

Program Funders

Alcoa	Hillcrest Garden Club	Regional Trail Corporation
American Canoe Assoc.	Jewish Healthcare	REI
American Eagle Outfitters	Jewish Healthcare	Rosensteel Photography
Allegheny Reg. Asset Dist.	Laurel Foundation	Seagate Technology
Bally Design	Pittsburgh Marriott	Sierra Club
Birmingham Foundation	Mellon Foundation	St. Margaret Foundation
Broudy Printing	National City Bank	Steel Ind. Heritage Foundation
Dasani Corp.	National Velo Inc.	Garden Club Allegheny County
Columbia Gas	Norman Ray Trust	Thomas Gigliotti Photography
DCED	Oxford Athletic Club	Trizilla
DCNR	Pfaffmann Associates	Visit Pittsburgh
Forest City Enterprise	Pitt Ohio Express	Western Pa Watershed Protection
Fox Chapel Dist. Assoc.	Pittsburgh Optimist Club	500 Members of FOR

Strategic Plan

Friends of the Riverfront (FOR) began the process of examining its mission and activities in June of 2005. The strategic planning process created a forum for the organization listen to its constituents, board of directors and key staff. The result of this six month effort is a relevant, achievable and measurable strategic plan – one that positions FOR for the future. While FOR continues to fine-tune the strategies to meet its new goals and objectives under each program area, we will proceed with focused attention on projects in three areas: Stewardship, Land Trail Development and Usage, and River Trail Development and Usage.

Program Partners

Allegheny County
Allegheny Land Trust
Allegheny River Enterprise Zone
Allegheny Trail Alliance
Baldwin Borough
Bike Pittsburgh
City of Pittsburgh
Fox Chapel District Association
Lawrenceville Corporation
Millvale Borough
PA CleanWays of Allegheny County
Penn DOT
Pennsylvania Environmental Council
Piranha Sports
Pittsburgh Cares
Sharpsburg Borough
Steel City Rowing
Steel Valley Trail Corporation
Three Rivers Rowing
Verona Borough

Board of Directors

Mark Bibro ~ *Chair*
Robert Gangewere ~ *Vice-Chair*
Dave Wright ~ *Secretary*
Jeff Swensen ~ *Treasurer*
Tom Armstrong
Andrew Baechle
Alyssa Dolney
Alan Hertzberg
John Lichter
Judith Melvin
Damon Rhodes
Selena Schmidt
Scott Yochum

Staff

Thomas Baxter ~ *Executive Director*
Kyle Helal, ~ *Program Associate*
Kitty Brunkhorst ~ *Microtime 2*
Neil Semmel ~ *Piranha Sports*
Elizabeth Kribel ~ *Intern*

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Increase awareness and engagement with the Pittsburgh region's rivers and riverfronts through activities, stewardship and expansion of water and land trails.

Annual Report ~ 2006



For over a decade, Friends of the Riverfront (FOR) has worked on the ground and in the water to protect and restore our region's priceless rivers and riverfronts. We are a pioneering organization that was involved in creating nearly all of the trails you see as you bike, hike, rollerblade, or paddle along our beautiful shores. Through intense collaboration with community partners, government officials, and a diverse volunteer base, our rivers and riverfronts are transformed from industrial wastelands to international examples of environmental renewal.

Heritage Trail Care and Stewardship

Accomplishments

- Riverfronts Naturally program engaged over 800 individuals for at least 3 hours each of volunteer labor along the riverfronts and trails removing rubbish/recyclables tending to native planting scheme at 14 locations along the three Rivers.
- Implemented Riverfronts Naturally License Agreement with the City of Pittsburgh, Baldwin Borough and Millvale Borough ensuring the ability of Friends of the Riverfront to engage volunteers in meaningful stewardship of the riverfronts and trails.
- Completed the restoration of the flood damaged South Side Riverfront Park and trail including pavilion, picnic tables and native riparian plants.



Looking Ahead

- Continue to build on the success of the Riverfronts Naturally stewardship program by engaging additional individuals, community groups and organizations along the riverfronts and trails.
- Work with municipal leaders to research the possibility of an adopt-a-mile program for trails.



Events & Activities to Promote Land & Water Trails

Accomplishments

- Successful launch of the Community Bike Program with the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy and Dasani Corporation.
- Hosted over 600 local and international athletes for the Pittsburgh Triathlon & Adventure Race, an officially USAT sanctioned athletic competition.
- Distributed over 12,000 Three Rivers Heritage Trail Guides to our members and public users of the Three Rivers Heritage Trail system.



Looking Ahead

- Continue to maintain and upgrade the Community Bike Program and offer this free service to a wider demographic.
- Grow the Pittsburgh Triathlon from 600 participants to over 1,000 through additional management provided by Piranha Sports, host the National Junior Elite Race.
- Engage new individuals and organizations to grow membership base.
- Distribute 15,000 copies of the Three Rivers Heritage Trail Map and Activity Guide as a free service to the public.



Three River Heritage Trail Development

Accomplishments

- Complete the 10-1 Segment, the missing link along the South Side Trail including planting of over 500 native trees.
- Engineering and design of the Carrie Furnace Trail between the already existing Duck Hollow Trail and Braddock.
- New look and updated publication of the Three Rivers Heritage Trail Map and Activity Guide.



Looking Ahead

- Design and engineering of the final segment of the Great Allegheny Passage on the South Side Trail.
- Continue partnership with PennDOT to design/build a dedicated and permanent trail along the Allegheny River adjacent to Washington's Landing connecting the City of Pittsburgh and Borough of Millvale.



Three Rivers Water Trail Development

Accomplishments

- Completion of the Verona Three Rivers Water Trail Landing in partnership with Steel City Rowing.
- Completion of the Station Square Three Rivers Water Trail Landing in partnership with Forest City Enterprise.
- Design of the 4th Street Three Rivers Water Trail Landing, located on the South Side in partnership with the City of Pittsburgh.



Looking Ahead

- Construction of the 4th Street Three Rivers Water Trail Landing
- Design and engineering for three additional access sites of the Three Rivers Water Trail system.
- Complete mapping of all Three Rivers Water Trail Landing sites and potential access sites for development of a designated water trail guide.

