

State Recreational Trail Advisory Committee Achievement Award

2021 Nomination Form

The Coalition for Recreational Trails (CRT), a federation of the nation's leading trail-related organizations and advocates, is pleased to announce its **2021 Tom Petri Annual State Recreational Trail Advisory Committee Achievement Award** to recognize the nation's outstanding State Trail Advisory Committee for 2021. The award specifically recognizes efforts of the advisory committees established through the national Recreational Trails Program (RTP) administered by the Federal Highway Administration.

CRT plans to hold the awards ceremony in September 2021. The very successful 2020 awards program was virtual (<https://www.americantrails.org/communications/awards/crtAwards>). CRT hopes to return to an in-person format in the future but is now anticipating a hybrid event for 2021, partly in-person and partly virtual. We will include virtual and pre-recorded video elements in the ceremony – even if we meet face-to-face! Special guests, including Members of Congress will once again be invited to participate in the celebration.

These awards are key to the Coalition's ongoing effort to build awareness and appreciation of RTP, which has greatly enhanced the quantity and quality of trail experiences available to the public since 1991 and has made possible over 30,000 projects and programs.

For more information on CRT and the awards program visit www.rectrails.org.

Award winners will be selected from projects nominated by public agencies, trail administrators or other project sponsors. CRT plans to recognize the nation's top state trails program and top state trails advisory board, again related to RTP efforts.

We invite you to nominate an outstanding trail advisory committee and to encourage the beneficiaries of a great committee in your state to submit a nomination as well. We are also again encouraging those making nominations to solicit support from Members of Congress – both U.S. Representatives and U.S. Senators – to build awareness of excellent RTP-funded projects and the RTP program itself.

Self-nominations are encouraged, but nominations by public officials and trail community leaders are also invited.

The on-line nomination form, including any supporting materials and pictures, should be completed by 5 pm EST, June 30, 2021.

Please direct all questions to the Chair of the Coalition's Awards Committee: Duane Taylor, Executive Director, National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council, at coalitionforrectrails@gmail.com. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call him at (703) 582-1202 or send him an e-mail. Winners should be notified no later than July 31, 2021.

Information on each award will be featured on the website of American Trails. In addition, photos and other materials submitted as part of the nomination become eligible for use by CRT and are often utilized to highlight RTP programs in the Federal Highway Administration Annual Report, CRT's Facebook page, and in the online RTP Database image gallery. As a result, simply nominating a State Program may result in increased exposure for your state!

We hope you will join us in this important effort to recognize the significant contributions to trail-related recreation that the Recreational Trails Program is supporting across the country

Sincerely,
The Coalition for Recreational Trails

State Recreational Trail Advisory Committee Name *

Contact Information for State Recreational Trail Advisory Committee Nominee

Name: *

First Name Last Name

Phone Number:

Area Code Phone Number

E-mail Address: *

example@example.com

Address:

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

City State / Province

Postal / Zip Code

Contact information for person submitting nomination (if different than above)

Name:

First Name Last Name

Phone Number:

Phone Number

Area Code

E-mail Address:

example@example.com

Address:

Street Address

Street Address Line 2

City

State / Province

Postal / Zip Code

RTP State Recreational Trail Advisory Committee Description

Please describe how the nominated State Recreational Trail Advisory Committee meets the criteria laid out in the questions below.

How does the Committee ensure representation from both motorized and nonmotorized users (not only agencies or general nongovernmental organizations, or industry interests)?

How does the Committee ensure that it is an effective voice for trails in State trail policies and programs?

How does the Committee ensure that it is a valued partner in managing the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) through active, ongoing participation, whether through meetings, webinars, conferences, etc? (Note that Committee activity is not limited to a meeting once a year)

How does the Committee ensure that it fosters communication and cooperation among all trail users?

How does the Committee ensure that it promotes RTP funding and support of project sponsors?

How does the Committee ensure that it is involved in evaluating RTP projects and grants?

How does the Committee ensure that it undertakes special initiatives such as legislation or the State trails plan?

Permission for Use of Photography *

Please indicate your acceptance by putting your name, organization (if appropriate), and the date in the field above. *IMPORTANT* In submitting your nomination, you are granting permission to use the photographs or other supporting materials provided to the Coalition for Recreational Trails (CRT) as part of the Annual Achievement Award nominations to promote the Recreational Trails Program (RTP). Uses may include, but are not limited to the following purposes: promoting the RTP projects in the RTP Database, Image Library, and websites; in the RTP Annual Report; in press releases; or for educational purposes, such as, in presentations. Credit will be provided to the photographer when identification of the photographer is provided. You retain all other rights to your photos, and any requests for additional non-commercial uses or for commercial use will be provided to you for approval or not. Please let us know if you do not want your photos used to promote the RTP. Your help in documenting the benefits of the Recreational Trails Program is greatly appreciated.

Reaching out to U.S. Senators and Representatives in support of your RTP project

It is important that Members of Congress know about the outstanding RTP-supported Committees in their districts/states. Please forward your nomination materials to the Members who represent the state. Include a short message (sample draft below) about yourself and your organization noting that the nomination materials were prepared for the annual Coalition for Recreational Trails Achievement Awards and asking that the Member provide a letter of support for the nomination.

If you are not sure who the correct U.S. Representative is, please visit the following website to search by zip code:

<http://www.house.gov/htbin/findrep?ZIP=>

To find your state's U.S. Senators visit:

http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm

You may need to contact the Member's office by phone to ask for the appropriate e-mail address to send the materials. Since the RTP is funded through transportation reauthorization legislation, you may ask for the Legislative Assistant that handles transportation issues.

Sample Message:

Dear (Senator/Representative) last name:

Please find attached the nomination materials for a State Recreational Trail Advisory Committee Award highlighting our state's ability to effectively utilized Recreational Trails Program (RTP) funds. These materials have been prepared by (insert title, club or agency affiliation) because the (insert your State) State Recreational Trail Advisory Committee has proven to be a huge success and, as a result, we have nominated the State for an annual Coalition for Recreational Trails (CRT) achievement award for outstanding RTP State Recreational Trail Advisory Committee. Please join us in supporting this nomination by sending a letter of support to CRT.

(Provide information and background about your State Recreational Trail Advisory Committee)

Thank you for taking a look at the nomination materials. A letter of support for (insert State Recreational Trail Advisory Committee) can be sent to: Duane Taylor, Coalition for Recreational Trails, via email to coalitionforrecretrails@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Thank you for submitting your award nomination. Winners should be notified no later than July 31, 2021.