



FAYETTE TRAILS COALITION

**CONNECTING COMMUNITIES &
FORGING FUTURES**

The Fayette Trails Coalition Membership Guide

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National Road Heritage Corridor



WE ARE THE FAYETTE TRAILS COALITION

The Fayette Trails Coalition (FTC) is a pioneering initiative to harness the collective power of Fayette County's communities to develop a comprehensive and interconnected trail system utilizing the Sheepskin Trail as the backbone. Born from a vision to enhance community stewardship, promote health and wellness, and stimulate economic development, our coalition is a collaborative platform. We invite municipalities, organizations, and individuals to join us in shaping a network that connects trails and people, towns, and natural habitats across the county.

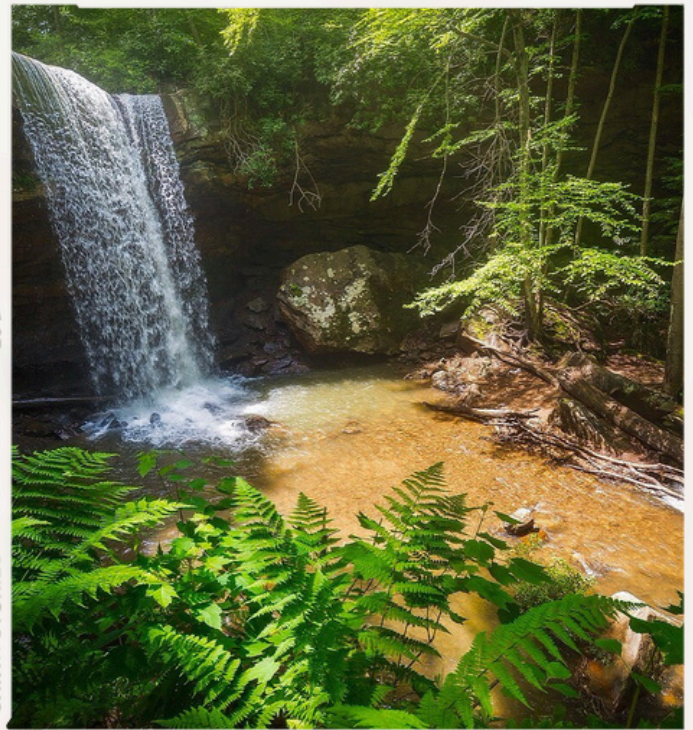
OUR MISSION

Our mission is to create a vibrant, sustainable network of trails across Fayette County that catalyzes economic growth, environmental conservation, and community well-being. We are committed to fostering partnerships, securing resources, and engaging the community in meaningful ways to bring this vision to life.



OUR VISION

We envision a future where every resident of and visitor to Fayette County can access safe, scenic, and engaging trails within minutes from their homes. These trails will not only provide recreational opportunities but also serve as conduits for cultural exchange, historical education, and economic vitality, knitting together a diverse and thriving community fabric.



GOALS

1. **Trail Development:** We are committed to supporting the sustainable development of a comprehensive network of multi-use trails, including the iconic Sheepskin Trail, throughout Fayette County.
2. **Community Connectivity:** Our trails are designed to connect neighborhoods, towns, and rural areas, promoting active transportation and fostering community engagement.
3. **Health and Wellness:** We believe in the power of outdoor activity to improve physical and mental well-being, and our trails provide accessible opportunities for recreation and exercise.
4. **Economic Prosperity:** By attracting trail users and visitors, we aim to boost the local economy through increased tourism, job opportunities, and business growth to keep the money in town.
5. **Environmental Stewardship:** We are dedicated to preserving and protecting the natural beauty of Fayette County while promoting responsible trail use and conservation efforts.

TRAIL DEVELOPMENT



COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY



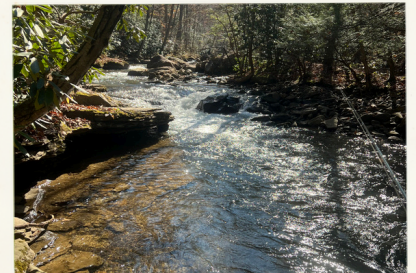
HEALTH & WELLNESS



ECONOMIC PROSPERITY & EQUITY



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP



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WHAT IS THE FTC

The Fayette Trails Coalition (FTC) is a group of diverse community stakeholders focused on improving trail development, access, and connectivity in Fayette County while supporting economic growth.

Core Identity:

- **Inclusive Voice:** The FTC represents the collective voice of Fayette County communities, bringing together individuals, organizations, businesses, and local governments to address common goals.
- **Trail Advocates:** The coalition advocates for expanding the trail network, improving access, and ensuring the trails are inclusive for everyone.
- **Resource Connector:** The FTC connects stakeholders with resources such as funding opportunities, strategic partnerships, and volunteer networks.

Guiding Principles:

1. **Community-Driven:** Decisions are guided by the unique needs and aspirations of each community.
2. **Collaborative:** Members work together to identify challenges and devise innovative solutions that benefit everyone.
3. **Flexible:** The FTC remains adaptable to emerging challenges while staying true to its mission.

Focus Areas:

- **Trail Access:** Overcome barriers preventing equitable access to the county's trails.
- **Community Connectivity:** Connect neighborhoods and municipalities to promote residents' health and well-being.
- **Economic Development:** Support local businesses and trail-based tourism aligned with economic growth strategies.

By uniting passionate stakeholders, the Fayette Trails Coalition drives the creation of an inclusive, thriving trail network.



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MY STORY: ERIC SNYDER

From the lush trails of West Virginia to the vibrant communities of Fayette County, my journey has been fueled by a passion for environmental stewardship and community development. With a robust academic background in Recreation, Parks, and Tourism Resources Management, I've directed my skills toward creating educational programs, managing trail developments, and fostering environmental consciousness.

EXPERIENCE

As the Director of Outdoor Recreation for the NRHC, my vision has been shaped by hands-on experiences, from ground-level trail maintenance to strategic boardroom planning. My time at the National Road Heritage Corridor, experience in trail development, & M.S. in Recreation, Parks & Tourism Resources has honed my abilities to manage diverse projects that celebrate our regional heritage while enhancing our natural landscapes.



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DISCOVER OUR HOME: WHAT FAYETTE COUNTY TRAILS OFFER

RICH HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

- Industrial History
- Glass Making
- Coke Industry
- Historic Towns
- Early American History
- Opportunities to tell the community's story

DIVERSE NATURAL LANDSCAPES

The trail network showcases:

- Streams
- Forests
- Wildlife Habitats

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The trail network supports:

- Local economies
- Small Businesses
- New Businesses
- New Residents
- Tourism

HEALTH & WELLNESS

- The trail offers residents
 - Safe place to recreate
 - A hub for healthy outdoor activities
 - Healthy alternative non-motorized transportation options



EDUCATION & INTERPRETATION

- Alongside the trail network, interpretive signage and programs can offer insights into the local ecology, history, and conservation efforts.



COMMUNITY CONNECTIVITY

The trail network connects:

- Multiple Communities
- School Districts
- Community Organizations

RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Increased recreation accessibility
 - Walking, hiking, biking & fishing access
 - Links to community parks & their recreational opportunities



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FORGE THE PATH FORWARD

Join us in shaping a transformative future for Fayette County with the Fayette Trails Coalition. Together, we'll bridge communities, protect our environment, and boost our economy through a connected trail network. Your role is crucial—whether as a founding member, supporter, or volunteer. Let's turn our shared vision into reality, forging paths that unite us. Become part of this historic effort; let's pave the way forward together.

- **Build Community:** Connect and thrive together.
- **Protect Nature:** Safeguard our shared environment.
- **Drive Prosperity:** Boost Fayette County's economy.
- **Leave a Legacy:** Shape the future for generations.



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HOW TO JOIN THE FTC

- Have a **passion** for trails in Fayette County
- Have **pride** in your community
- Have **drive** to make a difference
- Be a **community steward**

STEP 1: REACH OUT !

- **Municipalities & Organizations:** Submit an Expression of Interest form using the provided template to outline your community's or organization's interest in becoming a founding member of the FTC.
- **Individuals:** Complete the Community Member Expression of Interest form to indicate your areas of interest (board membership), skills, and how you'd like to get involved in shaping the coalition.

STEP 2: LET'S TALK ABOUT IT!

- After submitting your interest form, you'll be invited to a founder's meeting. This is an opportunity to discuss your vision, potential contributions, and how we can work together towards shared objectives & creating the founding board of the coalition.

STEP 3: JOIN THE BOARD

- This commitment may involve participating in initial planning meetings, contributing to the development of the coalition's structure, and playing a role in defining key initiatives.

STEP 4: ONBOARDING AND INTEGRATION

- Founding members will be integrated into the coalition through an onboarding process.

STEP 5: ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT AND CONTRIBUTION

- Participate in coalition activities, from planning sessions and committee work to public engagement efforts and project implementation. Your active involvement is vital to our momentum and success.

STEP 6: BECOME A FOUNDING MEMBER

- As the coalition matures, continue to engage in strategic discussions, project evaluations, and community outreach to ensure the FTC's long-term impact and sustainability. We envision an evolving partnership where feedback and new ideas are always welcome.



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ACCESSING & SUBMITTING FORMS

- **QR Codes for Online Forms:** Within this section, you'll find QR codes for each form (Municipalities and Organizations Expression of Interest and Community Member Expression of Interest). Simply scan the QR code with your smartphone to be directed to a Google Form where you can fill out the template online.
- **Printable Forms:** Printable versions of each form are also provided at the end of the guide. Feel free to fill these out at your convenience and email them to Eric@nationalroadpa.org or mail them to
 - 49 E Maiden St, Washington, PA 15301: attn: Eric Snyder.

Organization/Municipality Form



Community Member Form



Expression of Interest form for Municipalities and Organizations

Organization Name:

Contact Person:

Role/Title:

Address:

City

State

Zip Code

Phone Number:

Email:

Website (if applicable):

Brief Description of Interest in the FTC:

Current or Planned Trail-Related Initiatives:

Resources Available for Coalition (e.g., financial, volunteers, expertise):

What do you hope to achieve through your involvement with the FTC?:

Community Member Expression of Interest Form

Full Name:

Address:

City:_____

State: _____

Zip Code:_____

Phone Number:

Email:

Preferred Method of Contact (Email/Phone):

Availability (e.g., weekdays, weekends, evenings):

Areas of Interest (e.g., Board membership, trail maintenance, community events, advocacy):

Skills and Experience Relevant to the FTC:

Why are you interested in the FTC?:

Any previous volunteer experience?: