

**SIGN INSTALLATION REQUEST FORM
FOR THE GREAT ALLEGHENY PASSAGE**

(New or Replacement)

Organization requesting new sign: _____

Contact person: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Location(s) - please include the nearest town, GAP mile marker and GPS coordinates, if possible.

Type of Sign (see attached list) _____

What is the need for this sign? _____

Is this replacing an existing sign? YES NO

Permanent Sign type(s) _____

(please see the sign type attachment)

Temporary Sign type(s) _____ How long will the sign be posted: _____

Specifications: (Size, material, style, # of sides). Please reference the ATA Sign Guidelines Manual.

Who will maintain this sign? _____

These signs will follow the standards or best practices as recommended by the ATA Sign committee.

Please attach a picture or draft of the design of the proposed sign, as a pdf or jpeg.

Signature of requester _____ Date _____

PLEASE SUBMIT APPLICATION TO THE APPROPRIATE ORGANIZATION:

Mountain Maryland Trails: Cumberland to the Mason-Dixon Line – Mile 0 – 20.6
301-876-9595 or email: aworkman@alleganygov.org

Somerset County Rails to Trails Association/ P&R: Mason-Dixon Line to Confluence - Mile 20.6 - 62
814-445-1572 or email: baerl@co.somerset.pa.us

Ohiopyle State Park: Confluence to Connellsville - Mile 62 - 88
724-329-8591 or email: kbisbee@pa.gov

Regional Trail Corporation: Connellsville to Pittsburgh - Mile 88 - 141
724-872-5586 or email: tompetrus@regionaltrailcorp.org

Friends of the Riverfront: City of Pittsburgh – Mile 141 - 148
412-488-0212 x 3 or email: kelsey@friendsoftheriverfront.org

Point State Park: Western Terminus of the GAP - Mile 148 - 148.8
724-579-5540 or email: jweiland@pa.gov

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TO BE COMPLETED BY THE LOCAL TRAIL ORGANIZATION - Comments and recommendations:

Approval Signature of **Local Trail Group** _____

Please print name: Title Date

Approval Signature of the **Land Owner** _____

Please print name: Title Date

Not Approved **INSTALLED** - Date _____

A copy of this completed, signed application will be sent to requesting individual or organization and to the GAPC by the land owner and will be kept on file at the GAP Conservancy's office.

TYPES OF TRAIL SIGNS

1. Mile marker

Mile markers enumerate the mileage of the trail system, and may be for the GAP, or for a trail that shares the route. These do not include old Railroad mileposts. Permanent, granite, GAP miles marked were installed in 2016. The GAP miles are numbered from east to west, i.e. from Cumberland (Mile 0) to the Pittsburgh Point (western terminus).

2. Regulatory or Warning

Regulatory signs instruct trail users to perform specific actions at a location, like 'STOP' signs, or warnings or alerts to trail users about conditions such as road construction. Keep left (or right) signs on the narrow trail around Sandcastle is another example.

3. Rules and Regulations

Rules and Regulations are written lists of rules, or signs with broadly applicable instructions or prohibitions, like "No Motor Vehicles" or "Trail Closes at Dusk."

4. Safety and Emergency Information

Directions or information for EMS or police for emergency situations.

5. Trail Name and Logo

Identify the trail-sponsoring group. Naming groups that manage part of the Great Allegheny Passage such as the Steel Valley Trail Council (SVTC) or the Youghiogheny River Trail Council (YRTC) are examples. Westmoreland Yough Trail Council has developed signs that could be a model. Sign can possibly incorporate invitation to donate or join the group.

6. Informational

Informational signs give supplementary, complementary, or visual or complex information: maps, volunteer and donor credits, and are usually placed on bulletin boards and kiosks. Donor credits attached to a structure, such as a bench, wall or bridge are an example.

7. Trail Services & Amenities

Alert trail users to upcoming towns or amenities along the trail, and may include directional arrows and mileage. Water trail access points should be clearly marked.

8. Advertisements

Often placed on bulletin boards and kiosks, but also seen arbitrarily attached to telephone poles, fences. They need to be monitored for relevance and out of date information.

9. Interpretation

Heritage Interpretation signs are typically a combination of text and images in a fiberglass panel mounted in a kiosk, or on a National Park Service style frame and base. They give interpretive information on geography, nature, history, or local town information.

10. Special Features

Signs about natural objects, locations, artwork (murals, sculptures), and sites on or near the trail. The Continental Divide site is an example.

11. On-road Wayfinding

Wayfinding signs direct walkers, cyclists and motor traffic to trail access areas. “Trail Parking” signs near a trailhead is a typical need.

12. Trail blazer signs

Defining a sign

Typically, one distinct panel equals one “sign.” But two or more sign panels can share a single mounting location. Attaching multiple signs to one available mount (such as a clipping to a chain link fence, attaching a second sign beneath the first, clarifying information, or stapling to a wooden power pole) easily leads to clutter.

A totem displaying the trail name and logo in vertical format is a sign.

Some effective single signs have multiple purposes (naming the trail, and giving directions, or emergency telephone numbers), but are still one unit.

Paper or plastic posters with essential information relevant to the trail are signs. They are usually placed on a bulletin board or kiosk to minimize clutter.

TRAIL AMENITIES

Benches, pavilions and any other structure added along or at a trail head along the GAP. All amenities should be consistent with other existing amenities along the GAP.