



TRAIL STEWARDSHIP SKILLS

Course Catalogue

Welcome!

Chinook Associates is a consulting service with over 45 years of experience in all aspects of recreational trail development and management. Our passion is supporting you in the creation of unforgettable trail experiences that are based in sustainable trail development and management. We specialize in providing consulting services tailored to meet all of your trail related needs. These services cover a comprehensive range of trail management solutions including every aspect of recreational trail planning, design, construction, maintenance, and visitor management.

Catalogue Content

This catalogue contains descriptions for stewardship skills developed by Chinook Associates. Stewardship skills workshops provide the participants the opportunity to develop technical expertise in the identified topic.

Class structure can be either in-person or online. In-person classes are fully customizable in content and length. The curriculum developed is dependent upon the needs of the organization hosting the course. The structure of in-person classes is typically a traditional lecture period followed by a field based experiential component where students have the opportunity to apply concepts and ideas developed in the classroom. These courses can vary from one-hour to multiple days in duration.

The online classes cover a wide range of topics. Class size is limited to 15 students and the length of each class is 60-90 minutes. Participants will experience an interactive dialogue with the instructor and will receive useful tools that support the content delivered in the class. Scheduling information for each workshop includes dates, times for each online course description. To register for an online course, click on the specific date for the workshop session you wish to attend on the calendar for that class. Any associated fee is collected at time of registration.

Who Should Attend?

These workshops are appropriate for anyone wishing to broaden their knowledge and skill associated with trails, including agency personnel and volunteers.

Thank You

We sincerely appreciate your interest in enhancing your trail stewardship skills or developing your existing trail program. If you have any difficulty registering, have questions about a workshop or would like to be more involved in this process don't hesitate to [email](#), call or book a 20-minute meeting to discuss it further. Happy Trails,



Kim Frederick

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[Book-A-Meeting](#)

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Trail Stewardship Skills

A trail stewardship skills workshop is one where the outcome results in the students developing technical expertise on a particular topic. Workshops can occur in-person, online or in some combination of the two.

In-Person Workshops

These workshops are fully customizable and can reflect all facets of trail development and management. Specific curriculum is developed based upon the needs of the agency or organization that is hosting the course. Workshop duration can vary from one hour to multiple days in duration. Typically, the classes are structured with content being delivered through an interactive lecture followed by an application of the lecture content in a experiential and hands-on field environment.

Online Workshops

Online classes are focused discussions on specific trail development or management topics. These courses are regularly scheduled and are typically 60 -90 minutes in length. Students are provided documents that support the content introduced and are applicable in real life settings.



Trail Planning In-Person

Trail planning is the initial step in the process of designing, developing and managing trail systems that satisfy the needs of users, are environmentally sustainable, and meet community goals. It involves identifying potential trail routes, evaluating their feasibility, and creating frameworks to guide the construction, maintenance, and long-term management of a trail network.

These courses are fully customizable. Content included in a trail planning workshop might include:

- Types of Trail Plans
- Acquisition Strategies
- Site Assessment and Analysis
- Community and Stakeholder Engagement
- Regulatory and Environmental Considerations
- Cost Estimation and Funding
- Implementation and Management

Courses created are 60-90 minutes in length are well suited for delivery at conferences and special events. Half, full, and multi-day workshops can be embedded in an existing project that contributes to accomplishing some objective of that existing project.

To review a course syllabus for an 8-hour class [click here](#).

To schedule a 20-minute no obligation meeting to discuss your training ideas and needs [click here](#).



Trail Planning Online

Learning Objective

By the end of the course, participants will understand the content of different trail plans, engage stakeholders, navigate permitting and regulatory processes, and address environmental and funding considerations to create sustainable trail systems. The content typically includes:

- **Review of Different Types of Trail Plans:**
- **Working with Stakeholders and Developing Partnerships:**
- **Acquisition Considerations and Funding Scenarios:**
- **Site Analysis and Environmental Considerations:**
- **Permitting and Regulatory Requirements:**

Duration: 1.5 hours

Trail Planning Classes			
Course #	Content Description	Registration Links	
100	A Discussion of Different Types of Plans: Master, Conceptual, Construction, Maintenance and Visitor Use	<u>Monday 10/26/26</u> <u>9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>	<u>Monday 2/1/27</u> 9:00 <u>am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>
110	Identifying and Working with Stakeholders, Determining Types of Use, Developing Partnerships	<u>Tuesday 10/27/26</u> <u>9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>	<u>Tuesday 2/2/27</u> 9:00 <u>am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>
120	A Review of Acquisition Considerations: Purchase, Lease, Easements and Funding Scenarios	<u>Wednesday</u> <u>10/28/26 9:00 am –</u> <u>10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>	<u>Wednesday 2/3/27</u> <u>9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>
130	Site Analysis: Macro/Micro	<u>Thursday 10/29/26</u> <u>9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>	<u>Thursday 2/4/27</u> 9:00 <u>am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>
140	Environmental Considerations, Access, Permitting	<u>Friday 10/30/26</u> <u>9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>	<u>Friday 2/5/27</u> <u>9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>

Trail Design In-Person

Trail design is the process of creating detailed plans and specifications for the layout, structure, and features of a trail. It considers the needs and expectations of users, environmental sustainability, safety, and long-term maintenance requirements. Trail design ensures that trails are functional, aesthetically pleasing, and accessible to a wide range of users. It also addresses challenges such as terrain variability, drainage, and minimizing environmental impact through thoughtful routing and construction techniques.

These courses are fully customizable. Content included in a trail design workshop might include:

- Trail Design Principles
- Site Analysis and Assessment
- Alignment and Routing Techniques
- Environmental and Regulatory Considerations
- Trail Structures and Features
- Accessibility
- Mapping and Visualization Tools
- Construction Methods
- Maintenance Considerations



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Trail Design Online

Learning Objective: This workshop introduces ideas and concepts associated with sustainable trail design. By the end of the course, participants will better understand the relationships between design and visitor experience

Content

- Developing trail design guidelines
- Visitor use management considerations
- Alignment and routing techniques
- Trail structures and features
- Trail naming and wayfinding
- Construction notes and specifications

Duration: 1.5 hours

Trail Design Classes			
Course #	Content Description	Registration Links	
200	Developing Trail Design Guidelines and Difficulty Classifications	<u>Monday 11/16/26 9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>	<u>Monday 3/1/27 9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>
210	Multi-Use Temporal and Spatial Visitor Design Considerations	<u>Tuesday 11/17/26 9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>	<u>Tuesday 3/1/27 9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>
220	Site Assessment and Determining Trail Tread Alignment,	<u>Wednesday 11/18/26 9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>	<u>Wednesday 3/3/27 9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>
230	Trail Naming and Wayfinding Systems	<u>Thursday 11/19/26 9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>	<u>Thursday 3/4/27 9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>
240	Creating Construction Notes and Construction Specifications	<u>Friday 11/20/26 9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>	<u>Friday 3/5/27 9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>

Trail Construction In-Person

Trail construction is the process of building or rehabilitating trails based on carefully designed plans and specifications. It involves applying sustainable techniques, utilizing appropriate materials, and employing tools and machinery to create trails that meet the needs of users while preserving the natural environment

These courses are fully customizable. Content included in a trail construction workshop might include:

- Introduction to Trail Construction
- Site Preparation and Assessment
- Sustainable Trail Building Techniques
- Trail Surfacing and Materials
- Trail Structures and Features
- Tools and Equipment
- Accessibility and User-Specific Needs
- Environmental Protection and Compliance
- Project Management and Team Coordination
- Maintenance Considerations
- Practical Field Exercises



Courses created are 60-90 minutes in length are well suited for delivery at conferences and special events. Half, full, and multi-day workshops can be embedded in an existing project that contributes to accomplishing some objective of that existing project.

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Trail Construction Online

Learning Objective

By the end of the course, participants will understand the fundamentals to complete trail construction projects while working effectively with staff, contractors, and volunteers to build sustainable trails that meet user needs and minimize environmental impact. Course content will typically include:

Steps in Trail Construction:

- Clearing vegetation and grading the trail tread.
- Constructing trail tread with proper drainage and erosion control features.
- Finalizing and finishing the trail for user safety and accessibility.

Project Management:

- Planning and monitoring trail construction timelines and budgets.
- Coordinating tasks and setting priorities.

Working with Staff, Contractors, and Volunteers:

- Effective communication and delegation of tasks.
- Training and managing volunteer groups.
- Collaborating with contractors for specialized trail features.

Duration: 1.5 hours in length

Trail Construction Classes			
Course #	Content Description	Registration Links	
300	Trail Construction Project Management	<u>Tuesday 12/8/26 9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>	<u>Tuesday 3/16/27 9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>
310	Working With Contracted Services	<u>Wednesday 12/9/26 9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>	<u>Wednesday 3/17/27 9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>
320	Trail Construction with In-House Staff and Volunteers	<u>Thursday 12/10/26 9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>	<u>Thursday 3/18/27 9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>

Trail Maintenance In-Person

Trail maintenance involves the ongoing care and repair of trails to ensure they remain safe, functional, and sustainable for users. It includes tasks such as clearing debris, repairing erosion, maintaining drainage systems, fixing trail tread, and preserving trail structures like bridges and steps. Proper maintenance protects the environment, enhances the user experience, and extends the lifespan of the trail system.

These courses are fully customizable. Content included in a trail maintenance workshop might include:

- Trail Maintenance Principles
- Condition Assessments
- Drainage and Erosion Control
- Vegetation Management
- Tool Use and Safety
- Trail Structures Maintenance
- Engaging Volunteers and Teams
- Planning and Scheduling



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Trail Maintenance Online

Learning Objective

By the end of the course, participants will better comprehend what influences trail maintenance, have a foundation to conduct trail condition assessments and understand the structure of a trail maintenance management plan.

Maintenance Considerations:

- Understanding common maintenance issues such as erosion, tread wear, and drainage problems.
- Techniques for maintaining trail corridors and structures.

Trail Condition Assessments:

- Methods for evaluating trail conditions, including identifying problem areas (e.g., erosion, overgrowth, or unsafe structures).
- Prioritizing maintenance tasks

Developing a Trail Maintenance Management Program:

- Creating a schedule for regular and seasonal maintenance activities.
- Engaging volunteers, staff, and community groups

Duration: 1.5 hours in length

Trail Maintenance Management Classes			
Course #	Content Description	Registration Links	
400	Maintenance considerations for trails	<u>Tuesday 1/5/27</u> <u>9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>	<u>Tuesday 3/30/27</u> <u>9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>
410	Trail Condition Assessment	<u>Wednesday 1/6/27</u> <u>9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>	<u>Wednesday 3/31/27</u> <u>9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>
420	Trail Maintenance Management Program	<u>Thursday 1/7/27</u> <u>9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>	<u>Thursday 4/1/27</u> <u>9:00 am – 10:30 am</u> <u>MTN Time</u>

Trail Crew Leader In-Person

A **Trail Crew Leader** is an individual responsible for overseeing and managing a group of staff, volunteers or contractors tasked with completing trail construction, maintenance, or restoration projects. They serve as the point of contact for planning, organizing, and executing trail projects, ensuring safety, efficiency, and adherence to best practices.

These courses are fully customizable. Content included in a trail crew leader workshop might include:

- Trail Crew Leader Roles and Responsibilities
- Leadership and Communication Skills:
- Trail Maintenance and Construction Principles:
- Project Planning and Organization:
- Safety and Risk Management:
- Tool and Equipment Management:
- Field Techniques and Hands-On Training:
- Volunteer Engagement and Retention:
- Monitoring and Reporting:



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Trail Crew Leader Online

Learning Objective: These courses provide an introduction to the “soft skills” associated with being a crew leader. Participants will develop skills in worksite and personnel management on a trail project and discuss real life scenarios that can occur in the field.

Content

- Crew Leader Roles and Responsibilities
- Leadership Characteristics and Teaching Styles
- Communication and Conflict Management
- Group Dynamics and Crew Assessment
- Risk Management and Tool Use

Duration: 1.5 hours in length

Trail Crew Leader Classes			
Course #	Content Description	Registration Links	
500	Crew Leader Role and A Day In The Life	Monday 8/31/26 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm MTN Time	Monday 9/7/26 8:00 am – 9:30 am MTN Time
510	Leadership Characteristics and Teaching Styles	Tuesday 9/1/26 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm MTN Time	Tuesday 9/8/26 8:00 am – 9:30 am MTN Time
520	Communication and Conflict Management	Wednesday 9/2/26 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm MTN Time	Wednesday 9/9/26 8:00 am – 9:30 am MTN Time
530	Group Dynamics and Assessing Your Crew	Thursday 9/3/26 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm MTN Time	Thursday 9/10/26 8:00 am – 9:30 am MTN Time
540	Risk Management and Tool Use	Friday 9/4/26 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm MTN Time	Friday 9/11/26 8:00 am – 9:30 am MTN Time

...of all the paths you
choose in life...

...make sure a few of
them are dirt...



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