



Call for Award Nominations

Nominations due January 9, 2015

30th California Trails & Greenways Conference

April 22 - 24, 2015

Tenaya Lodge, Yosemite

www.parks.ca.gov/trails/conference

The Conference Awards Committee is seeking nominees for recognition at the 2015 California Trails & Greenways Conference. *This program is an opportunity to bring acknowledgement and appreciation to the individuals, organizations, agencies and businesses that, through their hard work, integrity and social responsibility have made outstanding contributions that promote, enhance or expand public awareness and use of trails and greenways in California during calendar year 2014.*

The Awards Committee seeks nominations for notable achievements in the following categories:

Individuals:

- Serving as exceptional **volunteer leaders worthy of lifetime recognition** for achievements on behalf of trails or greenways statewide for over 25 years.
- Serving as **parks or trails professionals worthy of lifetime recognition** for over 25 years to further the cause of trails or greenways in California.
- A non-trail professional individual** (private citizen or elected official) who has made a significant contribution in support of trails/greenways and has been publically involved with trail issues for at least seven years.

Organizations or agencies that:

- Initiated or implemented successful trail or greenway **events**.
- Initiated or implemented active **programs** that benefited trails or greenways.
- Reached significant milestones in the **development or reconstruction** of unique trail or greenway projects.
- Reached significant milestones in trail or greenway **acquisitions**.
- Reached significant milestones in unique trail or greenway **planning projects**.

Individuals, organizations, agencies or businesses that:

- Achieved excellence in design and creative approaches in developing trails or greenway information systems using **technology, social media or websites**.
- Established innovative programs to **engage children and youth in outdoor experiences** using, but not limited solely to, trails.
- Established innovative programs to **engage underserved communities in outdoor experiences** using, but not limited solely to, trails.

All nominees must exemplify integrity, and social and environmental responsibility.

If you know of a worthy individual, organization, agency or business -- then send in your nomination! Any individual, organization or agency may make a nomination in one or more of the award categories. (See full eligibility requirements on following pages). Nominations must be *received by January 9, 2015 to be considered for an award at the April 2015 conference*. Award recipients will be notified by March 17, 2015, and will receive recognition at the conference's Awards Dinner on April 23, 2015.

For questions regarding the awards program contact Charlie Willard at cwillard@winfirst.com or 916.359.4789.

For more information about the California Trails & Greenways Conference log onto our website at www.parks.ca.gov/trails/conference



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2015 Award Categories

www.parks.ca.gov/trails/conference

Lifetime Volunteer Achievement Award	Presented to an individual who has volunteered considerable personal time for more than 25 years on behalf of trails or greenways, and who has been a leader with a statewide impact on trails or greenways in California. This category is not necessarily recognized every year.
Lifetime Professional Achievement Award	Presented to a professional park or trails individual who has worked for at least 25 years to plan, develop and promote trails on a local and statewide basis, and who has been a leader with statewide impact on trails or greenways in California. This category is not necessarily recognized every year.
Trail Champion Award	Presented to an individual (private citizen or elected official) who has made a significant contribution in support of trails/greenways in California. Recognition by the California Trails and Greenways Foundation honors a high level of commitment in the expansion of California's trail/greenways networks and its programs. Only non-trail professionals are eligible. Those employed by a public agency, non-profit or a private business whose primary job is trail/greenway related are not eligible; however, those holding elected office are eligible. The award is open to persons representing any user group of trail and urban, suburban or rural interests. Nominees must have been publically involved with trail issues for at least seven years. The award is not open to anyone who has previously received a state, national or international trail/greenway award. Extra consideration will be given for accomplishments related to creation of a specific "product" such as a trail/greenway or trail/greenway program.
Merit Award (Acquisition)	Given in recognition of a unique trail or greenway acquisition project that reached a significant milestone in 2014. Nominees should be the organization or agency that initiated and implemented the project.
Merit Award (Development)	Given in recognition of a unique trail or greenway development or reconstruction project that reached a significant milestone in 2014. Nominees should be the organization or agency that initiated and implemented the project.
Merit Award (Event)	Given in recognition of a special and successful trail or greenway event held in 2014. Nominees should be the organization or agency that initiated and implemented the event. Note: <i>California Trail Days and National Trails Day events are eligible for nomination in this category.</i>
Merit Award (Kids & Trails)	This award honors an individual, organization, agency or business that established an innovative program in 2014 specifically designed to engage children and youth in outdoor experiences using trails. Creative, interpretive, educational and/or recreational design components are included along with innovative programs that stimulate kids' imagination and promote their interest in and appreciation for the natural environment while developing healthy life styles.
Merit Award (Planning)	Given in recognition of a unique trail or greenway planning project that reached a significant milestone in 2014. Nominees should be the organization or agency that initiated and implemented the project
Merit Award (Program)	Given in recognition of an important trail or greenway program that was established in 2014. Nominees should be the organization or agency that initiated and implemented the program.
Merit Award (Underserved Communities)	This award honors an individual, organization, agency or business that established an innovative program in 2014 specifically designed to engage underserved communities in outdoor experiences using trails. Creative, interpretive, educational and/or recreational design components are included along with innovative programs that encourage families and others to venture into open spaces and promote their interest in and appreciation for the natural environment while developing healthy lifestyles.
Social Media, Websites and Technology Award	Presented to an organization, agency or business that has used social media in a new and creative way, developed a website that has achieved overall excellence through design and concept, or made use of new technologies to advance the promotion or development of trails and greenways in 2014.

All nominees must exemplify integrity, and social and environmental responsibility.



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Conference Awards Committee's Nomination Instructions

Nominations must be received by January 9, 2015

- Complete the Awards Nomination Cover Form.
- Provide a maximum two-page, single-spaced, 12pt. Arial font application summary in response to the appropriate category questions featured on pages 5-6. The first paragraph of the summary should be a concise description (max. 60 words) of the person or project. The paragraph will be used to develop the award caption and program description, if selected.
- Include no more than six attachments. Attachments may include brochures, maps, photographs, articles, publicity, letters of support, etc.
- The total nomination package (form, application summary and attachments) may not exceed 10 pages.
- Do not send letters of support separately. If letters of support are included, they will be considered "attachments," limited as described above.
- Completed nomination packages must arrive via email (trails@parks.ca.gov) by January 9, 2015 to be considered. Award recipients will be notified by March 17th, and will be recognized at the April 23, 2015 Conference Awards Dinner.

Each award recipient will receive two complimentary tickets to the Awards Dinner on Thursday, April 23, 2015. If space is available, award recipients will also receive a shared exhibit table at the conference.

Nominations within each category will be ranked by the judges from lowest to highest based on the responses to the questions on pages 5-6. The nominee with the highest ranking within each category will be that category's award recipient. NOTE: The "Award Year" is the full calendar year prior to the California Trails & Greenways Conference. Decisions by the Conference Awards Committee are considered final.

For additional questions regarding the awards program contact Charlie Willard at 916.359.4789 or cwillard@winfirst.com. For more information about the California Trails & Greenways Conference log onto our website at:

www.parks.ca.gov/trails/conference.



30th California Trails & Greenways Conference
April 22 - 24, 2015

Conference Awards Committee
Nomination Cover Form

Nominations must be received by January 9, 2015

Nominee Name (individual, entity or project being nominated):

Award Category -- Check one

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Volunteer Achievement Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Merit Award – Kids & Trails |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Professional Achievement Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Merit Award – Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trail Champion Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Merit Award – Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Merit Award – Acquisition | <input type="checkbox"/> Merit Award -- Underserved Communities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Merit Award – Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media, Websites and Technology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Merit Award – Event | |

Individual, Organization or Agency making the nomination:

Contact Name: _____

Agency or Entity (if applicable): _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

Nominee contact (Individual representing the nominated entity or project, or the individual themselves):

Person's Name: _____

Agency or Entity: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

Submit a PDF file of the nomination package, **not to exceed 10MB**. Email security automatically rejects files larger than 10MB. If you believe your nomination package warrants special accommodation, contact Charlie Willard at 916.359.4789 or CWillard@winfirst.com. **The nomination package must arrive at the email address below by January 9, 2015 and include:**

- Nomination Cover Form
- Application Summary
- Attachments
- Total nomination package not to exceed 10-pages and not to exceed 10MB
- No cds, dvds or similar items will be accepted or reviewed

trails@parks.ca.gov

California Trails & Greenways Conference
California State Parks, Facilities Division / Trails Awards



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Application Summary Questionnaire

All nominees must exemplify integrity, and social and environmental responsibility.

Lifetime Volunteer Achievement Award

Nominated individual must include ALL of the following information. Judges will provide a "yes" vote when all criteria are met, or a "no" vote, indicating not all criteria is met.

- Document nominee's 25+ years of volunteer work on behalf of trails.
- Describe nominee's involvement in planning, developing and/or promoting trails.
- Describe how nominee's actions have impacted trails locally and statewide.
- Document nominee's leadership and statewide impact on behalf of trails.
- Describe how nominee's contribution to trails has been exceptional and important.

Lifetime Professional Achievement Award

Nominated individual must include ALL of the following information:

- Document nominee's 25+ years of working on behalf of trails.
- Describe nominee's involvement in planning, developing and/or promoting trails.
- Describe how the nominee's actions have impacted trails locally and statewide.
- Document nominee's leadership and statewide impact on behalf of trails.
- Describe how nominee's contribution to trails has been exceptional and important.
- Document nominee's contribution of personal (volunteer) time over the past 25+ years on behalf of trails.

Trail Champion Award

Nominated individual must meet ALL of the following criteria:

- The nominee must be a private citizen or elected official and a non-trail professional.
- Document nominee's 7-years or more of public involvement in support of California's trails and greenways.
- Describe how nominee's efforts and commitment have led to an expansion of trail/greenways networks and programs.
- Describe how the nominee's actions have involved planning, developing, funding, maintaining and/or promoting trails/greenways. Document the nominee's accomplishments related to the creation of a specific "product" such as a trail/greenway or trail/greenway program.
- Describe how nominee's contribution to trails/greenways has been exceptional and important.

MERIT AWARDS

Nominations within each of the seven award categories will be ranked by the judges, from lowest to highest, based on responses to the questions below. The nominee with the highest ranking within each category will be that category's award recipient. *NOTE: Achievements and milestones must have occurred during the calendar year 2014.*

Project Acquisition, Development or Planning Categories

- What was the date the project was completed or a significant milestone was achieved?
- How is the project successful, special, unusual, creative, innovative and/or unique?
- How has the project involved community resources such as people, funding, etc.?
- How has the project benefited the community?
- How does the project serve as a model, or provide guidance or inspiration to others?

Event

- What was the date of the event?
- Describe the targeted community and the extent to which the trail event engaged that community?
- What measurements were used to determine the trail event's success and effectiveness?
- How was the event special, unusual, creative, innovative and/or unique?
- How did the event benefit trails (i.e. raising public awareness, money or volunteer service)?
- How does the project serve as a model or provide inspiration to others?

Kids & Trails Programs

- What date was this program instituted?
- What innovative approaches were used to stimulate kids' imagination and promote their interest in and appreciation for the natural environment using trails?
- How were creative interpretive, educational and/or recreational *design components* used?
- Was there a component to encourage developing healthy lifestyles?
- How was the effort successful in engaging children and youth in outdoor experiences?
- How does the project serve as a model or provide inspiration to others?

Program Award

- What date was this program instituted?
- How did the program benefit trails?
- How was the program successful and effective?
- How was the program special, unusual, creative, innovative and/or unique?
- How did the program raise awareness, funding, partnerships, volunteers or other benefits from the community?
- How did the program serve as a model or inspiration for others?

Underserved Communities Programs

[For the purposes of this award, "underserved communities" are those that have traditionally faced barriers in accessing safe parks, natural open spaces, trails and greenways.]

- What date was this program instituted?
- What innovative approaches were used to stimulate the imagination and promote interest and appreciation for trails and the natural environment?
- How were creative, interpretive, educational and/or recreational *design components* used?
- Was there a component to encourage healthy lifestyles?
- What criteria was established to determine the program's success and has success been achieved by these measurements? [or -- How was the effort successful in engaging the community, families and others in outdoor experiences?]
- How does the program serve as a model or inspiration for other agencies or organizations?

Social Media, Websites and Technology Award

- What date was the website or use of technology launched?
- Does the website, use of technology or other social media provide trail related information in a clear, logical and useful format?
- Is valuable, relevant and timely information about trails, trail use and/or trail programs presented to the public?
- How is the website, social media or technology design special, unusual, creative, innovative and/or unique in presenting trail related information?
- How is the website, social media, or use of technology success measured, and has success been achieved by these measurements?
- To what extent does the program serve as an important model or inspiration for other agencies or organizations?