

2011 Iowa Trails Summit

Thursday, June 16, 2011

8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources' (DNR)
Water Trails Development Training
Working Smart in the River Setting**

Interest in river recreation and the water trails movement have led to increased interest in placing infrastructure such as parking lots, launches, trails and signage along rivers. Join the Iowa DNR rivers team for a photo-rich workshop on various methods of design, construction and placement geared toward reducing maintenance needs, reducing stormwater runoff, minimizing rock riprap costs, and maximizing native riparian plant usage. Time will be allotted for discussion and evaluation of existing or proposed projects.



Tentative Agenda

- 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Registration**
- 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Training**
- 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Buffet lunch – University of Northern Iowa's Rialto Cafeteria**
- 1:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Training continues**
- 3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Break, snacks, exhibitors**
- 3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Training conclusion**

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9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Multiuser Trail Safety Panel



9:30-11 a.m. Speak Out 4 Kids Multiuser Trail Safety Panel

This panel offers an opportunity for young children and youth groups (accompanied by responsible adults) to share in the wit and wisdom of some of today's trails leaders. This is an open forum with plenty of time for questions from the audience. Participation is limited to 65 children. Call Peter Komendowski at 319-269-8493 to reserve your invitation. *Parking not included.*

10:30-11 a.m. Registration

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Buffet lunch – University of Northern Iowa's Rialto Cafeteria Networking & Exhibitors

12:30-2:30 p.m. Multiuser Trail Safety Panel - "Why Can't We All Get Along – A Forum of Experts, Open Discussion, and Maybe Even an Argument!"

Mark Wyatt, panelist and facilitator, Iowa Bike Coalition executive director, cyclist

Wyatt started commuting by bicycle to work because a trail passed between his home and work. Since that point, the bug has bit and he completed several RAGBRAIs, raced bicycles, enjoyed mountain bicycling and trail riding. Following a proposed bicycle ban in 2003, Mark worked to found the Iowa Bicycle Coalition, a statewide bicycle advocacy organization. The organization now has five staff members and a handful of interns that work year-round on bicycle issues. E-mail: mark@iowabicyclecoalition.org

Dr. Betty Grim, DVM, equine studies, equestrian

Grim is a practicing small animal veterinarian in Madrid and Des Moines. She attended the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University and studied animal science and equine studies as an undergrad at Northeast Missouri State. She recreates with her husband and 5-year-old son in numerous equine competitions. Grim grew up in Bloomfield, Iowa, riding local horse shows, 4-H shows, and anywhere on the farm her horses and ponies would carry her. Email: petsathomevhc@gmail.com

Michelle Barker-Linn, Area Mountain Bike Association board member, mountain biker

Barker-Linn is an avid mountain biker, camper and all around outdoor enthusiast. She sits on the boards of both LAMBA (Linn Area Mountain Biking Association) and the Linn County Trails Association. She presented on the Women of Iowa Dirt panel and advocates for women's mountain biking through clinics, rides and demo days. She has participated in two IMBA Trail Care Crew trainings. She has two children who are also trail users. E-mail: michelle.e.barker@gmail.com

Mike Boone, director of Adaptive Sports Iowa Accessibility

As the director of ASI, it is Boone's privilege to promote the importance of being active and advocate specific accessibility needs to make those opportunities possibilities. Adaptive Sports Iowa's mission: Sport and recreational opportunities should not be inhibited by physical impairments. We strive to create, organize and promote these opportunities to serve the population of Iowa. E-mail: mike@iowasportsfoundation.org

Mike Bonser, Iowa DNR's conservation law enforcement, Hunters and trail users

Bonser has served as an Iowa Department of Natural Resource's state conservation officer since 1984 and is currently a sergeant in northeast Iowa. He is a safety and law enforcement instructor who has taught in Iowa, Idaho, New Jersey, Alaska and Australia. He holds numerous awards and distinctions in his field and is a certified EMT. Bonser has served as a board member for several groups, including Iowa Women in Natural Resources and Black Hawk Humane Society. E-mail: mike.bonser@dnr.iowa.gov

Merv Hoermann, Northwest regional director for Snowmobile Clubs, Snowmobile/Off highway Vehicles (OHV)

Hoermann has been promoting motorized recreation for years. He has been recognized for his great work in Iowa as being the only person to receive awards from the Iowa State Snowmobile Association (ISSA) and the Iowa Off Highway Vehicle Association (IOHVA), the only OHV Partner Award ever given. His work has also been appreciated on the national and local levels. He is a former president of the Iowa State Snowmobile Association. E-mail: mebeefeater@hotmail.com

And other special guests ...

2:30-3 p.m. Afternoon break – snacks, exhibitors

3-4:30 p.m. Multiuser Trail Safety Panel - "Why Can't We All Get Along – A Forum of Experts, Open Discussion, and Maybe Even an Argument!" (Continues)

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8-8:45 a.m. Registration and exhibitors

9-9:30 a.m. Welcome and introductions
Peter Komendowski

9:30-10:45 a.m. Panel session - The Future of Trails in Iowa: An Inside Look

Emily Swihart, as a horticulturist and field coordinator for Trees Forever, she leads a movement to create conceptual designs to enhance trail aesthetics and experiences.

Brian Leaders: "Building excitement in trails – innovation, partnership and promotion - How you take what you have and make it interesting to visitors."

Craig Markley: Unraveling the secrets of federal and state funding opportunities.

Chris Anderson: From the boundary waters of Minnesota to the wilderness at Hartman Reserve in Cedar Falls, Iowa – a journey through the eyes of a child.

10:45- 11 a.m. Questions and answers

11-11:30 a.m. Morning keynote – Gary Hanson: Sharing Trails, Ideas and Innovations

11:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. Buffet lunch – University of Northern Iowa's Rialto Cafeteria
Networking and exhibitors

1:15-2:30 p.m. Panel session – Trails: A journey or a destination

Gary Hanson: Wisconsin's renowned trails advocate and a pioneer in the development of shared-use trails and the development of sustainable recreational opportunities.

Joe Larscheid: Why happy fish mean happy trails. His fame beneath the surface of Iowa's lakes, rivers and streams is

legendary. As the chief of Iowa's Fisheries Bureau, there's hardly a fish in Iowa that isn't a fan of his work.

Bill Paynter: Horseman, Humorist and one of Iowa's True Cowboys
Special guest

2:30-2:45 p.m. Questions and answers

2:45-3 p.m. Afternoon break – snacks, exhibitors

3-4:15 p.m. Panel session - Three Wise Guys & a Gal

Chuck Offenburger: A champion of Iowa trails and storyteller extraordinaire.

Mark Edwards: An environmental activist and scholar – From the Brink of Crisis to Epiphany in Iowa.

Mark Ackelson: The voice of Iowa's Natural Heritage.

Joanie Schneider: One of Iowa's true trails pioneers – in deed and spirit she speaks as an inspiration to future generations of Iowa trails users.

4:15-4:30 p.m. Questions and answers

4:30-5 p.m. Closing keynote – Chuck Offenburger

6-9 p.m. Barbeque at the Waterloo Boat House