



Council News



Welcome to the second edition of *Council News* from the **Connecticut Greenways Council**. It is designed to quickly communicate information presented at the monthly CGC meetings that both our stakeholders and the general public might find interesting.

Previous Edition Archive.

Vol.1, ed. 2

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GIXrcxOGnHMT4gYhLzakwee2R0RcqPnw/view?usp=sharing>

NEWS || LEGISLATIVE || TRAIL PROJECTS || CTDEEP/CTDOT || CALENDAR

March's meeting had the usual mix of both a quorum of council members present and representatives of both CTDEEP and CTDOT. Additionally, 14 non-council attendees, representing a wide variety of organizations and members of the public were present.

NEWS

The Council is establishing a **Bylaws** and **Finance** sub-committees, as allowed under its ruling legislation. These will allow for better coordinated work and ensure full transparency.

Contact Bruce Donald if you want to serve on either of these sub-committees. Bruce@greenway.org

New Website in Development! A Letter of Understanding between UConn Trails (CLEAR) and the Council was agreed to and work will start to create a new **public** platform that is easily editable and allows quick communication of information and events. It will reside within the current UConn CLEAR website <https://cttrails.uconn.edu/> Look for this later this year!! Work is underway to secure and align agreements and funding.

Greenways Fund

DMV proceeds from the Greenways License Plate (**Please consider your support!**)

<https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Outdoor-Recreation/Greenways/Greenways-License-Plate>

- Funds may be used for various activities and programs and will be outlined in a newly developed CGC Financial oversight team.
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Connecticut Trails Learning Community

[Trails Learning Community | CT Trails Program](#)

Next meeting Wed Mar. 25th, 2:00m

- Open topics, Non Profit 101s

Use link above for info and link.

LEGISLATIVE News

The bills introduced last year to provide soft surface trail maintenance may have died in committee.

!!! There is movement on bills that would *limit* Passport to Parks which helps fund DEEP trail activities and support.

- i. Please support this important program for DEEP by contacting your local state representative.

Bruce made a call for other initiatives of interest to the membership to be raised to him..

PROJECT NEWS

Notable projects due to be completed in 2026:

The New Haven State Street Cycle Track – The last piece of the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail in the city will connect Grove Street to Water Street (.58 miles).

The Quinebaug River Trail in Plainfield will be extended from the Town Line to Wauregan, (1.81 miles)

The Farmington River Trail in Burlington will undergo extensive resurfacing this summer, so plan accordingly.

We will expand this list across the State in coming months.

NEWS from CTDOT

1st QTR Active Transportation Program are open for application with **March 27th** the first deadline. Need to apply to your COG ASAP as they need to approve and forward to DOT.

Multiple applications may be offered per organization/entity.

https://portal.ct.gov/dot/projects/active-transportation-plan/resources?language=en_US

NEWS from CTDEEP

Connecticut Recreational Trails Grant Program (CTRTP)

The 2026 current round has closed with many applications being evaluated.

- Over 70 applications plus several internally from DEEP met the deadline
- Over \$20M in total requests for \$10M available funds once approved by the CT LEG Bonding committee.
- OPM software supporting the grant program is under development. Should be a major improvement.
- CTDOT (with VHB) will be partner in review and assessment of certain projects that require their scoping and expertise.
- Grant review team will meet in the coming weeks to evaluate and select projects.

2026 Trail Symposium Planning is Underway!

Potential Locations are being scouted.

We are targeting Oct 2nd dependent on location selected.

There is the possibility of multiple days. Maybe ½ day Sat. with workshops to help accommodate ‘working’ volunteers.

Next planning meeting will be 03/04/26. All are welcome to attend and help!!

GET YOUR Nominations for the 2026 Greenways Awards in!!!

2026 Greenways Awards nominations are now open with recent press release.

- A. <https://portal.ct.gov/deep/news-releases/news-releases---2026/connecticut-greenways-council-accepting-formal-greenways-nominations>
- B. It will be held on the National Trails Day, Friday, June 5th.
- C. Planning for the location and logistics are underway and announced shortly.

DEEP IS HIRING!!

An *Open House* scheduled to review all the available positions.

<https://ctparks.com/events/seasonal-job-fair>

Seasonal Position Trails and Greenways:

[Job Opening: CT Greenways and Trails Program - Department of Administrative Services](https://portal.ct.gov/deep/news-releases/news-releases---2026/deep-announces-recruitment-campaign-to-fill-seasonal-employment-opportunities-across-the-state)

<https://portal.ct.gov/deep/news-releases/news-releases---2026/deep-announces-recruitment-campaign-to-fill-seasonal-employment-opportunities-across-the-state>

***MAY* is Bike to Work Month!**

DEEP is coordinating with DOT for a ride to work day.

- i. West Hartford to Old Statehouse. Contact Kim Bradley

NEWS from your COG!

As you see above, CTDOT AT grants are available for the Q1 round but applications close soon. Get your application into your local COG which will review and forward to DOT by Mar 27th.

CT TRAIL FINDER is growing!!

A 2500 Mile milestone has been achieved for state trails on the website.

All are available for your recreation and enjoyment.

Check out the updated information on trails on the Data Dashboard

CT Trail finder [Welcome!](#)

Or on their social media.

- i. <https://www.facebook.com/CTTrailFinder>
- ii. <https://www.instagram.com/cttrailfinder>

Connecticut Trails Day Registration is OPEN via CFPA
 It will be First Weekend in June
 Check out the options to participate as over 200 events are expected.
www.Trailsday.org



CFPA has shared a StoryMap highlighting trail projects from the 2025 season of the Connecticut Woodlands Conservation Corps (CWCC)!
 Please enjoy this little journey through the summer and fall project season with our team: <https://ctwoodlands.org/storymap>"

CALENDAR – *non-exhaustive list of upcoming events, meetings, gatherings mentioned*

DATE	Event	Contact / LINK
Mar 24 th	CRCOG public hearing regarding Off Road trails	mcipriano@crcog.org
Mar 25 th	Connecticut Trails Learning Community – meeting	Open Forum, Non-profit support topic. https://cttrails.uconn.edu/learning_community/
Mar 27 th	CTDOT Micro Grant round I closure	Your local COG, Anna Bergeron (CTDOT)
Apr 1 st	2026 Symposium Planning Mtg	Danbuckley@shorelinegreenwaytrail.org
MAY	National Ride to Work Month	
May 14 th	DEEP/DOT bike to work day	Kimberly.Bradley@ct.go
May 16	Ride the East - Willimantic	https://greenway.org/news-events/events/
Jun 18	ALSPTA 3 rd Thurs Willimantic	https://willimanticstreetfest.com/
Jun 27	Ride the State New Haven	https://greenway.org/news-events/events/

Routine **Connecticut Greenways Council** meetings are held **SECOND TUESDAYS** at 9:00am via Microsoft Teams and Quarterly in-person hybrids at VHB in Wethersfield. Meetings last 90 minutes.

If you want to be included, please contact Kim Bradley Kimberly.Bradley@ct.go> and you will be added to the Email list.

Next CGC Meeting April 14th will be Hybrid @ VHB offices and Microsoft Teams.