

# Greenways and Trails TIDBITS

March 2009 Edition

Information provided in this newsletter is taken from other sources and the Greenways and Trails Program strongly recommends that you go to those resources directly for the complete information about an activity or event.

**Greenways and Trails Forum, April 2-4, 2009, Johnson City, TN**

<http://state.tn.us/environment/recreation/>

**ATTENTION: Early Registration Deadline has been extended to March 13, 2009!!**

Come to East Tennessee in the spring and join with attendees from across the State of Tennessee for the Greenways and Trails Forum! National, regional state and local level speakers and presenters will provide the latest information on the ways to create exciting communities where people enjoy living.

Early registration fee is only \$75 for three days of educational sessions and field trips. Early registration deadline is March 13, 2009 and registration fee after that date will be \$100.

Go to the website above to register!!

**2008 Tennessee Greenways and Trails Plan**

<http://state.tn.us/environment/recreation/greentrails.shtml>

The 2008 Tennessee Greenways and Trails Plan is now available on-line!! The Plan shows ALL the many benefits of Greenways and Trails and gives innovative solutions to the hurdles encountered in the planning, development and implementation of Greenways and Trails.

There are a limited number of hard copies of the Plan. It is also available on CD! Please contact [Robert.richards@state.tn.us](mailto:Robert.richards@state.tn.us) or call 615-532-0753 if you want a copy.

**LIFESAVERS: National Conference on Highway Safety**

<http://www.lifesaversconference.org/index.html>

The Lifesavers Conference will be in Nashville, TN from March 29 to April 1, 2009 at the Gaylord Opryland Resort. Lifesavers is the premier national highways safety meeting in the United States dedicated to reducing the tragic toll of deaths and injuries on our nation's roadways.

The conference addresses a wide range of safety topics, from child passenger safety and occupant protection to roadway and vehicle safety and technology.

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**National Trails Day:** <http://www.americanhiking.org/NTD.aspx>

## **Start planning your June 6, 2009 National Trails Day event NOW!**

Go to the website given above to download the *2009 Event Manual* that tells you how to plan the BEST NTD event ever! Last year, for National Trails Day 2008, there were 24 registered events for Tennessee. Let's try to double that number and show the American Hiking Society how much Tennesseans love their trails.

Keep checking back at the website every week to see the new events listed.

## **Safe Routes to Schools Grants:**

<http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/bikeped/saferoutes.htm>

The deadline for the 2009 Safe Routes to Schools is March 27<sup>th</sup> by 3:00 p.m. CDT.

The Safe Routes to Schools grant program targets walking and bicycling to school for grades K-8. Target area is within a 2.0 mile radius of the school(s), maximum grant is \$250,000 and 10-30% of the grant MUST be for Non Infrastructure items such as safety education programs for walkers and bicycle riders.

Grants are made to local city and county governments in partnership with the local school district. Maximum grant is \$250,000 and is 100% funding with NO matching funds required!

If you are not working on your project yet, you are probably too late for this application period, BUT check out the program and start working on your grant application for 2010. Our children are worth it!

## **2009 Governor's Environmental Stewardship Awards applications**

**Go to:** <http://tennessee.gov/environment/awards/> to review this year's application.

If you have questions, contact Kathy Glapa at 615-253-8780 or [Kathy.glapa@state.tn.us](mailto:Kathy.glapa@state.tn.us) . Application deadline is Tuesday, March 31, 2009. Projects must be completed during the 2008 calendar year except for the Green Schools award which must be completed during the 2008-09 school year.

There is a high need for applicants for the Parks and Recreation and Greenways and Trails categories. If you have questions about these areas, call Bob Richards at 615-532-0753.

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## "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009"

[http://www.railstotrails.org/whatwedo/trailadvocacy/recoveryTEfunding\\_0209.html](http://www.railstotrails.org/whatwedo/trailadvocacy/recoveryTEfunding_0209.html)

The Rails-To-Trails Conservancy is tracking the funds available for "Active Transportation" and the organization, along with others, was a critical player in securing this allocation of funding!

To see what each state received for Transportation Enhancements, go to the website listed above.

## Trail of Tears National Historic Trail: <http://www.nps.gov/trte/index.htm>

The Tennessee Chapter of the Trail of Tears Association has a new website at [www.tntota.com](http://www.tntota.com) and is adding new information to the site daily.

A Comprehensive Master Plan for Tennessee to help provide direction for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail in Tennessee is in the works and the draft plan should be available for public comment around the first of April, 2009.

If you know of any Trail of Tears significant places that you think should be certified and will share them with the TN Greenways and Trails Program, contact Bob Richards.

## Trans America Trail <http://www.transamtrail.com/>

Check out this website for a unique Off Highway Vehicle trail. The Trans America Trail starts in Jellico, TN up near the Kentucky state line and then heads west! Most of the trail is off road and some of the trail is on private property so please respect the landowner's right to privacy and stay on the Trail!

## New Trail Items

*Mention of products or companies in this newsletter is **NOT** an endorsement of those products or companies and is for informational purposes only. If you have any questions about greenways and trails grants, planning, surfacing, signs or bridges, please contact Bob Richards at 615-532-0753.*

Need a softer surface for your greenway trail? Check out Rubber Trails and Surfaces. This company features a pour in place surfacing that is made from recycled rubber tires. Rubber Trails and Surfaces is based out of Ranger, GA and the contact is Kenny Miller at 865-755-3657. Go to their website [www.rubbertrailsandsurfaces.com](http://www.rubbertrailsandsurfaces.com) to see what they have to offer and to see their references.

# *Greenways and Trails TIDBITS*

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Please send your ***EVENT*** information to Bob Richards as soon as you are aware of the date for inclusion in the Greenways and Trails TIDBITS newsletter. It will be included in the TIDBITS as space permits. This newsletter is produced bi-monthly, or when there is enough information to distribute.

## *2009 Calendar of Greenways and Trails Events*

- March 13-14, 2009      2009 Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail  
Conference      more information, call 864-936-3477
- April 2-4, 2009      Greenways and Trails Forum      Johnson City, TN  
<http://state.tn.us/environment/recreation/>
- April 20, 2009      Earth Day      Various Locations
- May 7-10, 2009      2009 Southeast Foot Trails Coalition Annual Mtg.  
<http://southeastfoottrails.org/2009%20Conference.htm>      Pine Mtn. State Park, KY
- May 8, 2009      No Child left Inside Training      Montgomery Bell State Park  
<http://eeintennessee.org/net/calendar/details.aspx?s=79632.0.0.37935>
- June 6, 2009      National Trails Day in Tennessee      Various Locations  
<http://www.americanhiking.org/NTD.aspx>
- September 29 , 2009      National Public Lands Day      Various Locations  
<http://www.publiclandsday.org/>



Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Authorization No. 327157, 514 copies. This public document was promulgated at a cost of \$0.20 per copy. February 2009.

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