

New River Gorge Trail Alliance (NRGTA)

Items for Discussion

The NRGTA is intended to bring together existing and future trail groups, governments, non-profits and other organizations and individuals to promote trail construction and maintenance in the 5 county region (Fayette, Raleigh, Summers, Nicholas, Greenbrier). An alliance of these groups will greatly increase the ability to raise funds and share resources for trail construction as well as coordinate efforts to connect individual trail segments. The NRGTA is not intended to replace these organizations but rather to support them in realizing their goals.

Potential Membership

- Trail Groups
- Town and County Governments
- Non-Profits
- Civic Groups
- National Park Service
- WV State Parks and other State Entities
- Corporations
- Individuals

Governance and Organization

- A Board of Directors will vote on matters that affect the NRGTA. Each trail group, governmental group and non-profit trail/recreation group from the NRGTA region would appoint a representative to the Board. In addition, an at large Director from each county in the NRGTA region would be elected by other stakeholders in those counties to represent their interests. These stakeholders would include corporations, civic groups and individuals.
- The Board of Directors will elect officers who will manage the day to day affairs of the NRGTA. Officers will include a President, President Elect, Secretary and Treasurer. Directors may not be an officer. Officers will not vote on matters before the board except in the event of a tie, then the President shall vote as a tie breaker.
- Founding organizations of the NRGTA will appoint Directors who will elect the officers for the first year.
- A set of by-laws will be drafted to govern the organization and they will be approved by the BOD.
- Standing Committees will be formed to manage critical functions of the NRGTA. These include the following:
 - Fundraising
 - Social Media/Marketing
 - Engineering and Mapping
 - Legal
 - Construction and Maintenance

Directors and officers may serve on committees

- At this point, the organization will be run by volunteers. In the future, if fundraising is sufficient, a full time, paid position could be added to the organization to manage the day to day activities of the NRGTA.
- Initially, the NRGTA will operate under the umbrella of WV Connecting Communities, a non-profit 501C3 organization that is dedicated to promoting safe cycling and hiking and trail construction. WVCC will set up a separate bank account for the NRGTA and donations to the NRGTA will be tax deductible. (Checks must be made out to WV Connecting Communities with NRGTA in the memo line) The NRGTA will apply for its own 501C3 designation within the first 2 years. WVCC will oversee all expenditures of the NRGTA while the NRGTA operates under the WVCC 501C3 designation.

Meetings

- Propose 5 meetings of the BOD/Membership each year. One meeting to be held in each county included in the NRGTA region. (Fayette, Raleigh, Summers, Greenbrier, Nicholas)
- A sixth meeting will be the NRGTA annual trail conference that is open to members and non-members.

Membership Fees – For Discussion, to be determined by BOD

- Trail Groups, Non-Profits, Government Entities - \$100/Yr.
- Corporations
 - <10 employees - \$100/yr
 - 10 to 50 employees - \$200/yr
 - >50 employees - \$500/yr
- Individuals - \$10/yr

Committees

Fundraising

- Grant Applications
- Corporate and Individual Donations
- Go Fund Me Campaign/Social Media
- Donation boxes at restaurants, bike shops, sporting goods stores
- Fundraising Trail Rides
- T-shirts, Ball Caps, etc.
- Trail Maps
- Trail Guides

Social Media/Marketing

- Web site
- Facebook, Twitter, etc.
- Quarterly email newsletter
- Need an attractive logo for signage, t-shirts, etc.

Engineering/Mapping

- Develop county trail maps

- Assist with trail designs, maps and cost estimates for grant applications.
- Advise on trail design for bridges and other structures.
- Prepare land ownership maps

Legal

- Assist with Articles of Incorporation, bylaws and 501C3 application
- Prepare general ROW lease or easement documents
- Assist with courthouse research

Trail Construction and Maintenance

- Organize volunteer labor for trail construction and maintenance
- Maintain bid specifications for contract trail construction work

Other Committees to be formed as needed.

Note: the items above are for discussion purposes only. The NRGTA Board of Directors will ultimately decide how the organization is organized and managed.