



Trail Management Plan Update - Fall, 2011

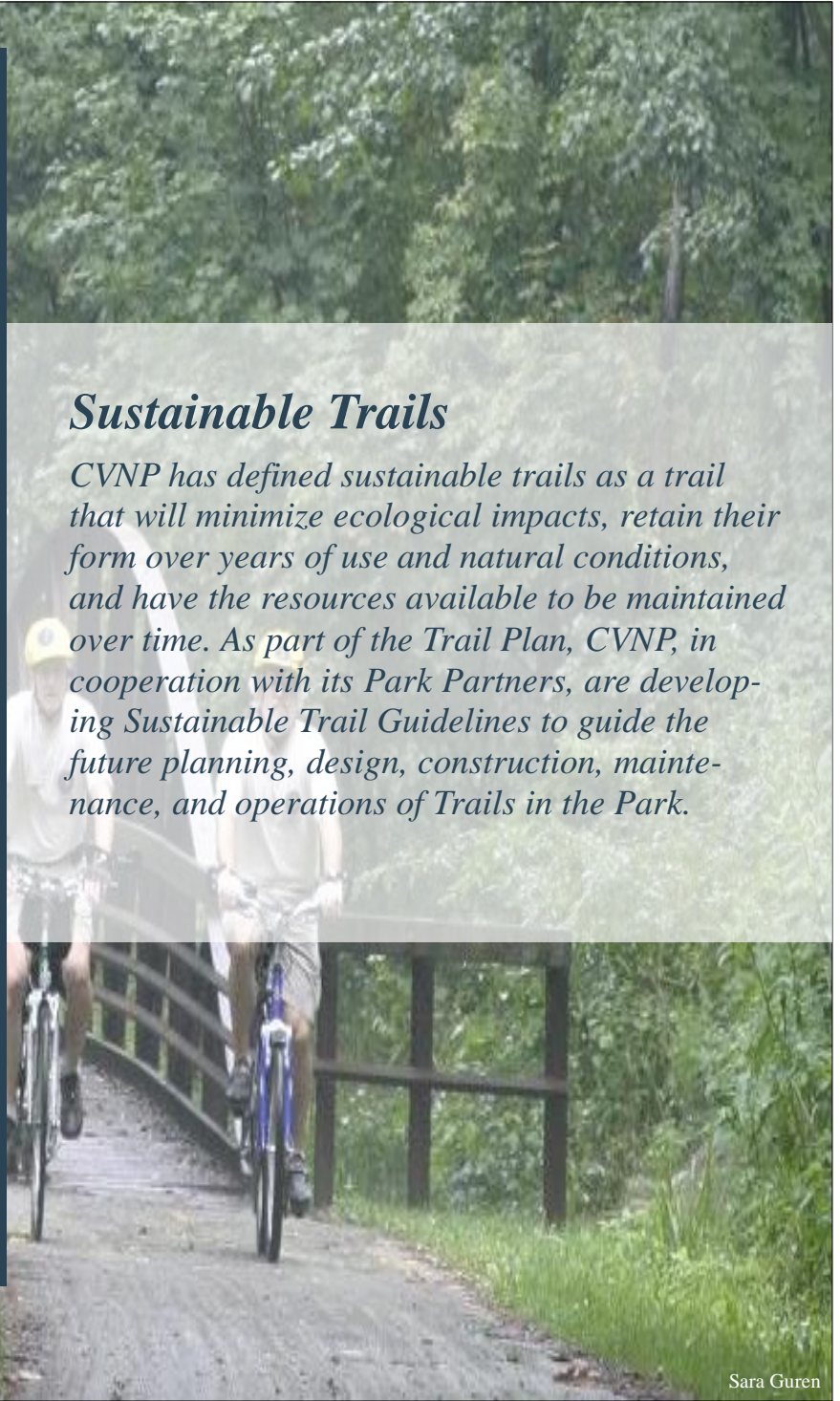
The Cuyahoga Valley National Park initiated a comprehensive planning effort for its trails. To date, the Park has engaged a wide network of stakeholders, developed conceptual alternatives and worked with park partners to compile information as part of the environmental impact analysis of the proposed Alternatives.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park is in its final phase of work to develop a Draft Trail Management Plan for public review and comment in early 2012. This update provides you information on what to expect in the document, when it is made available.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park looks forward to the continued input of all stakeholders for the upcoming Draft Plan and its goal to create and implement a blueprint for a world-class trail system.

Sustainable Trails

CVNP has defined sustainable trails as a trail that will minimize ecological impacts, retain their form over years of use and natural conditions, and have the resources available to be maintained over time. As part of the Trail Plan, CVNP, in cooperation with its Park Partners, are developing Sustainable Trail Guidelines to guide the future planning, design, construction, maintenance, and operations of Trails in the Park.



Sara Guren

Draft Trail Plan Coming soon...

As required under NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act), the Trail Plan will have an established format. The Park is currently compiling the Plan document. A brief description of each Chapter of the document is outlined here.

Chapter 1: Purpose & Need Outlines purpose and need of Trail Plan, Park background, history of trails in the Park, and issues identified through public scoping. identified issues will be addressed in evaluating the impacts of the proposed trail alternatives.

Chapter 2: Alternatives. Describes the Alternatives being evaluated. The Alternatives have been updated and revised based upon public comment received in 2010 and 2011 to provide a range of options to consider. The Alternatives will be compared by the level of trail miles, how they meet the goals of the Plan, and their environmental impacts.

Chapter 3: Affected Environment. Provides information on current conditions that may be affected by the proposed Trail Alternatives. The issues discussed in this Chapter are highlighted in the colored blocks on this page.

Chapter 4. Environmental Consequences. Provides findings of impact analysis related to the issues and how the proposed Trail Alternatives affect them.

Chapter 5: Coordination & Consultation. Describes the public involvement process for the Plan.

Appendices:

Sustainable Trail Guidelines:

Proposed operating procedures for trail planning, design, construction, maintenance, monitoring and management.

Trail User Count: Results and findings of Trail Use Counts conducted in 2010 and 2011.



NPS/ Rebecca Jones

PARK RESOURCES



The Trail Plan evaluates the proposed Alternatives and their impact on park resources including water, wildlife, vegetation and invasive plants, soils, cultural resources, and scenic values.

VISITOR EXPERIENCES



The Trail Plan evaluates how the Alternatives impact the visitor experience including accessibility, variety of trails uses and distances, their locations, user conflict, and education and interpretation.

PARK MANAGEMENT



The Trail Plan evaluates the proposed Alternatives and their impact to socioeconomic issues related to local communities, businesses and property ownership, and park management issues related to maintenance, staffing, operations, and partnerships.