

Iowa's First Trails Summit: June 18-19

Iowa's Departments of Transportation and Natural Resources, along with over twenty state, regional, and local groups, are promoting Iowa's first Trails Summit on June 18-19 in Cedar Falls/Waterloo. At the summit, there will be an emphasis on developing strategies, policies, and unique partnerships to promote new trail opportunities.

Iowa's trails are not just for runners or bicyclists, and the summit recognizes the diversity among trails users. Supporting organizations include the Iowa Horse Council, Iowa State Snowmobile Association, and Iowa Off-Highway Vehicle Association.

In 2009, the Legislature approved \$3.5 million to acquire, construct, and improve all types of trails, and Iowa received close to \$12 million in federal jobs money for trails. Some of the federal money is allocated by the DOT Commission and some is allocated by local MPOs (metropolitan planning organizations) and RPAs (regional planning associations).

Details about the summit can be found at two websites, including registration forms: www.iowadot.gov/iowabikes/trailsummit.html and www.iowabicyclecoalition.org/IowaTrailsSummit.

If you register for Friday's events before June 3, it will cost you \$35.00 (\$25 for registration and \$10 for Friday night BBQ). After June 3, registration costs increase to \$30. Saturday's events are free and food is available to purchase.