

Coalition for Recreational Trails Announces 2006 Annual Achievement Awards Winners

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Nine trail projects have been chosen by the Coalition for Recreational Trails (CRT) as recipients of its seventh **Annual Achievement Awards** in recognition of their outstanding use of Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funds. These national awards will be presented at a special Capitol Hill ceremony in Washington, D.C. on June 14, 2006 as part of the celebration of **Great Outdoors Week 2006**.

The trail projects honored by the CRT and their award categories are:

- **Indian Canyon Trailhead** (CA) - Construction and Design of Trail-Related Facilities
- **Lake Russell Multi-Use Trail** (GA) - Multiple-Use Management and Corridor Sharing
- **Upper Waiakea ATV/Dirt Bike Park** (HI) - Construction and Design - Long Distance
- **Springs Valley Trail** (IN) - Accessibility
- **Swallow Falls Trails and Muddy Creek Falls Overlook** (MD) - Use of Youth Corps
- **Four Corners Farm** (NH) - Environment and Wildlife Compatibility
- **County Line Acres Bikeway Development** (OH) - Construction and Design - Local
- **W&OD Railroad Regional Park** (VA) - Education and Communication
- **Wyoming State Trail Crew** (WY) - Maintenance and Rehabilitation

For details, go to: <http://www.funoutdoors.com/taxonomy/view/or/77>.

The Recreational Trails Program was first created in 1991 as part of the ground-breaking legislation known as ISTEA, and was recently expanded and reauthorized through the 2005 "Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users" (SAFETEA-LU). The RTP returns a portion of federal gasoline taxes generated by non-highway motorized recreation to the states for trail-related purposes. Under current legislation, the program is scheduled to receive \$70,000,000 for FY '06; \$75,000,000 for FY '07; \$80,000,000 for FY '08; and \$85,000,000 for FY '09. To date over 8,000 projects have been funded, creating and enhancing recreational trails for millions of trail enthusiasts across the country. www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/rectrails/index.htm provides information on the program.

A searchable database of projects funded by the RTP is available online at: www.funoutdoors.info/rtp/home.html. A recent agreement between the Federal Highway Administration and the Coalition for Recreational Trails assures that the collection of this data will continue for an additional three years.

The **Coalition for Recreational Trails**, a national organization representing the nation's major trail interests, has been working since 1992 to build awareness and understanding of the RTP, to support its implementation and to help insure that it receives adequate funding. For more information about CRT and its members, go to:

www.funoutdoors.com/coalitions/crt.



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