

Ohio's Comprehensive Trails Plan

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The Year of the Trails?

- The Ohio Trails Partnership + Statehouse =
The Ohio Trails Caucus



**As Reported by the House State and Local Government
Committee**

132nd General Assembly

Regular Session

S. C. R. No. 15

2017-2018

Senators O'Brien, Wilson

**Cosponsors: Senators Yuko, Balderson, Beagle, LaRose, Manning, Oelslager,
Skindell, Thomas, Williams, Bacon, Brown, Burke, Coley, Dolan, Eklund,
Gardner, Hackett, Hoagland, Huffman, Kunze, Lehner, Obhof, Peterson,
Schiavoni, Sykes, Terhar, Uecker Representatives Hambley, Holmes, O'Brien,**

Perales

—

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To designate 2018 as "Ohio's Year of the Trails."

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING):**

WHEREAS, Ohio has more than 3,500 miles of trail networks, the most of any state in the United States, and connecting trail segments is a powerful tool for economic and community development that should be actively facilitated; and

Resolution Highlights

- Trails are great! Wonderful recreational opportunities and provide significant economic benefits.
- Honors the individuals who have served as the caretakers of our public resources.
- Encourages Ohioans to take advantage of their local trail networks and pay tribute to everyone has labored to maintain and enlarge these public amenities.



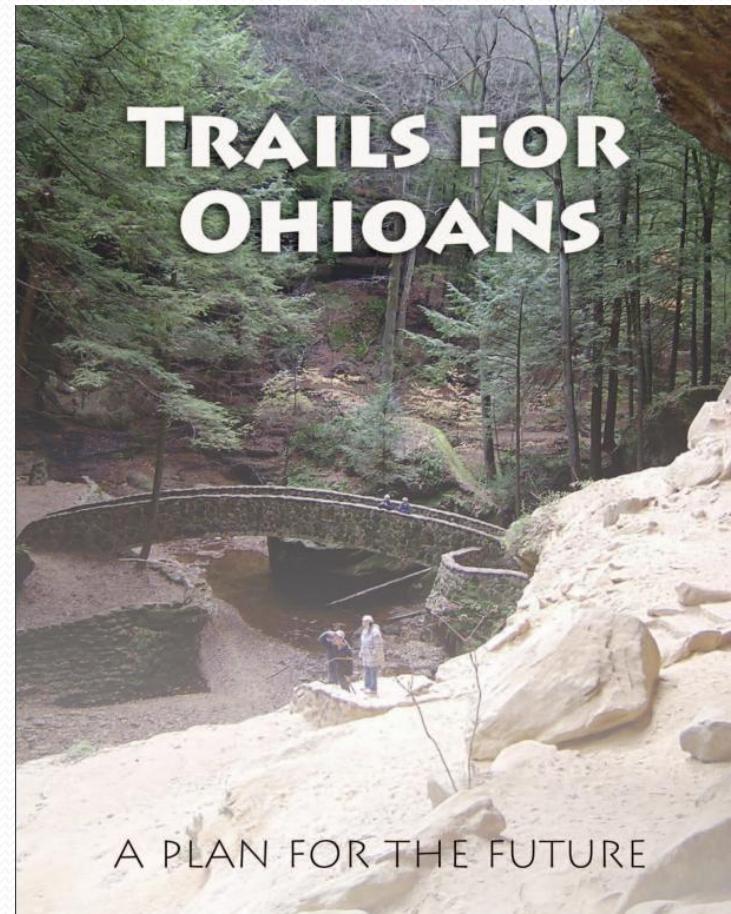
So we have a resolution. Then what?

- ODNR has committed to produce a new webpage that will serve two purposes: trails.ohiodnr.gov
- Allow partners to add and manage trail events.
- Provide a comprehensive, interactive map of all Ohio's trails.



And one more thing...

- ODNR is responsible for the creating Ohio's comprehensive trail plan.
- The Trails plan guides the Clean Ohio Trails and Recreational Trails funding priorities
- It was last updated in 2005.
- We've committed to creating a new plan in 2018.



1519.03 Comprehensive plan for development of statewide trails system.

The director of natural resources, through the chief of the division of parks and watercraft, **shall prepare and maintain a current inventory of trails**, abandoned or unmaintained roads, streets, and highways, abandoned railroad rights-of-way, utility easements, canals, and other scenic or historic corridors or rights-of-way that are suitable for recreational use. **The director shall prepare and publish a comprehensive plan for development of a statewide trails system to serve present and future trail recreation needs of the state.** Any state department, agency, political subdivision, or planning commission shall furnish available maps, descriptions, and other pertinent information to the director or provide access to the director's representatives for inspection and duplication, upon request by the director, for trail inventory and planning purposes.

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Starting Points and Assumptions

Who?

- An ODNR led team of trail advocates and managers from across the state.

Vision

Ohio is a leader in providing sustainable trails for all users offering an extraordinary network of world-class recreation and transportation opportunities linking communities, people and places while stimulating economic and social vitality.

Scope- Trail Types

- Multi-use / greenway trails
- Motorized trails for recreational vehicles – snowmobiles, motorcycles, atv, utv, etc.
- Hiking trails – day hiking, backpacking, nature trails
- Equestrian trails
- Mountain bike trails
- Water trails

Audience

- Trail Planners and managers
- We can include goals and objectives in the plan for producing additional documents that would be targeted at an expanded audience, in particular, trail users.

Public Input – Yes!

- 5 regional meetings in June.
- Creation of an online survey for trail users.
- In person surveys conducted by the Junior Fair Board at the Ohio State Fair.

Regional Meetings 2-4 P.M.

- June 19 – Caesar Creek SP (SW Ohio)
- June 21- Portage Lakes – ODNR Division of Wildlife (NE Ohio)
- June 26- Alum Creek State Park (Central Ohio)
- June 28- Athens ODNR Division of Wildlife (SE Ohio)
- July 17 – Oak Openings Metropark (NW Ohio)

What is the timeline?

- Goal is to have a document produced by the end of 2018.
- This timeline was established through the Ohio Legislative Trails Caucus.
- We recognize this is an aggressive timeline will help shape our initial goals and objectives.
- This aggressive timeline will help shape what we can do.
- This is a start, not an end, to the trail planning process.

Questions?

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