

Our Vision & Mission

The New York-New Jersey Trail Conference is a volunteer-powered organization that builds, maintains, and protects public trails. Together with our partners, we strive to ensure that the trails and natural areas we share are sustainable and accessible for all to enjoy for generations to come.

Our Values

- The joys of nature belong to everyone.

All people – regardless of age, ability, or location – should be able to experience the rewards of connecting with nature.

- Environmental conservation is a shared duty.

We must preserve the integrity of our natural world – not only to sustain our trail systems, but to ensure future generations can enjoy the outdoor experiences a healthy planet has to offer.

- Volunteers are our superheroes.

Creating and protecting trails is a labor of love. We celebrate our volunteers – their passion, dedication, and leadership make the trails we all love possible.

- Respect is essential to success.

In our partnerships, we exercise the same courtesy we advocate for on the trail, and we strive to be a trusted source of information and expertise for the trail community.

- The right path is always a responsible one.

We take land stewardship seriously and approach every decision – whether we're out in the field or in our headquarters – with balanced judgment and firm conscience.

- Sustainability is fundamental to a healthy organization.

We will generate and raise an appropriate level of awareness and income to support the needs of the organization.

Membership

Our members include hikers, runners, walkers, riders, and outdoor enthusiasts of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds, united by a deep commitment to protecting the natural world and doing their part to make the trails we love possible.

Every dollar we raise goes directly to improving trail systems and protecting natural areas in the greater New York region.

Trail Conference membership has its perks!

- Discounts on Trail Conference maps and gear
- Members-only savings at outdoor stores and a variety of local businesses
- A subscription to our printed newsletter, The Trail Walker
- Invites to special events, hikes, and talks.

Learn more at www.nynjtc.org/membership

Whether you are new to hiking or are an experienced trail builder, get ready to roll up your sleeves at New York-New Jersey Trail Conference's Trail University

Trail University (called "Trail U" for short) gives outdoor enthusiasts the skills to help build and maintain trails. Thanks to people like you, the Trail Conference maintains almost 2,200 miles of trail in over 200 parks and preserves in New York and New Jersey.

Start off with an Intro to Trail Maintenance Workshop or try technical rock shaping, or learning to identify invasive plants. Trail U offers workshops for a variety of experience levels and interests.

Get out, be active, and give back to the trails you love. Enroll in a workshop at Trail U.

Trail U workshops are taught by professional trail builders and veteran volunteers, and welcome groups and individuals of all ages.



Check out our upcoming calendar of Trail U workshops at www.nynjtc.org/trail-u or contact us at volunteer@nynjtc.org

New York-New Jersey Trail Conference

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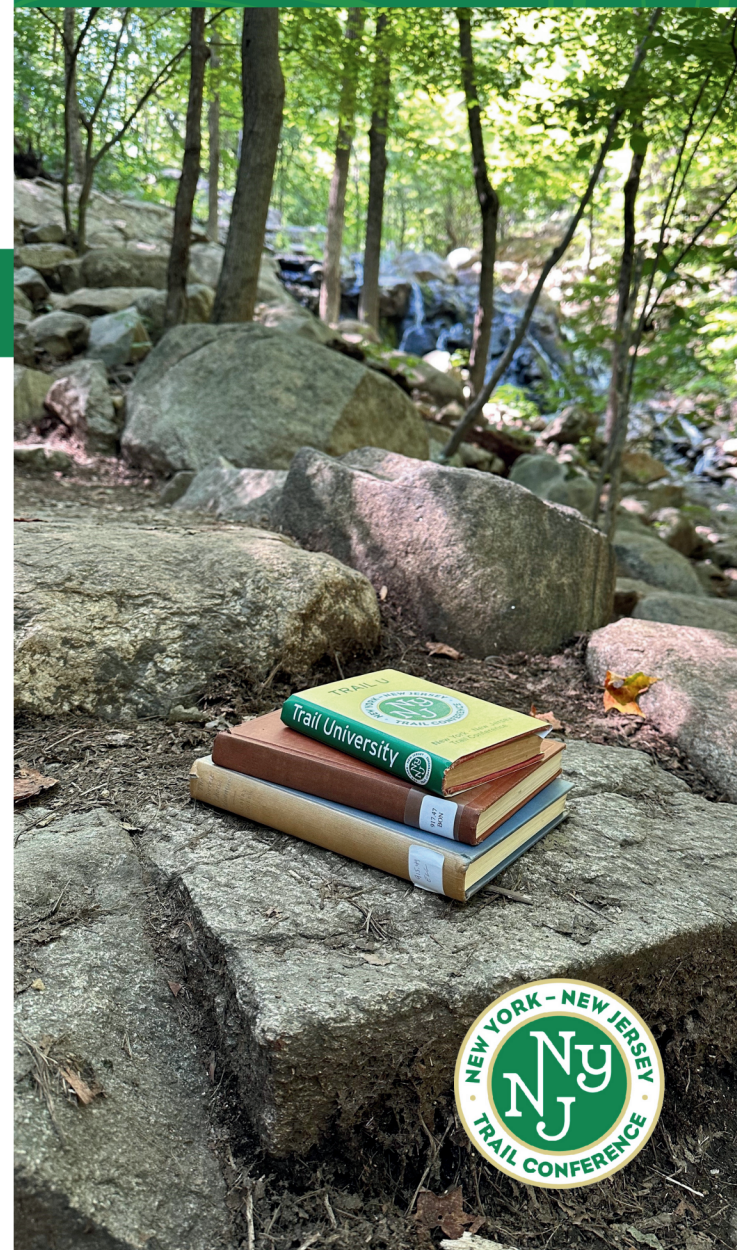
SUBARU DISTRIBUTORS CORP.

Subaru Distributors Corp. is a proud sponsor of Trail U and the Trail Conference.



TRAIL U

WORKSHOPS FOR HIKERS WHO WANT TO VOLUNTEER ON THE TRAILS.
TRAININGS AT SITES IN NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY.



If you choose to complete all the required workshops in a track, you will receive a Trail Conference patch and rocker declaring you are an expert in that field. For each additional track completed, you will receive a new rocker - some dedicated students will try to earn them all!



TRAIL U Curriculum



When you complete a track, simply contact volunteer@nynjtc.org to claim your well-earned patch as a reward. Use this checklist to keep track of what you've learned and note the workshop days you attended.

Expert Trail Builder

Core Classes (Complete All)

- ☐ Trail Layout and Design Date: _____
- ☐ Tread Construction and Repair Date: _____
- ☐ Trail Structures: Drainage Date: _____

Electives (Pick Two)

- ☐ Tool Maintenance and Repair Date: _____
- ☐ Rigging for Trail Work Date: _____
- ☐ Trail Structures: Native Stone Date: _____
- ☐ Non-Trail U NYNJTC Event Date: _____

Event Name _____

Expert Trail Maintainer

Core Classes (Complete All)

- ☐ Trail Maintenance Workshop Date: _____
- ☐ Invasive Plant Management Tips and Techniques Date: _____
- ☐ Eyes of a Trail Builder Workshop Date: _____

Electives (Pick Two)

- ☐ Graffiti Neutralization and Trail Closure Workshop Date: _____
- ☐ Tool Maintenance & Repair Date: _____
- ☐ Old Trails, New Systems Date: _____
- ☐ Non-Trail U NYNJTC Event Date: _____

Event Name _____

Expert Ecological Steward

Core Classes (Complete All)

- ☐ Trail Ecology Survey Workshop Date: _____
- ☐ Invasive Plant Management Tips and Techniques Date: _____
- ☐ Leave No Trace Awareness Workshop Date: _____

Electives (Pick Two)

- ☐ Invasives Strike Force Crew Removal Workday Date: _____
- ☐ Complete a Trail Ecology Survey Date: _____
Prerequisite: Trail Ecology Survey Workshop
- ☐ Guided Nature Walk with Trail Steward or Stewardship Staff Date: _____
- ☐ Non-Trail U NYNJTC Event Date: _____

Event Name _____