

Connecticut Trail Census

Statewide multi-use trail user study



A statewide multi-use trail user study and volunteer data collection program

About this Study: Connecticut Trail Census

Principal Investigator:

Laura Brown, Community & Economic Development Educator

University of Connecticut, Department of Extension, 203-407-3157 or laura.brown@uconn.edu

The Connecticut Trail Census is a statewide volunteer data collection program. The goals of the Connecticut Trail Census are to: understand when, who, how, and why people make use of Connecticut's multi-use trails; educate stakeholders about trail use patterns and trends and user demographics; promote active citizen participation in monitoring and communicating the value of trails; and encourage sound trail building and maintenance programs based on data. The Census involves a trail user intercept survey as well as infrared user counts on twenty multi-use trail sites throughout the state of Connecticut. The information collected from this survey will be used to improve trails to better meet the needs of users. The survey will take 5-10 minutes of your time to complete. All data and information collected will be aggregated, kept confidential, and your responses will not be individually identifiable. If you are completing this survey online, at the end of the survey you will have the opportunity to provide your email, if you so choose, to receive additional information about the study and information about participating in ongoing research. Your contact information will not be sold or disseminated to any other parties for any other purpose. The aggregated data set and an aggregated data report will be made publicly available for researchers and the general public to use and download at <http://cttrailcensus.uconn.edu>. You do not have to participate if you do not want to. If you agree to complete this survey, but later change your mind, you may stop at any time. There are no penalties or consequences of any kind if you decide that you do not want to participate.

This project has been approved under UConn IRB Exempt Study Number X16-181. You should also know that the UConn Institutional Review Board (IRB) and Research Compliance Services may inspect study records as part of its auditing program, but these reviews will only focus on the researchers and not on your responses or involvement. The IRB is a group of people who review research studies to protect the rights and welfare of research participants. We will be happy to answer any question you have about this study. If you have further questions about this project or if you have a research-related problem, you may contact the principal investigator, Laura Brown at 203-407-3157. If you have any questions concerning your rights as a research subject, you may contact the University of Connecticut Institutional Review Board (IRB) at 860-486-8802.

The project is funded through a Recreational Trails Grant from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and project partners include the University of Connecticut Department of Extension, Connecticut Greenways Council and the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments as well as local trail advocacy organizations.

Should you have any questions about the survey please contact Laura Brown with the University of Connecticut 203-407-3157 or laura.brown@uconn.edu. Thank you for your participation!