



Ozark Trail Association

December 18, 2019

'Tis the Season

To all of our OTA friends, supporters, and volunteers,

Thank you for an amazing year of giving back to a trail we all love! Your

support from boots on the trail to financial assistance is overwhelming and humbling to say the least. Very few trail organizations can say that they maintain a multi-use, National Recreation Trail and partner with multiple agencies as the OTA does. This past year was one of huge successes, as well as disappointments, but the overall health of the OTA and the future of the Ozark Trail continues to be very promising! From completing the 14-year trail project, a vision of John Roth and many others, to renewing our emphasis on trail maintenance, especially involving tread restoration throughout the Ozark Trail. Future developments include marking road routes to connect sections, further expansion as a water trail, along with collaboration with the Ozark Highlands Trail Association connecting at the border at Norfork Lake. The holiday season is a perfect time for all of us to reflect on our blessings and seek out ways to make life better for those around us. Our sincere thanks for your loyalty and wishes of good will throughout the coming year.





VOLUNTEER ON THE OZARK TRAIL

We are always looking for volunteers. Whether you're a master of the McLeod or have never done a day of trail work in your life, we hope you'll join us in building and protecting the OT!

The Ozark Trail Association is an all volunteer-based organization and there are always opportunities for individuals, families, groups, and organizations to participate. Each year, we organize volunteer trail maintenance and construction projects that range in length from one to multiple days. No experience is necessary to join us on these projects - just a willingness to work hard and get dirty.

Our **Adopt-A-Trail program** is the perfect opportunity for those looking for a more sustained way to support the OT. Trail adopters "adopt" their own section of trail. Pledging to visit and maintain it at least three times a year.

And if trail maintenance isn't your thing, there are still plenty of ways to get involved! We always need help around the office with things like fundraising, social media, power equipment and tool maintenance. Our outreach and education committee offers opportunities for a range of community outreach work. You can get involved with spreading the news about the OTA and the OT.

If you have a particular skill to offer or just wish to help out, please get in touch with us by contacting volunteer@ozarktrail.com. Some tasks can even be done from your home in the comfort of your armchair!

VOLUNTEER



A special thank you goes out to the **L-A-D Foundation** for their generous grant to the Ozark Trail Association! The OTA recently received a financial gift from the L-A-D grants committee to produce section maps.

**Mark your calendars!
January 29th, 2020**

Plan to *join us* as we tell our story to Missouri state legislators in Jefferson City. There will be brief training in the morning before meeting with members of the MO House and Senate. Please meet us at the Capitol and share your passion for the Ozark Trail!



OT Challenge Hike

In 2020, we will hold the 4th annual OT Challenge Hike. This event is our biggest fundraiser of the year and will be held the weekend of May 1-3. If you are interested in participating please *email us* for more information.



Trivia Night

It's that time of year again!! Don't forget to put it on your calendar and join us at the Elks Lodge at Heege and McKenzie in Affton on Saturday, Feb 8th. If you'd like to reserve a table or donate an item for the silent auction, please *contact Don*.



Stocking Stuffers

Check out the *online store!* From the Ozark Trail Guidebook to trail maps to t-shirts, patches, stickers, hats, and souvenirs, we've got you covered when it comes to the Ozark Trail! Get your orders in by 12/18 to be received by Christmas.

Give a gift. Help build a legacy.



Upcoming Events

December 28-29: OTA House Clean-Up

December 30-31: Winter Paddling Clinic

January 1: First Day Hike

January 3-5: Sinking Creek Maintenance

January 25: "3 Fs" Rain Date

For details about these events and to see all scheduled outings, plus sign up, click [here](#).

I'd like to make a tax-deductible donation to help the OTA fulfill their mission!

DONATE

I'd like to become a member or renew my membership with the Ozark Trail Association!

MEMBERSHIP



*The Mission of the Ozark Trail Association is to **develop, maintain, preserve, promote & protect** the rugged, natural beauty of the Ozark Trail*



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