

Dear Trail Enthusiast:

The Coalition for Recreational Trails, a federation of national and regional trail-related organizations, is pleased to announce its 2003 achievement awards to recognize outstanding trail projects funded by the national Recreational Trails Program (RTP). The awards will be presented in Washington, D.C. on June 12 during Great Outdoors Week 2003 (June 9-13) as part of the Coalition's ongoing effort to build awareness and appreciation of this highly successful program, which has greatly enhanced the quantity and quality of trail experiences available to the public. We are planning to hold the awards ceremony on Capitol Hill and will encourage Members of Congress to join us in honoring the outstanding achievements of their constituents.

Award winners will be selected from projects nominated by public agencies; trail administrators or other project sponsors and will reflect the diversity of trail activities eligible for Recreational Trails Program funding. In order to receive an award the project must be completed. In addition, projects completed before 1998 are ineligible. Award categories will include: construction and design; maintenance and rehabilitation; education and communication initiatives; accessibility enhancement; multiple-use management or "corridor sharing"; environment/wildlife compatibility; or use of youth conservation/service corps.

We invite you to nominate an outstanding project in one or more of the above categories and/or to encourage the sponsor(s) of an excellent project in your state to submit a nomination as well. A nomination form is enclosed for your use. The form and any supporting materials, including pictures, should be returned by March 14, 2003 to Alicia L. Knight, Legislative Counsel, American Horse Council, 1616 H Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20006. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call at (202) 296-4031 or e-mail at Aknight@horsecouncil.org. Winners will be notified no later than April 21, 2003.

We hope you will join us in this important effort to recognize the significant contributions to trail-related recreation that the Recreational Trails Program is supporting all across the country.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Holtz
Chairman, Awards Committee
The Coalition for Recreational Trails