

HDI



HERITAGE DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE

A training initiative of the Alliance of National Heritage Areas

Spotlight on Trails and Greenways

With Spring just around the corner, a discussion of trails and greenways within National Heritage Areas seems fitting. Most NHAs feature some sort of greenway component, and this article highlights three organizations with successful greenway projects underway.

Greenway programs are attractive to NHAs because they have the potential to unite a variety of interests. Not only do they serve recreational and wellness functions, but they bring together parties interested in preserving and interpreting landscapes and rehabilitating abandoned industrial areas.

The Ohio and Erie Canal Corridor Coalition (OECCC) has developed a successful greenway system worth highlighting. This area in northeast Ohio features the 101-mile Towpath Trail, which originally served as the path that mules and horses walked to pull boats along the Ohio and Erie Canal. An estimated 2 million people walk the trail annually. The OECCC is also working with local groups in Summit County to develop a network of trails linking communities to each other and to the larger Towpath Trail.

Wheeling National Heritage Area is utiliz-

ing trails to revitalize the downtown riverfront and industrial areas. According to the organization's website, heritage trails will soon feature wayfinder signs and wayside interpretive signs. This effort is the result of a partnership with the city and state using a Tea-21 Transportation Enhancement Program grant.

Quinebaug-Shetucket National Heritage Area in Connecticut and Massachusetts serves as a clearinghouse of information concerning the area's wilderness and walking trails. Through such successful programs as the annual Walking Weekend in October and the Earth Week Walk in April, this organization partners with groups throughout the region to emphasize both wilderness and the past.

Other NHAs feature similar programs, which are equally as successful and popular. The partnerships between NHAs, non-profits, and communities are what drive their success. Numerous federal agencies, including the EPA, DOT, and HUD offer grants to assist in the development of trails and greenways. For links to these funding sources, see page 3.

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Conference to Offer HDI Course on Basics of Heritage Areas



www.ihdc2005.org

The Alliance of National Heritage Areas is pleased to present another opportunity for heritage development professionals to learn about the basics of heritage areas.

Several National Heritage Area directors, National Park Service officials, and other experts will be on hand to offer suggestions and advice about how to develop heritage areas. Faculty for the workshop will include John Cosgrove, Executive Director of the ANHA; Augie Carlino, President & CEO of Rivers of Steel NHA; Dan Rice, President & CEO of the Ohio & Erie Canal Corridor Coalition; Carroll Van West, Director of the Tennessee Civil War NHA; Brenda Barrett, National Park Service Coordinator for Heritage Areas; and others to be determined. Topics to be discussed include:

- What is a heritage area? Viewpoints from Federal Agencies and Non-Profits
- Telling the Story
- The Art of Partnerships
- Resource Conservation
- Community-Based Projects

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Course participants will have the opportunity to network with these heritage development leaders and ask them questions during a working lunch.

This course is offered as a supplement to the International Heritage Development Conference and will take place on Sunday, June 5, 2005, in Nashville. The additional \$50 registration fee provides participants lunch and useful workbook materials.

Registration for the course is now open and available through the International Heritage Development Conference website (www.ihdc2005.org). For additional information contact the conference staff at (615) 494-8916.

Contact the Alliance

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www.nationalheritageareas.org

Additions to Your Heritage Development Reading List

Books

- Billington, Robert. "Federal Leverage Attracts Private Investment at US Heritage Sites: A Case Study." *International Journal of Heritage Studies* 10:4 (September 2004): 349-359.
- Horowitz, Jamie, and Paulette Singley, eds. *Eating Architecture*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2004. This collection of 20 essays explores the intersection of food and architecture.

Greenway Links

- National Park Service. Managing Greenways: A Look at Six Case Studies. Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program, April 2000. Available at www.nps.gov/phso/rtca/grnmgmt2.htm.
- Pennsylvania Greenways. www.pagreenways.org.
- US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Community Development Block Grants. www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/communitydevelopment/programs/index.cfm
- US Department of Transportation. www.enhancements.org.
- US EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants. www.epa.gov/brownfields/pilot.htm. This program features Loan Fund Grants and Clean-Up Grants.

Submit Information for
publication in our March
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The Alliance of National Heritage Areas (ANHA) established the Heritage Development Institute (HDI) as a way of providing leadership to the heritage development field as well as creating training and analysis of the best practices in our heritage areas across the country. The HDI Newsletter is sponsored by the ANHA, Middle Tennessee State University's Center for Historic Preservation, and the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area. To submit information and update e-mail addresses, please e-mail us at hdi@mtsu.edu.