

Trail News - July 23, 2015



Sugar River State Trail

Next Meeting of the Governor's State Trails Council: Friday, August 7

The next meeting of the Governor's State Trails Council will be held on Friday, August 7, 2015 at the Riverview Town Hall. It is located at 15471 Hwy 32 in Mountain. The meeting will run 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 presentations from local trail users and managers. Information about the STC, along with August meeting materials, is available online on the [STC page](#).

Please RSVP by July 31, 2015 (daniel.buckler@wisconsin.gov) if you are planning to attend the August 7 meeting. Lunch will be provided for State Trails Council members and DNR staff.

Friends of Wisconsin State Parks 2015 Photo Contest

The Friends of Wisconsin State Parks are excited to announce their 2015 Photo Contest! You may submit your photos that capture visitors enjoying state parks, forests, trails or recreation areas from July 1, 2015 through **Monday August 31, 2015**.

FWSP is asking for entries that include people enjoying activities like hiking, picnicking, biking, cross country skiing, kayaking, horseback riding, and biking in the midst of beautiful scenery. They are looking for entries that represent all four seasons. In addition to being available for purchase, the calendar will be distributed to more than 86,000 subscribers of Wisconsin Natural Resources magazine in the December 2015 issue.

Contest rules are available on the [FWSP website](#). Participants **must** review the full rules before entering any photos.

How to Enter

Entries must be uploaded by **Sunday, August 31, 2015**, 11:59 PM. Participants must review the full rules and submit photos electronically. There is no entry fee to participate. No more than **four** photos may be entered by any one person.

By participating in the contest, you hereby grant FWSP unlimited, non-exclusive, irrevocable permission to publish and reproduce your image in media including but not limited to, the website and promotional materials, into perpetuity. FWSP reserves the right to exclude any photo from the contest.

[Link to Photo Contest Entry Form](#)

Direct any questions about the Photo Contest to: Patricia Loosen, Friends of Wisconsin State Parks Coordinator (patricia.loosen@wisconsin.gov; 608-264-8994).

Friends of Wisconsin State Parks Gold Seal Award Contest

The Friends of Wisconsin State Parks are asking for your vote in this year's GOLD SEAL AWARD contest categories. If you are a camper, biker, hunter, hiker, angler or park visitor, cast your vote for your favorite state park, forest or trail in the categories below.

The winning parks, forests and trails will be honored with a GOLD SEAL AWARD at the Friends of Wisconsin State Parks Awards Banquet on Saturday, November 14, 2015. The statewide Friends of Wisconsin State Parks organization runs the GOLD SEAL AWARD program each year to highlight Wisconsin's parks, trails, and forests.

The Gold Seal contest runs from July 11 - September 11, 2015.

Go to: [FWSP.org](#) to vote for the following categories:

- Best trail to view wildflowers
- Best place to find winter wildlife tracks
- Best place for a workout
- Best accessible picnic area
- Best place to camp with the family
- Best trail to ride/hike in the fall
- Best place to view exhibits
- Best place to find fungi
- Best dog beach
- Best place to see migratory birds

Mid America Trails & Greenways Conference

The 2015 Mid America Trails & Greenways Conference will be held this year from October 25-28 at the Embassy Suites Conference Center in Des Moines, Iowa. The conference gives attendees the opportunity to learn from other regional trail experts and receive updates on the latest trends and techniques in trail development and management. There will also be field trips and mobile workshops to see best practices for using trails in economic development and active living.

The Mid American Trails and Greenways Conference is a biannual meeting of trail developers, managers and users from nine states in the region. This year's theme will be "Healthy people, healthy places." For more information, please visit the [conference website](#).