

## **Trail News – 04/22/15**

### **Next Meeting of the Governor’s State Trails Council: Monday, April 27**

The next meeting of the Governor’s State Trails Council will be held on Monday, April 27, 2015 at the DNR Service Center in Fitchburg. It is located at 3911 Fish Hatchery Road in Fitchburg. The meeting will be in the main building from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The State Trails Council is appointed by the Governor 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 the potential use of the U.S. National Grid System for location signage on trails. Information about the STC, along with April meeting materials, is available online on the [STC page](#).

*Please RSVP by April 23, 2015* ([daniel.buckler@wisconsin.gov](mailto:daniel.buckler@wisconsin.gov)) if you are planning to attend the April 27 meeting. Lunch will be provided for State Trails Council members and DNR staff.

### **Public Open Houses for Bikeways Project**

Open houses will be held this spring as part of the [Bikeways Project](#) coordinated by the DNR, other state agencies and the Wisconsin Bike Fed. The project, which launched earlier this year, will identify and promote a network of mapped bicycle routes in the state. Existing roadway and trail systems will be evaluated in order to recognize priority bikeway routes across Wisconsin.

The open houses will be held in five cities throughout the state, all from **4:30 – 7:30 p.m.:**

- Madison – May 21 – Madison Senior Center - 330 West Mifflin St. Madison, WI 53703
- Milwaukee – May 27 – Mitchell Park Pavilion - 2200 W. Pierce St. Milwaukee, WI 53204
- Appleton (Grand Chute) – May 28 – Grand Chute Town Hall - 1900 Grand Chute Blvd. Grand Chute, WI 54913
- Eau Claire – June 2 – Mayo Health Systems of Eau Claire (Luther Campus Clinic) - 1400 Bellinger St. Eau Claire, WI 54702
- Wausau – June 9 – Northcentral Technical College - 1000 W. Campus Dr. Wausau, WI 54401

These meetings will give an opportunity to the public to provide input on the project. There will be another series of open houses in the fall, with project completion anticipated for December.

For more information on the project and the spring open houses, please visit the [Bikeways Project page](#).

## **IMBA Midwest Summit**

The International Mountain Bicycling Association's Great Lakes and Upper Midwest regions will be hosting the IMBA Great Midwest Mountain Bike Summit June 12-14 in Marquette, Michigan. Local advocates, land managers and industry representatives will come together to discuss mountain bicycling trends and activities, participate in workshops and ride local trails. The summit's agenda and other information are available [here](#).

## **Headwaters Economics Launches Library of Studies of Trail Benefits**

Headwaters Economics, a nonprofit research group focused on land management and energy issues, has launched an online collection of studies on the positive impact of trails, particularly for less populous towns and regions. The library is searchable by type of benefit (e.g. public health or property values), use, study year and region. The collection can be found [here](#).

## **IMBA Small Grants Program**

The International Mountain Bicycling Association, together with corporate partners, has established a small grants program for trail and bicycle projects. The grants are accessible to IMBA chapters and supporting organizations with 501(c)3 non-profit status and are to be used to promote sustainability, conservation and environmental awareness in the mountain bicycling community. Grants range from \$400-\$1000.

The deadline for applications is May 15, 2015 and winners will be announced in June. Interested organizations can visit the [Small Grants Program Web page](#) for more information.

***Trail News End, 04/22/15***