day of the course builds upon the knowledge from the previous day. Day 1 covers trail design and layout; Day 2, trail construction; Day 3, trail maintenance; and Day 4 is when you'll put it all together for practical application and obtain completion certificates.

The 2014 trainings will be held in La Crosse (June 10-13) and Hartford at the Loew Lake Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest (July 9-12). The training is free to public trail volunteers and land managers; however a \$50 deposit is required for the Hartford class to cover the cost of some meals and to ensure that those who sign up attend. There is no deposit fee for the La Crosse class. Costs to attendees are travel, lodging, and some meals. For more information and to sign up: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2014TrailTrainings>.

Joint Meeting of the Nonmotorized Recreation and Transportation Trails Council and Governor's Bicycle Coordinating Council: Wednesday, June 11

There will be a joint meeting between the Nonmotorized Recreation and Transportation Trails Council and the Governor's Bicycle Coordinating Council on Wednesday, June 11 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. There will also be an optional bike ride from 1:15 to 2 p.m. on the Capital City State Trail. The meeting will be held on the main level of the Lussier Family Heritage Center at 3101 Lake Farm Road in Madison, WI, with the bike ride leaving from that location.

The joint meeting will focus on common interests between the two groups, particularly funding sources for future trail creation and maintenance. Lunch will be provided to council members and staff. For more information on the NRTTC or to see the meeting agenda, please visit: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/trails/nrttc.html>

National Park Service Annual Call for Applications for Its Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program

Have an idea for a trail, river or park in your community? The National Park Service can help! The National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program helps community groups, not-for-profits, state and local governments, and tribes plan and establish trails and parks, conserve and improve access to rivers and natural areas, and create outdoor recreation opportunities.

National Park Service staff provide free, on-location facilitation and planning expertise, drawing from experiences around the country to adapt best practices for your community's specific needs. Communities own the land and manage their projects, but NPS staff can help define project goals, inventory and map community resources, engage stakeholders, develop concept plans, identify funding sources, or other ways to get projects off the ground.

Applications for 2015 projects are due by August 1, 2014. Visit <http://www.nps.gov/rtca> for more information and to apply.

Bicycle Friendly Community Meeting With League of American Bicyclists: Monday, June 16

Steve Clark from the League of American Bicyclists will be visiting Madison on Monday, June 16 to discuss Bicycle Friendly Community programs with interested small communities in Dane County. The meeting is from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and will be held at the American Family Children's Hospital. Bike parking and room location are still to be determined, but you can contact Renee Callaway with the Madison Area Transportation Planning Board for more details [ReCallaway@cityofmadison.com].

This meeting is the result of an invitation from the Dane County Childhood Obesity Prevention Collaborative to improve bicycle friendly status in the county. At the meeting, they will be outlining the application process, doing a presentation on work being done in local communities, going on a brief bike tour to discuss infrastructure improvements, and working on action steps for the involved communities.

END Trail News, 6/6/2014

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>.