

# Trail Marking and Monitoring

The authority for OCTA to mark trails on public and private lands comes through the Congressional legislation requiring the National Park Service to seek citizen involvement.

OCTA must obtain landowner approval to mark, whether the owner is public or private.

The executive committee of the board must pre-approve all trail marking undertaken for the chapter.

The chapter should follow all national guidelines for trail marking and monitoring. Please check the following link for specific information at the national level.

<http://www.octa-trails.org/preserve/training.php>

## NORTHWEST CHAPTER TRAIL MARKING POLICY

Adopted January 11, 2002

1. No trail markers other than Carsonite or Novalloy "pedestals" (as described in OCTA's national policy manual) shall be placed by the chapter until OCTA's national organization adopts a policy on the use and placement of other types of markers.
2. All trail marking conducted by the chapter shall be in strict accordance with OCTA's national policy-
3. Proposals to place markers other than carsonite posts shall be reviewed by the chapter's board of directors. Minimum information to be provided shall include:
  - a. A description of the marker or markers to be used.
  - b. The proposed location of each marker on a 1:24,000 USGS map (or equivalent).
  - c. The location of existing trail markers in the area to be marked.
  - d. Text to be included on the marker.
  - e. Copies of appropriate permits and permission for each marker (some permits and permissions may cover more than one marker).
  - f. Identification of controversial aspects of the marking (e.g., a "new route"), if any.
4. The names of living OCTA members shall not be included on any marker.

## PRESERVATION AND TRAIL MARKING OFFICER AUTHORITY

Trail preservation and Trail Marking officers are volunteers, appointed by the president and confirmed by the Northwest OCTA Board.

NW OCTA members who serve as local trail monitors and trail marking teams receive guidance in the performance of their duties from the appointed Preservation and Trail Marking officers.

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CHALLENGE COST SHARE PROGRAM/PROJECT (CCSP) GRANTS

*NOTE: No cost share grants are being awarded in the 2011 fiscal year because of the national budget limitations. It is unclear when the program will begin again.*

Begin by contacting the national association mapping and marking chair (see national organization chart) to let them know what your chapter would like to do.

Once the national association is aware of plans, it is possible to apply for Cost Share Grants by contacting Ms. Lee Kreutzer at the Long Distance Trails Office, [Lee\\_Kreutzer@nps.gov](mailto:Lee_Kreutzer@nps.gov).

Individuals doing mapping and marking should track their food, mileage and housing costs when working on a trail activity. This information is collected and sent to the National CCSP coordinator, Marley Shurtleff, [shurtgarymarley@comcast.net](mailto:shurtgarymarley@comcast.net), for submission to NPS. She will be able to help you with finalizing the report after you receive and assemble the individual receipts from people doing the trail marking.