Share the Trails
THE FOREST PRESERVES OF COOK COUNTY’S TRAIL ETIQUETTE CAMPAIGN

Established in 1914, the Forest Preserves of Cook County is the oldest and one of the largest forest preserve systems in the nation.

Nearly 70,000 acres of public open land, equal to 11 percent of the county with population of 5 million.

Mission: preserve diverse natural ecosystems in the heart of the Chicago region and provide a place for Cook County residents and visitors to explore, learn, play, exercise and restore their spirit.

Each year, millions enjoy and study nature, hike, bike, fish, picnic, canoe or simply relax here.

About The Forest Preserves of Cook County’s Trail System

- 300 mile system...
- consists of more than 500 miles of paved trail and 200 miles of multi-use trail
- features 12 trail systems that range from 3 mile loops to 20 miles stretches
- links communities contributing to greater livability
- contributes to regional mobility and alternatives to car travel
- allows for a variety of heart healthy activities including hiking, biking, horseback riding, and skiing
- introduces people to the diverse nature and topography that can be found in Cook County
- Partner with others on a number of bike events– CAMBrMeltdown; Trails for Illinois GityUp, Cyclocross events, Buse Night Bike Ride

Why Share The Trails

• Accidents
• User conflicts
• Needed process of engaging trail users
• Desire to add a Trail Watch component to Volunteer Opportunity

Share the Trail Campaign

One message -- Many Ways

• Signs
• Brochure
Share the Trail Campaign

- Web Animation
  http://fpdnc.com/sharethetrail/
- Trail Presence
- Trail Watch
  Staff and Volunteers on Trails
  Pros and Cons

What We Learned

- Partners willing to help out
- Good interactions with users
- Giveaways
- Water

Sustainability

- Share the Trails part of all events
- Connecting with National Trails Day
  Share the Trails 2017: A yearlong campaign

Contact information

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