River Town Review Toolkit

Appendix A
List of Resources for Communities

NPS-RTCA
Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program

As communities explore new opportunities to enhance outdoor recreation and tourism, the following list provides assessment tools, recommendations, guidelines and funding sources. This list of resources is the beginning of a journey to seek more information and it is not to be considered an all-encompassing list.

I.   Outdoor Recreation & Adventure Tourism

Trail Town & River Town Resources

Trail Town Program: Certified Network - Trail Town Program (trailtowns.org) and Trail Town Guide
Outdoor Towns: Toolkit and Resource Library (townsandtrailstoolkit.com)
Trail Towns - Northern Forest Canoe Trail
Trail Towns - Huron River National Water Trail (huronriverwatertrail.org)
Kitsap Peninsula Water Trails Paddle Routes - Kitsap Peninsula Water Trails
Pennsylvania Environmental Council's River Town Program
Monongahela River Towns
River Towns Program | Susquehanna Greenway
RiverTowns Program — Tennessee RiverLine (tnriverline.org)
River Towns Program | Susquehanna Greenway
Resources - River Network
Stewardship Program - Northern Forest Canoe Trail Stewardship program for waterway communities.
WNC: MADE X MTNS Launches Innovative Building Outdoor Communities Program - Mountain BizWorks. This place-based program is focused on capacity building, technical assistance, training, connectivity, and education for communities seeking to advance their outdoor economy goals.

Trail Town & River Town Resources … continued

A manual for communities along the North Country Scenic Trail [trail_town_manual_1.pdf (michigantrails.org)](trail_town_manual_1.pdf)

[Trail Town Program | Florida Department of Environmental Protection](Trail Town Program)

[The Essential Guide to Destination Tourism in Eastern Kentucky | SOAR (soar-ky.org)](The Essential Guide)

Parks and Trails, New York, [Empire State Trail Town Action Plan: Brockport 2022 (ptny.org)](Empire State Trail Town Action Plan).

[Trail Town | KMTA (kmtacorridor.org)](Trail Town | KMTA) An Alaska trail town program involving creating a long distance trail.

[Home - Trent-Severn Trail Towns (tswtrailtowns.ca)](Home - Trent-Severn Trail Towns). Trail town program along Ontario's Trent-Severn Waterway.

[Blue Water Trail Towns - St. Clair County Blueways Asset Inventory (bluewaysofstclair.org)](Blue Water Trail Towns). Trail town program involving Michigan communities on Lake Huron.

[Advancing Trails Webinar Series - American Trails](Advancing Trails Webinar Series)

Trail Towns - North Country Trail Association

[Boise River Greenbelt | City of Boise](Boise River Greenbelt)

[Boise River Greenbelt - Connecting Communities - YouTube](Boise River Greenbelt - Connecting Communities)

[2022 Greenbelt Map.indd (cityofboise.org)](2022 Greenbelt Map.indd)

[Civic Engagement - National Park Service (nps.gov)](Civic Engagement). Public engagement resources.

Pennsylvania Downtown Center. [Nature-Based Placemaking Program - PA Downtown](Nature-Based Placemaking Program)

Kentucky Trail Towns Guide & Workbook

[Kentucky Trail Towns v1.0 (kentuckytourism.com)](Kentucky Trail Towns v1.0)

[Kentucky Trail Town Program Workbook (kentuckytourism.com)](Kentucky Trail Town Program Workbook)

Destinations International – Variables Workbook

DNEXT_Online Diagnostic Tool Workbook 2017

Community Walkability & Bikeability

Walkability Score Get Your Walk Score

Bikeability Score [Bike Score Methodology (walkscore.com)](Bike Score Methodology)

[Pop-Up Bike Network Leads to Permanent Change (nextcity.org)](Pop-Up Bike Network). Temporary designated bike lane project in Macon, Georgia.

Walkability & Bikeability Assessment Tools

National Walkability Index [Smart Location Mapping | Smart Growth | US EPA](Smart Location Mapping)

[Healthy Communities: The Walkability Assessment Tool (udel.edu)](Healthy Communities)

[Walkability Assessment Tool | Planning for Complete Communities in Delaware (completecommunitiesde.org)](Walkability Assessment Tool)

Bikeability Checklist [bikechecklist1.ai (epa.gov)](bikechecklist1.ai)

Departments of Transportation Bike & Pedestrian Planning

Indiana [INDOT: Bicycle & Pedestrian Program](INDOT)

Kentucky [Bike Walk Kentucky | KYTC](Bike Walk Kentucky)

Ohio [Bike & Walk | Ohio Department of Transportation](Bike & Walk)

Project for Public Spaces. [Streets as Places Toolkit (pps.org)](Streets as Places Toolkit).

Public Bike Repair Station (Examples)

[Public Bike Repair Stand | Bicycle Repair Station | CycleSafe](Public Bike Repair Stand)

[Bike Repair Stations and Bike Pump Stations | Duo-Gard (duo-gard.com)](#)

Bike Rack (Examples)
[Bollard Post Bike Racks - Park Warehouse](#)
[Racer Bike Rack - The Park Catalog](#)

Mountain Biking

International Mountain Bicycling Association [Trail Accelerator Grants | IMBA](#)

Bicycle Touring

US Bike Route System [U.S. Bicycle Route System (USBRS) | Adventure Cycling Association](#)
Indiana Bicycle Suitability Map   [LRP_BicycleSuitabilityMap.pdf](#)
Kentucky Bike Routes [On Road Bicycle Routes and Events | KYTC](#)
Ohio US Bike Routes [Create A Map | ODOT TIMS (state.oh.us)](#)
Long Distance Cycling Routes: Economic Impacts, Best Practices, and Marketing Strategies [(usu.edu)](#)
Warm Showers   [Home | Warmshowers.org](#)

Heat Maps (Data Analysis Tools for Outdoor Recreation)
STRAVA Heat Maps [Strava Global Heatmap](#)
Map Line Heat Maps [Create a Heat Map in Seconds | Mapline Mapping Solutions](#)

Paddling

Ohio River Recreation Trail [Ohio River Digital Guide](#)
National Park Service [River Access Planning Guide](#)
[Images of Public Kayak Lockers](#)

River Safety

Ohio River Recreation Trail [Safety Tips — Ohio River Recreation Trail](#)
Ohio River Recreation Trail [On-Water Safety Guide](#)
US Coast Guard Float Plan Checklist [USCG Float Plan (cgaux.org)](#)
USGS Real time water data [USGS Current Water Data for the Nation](#) (waterdata.usgs.gov)
USGS Real time water data mobile version [USGS Mobile Water Data](#) (m.waterdata.usgs.gov)
Weekly Ohio River Water Quality Report   [orsanco.org/weekly-ohio-river-water-quality-report](#)
NOAA Live River Forecast Center [NOAA - National Weather Service - Water](#)

II.   Sustainable Tourism

USDA: Enhancing Sustainable Communities with Green Infrastructure
[Recreation Economy at USDA Economic Development Resources for Rural Communities](#)
[Rural Placemaking Innovation Challenge | Rural Development (usda.gov)](#)

The Outdoor Recreation Roundtable Rural Economic Development Toolkit
[Rural Development Toolkit – Outdoor Recreation Roundtable](#)

Solimar International [Solimar International | Tourism Marketing & Sustainable Tourism Consulting - Home](#)

Global Sustainable Tourism Council [Criteria, Standards, Certifications (gstcouncil.org)](#)

Adventure Travel Trade Association (This may be a great resource for river-based product development) [Global Network of Adventure Travel Tour Operators, Destinations, and Industry Partners](#)

United Nations World Travel Organization [Sustainable development | UNWTO](#)

The Travel Foundation [Home Page - Travel Foundation (thetravelfoundation.org.uk)](#)

Invisible Burden [Destinations at Risk: The Invisible Burden of Tourism - Travel Foundation](#)

World Travel and Tourism Council [(WTTC) | Travel & Tourism Representative Council](#)

Destinations International (A resource for DMOs and Chambers of Commerce) [destinationsinternational.org](#)

Destination Development Association [Destination Assessment Program (destinationdevelopment.org)](#)

National Recreation & Park Association Agency Performance Review [nrpa-agency-performance-review.pdf](#)

NRPA 2020 Engagement with Parks Report [2020-engagement-report.pdf (nrpa.org)](#)

Headwaters Economics [Home - Headwaters Economics](#)

Sample Survey from Township of Chatsworth, Ontario [Community Recreation Survey (surveymonkey.com)](#)

Additional Reports/Studies

[Innovative and Promising Practices in Sustainable Tourism](#) (viu.ca)

[Ten Principles for Responsible Tourism](#) (Urban Land 2015)

[Tools and Resources for Nature-Based Tourism](#) (worldbank.org)

COVID Management Tools

[Pandemic Toolkit](#) (PlaceMakers.com)

[Arts-and-Transportation-Rapid-Response.pdf (smartgrowthamerica.org)](#)
(Summary of creative solutions to COVID-related transportation challenges)

[How Can Destinations Resume Tourism After the Pandemic While Ensuring Sustainability?](#) (PlaceBrandObserver.com)

III.   Maintaining Small Town Character

Smart Growth Principles

[Smart Growth Principles - Smart Growth Online](#)

[Smart Growth Principles – Vermont Natural Resources Council (vnrc.org)](#)

[Smart Growth in Small Towns and Rural Communities | Smart Growth | US EPA](#)

[Framework for Creating a Smart Growth Economic Development Strategy: A Tool for Small Cities & Towns](#)

[National Main Street Program](#) (mainstreet.org)

[Kentucky Main Street Program - Kentucky Heritage Council](#) (heritage.ky.gov)

[Streetscape Design Guidelines for Historic Commercial Districts](#) (heritage.ky.gov)

Walkable Communities Library (walkable.org)

New Designs for Growth Development Guidebook (newdesignsforgrowth.com)

Downtown Revitalization in Small and Midsized Cities (planning.org)

A Handbook for Improved Neighborhoods (aarp.org)

Citizens' Institute on Rural Design (rural-design.org)

Home | The Benefits of Complete Streets

Soak Up the Rain New England Webinar Archive | US EPA

Additional Items to Consider

Project for Public Spaces The Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper Transformation of Public Spaces (pps.org)

Creative Exchange for the Arts Toolkits for Change Archives - Creative Exchange (springboardexchange.org)

Finding Nature News, Nature Blog | Children and Nature Network (childrenandnature.org)

Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights bring leaders, residents together - Children and Nature Network

Waste in Our Waters: A Community Toolkit for Aquatic Litter Removal   (rivernetwork.org)

IV. Grants & Funding Opportunities

Home | GRANTS.GOV

Funding Details: Foundation for Rural Service Community Grant Program - Rural Health Information Hub

Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants | The National Endowment for the Humanities (neh.gov)

T-Mobile Hometown Grant application HTG Application (custhelp.com)

Access + Stewardship Grants | onX Maps

View Opportunity | GRANTS.GOV

EDA American Rescue Plan Programs | U.S. Economic Development Administration

EJ4Climate: Environmental Justice and Climate Resilience (cec.org)

People, Parks, and Power: A National Initiative for Green Space, Health Equity, and Racial Justice | Prevention Institute

FY 2022 AmeriCorps State and National Public Health AmeriCorps | AmeriCorps

Federal Register :: Request for Applications: The Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program

Economic Development Integration | U.S. Economic Development Administration (eda.gov)

View EDA-HDQ-OIE-2020-2006705 | GRANTS.GOV FY2020 SPRINT Challenge Grant

Grassroots Grantmakers

[U.S. Department of Transportation Transit, Highway, and Safety Funds - Funding - Bicycle and Pedestrian Program - Environment - FHWA (dot.gov)](#)

[The Grant Plant, Inc. New Mexico (thegrantplantnm.com)](#)

[Office of Small Business Development Centers Resources (sba.gov)](#)

[Keep America Beautiful's Community Restoration and Resiliency Fund Application Survey (surveymonkey.com)](#)

[The Home Depot | The Home Depot Foundation - Team Depot Community](#)

[Shade Structure Program (aad.org)](#)

[Community Facilities Direct Loan & Grant Program | Rural Development (usda.gov)](#)

[Community Impact | Waste Management (wm.com)](#)

[Online Funding Tool | Play and Recreation Funds | PlayCore](#)

[Grant Opportunities, Fundraising Resources, Funding | National Recreation and Park Association (nrpa.org)](#)

[Recreational Trails Program Project Database (recreationaltrailsinfo.org)](#)

[Thrive Outside - Outdoor Industry Association](#)

[Bicycles and Pedestrians | US Department of Transportation](#)

[Applications Now Live for the Citizens' Institute on Rural Design (rural-design.org)](#)

[Save America's Treasures (U.S. National Park Service) (nps.gov)](#)

[Equitable Funding Hub | City Parks Alliance](#)

[Funding Parks and Trails Through Land Trust Partnerships | City Parks Alliance](#)

[Community Change Grants | AmericaWalks.org](#)

[Mini-grants | Celebrate Urban Birds](#)

[Community-Based Participatory Research Technical Assistance Grants - River Network](#)

[Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities 2020 Request for Letters of Interest | Smart Growth | US EPA](#)

[Six Unique Trail Funding Solutions - American Trails](#)

[Q Community Grant | Quality Bicycle Products (qbp.com)](#)

[Six Grants for Trails and Greenway Funding (permatrak.com)](#)

[State and Local Grant Funding - **Land and Water Conservation Fund** (U.S. National Park Service) (nps.gov)](#)

Indiana [DNR: Land and Water Conservation Fund (in.gov)](#)

Kentucky [Kentucky DLG - LWCF Grants](#)

Ohio [Land and Water Conservation Fund | Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ohiodnr.gov)](#)

V.   Organizations

Adventure Cycling Association [Discover What Awaits | AdventureCycling.org](#)

American Trails [AmericanTrails.org](#)

American Rivers [Rivers Connect Us](#) (americanrivers.org)

American Canoe Association   [ACA | Canoe - Kayak - SUP - Raft - Rescue (americancanoe.org)](#)

City Parks Alliance [About Us | City Parks Alliance](#)

International Journal of Wilderness [Foundation and Future of Long Distance Trails | IJW.org](#)

National Recreation and Parks Association [(nrpa.org)](#)

National Recreation and Parks Association   [2021EngagementReport.pdf (cloudinary.com)](#)

Partnership for the National Trails System [(pnts.org)](#)

People for Bikes [PeopleForBikes | Every ride. Every rider. Join us. (peopleforbikes.org)](#)

River Management Society   [(river-management.org)](#)

River Network [Mission, Vision, Values - River Network](#) (rivernetwork.org)

Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals [Technical Resources (recpro.org)](#)

VI. Community Assistance Programs

National Park Service

[Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA)](#)

- A national network of conservation and recreation planning professionals that partner with community groups, nonprofits, tribes, and state and local governments to design trails and parks, to serve and improve access to rivers, protect special places, and create outdoor recreation opportunities
- Free technical planning assistance is available for Communities and non-profit organizations through an application process

[Directory of National Park Service Community Assistance Programs](#)

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

[Smart Growth Technical Assistance Programs | Smart Growth | US EPA](#)

- Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities
- Cool & Connected
- Governor's Institute on Community Design
- Greening Americas Communities
- Healthy Places for Health People
- Local Foods, Local Places
- Recreation Economy for Rural Communities
- Smart Growth Implementation Assistance
- Smart Growth Implementation Assistance for Costal Communities
- Special Smart Growth Technical Assistance Projects

[Environmental Justice Grants, Funding and Technical Assistance](#)

US Forest Service

Shared Stewardship Programs

- Forest Legacy
- Forest Stewardship
- Community Forest
- Ecosystem Markets
- Wood Innovation
- Urban and Community Forestry
- Forest Health Protection
- Landscape Scale Restoration
- Forest Taxation and Estate Planning

[How the Forest Stewardship Program Works | US Forest Service (usda.gov)](#)

US Fish & Wildlife Service
Division of Partner & Intergovernmental Affairs
- Rural Fire Assistance
- Small Wetlands Program
- Landscape Conservation Design

Several other programs are available. Please visit the website and type "*List of Programs*" in the Search Box.

USFWS - Division of Partner and Intergovernmental Affairs

National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
Active Programs
- Acres for America
- Bring Back the Natives
- Conservation Partners Program
- Five Star & Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program
- National Costal Resilience Fund
- Resilient Communities Program
- Bats for the Future Fund
- Monarch Butterfly & Pollinators Conservation Fund

Programs | NFWF.org

US Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Technical Assistance | NRCS (usda.gov)

Rural Development Programs & Services

Programs & Services | Rural Development (usda.gov)

Strategic Economic & Community Development
Strategic Economic and Community Development | Rural Development (usda.gov)