



AmericanTrails.org

# *2015 American Trails*

## *National & International Trails Awards and Developers Award*

### ***NOMINATIONS PACKET***

American Trails presents the National & International Trails Awards Program, including our Developers Award, to recognize the tremendous contributions of volunteers, professionals, and other leaders who are working for the betterment of trails both nationally and internationally in both rural and urban settings.

It is a goal of American Trails that a quality trails system be accessible within 15 minutes of every American home, school, and workplace. American Trails strives to enrich the quality of life for all people and the sustainable development of communities by advancing and promoting the development, preservation, and enjoyment of diverse, high quality trails and greenways.

***The deadline for submitting nominations is September 30, 2014.***

**Winners will be presented at the 22<sup>nd</sup> American Trails International Trails Symposium (ITS) Awards Banquet in Portland, Oregon on May 19, 2015.**



*The National & International Awards Nomination Form, Criteria, and Submission Instructions start on page 2.*

*The Developers Award Nomination Form, Criteria, and Submission Instructions start on page 7.*

**The 2015 American Trails National & International Trails Awards**

**NOMINATION FORM**

American Trails presents the National & International Trails Awards Program to recognize the tremendous contributions of volunteers, professionals, and other leaders who are working for the betterment of trails both nationally and internationally. Please use this form to submit nominations for National & International Trails Awards. *The Developers Award has a separate nomination form on pages 8-9.* Winners will be presented at the 22<sup>nd</sup> American Trails International Trails Symposium (ITS) Awards Banquet in Portland, Oregon on May 19, 2015.

Nominations should be made for actions that took place during the period between **August 1, 2012 – July 31, 2014.** **The deadline for submitting nominations is September 30, 2014.** Please check the American Trails website at [www.AmericanTrails.org](http://www.AmericanTrails.org) for the most up-to-date information.

**PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE SUBMITTING YOUR NOMINATION!**

**AWARD CATEGORIES**

Note: If you are submitting the same project for multiple award categories, you MUST fill out a separate nomination form per category. Descriptions for each category can be found online or at the end of this document.

• **National Trails Award Categories:**

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Lifetime Service               | Planning/Design (Three Levels)  |
| Best Trails State              | State-of-the-Art Technology   |
| Community Service              | Trails and the Arts   |
| Corporate                      | Trails for Health   |
| Friends of Trails <b>(NEW)</b> | Trails Public Service   |
| Kids and Trails                | Trail Advocacy  |
| Outstanding Media              | Trail Worker  |
| Outstanding Trail Sharing      | Developer Award <i>(fill out separate nomination form on pg 7-8; submission instruction pg 9)</i> |
| Partnership (Two Levels)       |   |

• **International Award Categories **(NEW)**:**

Note: The International Award has been broken down into three different categories. Please select which category you are submitting a nomination for. If submitting for all categories, you MUST fill out a separate nomination form per category.

- International Partnership      International Planning/Design      International Kids and Trails

• **Developer Award:**

Note: This award has a separate nomination form to fill out. See pages 7-8.

**INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION:**

- Award Nomination Form must be submitted & postmarked no later than September 30, 2014.
- One nomination per category, per form.
- Except for the Lifetime Service Award, all **efforts eligible for recognition must have occurred between August 1, 2012 – July 31, 2014.** THE DESCRIPTION MUST SHOW THAT THE NOMINATION FALLS WITHIN THIS TIME PERIOD.
- Some awards are intended to recognize an individual, while others may recognize a project, team, or company. Please read the descriptions carefully and nominate accordingly.
- Self-nominations are accepted.
- The American Trails Board shall have sole responsibility for determination of award recipients.

***The 2015 American Trails National & International Trails Awards***

**Nomination form for National and International Award Categories**

**\*Please fill out the form completely. One nomination per category, per form.\***

**Award Category:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECK ONE:** National Award \_\_\_\_\_ International Award \_\_\_\_\_

**Check Level (if applicable to your nomination):** \_\_\_ Level 1 \_\_\_ Level 2 \_\_\_ Level 3

**NAME OF NOMINEE (person or organization(s)):** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name (if different than above): \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Representing: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOMINATED BY:**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Representing: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE MARK MATERIALS INCLUDED IN YOUR NOMINATION PACKET:**

\_\_\_\_ Word Document Description (2 page maximum) \_\_\_\_\_ Exhibit 1 (optional)

\_\_\_\_ Photo 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Exhibit 2 (optional)

\_\_\_\_ Photo 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Exhibit 3 (optional)

\*Only this page of the nomination document needs to be submitted with the complete nomination packet.

***The 2015 American Trails National & International Trails Awards***

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION**

**PLEASE SEND YOUR NOMINATION IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT VIA:**

- EMAIL to [symposium@americantrails.org](mailto:symposium@americantrails.org) (preferred method)
  - Emails containing more than 15MB will be rejected
  - Multiple emails are acceptable if individual emails are CLEARLY marked as being associated with multiple emails for the same entry.
    - Example in Subject Line: Nomination name Email 1 of 3.

OR

- On a CD or Thumb Drive mailed to:

*If sent via USPS:*

American Trails  
National/International Trails Awards Nomination  
PO Box 491797  
Redding, CA 96049-1797

*If sent via FedEx, UPS or DHL:*

American Trails  
National/International Trails Awards Nomination  
2400 Washington Ave, Ste 400  
Redding, CA 96001

- 1) Completed Nomination Form (page 2 of this document)
- 2) 2-page maximum Microsoft Word Document with a description of nominee & reason for nomination (Times New Roman, 12 point font with 1 inch margins)
- 3) Two HIGH RESOLUTION digital photos (1MB or higher, 300 dpi in JPG, TIF, or EPS format) of individual, project, team, or company
  - If you are nominating an individual, please include photos of the individual
- 4) OPTIONAL: You may submit up to 3 exhibits (articles, documents, maps, etc.) demonstrating work done toward meeting the award criteria (Word docs or PDFs work best)

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**Any questions, please contact American Trails ~ [symposium@americantrails.org](mailto:symposium@americantrails.org) or (530) 605-4395**

***The 2015 American Trails National & International Trails Awards***

**AWARD CATEGORIES AND CRITERIA  
FOR NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL TRAILS AWARDS**

**NATIONAL AWARDS:**

**Lifetime Service Award:** For an individual demonstrating longstanding, significant, and exemplary service to trails planning, implementation, and recreation.

**Best Trails State Award:** This award recognizes a state which is facilitating an outstanding statewide system of trails. The nomination should address any aspects that have led to the establishment of the statewide trails network including master planning, legislation, funding, and program implementation. The nomination should also include specific projects, plans, policies and/or initiatives that have furthered establishment and expansion of the trails network during the past two years. (Once a state wins, it will not be eligible for nomination again until after two successive awards cycles or a minimum of four years have passed).

**Community Service Award:** This award honors a trail organization that performs exceptional community service relating to but beyond trail work per se. This service could include actions or projects that contribute to making their communities better places to live, improve the natural environment, support worthy causes, and/or demonstrate in other ways preeminent volunteerism.

**Corporate Award:** A business or corporation must have demonstrated significant, sustained, and exemplary service to trails planning, implementation, and/or recreation.

**Friends of Trails Award (NEW):** This award recognizes a friends volunteer group which has shown outstanding support of their local trail through fundraising, trail development, maintenance, advocating, promoting, and enhancing the trail for future generations. This is NOT an individual award – only friends groups are eligible to be nominated. A friends group is a volunteer group.

**Kids and Trails Award:** This award honors efforts to engage children and youth in outdoor experiences using trails. Creative interpretive, educational, and/or recreational design components are included along with innovative programs which stimulate children's imagination and promote their interest in and appreciation for the natural environment while developing healthy lifestyles.

**Outstanding Media Award:** Nominee(s) must have demonstrated significant and sustained efforts to provide positive public exposure and education in the field of trail use, planning, design, implementation, or policies. The nominee must have demonstrated a willingness and receptiveness to provide free public service exposure about trails.

**Outstanding Trail Sharing Award:** The award recognizes innovative and successful trail sharing efforts, programs, and systems.

**Partnership Award (Two Levels):** The partnership must have benefited agencies or services within the field of trail planning, design, or implementation. The partnership must have contributed toward positive public exposure for trails. The partnership can be between organizations, agencies, corporations, or public and private interests. *(Make sure you mark which level on your nomination form.)*

Level One: Partnership consists of two entities

Level Two: Partnership consists of more than two entities

**Planning/Design Award (Three Levels):** The award recognizes a project that demonstrates outstanding planning, design, and implementation, that enhances the trails movement in the specified location. Submissions describing the trail, greenway (or trail or greenway system), or blueway including successful aspects such as planning, design, challenges solved, public participation, sustainability, economic benefits, promotion, and benefits to the local community are encouraged. *(Make sure you mark which level from below on your nomination form.)*

Level One: Projects funded with less than \$500,000.

Level Two: Projects funded between \$500,000 - \$1.5 million dollars.

Level Three: Projects funded between \$1.5 million dollars and up.

**State-of-the-Art Technology Award:** The award recognizes a trails-related product, process, or service that has significantly met a need, addressed an issue, or increased efficiency in trail design, development, or maintenance.

**Trails and the Arts Award:** The award recognizes outstanding public art projects, interpretive signs, or other creative structures associated with trail related improvements.

**Trails for Health Award:** The award recognizes a community's commitment to improving access to trails and promoting their use and importance for increasing physical activity. The award is for commitment to long term change through community design, trail planning, heightened awareness of active community environments, physical activity promotion, and increased trail use.

**Trails Public Service Award:** The nominee must work for an agency at the federal, state, or local level and must have demonstrated significant and consistent support of trail planning, design, or implementation through strong leadership and/or legislative efforts. The nominee may be an elected/appointed official, a paid employee, or a volunteer.

**Trails Advocacy Award** (Up to 5 winners – nominee must be within the U.S. or Puerto Rico): Nominee must have demonstrated successful efforts to influence public policy relating to trail planning, trail protection, trail development, or maintenance on either the local, state, or national level.

**Trails Worker Award** (Up to 5 winners – nominee must be within the U.S. or Puerto Rico): Nominee must have made outstanding contributions and provided consistent support for trail planning, development, or maintenance. This award is intended to recognize the commitment and efforts of a private or public sector individual in working for enhanced trail recreation on either the local, state, or national level.

### **INTERNATIONAL AWARDS:**

**International Partnership Award:** The award recognizes an outstanding partnership – outside of the United States – that enhances the trails movement within a specific country or countries. The partnership can be between private organizations, public agencies, or public and private interests. The partnership must have contributed toward positive public exposure for the field of trail planning, design, or implementation.

**International Planning/Design Award:** The award recognizes an outstanding project – that occurred outside the United States – that demonstrates outstanding planning, design, implementation, or enhances the trails movement in a specific country or countries. Submissions describing the trail, greenway (or trail or greenway system), or blueway including successful aspects such as planning, design, challenges solved, public participation, sustainability, economic benefits, promotion, eco-tourism, and benefits to the local and global community are encouraged.

**International Kids and Trails Award:** This award honors efforts – that occurred outside the United States – to engage children and youth in outdoor experiences using trails. Creative interpretive, educational, and/or recreational design components, along with innovative programs which stimulate children's imagination and promote their interest in and appreciation for the natural environment while developing healthy lifestyles, are encouraged.

***The 2015 American Trails Developers Award***

**Nomination form for Developers Award Category ~ Page 1 of 2**

**\*Please fill out the form completely. One nomination per form.\***

It is a goal of American Trails that a quality trails system be accessible within 15 minutes of every American home, school, and workplace. It takes private and public partnerships to establish comprehensive trail networks that provide access to trails from the doorsteps of American homes. The role of private developers is more critical than ever in these partnerships, particularly in light of the fact that “trails are the number one community amenity homeowners seek when buying a home” (*National Association of Homebuilders, 2008*).

This award recognizes quality, well-designed multi-use trails systems that are integrated into private developments to encourage active lifestyles, reduce reliance on automobiles, connect the development to other public and private pathways and destinations, and preserve and promote natural areas. **The deadline for submitting nominations is September 30, 2014. Please check the American Trails website at [www.AmericanTrails.org](http://www.AmericanTrails.org) for the most up-to-date information.**

**If your nomination is selected as the winner, a representative from the Development is REQUIRED to attend the National Trails Awards Banquet, May 19, 2015 in Portland, Oregon during the International Trails Symposium (ITS). Developers who cannot attend will forfeit their award (some exceptions apply).**

**NAME OF NOMINEE (Development):** \_\_\_\_\_

Developer (Company or Individual): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name (if different than above): \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Representing: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOMINATED BY:**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Representing: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Website: \_\_\_\_\_

**The 2015 American Trails Developers Award**

**Nomination form for Developers Award Category ~ Page 2 of 2**

**\*Please fill out the form completely. One nomination per form.\***

*Please answer the following questions regarding the development you are nominating. This information must be submitted electronically. Answers not typed will not qualify (see sending options on last page):*

**Development Profile**

1. Provide a general description of the development including location, acreage, and number of units (residential, commercial, etc.).

**The Trail System**

2. Describe the trail system within the development including the number of completed miles of trail, the types and widths of trails, and the types of trail users the system accommodates.

3. Explain how the development's trail system enhances bicycling and walking access to schools, retail, and commercial businesses, workplaces, parks, and other destinations.

4. Is the trail system within the development open to non-residents?

5. Who maintains the trail system (trails, access points, signage, etc.)?

**Interpretation, Promotion, and Marketing**

6. Explain how signage, kiosks, maps, and brochures are utilized to make people aware of the trails system, and to provide information about trailside features such as conservation areas, historic sites, or community facilities?

7. Explain how trails are incorporated into the development's marketing and promotional strategy (sales literature, website, media).

8. Have you conducted surveys to determine use of and interest in the trails system by existing or prospective residents? If so, please summarize the results or provide results as an attachment.

**Connectivity and Planning**

9. Describe how the trail system is part of a larger planned public trail network or how it connects to other public and private pathways outside of the development.

10. Was the development's trail system developed in response to a planning requirement, or through agreement with a public agency?



**The 2015 American Trails Developers Award**

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    - Example in Subject Line: Developer nomination name Email 1 of 3.

OR

- On a CD or Thumb Drive mailed to:

*If sent via USPS:*

American Trails  
Developers Award Nomination  
PO Box 491797  
Redding, CA 96049-1797

*If sent via FedEx, UPS or DHL:*

American Trails  
Developers Award Nomination  
2400 Washington Ave, Ste 400  
Redding, CA 96001

- 1) Completed Nomination Form (page 7 of this document)
- 2) Completed answers for questions about the specific development project (page 8 of this document)
- 3) A minimum of two HIGH RESOLUTION digital photos (1MB or higher, 300 dpi in either JPG, TIF or EPS format) representing the development
- 4) A map of the development, including the location of the trail system and indicating connections, if any, to other trails or trail systems
- 5) The development logo, if applicable
- 6) OPTIONAL: You may submit up to 3 exhibits (brochures, articles, survey results, documents, etc.) demonstrating work done toward meeting the award criteria (Word docs or PDFs work best)

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Any questions, please contact American Trails ~ [symposium@americantrails.org](mailto:symposium@americantrails.org) or (530) 605-4395

