

Break Out Sessions 1 & 2:
Trail Sustainability & Maintenance

Ideas:

- We should identify county and state programs that already deal with shared trail use. The county has programs already in place but they're not used. We need to identify and reactivate those programs. Jeff Dickman had some good ideas here...
- We need to have each user group focus on what's appropriate for their users, Each group knows its community best.
- We should consider the science of building trails and how that translates to appropriate user-group use; that is, building single-track trails is effective for the experience but they require much more monitoring of use and user-type. Those "natural" restrictions can focus on or limit use by a particular group as long as there are similar experiences available to everyone.

Solutions:

- We need to organize a forum for public input once these programs are identified.
- REI can help us market our message to all trail users. They can help with stewardship via social media. They need stories and photos to engage the public. They can also provide gifts or incentives to "partners". Our REI attendee had a lot of good ideas here...
- REI also has access to grant money for help in fostering stewardship.
- Peer pressure. This may be the single most powerful tool...each group needs to apply pressure for its users to share trails safely.
- We need campaigns for youth...too many young people simply ignore the rules, but are willing to abide by them if they know what they are. It may not even be rules but generally accepted practices. Again, peer pressure can work effectively well here if we can get the message out (social media).
- My favorite: "Partners not users!"
- We need to reach out the clubs and organizations; the personal touch. We need to organize a pool of speakers who can go to other user groups and ask or answer questions. What would the guest group like of the speaker from a "competing" group?
- Nothing like a little shame and embarrassment to mold or modify peoples' behavior.
- We need a common logo that summarizes proper etiquette
- We need to balance recreation and preservation. We need both!