

TRAILS TASKFORCE

Definitions & Attributes Subgroup Comments & Recommendations

1. Create two datasets
 - a. Trails – Existing
 - b. Trailheads – Existing
2. Create a dataset of Proposed Trails in phase 2 after the existing Trails dataset is built. We recognize that information about proposed trails is an important resource for the GIS community. However because the data is likely to require maintenance as trails change status (from proposed to on the ground), we recommend it as a phase 2 effort in order to focus on building a comprehensive existing trails dataset first.
3. Keep trail and trailhead attributes simple but with enough information for the dataset to be useful. Over time additional attributes could be added to the dataset if there is enough interest/demand from users.
4. The goal for trailheads data is to highlight trailhead access points. We expect that initially, this dataset will not include every access point, but that over time, it will become comprehensive.
5. In order to simplify the process for compiling data, we recommend that trail data be accepted as is. For example, we expect that most trails will be mapped in segments, perhaps specific to the extent of park boundaries. If a long distance trail is submitted in segments, the data will not be dissolved into one line, but rather kept in segments. Similarly if a long distance trail is submitted in one line it would not be segmented into parts.

Trail Definitions

Trail Types to be mapped

- Land
- Road portions that are recognized as links in a trail system. Sand roads or woods roads (that could be traversed) not 'officially' recognized as being part of a trail system will not be included.
- Water
- Public
- Private – will be included where appropriate, as data author allows

Uses

- Hiking
- Biking
- Biking – mountain
- Equestrian
- Canoeing / water trails
- Snowshoe
- Cross Country Ski
- Motorized (ATV)

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Trails - Fields
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	Field Name	Core (1) vs Desireable (2) Attributes	Field Type	Field Description	Domains or Examples
	Trail Name - Segment	1	Text, Proper case	Name of trail segment. If segment is part of a long distance trail, record the segment name here and long distance trail name(s) in the Long Distance Trail name field. If segment and long distance names are the same, record in both fields	Appalachian Trail
	Trail Name - Long Distance	1	Text, Proper case	<p>If trail segment is part of a long distance trail, record the long distance trail name here. If trail is part of more than one long distance trail, record all names, separated by ; e.g. Columbia Trail; Highlands Trail</p> <p><i>A long distance trail is loosely defined as 15+ miles or more miles than could be hiked in a day.</i></p>	<p>Appalachian Trail Atlantic County Bikeway Batona Trail Barnegat Branch Trail Bel Del Rail Trail Blue Mountain Loop Trail Capital to the Coast Trail Columbia Trail Crossroads of the American Revolution Delaware and Lehigh (D&L) Trail D&R Canal Trail East Coast Greenway Four Birds Trail Henry Hudson Bikeway Highlands Trail Lawrence Hopewell Trail Liberty-Water Gap Trail Lehigh and Hudson River Railroad Lehigh and New England Railroad Lenape Trail Long Path Morris Canal Greenway Paulinskill Valley Trail Patriots Path September 11th National Memorial Trail Shawangunk Ridge Trail Sussex Branch Trail Warren Highlands Trail</p>
	Blaze Color	1	Text, Proper case	Note the trail blaze color. If there is more than one color, note all using ; as separator, e.g. White; Teal	Yellow White; Teal
	Blaze Description	1	Text, Proper case	If desired, record notes about trail blaze. Use this field if there is no trail blaze color - for example, a blaze might be a bike symbol	Bike symbol

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	Field Name	Core (1) vs Desireable (2) Attributes	Field Type	Field Description	Domains or Examples
	Managing Agency	1	Domain	Name of primary organization to contact regarding questions about trail. Use full name, no acronyms except where logical	NJ Audubon Society
	Other Managing Agencies	1	Text, Proper case	List any other organizations involved in trail management. Can be multiple organizations (use ; as separator). Use full names, no acronyms except where logical	Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space; New Jersey Conservation Foundation
	Multi-Use	1	Domain	Yes or No status of trail regarding use	Yes No Unknown
<i>Use fields:</i>	Hiking	1	Domain	Yes if walking, hiking, snowshoeing, etc.	Yes No
	Biking	1	Domain		Yes No
	Mountain Biking	1	Domain		Yes No
	Cross Country Ski	1	Domain		Yes No
	Equestrian	1	Domain		Yes No
	Motorized Use Allowed	1	Domain	Yes for ATV, snow mobiling, dirt bike, etc.	Yes No
	Water Trail	1	Domain	Yes for kayak, canoe, paddleboarding, etc.	Yes No
	Surface	2	Domain	Type of tread surface	Paved Unpaved
	Park Name	1	Text, Proper case	Name of the park a trail segment goes through. If a trail crosses multiple parks, we recommend the data author splits the line into segments at park boundaries. If the trail is not in a park, or the park has no name insert "n/a".	Morristown National Historic Park n/a
	GIS Segment Length	1	GIS calculated	GIS calculation of trail segment in miles	
	ADA Compliant	2	Domain	Note whether a trail meets the requirements for an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessible Trail	Yes No Unknown
	Data Source	1	Domain	Source of the data. Use full agency name (not staff person name), no acronyms except where logical	NY/NJ Trail Conference

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	Field Name	Core (1) vs Desireable (2) Attributes	Field Type	Field Description	Domains or Examples
	Source Method	1	Domain	Description of the method used to create the data	GPS Digitized from aerials Digitized from map Drawn Unknown Other
	Data Created Year	1	Year	Year the statewide dataset was compiled	2001
	Last Edited	1	Date	Date the data was last edited (by author, <i>not</i> the date data was compiled into the statewide dataset)	1/26/2001
	Comments	1	Text, Proper case	If desired, author can include notes about trail	

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Trailheads - Fields
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Field Name	Core (1) vs Desireable (2) Attributes	Field Type	Field Description	Domains or Examples
Trail Name	1	Text, Proper case	Names of trails accessed from trailhead. Could be multiple trails, record all names, separate with ;	Blue trail; red trail; yellow trail
Park Name	2	Text, Proper case	Name of the park a trailhead is associated with. If the trailhead is not associated with a park, or the park has no name, insert "n/a"	
Parking Type	1	Domain	Type of parking area	Lot Shoulder Street None
Managing Agency	2	Domain	Name of primary organization to contact regarding questions about trailhead/associated trail. Use full name, no acronyms except where logical	NJ Audubon Society
Data Source	1	Domain	Source of the data. Use full agency name (not staff person name), no acronyms except where logical	NY/NJ Trail Conference
Source Method	1	Domain	Description of the method used to create the data	GPS Digitized from aerials Digitized from map Drawn Unknown Other
Data Created Year	1	Year	Year the statewide dataset was compiled	2001
Last Edited	1	Date	Date the data was last edited (by author, not the date data was compiled into the statewide dataset)	1/26/2001
Comments	1	Text, Proper case	If desired, author can include notes about trailhead	Restrooms and kiosk at trailhead

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Public Transportation Access	2	Domain	Is the trailhead accessible by public transport? Yes if within 1/2 mile.	Yes No Unknown
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