

## West Virginia Trail User Survey

Your name was selected from a list people who have visited or requested information about West Virginia. We would like to ask for 10-15 minutes of your time to help us improve our trails. This survey will help the West Virginia State Trails Planning Committee make recommendations for trail development in the new West Virginia State Trails Plan.

Please read each question carefully before responding. Answer to the best of your ability and save any additional comments for the end. Results from this survey will be available by contacting Rich Hartman (WV-DOT) at 304-558-3165.

Any questions regarding the survey can be addressed to:

Dr. David Ostergren, Division of Forestry, West Virginia University, Box 6125, Percival Hall,  
Morgantown WV 26505-6125

Thank you very much for your time and assistance!

Sincerely,

The West Virginia State Trails Planning Committee

We would like ask you some general questions about your use of recreation trails in the state of West Virginia.  
Please do not consider usage by other members in your household.

1. Have you used a trail in the past 12 months in the state of West Virginia? ( \_ only one)  
 YES       NO    If **NO**, **Why** have you not visited West Virginia to use a trail ?

*If you answered NO please skip to question 18 on the back*

2. Approximately how many days have you used a trail in West Virginia during the past 12 months? ( \_ only one)  
 1-2 days     3-7 days     8-14 days     14-30 days     30 days +
3. How long is your average stay in West Virginia when using trails ?  
 1 day     2 days     3 days     4-7 days     7 days +
4. What percentage of your West Virginia trail use is conducted in each of the following seasons...?

Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Total
				=100 %

5. Which trail activities have you participated in West Virginia during the past 12 months?( \_ all that apply )

Trail activity during the last 12 months ( _ all that apply )		Trail activity during the last 12 months ( _ all that apply )	
a) Jogging/running	<input type="checkbox"/>	j) Horseback riding	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Trail hiking for exercise (day hiking)	<input type="checkbox"/>	k) Motorized trail biking/dirt biking	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Hiking for solitude or viewing wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/>	l) ATV riding (all terrain vehicles)	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Mountain biking (natural terrain)	<input type="checkbox"/>	m) Four wheel driving	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Road bicycling (paved / hard surface)	<input type="checkbox"/>	n) Competitive trail events (any type)	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Rail Trails (Any type of use)	<input type="checkbox"/>	o) Canoeing	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) In-line skating	<input type="checkbox"/>	p) Kayaking	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) Hiking w/stock (horses, mules, llamas, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	q) Whitewater rafting	<input type="checkbox"/>
i) Backpacking ( Overnight )	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	r) Cross -country skiing	<input type="checkbox"/>

s) Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
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6. Please write in the letter of the activity listed above that you do most often in West Virginia ?
7. Regarding the trail activity you do most often, which setting best describes the location of the trail? ( \_ only one)     in a city/town  
 rural / agricultural areas  
 just outside a city/town     remote areas (undeveloped)

8. Which region of West Virginia do you visit most often for the purpose of for the using trails. ( \_ only one)

- (1) Northern Panhandle
- (2) Mountaineer Country
- (3) Eastern Gateway
- (4) Potomac Highland
- (5) Greenbrier/New River
- (6) Metro Valley
- (7) Mid-Ohio Valley
- (8) Mountain Lake

9. Please explain why you visit this region most often ? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Approximately how many miles do you travel on average (one-way) from home for the purpose of using a trail in West Virginia ?

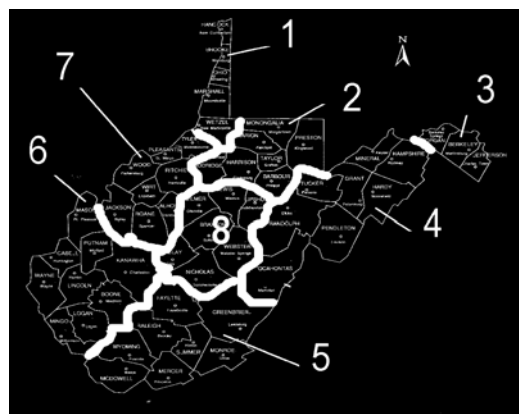
less than 30 miles     31 to 60 miles     61 to 120 miles

121 to 180 miles     181 to 250 miles     greater than 250 miles

11. What specific trail/water route in the state of West Virginia do you use most often?

12. What specific trail/water route is your favorite trail/water route in the state of West Virginia?

13. What percentage of your trail use is spent with the following groups ? (The 5 sections should add to 100)



1) alone	2) with 1	3) with	4) organization	5) family/kids	Total =
%	%	%	%	%	100 %

14. How often have you experienced conflicts with other trail users when using a trail in West Virginia? i.e. problems encountering bikers when you are walking, horse back riding etc.

never     < 10% of visits     10%-49% of visits     50%-89% of visits     > 90% of visits

every time

15. Please rate on a scale of 1 to 5, your opinion of **how important** the following issues are to you, and your opinion on **how satisfied** you are with West Virginia's trail system for each issue. Circle a number

Issues or Service	Importance of Issue or Service (Circle one)	Satisfaction with Issue or Service (Circle one)
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	(1)Very <u>Un</u> important			(5)Very Important			(1)Very <u>Un</u> important			(5)Very Important		
a) controlling overcrowding on trails	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
b) single use trail types to avoid user conflict	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
c) ability to experience natural environment	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
d) trail connecting towns/public places together	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
e) trail surface maintenance	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
f) road signs with directions to trailheads / or	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
g) public access to trailheads / or river put-in	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
h) parking space at trailheads / or river put-in	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
i) restroom facilities at trailheads	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
j) trailheads kept free of trash & vandalism	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
k) sense of safety on trails and trailhead	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
l) trail maps at trailheads	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
m) nature/wildlife information at trailheads/trails	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
n) historical & cultural trails and information	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
o) trails directory/information on the Internet	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
p) safe bike lanes on highway	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
q) trails for individuals with disabilities	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
r) helpfulness / friendliness of locals	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		
s) other ?	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5		

16. What do you like most about West Virginia trails?  
\_\_\_\_\_

17. What do you dislike most about West Virginia trails?  
\_\_\_\_\_

To conclude this survey we need some basic information to help us understand who is using West Virginia trails.

This information will remain strictly confidential and will be used for statistical purposes only.

18. Are you? ( \_ one)       MALE       FEMALE

19. Do you belong to an organization or club that uses trails? ( \_ one)       YES       NO

20. How old are you? \_\_\_\_\_ Years

21. Are you currently married? ( \_ one)       YES       NO

22. How many children under the age of eighteen do you have ? \_\_\_\_\_

23. What is your ZIP Code ? \_\_\_\_\_

24. Is there anything else we should consider when planning and developing trails for West Virginia? Or is there anything you would like to share with us?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

END OF SURVEY- THANK YOU !

Please place this survey in the pre-addressed stamped envelope provided and drop in any mail box as soon as possible-Thanks