



Sample List of Events Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails Act and the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

On October 2, 1968, President Lyndon Johnson signed the National Trails System Act and the Wild & Scenic Rivers Act, establishing the two systems. Since then, 11 national scenic trails, 19 national historic trails, and more than 1,200 national recreational trails have been created. More than 12,000 miles of American rivers are designated as Wild & Scenic. Criteria for designation vary, and elements of the systems are stewarded by a variety of federal, state, and local agencies and nonprofit organizations. More information is available online about the [National Trails System](#) and the [National Wild & Scenic Rivers System](#) anniversaries.

In 2018, the 50th anniversary will be celebrated in countless places across the country, and visitors are invited to #FindYourWay to great trails and rivers throughout the year. Below is a small sampling of ongoing and future events to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the National Trails and Wild & Scenic Rivers systems, many of which are still in the planning stages. Throughout 2018, there will be too many events to list in one place, as countless trails, rivers, parks, and other public lands across the country host events and activities. Please visit the [rivers event map](#) and [trails event map](#) online for a full listing of local events.

All year [River](#), [Trail](#), and [Joint](#) Events

September 20-22 [Santa Fe Trail Association 19th biennial Rendezvous](#) history seminar will explore the theme, *Death on the Santa Fe Trail* through presentations by scholars, authorities on Trail history, re-enactors, and through living history presentations.

September 21-23 [Feather River Festival](#) -- California's biggest whitewater festival includes slalom and downriver races for all paddlers and premiers Rafting Magazine's Wild and Scenic River video contest winners. Contact Trevor Croft at Rafting Magazine at trevor@raftingmag.com.

- September 29 ***National Public Lands Day*** celebrates its 25th anniversary by focusing projects on rivers and trails under a theme of restoration and resilience. Contact Tony Richardson at the National Environmental Education Foundation at TRichardson@neefusa.org. Examples of National Public Lands Day river/trail events include:
- During Family Hiking Day, young emerging conservation leaders will lead interpretive and educational hikes for families along the Appalachian Trail in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.*
- In Big Thicket National Preserve in Texas, volunteers will clean up trash remaining from Hurricane Harvey and fix storm damage to the Beaumont Unit Waterway.*
- September-October ***Overmountain Victory National Historic Trail*** -- reenactments of a turning point in the American Revolution. Educational sessions offered along the trail.
- Fall 2018 ***Landscape Music: Rivers & Trails*** is a nationwide series of concerts highlighting and celebrating the significance of our national trails and rivers through musical expression. Contact Stephen Wood at the Landscape Music Composers Network at stephenwoodmusic@gmail.com.
- October 2 50th anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and National Trails Act! *Follow the Department of Interior on social media October 1-7 for seven days of rivers and trails and read their blog release on October 2. Tune in online to the American Rivers website for the full-length premier of the film [Run Wild Run Free](#).*
- October 2 ***ATPCT50*** - Join us as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the designation of our nation's first two National Scenic Trails: the Appalachian and Pacific Crest Trails. Watch the webcast! October 2, 2018, 2pm - 6pm EDT
- October 5-7 ***National Trails Festival*** - The Florida Trail Association invites all nature lovers and outdoor enthusiasts to come celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System Act, October 5-7 in Deland, FL. The Florida Trail is one of eleven designated national scenic trails that were spawned by this 1968 Act of Congress. Everyone's invited to drop in and check out these amazing public resources!
- October 6 ***AZT In A Day*** - On Saturday October 6, 2018, hikers, runners, mountain

bikers and equestrians will gather on the Arizona National Scenic Trail (AZT) to collectively complete the entire length of the 800-mile trail in a single day.

October 19-20 *The [El Camino Real de los Tejas Association](#) and the [National Park Service](#) will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National Trails System Act together with the City of San Antonio's 300th anniversary.*

October 22-25 *The [River Management Symposium](#) (contact Helen Clough at River Management Society at hcloughak@gmail.com) and [National Trails System Conference](#) co-locate in Vancouver, Washington, for a year-end anniversary finale.*

December 5 *[Author, historian and photographer Tim Palmer](#) concludes his year-long speaking tour of more than 50 cities nationwide in Belmont, Massachusetts.*

Watch the videos: <https://vimeopro.com/thinkoutloud/nps#findyourway>

Wild and Scenic Rivers
#makeyoursplash
[Learn more](#)

National Trails
#findyourtrail
[Learn more](#)

#FindYourWay: 50th Anniversary of the National Trails and Wild & Scenic Rivers Systems

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