



rails-to-trails
conservancy

Checklist for Getting Started on Your Trail or Greenway Project

The following checklist will help you gather information to create a vision for the trail or greenway project. For more detailed information about getting started, read "**Secrets to Successful Rail-trails.**"

What type of corridor will the trail or greenway follow?

- Railroad corridor
- Utility corridor
- River valley
- Other

If it is a railroad corridor, what is the status of the railroad corridor?

- Active railroad
- Tracks still in place, but not used
- No visible tracks, but not officially abandoned
- Corridor officially abandoned

Who owns the right-of-way?

- Railroad still in possession
- Government entity
- Multiple owners
- Business

What natural attributes does the corridor possess?

- Body of water (what type)
- Meadow
- Mountain
- Forest
- Other

What does the corridor connect to?

- Towns (how many)
- Schools
- Public buildings, ie. library, government offices, etc.
- Museums/historical societies
- Hotels/B&B
- Neighborhoods
- Parks
- Retirement Homes
- Businesses (what types)
- Other

What interesting structures and history does the corridor have?

- Bridges
- Tunnels
- Native American history
- Colonial history
- Railroad history
- Other

What other interesting features does this corridor possess?

- Endangered species
- Important archeological sites

Are there any features that make trail use or development difficult?

- Highways crossings
- Erosion

Key parts of corridor have been developed into other uses. If the corridor is still used by an active railroad, is there a part of the corridor that is too narrow to accommodate a trail paralleling the train?

- Encroachment on the right-of-way by adjacent landowners
- Other

Who are the potential trail advocates? (See the section on developing an advocacy organization for more information.)

- Bicycle groups
- Equestrians
- Boating or other water-related sporting groups
- Schools
- Local governments
- Land trusts
- Bird watchers
- Railroad enthusiasts
- Businesses looking to improve quality of life for their employees
- Youth-oriented organizations
- Environmental organizations
- Neighborhood organizations
- Senior citizen organizations