



2016 Washington State Trails Conference

Request for Presentations

On October 13-15, 2016, the Washington State Trails Coalition (WSTC) will sponsor the 11th biennial State Trails Conference at the Red Lion Hotel in Richland, WA. Trail advocates, consultants, agency representatives, user groups, and recreation and transportation professionals will gather to share skills, insights, resources, celebrate successes, and inspire new trail projects. Learn more <http://washingtonstatetrailscoalition.org/conferences/2016-conference/>.

The conference's Program Committee is now seeking presentation proposals consistent with the conference's theme of "Creating Community - Connecting Communities". To encourage a broad range of perspectives, special consideration will be given to proposals that include: 1) presentations which may not have been associated with trails in the past, such as health, economic development, education, conservation or transportation, or 2) voices of people who have been traditionally underrepresented in trail projects, such as youth and young adults, people of color, individuals with disabilities, or veterans.

The Conference will offer breakout sessions along four themed tracks:

1. **Design, Build, and Maintain High Quality Trails** - *Best practices for cost-effective trail projects that maximize sustainability and user experience.*
2. **Managing Trails in a New Era** - *Case studies and presentations focused on solutions to the growing challenges facing trail management in the 21st century, including: overuse, reduced budgets, population growth, changing demographics of users, environmental regulations, new technologies, and more.*
3. **Making the Case for Trails** - *Demonstrating the health, social, economic, transportation or educational value of trails in your community. Can also look at how to leverage these values to secure funding for development and maintenance.*
4. **Trails Spotlight** - *Showcasing trails that provide unique values and experiences for the public or that offer particularly significant learning opportunities.*

Length of Presentation: Time slots will be 60 minutes which includes a recommended 10-15 minutes for Q&A.

Off Site Session or Field Trip: There may be opportunities for a very small number of field trips during the conference. Contact WSTC directly if you wish to propose a session to highlight a unique local trail, issue, or process.

Submitting a Proposal: Our selection committee will consider general interest proposals, but proposals that best align with one of the track themes will be given priority. It is important that conference proposals focus on trails, whether urban or backcountry, public or private, recreation or transportation.

Submissions: Complete the Proposal Form below and email Word or PDF file to proposals@washingtonstatetrailscoalition.org by **June 30, 2016**.

Review and selection: The Program Committee will select proposals on the basis of topic relevance, appeal to a spectrum of attendees and quality of proposal. The committee aims to respond to applicants with final program selections by July 15, 2016.

Registration policy: Conference organizers work to keep overall registration and meal costs low in part by asking all presenters to pay the full registration fee and their other expenses. However, speakers who wish to attend only their session and a session immediately following or preceding their presentation, with the exception of a meal event, may request a waiver of this policy. Thank you for understanding.

2016 Washington State Trails Conference
Presentation Proposal Form
“Creating Community - Connecting Communities”

Primary Point of Contact

Name:	Title:
Organizational Affiliation (if applicable):	
Phone:	Email:

Presentation

Presentation title:
Presentation description (50-150 words, may be edited for brochure):
Speakers (include names, title and email address for all speakers):
Proposed format (solo presentation, panel, interactive workshop or other format):
A/V or other equipment needs:

Proposed conference track (please select only one that you think best reflects your topic):

- 1. Design, Build, and Maintain High Quality Trails** - *Best practices for cost-effective trail projects that maximize sustainability and user experience.*
- 2. Managing Trails in a New Era** - *Case studies and presentations focused on solutions to the growing challenges facing trail management in the 21st century, including: overuse, reduced budgets, population growth, changing demographics of users, environmental regulations, new technologies, and more.*
- 3. Making the Case for Trails** - *Demonstrating the health, social, economic, transportation or educational value of trails in your community. Can also look at how to leverage these values to secure funding for development and maintenance.*
- 4. Trails Spotlight** - *Showcasing trails that provide unique values and experiences for the public or that offer particularly significant learning opportunities.*

(Optional) Does your presentation feature voices of people who have been traditionally underrepresented in trail projects, such as youth and young adults, people of color, individuals with disabilities, or veterans?

Anything else you would like us to know?

Thank you for your proposal! Please email the completed document in Word or PDF format to proposals@washingtonstatetrailscoalition.org by June 30, 2016.