



2023 NATIONAL TRAILS WORKSHOP

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

DAY 1

Tuesday, November 7th

MEETING ROOM 1

MEETING ROOM 2

MEETING ROOM 3

	MEETING ROOM 1	MEETING ROOM 2	MEETING ROOM 3	
7:30AM-9:00AM	Registration, Check-in & Coffee			
9:00AM-10:00AM	Welcome			
10:00AM-10:30AM	<i>Break</i>			
10:30AM-12:00PM	Succession Planning	Tribal Engagement	Open Room	
12:00PM-1:00PM	<i>Lunch Break</i>			
1:00PM-2:30PM	Succession Planning	Tribal Engagement	Open Room	Mobile Workshop: Management and Resiliency on the Florida Trail
2:30PM-3:00PM	<i>Break</i>			
3:00PM-5:00PM	Succession Planning	National Historic Preservation Act	Open Room	Mobile Workshop: Management and Resiliency on the Florida Trail
5:00PM-8:00PM	Social Hour			

DAY 2

Wednesday, November 8th

MEETING ROOM 1

MEETING ROOM 2

MEETING ROOM 3

MEETING ROOM 4

	MEETING ROOM 1	MEETING ROOM 2	MEETING ROOM 3	MEETING ROOM 4
8:45AM-9:30AM	Registration, Check-in & Coffee			
9:30AM-10:30AM	Resiliency Planning (climate)	Designing More Accessible Trails	Elevating National Trail Towns and Gateway Community Programs	Addressing Trail Gaps and Land Acquisition Planning and Partnerships
10:30AM-11:00AM	<i>Break</i>			
10:30AM-12:00PM	Resiliency Planning (fire)	Designing More Accessible Trails	Elevating National Trail Towns and Gateway Community Programs	Addressing Trail Gaps and Land Acquisition Planning and Partnerships
12:00PM-1:30PM	<i>Lunch Break</i>			
1:30PM-2:30PM	Resiliency Planning (weather & disaster preparedness)	Mobile Workshop: Designing More Accessible Trails	Elevating National Trail Towns and Gateway Community Programs	Addressing Trail Gaps and Land Acquisition Planning and Partnerships
2:30PM-3:00PM	<i>Break</i>			
3:00PM-4:00PM	Resiliency Planning (Landscape Conservation)	Reaching your Fundraising Goals as a Small Organization	Know the Past, Change the Future- The Wilderness Society's Public Land Curriculum	Interpreting Trail-side Cultural Resources for a Diverse Public
4:00PM-4:30PM	<i>Break</i>			
4:30PM-5:30PM	Resiliency Planning	Reaching your Fundraising Goals as a Small Organization	Know the Past, Change the Future- The Wilderness Society's Public Land Curriculum	Interpreting Trail-side Cultural Resources for a Diverse Public
5:30PM-8:00PM	Meet-up options for attendees			

DAY 3

Thursday, November 9th

	MEETING ROOM 1	MEETING ROOM 2	MEETING ROOM 3	MEETING ROOM 4
8:45AM-9:30AM	Registration, Check-in & Coffee			
9:30AM-10:30AM	Engaging Youth on Historic and Scenic Trails	Building A-Typical Sustainable Partnerships and Promoting Equity: Strengthening Connections for a Better Future	GIS for Trail Accessibility	Florida's Recreational Trails Program
10:30AM-11:00AM	<i>Break</i>			
11:00AM-12:00PM	Engaging Youth on Historic and Scenic Trails	Building A-Typical Sustainable Partnerships and Promoting Equity: Strengthening Connections for a Better Future	GIS for Trail Accessibility	Florida's Recreational Trails Program
12:00PM-1:30PM	<i>Lunch Break</i>			
1:30PM-3:00PM	Next Gen Engagement on Trails	Equity and Inclusion On, Around, and Within the Ice Age Trail: A Holistic Model	Decade Goals Forum	Open Room
3:00PM-3:30PM	<i>Break</i>			
3:30PM-5:00PM	Next Gen Engagement on Trails	Equity and Inclusion On, Around, and Within the Ice Age Trail: A Holistic Model	Decade Goals Forum	
5:30PM-5:15PM	<i>Break</i>			
5:30PM-8:00PM	Meet-up options for attendees			

DAY 1 SESSIONS

SUCCESSION PLANNING

AMY STORK

This session will focus on what it takes to be ready to welcome new volunteer leaders. With information tailored to staff who work directly or indirectly with volunteer leaders, as well as to volunteer leaders themselves, we will focus on three key aspects of organizational readiness:

- Structures: From good job descriptions to how to make committees work for you, we'll talk about the nuts and bolts of the leadership structures that create new "seats at the table."
- Behaviors: We'll discuss baseline best practices for welcoming and inclusion.
- Motivations: We'll explore your personal why in getting ready to welcome new leaders, along with anything that might be making leadership transitions difficult.

Using the PNTS Community Agreements as discussion guidelines, the highly participatory session will include a presentation of best practices; full group discussions; and small group conversations. Participants will leave with several completed worksheets that can be a resource for future action planning.

TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT

STARLYN MILLER, SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA

Discussion topics will include: understanding the work needed and cultural engagement protocols to keep in mind, how to show up, centering partners, renaming places, and much more. This session will be led by representatives of the Seminole Tribe of Florida and Starlyn Miller, the Native Lands Partnership Director at the Wilderness Society. More information coming soon.

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT

DAWN LAWRENCE,
MELISSA TWAROSKI

During this training, we will discuss National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) compliance, procedure, and project implementation. This is intended for agency staff but all are welcome to join the discussion. More information coming soon.

MOBILE WORKSHOP: MANAGEMENT AND RESILIENCY ON THE FLORIDA TRAIL

FLORIDA TRAIL ASSOCIATION

Join us for a demonstration of management techniques on the Florida National Scenic Trail. We will also discuss resiliency efforts on the Florida National Trail. This mobile workshop will be led by Florida Trail Association's Central Florida Volunteer Chapter at the Little Big Econ State Forest. More information coming soon.

DAY 2 SESSIONS

RESILIENCY PLANNING

This full-day workshop will provide attendees with the knowledge and resources to begin creating a resiliency plan for their trail. Topics that will be explored during this workshop include climate change, fire planning and response, landscape planning, and weather events, such as storms, flooding, and droughts. National Trail Administrators and Federal Agency staff will be an active part of this session. Additional Speaker information coming soon.

JUSTIN KOOYMAN, ASHLEY DANIELSON, MITCHELL MEYER, CHARLIE PATTERSON, LINDSEY STEINWACHS, KATIE ALLEN, ERNEST COOK

DESIGNING MORE ACCESSIBLE TRAILS

In this session, attendees will learn about the barriers that are faced by people with disabilities and actionable steps to reduce barriers on their trail or public lands. This session will include many interactive activities so that attendees can deepen their understanding around accessibility. This workshop will be followed by a mobile workshop that will include demonstrations and discussion about adaptive equipment, signage, terrain, and how to address accessibility concerns on the trail. The mobile workshop will take place at the Seminole State Forest and include demonstrations and discussion about adaptive equipment, signage, terrain, and how to address accessibility concerns on the trail.

REACHING YOUR FUNDRAISING GOALS AS A SMALL ORGANIZATION

ROYCE GIBSON, TRAVIS BOLEY

Join this workshop where you will learn the basics of how to set up a free or low-cost fundraising system online, how to create and time a renewal series, how to create brand awareness and utilize social media and Google ads to achieve your fundraising goals. You will learn how to better understand your membership/supporters, tailor messaging, manage membership, the importance of thanking your membership, and how to build relationships. We will also discuss other fundraising strategies such as end-of-life giving, drip campaigns, peer-to-peer, direct mail, and how and when to make asks. We will explore how to overcome the first hurdle or fear of asking your member base too much or too often and how you can develop a culture of fundraising at your organization. The last hour of this workshop will include a demonstration and an interactive exercise where attendees will begin developing a plan of their own. This training is intended for small nonprofits with few or no staff as well as volunteer board members - However, everyone is welcome to attend!

Attendee pre-session homework:

- The instructors request that by October 30, attendees send a copy of a direct mail campaign that has been used at their organization in the recent past, for review with the larger group during the training. You may send those to Cara@pnts.org with the subject line Fundraising Workshop.
- Please come to the session knowing about how your organization currently does fundraising (be able to share for 1 minute about how you do or do not do fundraising).
- Please come to the session with knowledge of what your organization's funding targets are.

ELEVATING NATIONAL TRAIL TOWNS AND GATEWAY COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

AMY CAMP

This interactive workshop builds from last year's National Trails Workshop session about trail towns and gateway communities. This session is intended to foster collaboration amongst those who manage gateway community programs and those who would like to establish a program along their National Trail. Hear from gateway community experts, program managers and from EACH OTHER as we explore how to elevate individual programs and the overall gateway community approach. This session includes:

- a brief overview of what a gateway community program is
- an examination of gateway community program trends from around the country
- best practices for gateway community programs
- an overview of available state and federal resources.

We will also hear from the Florida Trail Association about its gateway community program, co-create solutions to common barriers, and begin to establish a network of peers. One goal for the session is to lay the groundwork for a manager peer group and potentially even host a National Trails gateway community summit (for communities along all of the National Trails). Other speakers and facilitators include Julie Judkins, Liz Schmit, Hailey Dansby and Jane Pollack.

KNOW THE PAST, CHANGE THE FUTURE — THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY'S PUBLIC LAND CURRICULUM

LIZ VOGEL,
SHARON MUSA

PNTS members and partner's work and play is rooted on public lands. While public lands are shared, valuable assets, the complete story of how public lands came to be can be difficult to justify and is, therefore, often overlooked and erased. The Wilderness Society's Public Lands Curriculum (PLC) is a tool for organizations and programs to explore a more complete and honest story of public lands. By re-learning conservation history, we can create programs and partnerships that honor and explore all people's connection to nature and help people engage with public lands in their own way.

In this interactive 'train the trainer' session, we'll explore the Public Lands Curriculum as a resource for educators and presenters will model activities from the PLC that can open up deeper discussion and connection to place.

Participants will:

1. Explore the Public Lands Curriculum as a tool to teach a holistic & inclusive narrative about public lands.
2. Participate in activities that can be adapted for use in existing classrooms and education programs.
3. Brainstorm ways to utilize the Public Lands Curriculum concepts in classrooms and communities.

ADDRESSING TRAIL GAPS AND LAND ACQUISITION PLANNING AND PARTNERSHIPS

HEATHER BARNES,
KENT WIMMER,
JEFFREY SHANKS &
NICOLAUS CRAIG

Attendees will learn about the complexities of land acquisition and the role that land trusts, federal agencies and others play in land conservation. Speakers will present case studies on how the Florida Trail Association has built creative partnerships with local and state organizations to close gaps, worked with private landowners to acquire a native heritage site adjacent to the FNST, and utilized programs such as the Sentinel Landscape program.

We will also discuss how land acquisition at the NPS Martinsburg office happens currently, how it may be changing in the future, the dynamics of funding trail projects, and discuss the outlook with new staff capacity.

The second half of the session will be dedicated to exploring how to address your land conservation challenges and learning more from speakers and other participants about the topics discussed through larger group discussion and smaller group breakouts.

INTERPRETING TRAIL-SIDE CULTURAL RESOURCES FOR A DIVERSE PUBLIC

BARBARA CLARK, RPA, MSA

This workshop session is intended for any organization interested in improving the interpretation and engagement of historic sites along a trail, adjacent to a trail, or on public or private lands.

Attendees will:

- understand the value-added benefits of interpreting cultural resources located adjacent to trails.
- gain knowledge in quality public interpretation and engagement methods.
- learn the benefits of incorporating a community-based approach will be discussed.
- discuss how to engage university students and other younger demographics.
- address accessibility issues, including how to expand trail visitation to new groups.
- discuss the various pros and cons of interpreting trail-side resources and how to properly address issues concerning cultural resource protections.

DAY 3 SESSIONS

BUILDING A-TYPICAL SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIPS AND PROMOTING EQUITY: STRENGTHENING CONNECTIONS FOR A BETTER FUTURE

JULIE JUDKINS, SONIA RANGEL

Join us for an interactive session where we explore the power of (A-Typical) partnerships, discuss barriers and keys to success, and delve into the importance of equity in fostering inclusive and resilient communities. The two key topics of discussion will include: A-Typical partnerships, barriers, and keys to success, and Affinity groups, what are they, and why they are important. We will:

- explore the concept of atypical partners, discussing what they are and why they hold value in our pursuit of meaningful collaborations
- address the potential barriers that can arise when forging partnerships and discuss strategies to overcome them
- share keys to success in establishing new partnerships with a focus on the fundamental principles of trust and reciprocity in relationship-building
- delve into the significance of affinity groups, exploring their definition and why they play a crucial role in fostering inclusivity
- delve into real-life examples of successful affinity groups

Join us for an informative and engaging presentation that aims to strengthen connections, promote sustainability, and foster equity within our organization. Together, we can create a better future for all.

ENGAGING YOUTH ON HISTORIC AND SCENIC TRAILS

MELISSA PIERICK, LUKE KLOBERDANZ, ELLEN VON
KARAJAN, CHRISTINA PITTSLEY & TRAVIS BOLEY

Join the Oregon-California Trails Association, Washington-Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association, and the Ice Age Trail Alliance to learn about their youth education and engagement programs. During the session you will learn more about:

- Planning, design and implementation logistics
- Resources and partners who will help along the way, including volunteer training
- Reaching school districts directly and establishing programs in different states
- Marketing ideas to tell your story to donors and potential funders

After learning about their successful programs, we will do a deeper dive into the topics discussed by both speakers and participants through larger group discussion and smaller group breakouts. This session will focus on engaging youth aged 8-13. Please come to the session with a 1-2 minute elevator speech about what your organization is working on or thinking about around youth engagement.

NEXT GEN ENGAGEMENT ON TRAILS

RACHEL SHIREMAN, TREVEN HOOKER, TYLER RAY

During this session you will learn about established next generation programs at American Hiking Society, Florida Trail Association, and Arizona Trail Association. This session is intended for those interested in understanding how to better engage young adults, how to start a next generation program or explore how to address challenges within an existing program. We will discuss: importance of youth engagement, what youth or next generation means, different approaches or tactics to reach program goals, what it's like to be engaged as a young person, and more. We will explore these topics and more through small group discussions and activities.

EQUITY AND INCLUSION ON, AROUND, AND WITHIN THE ICE AGE TRAIL: A HOLISTIC MODEL

DR. LINDSAY BERNHAGEN

In the summer of 2022, the Ice Age Trail Alliance undertook a significant strategic initiative: to make the Ice Age Trail more equitable and inclusive. From the start, it was clear to the Alliance that the process for determining what equity and inclusivity looked like should, itself, be designed with inclusivity in mind. Over the course of two days, stakeholders (some familiar to the Alliance, and others representative of perspectives we'd not yet regularly accessed) worked together to develop a comprehensive equity and inclusivity rubric for the trail and the Alliance. In this session, you'll learn more about the process the Alliance used and the resulting evaluation tool we developed, and then you'll have time to start designing your own process and brainstorming what a holistic approach to equity and inclusivity might include for your organization.

ESRI WORKSHOP: GIS FOR TRAIL ACCESSIBILITY

In this session, we will provide an overview of the geographic approach and how it can help trail organizations achieve accessibility standards. We will be going through a few case studies of organizations that have used geospatial workflows to enhance accessibility in outdoor spaces. Finally, we will have an interactive workshop portion to show attendees how to get started to bring these workflows to their trail organizations. More information coming soon.

DECADE GOALS FORUM

During this facilitated session, trail nonprofit and Federal agency leaders will come together to begin brainstorming ideas for a new set of decade goals & collective priorities for the national trails system. More information coming soon.

FLORIDA'S RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM

LINDA REEVES, LAUREN CRUZ, STEPHANIE CLEMONS,
JONATHON A. BENNETT, JOSEPH SULLIVAN, KEVIN BURGESS,
& MARK SEES

During this session, attendees will learn how the state of Florida administers the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) through a partnership between the Federal Highway Administration, Florida Department of Transportation and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Presenters will also provide information on project and applicant eligibility, the upcoming FY2024-2025 RTP Application Cycle, completing the required National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) reviews, and successfully completing an RTP project. We will highlight how to form partnerships and look at the Orlando Wetlands Boardwalk project, located within a manmade wetland that naturally helps filter wastewater, which was made possible from RTP funding.