

Bob's Trails, Trees & Gardens



Trail Assessment & Consulting
Trail Design & Construction
Trail Bridge Construction
Grant Consulting

Call Bob to discuss your trail project at 615-210-1932.

Bob Richards developed a passion for nature and trails early in his childhood where the “woods” were at the end of the street six houses away. His passion grew in the Boy Scouts where he earned the 200 miler merit badge. His achievement included hiking 70 miles of the Appalachian Trail in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Bob graduated with a B. S. in Forestry from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville campus. Working with the State of Tennessee after graduation, Bob built trails at Falls Creek Falls State Park. Then he developed the extensive trail system at Savage Gulf National Area.

Since then, Bob has worked with local, state and federal agencies, and non-profit groups on greenway and trail design, development, operations, management and maintenance. This includes parks and recreation facilities and natural resource management. His responsibilities included federal Recreational Trails Program oversight, managing state and federal grant programs with development of grant applications, preparing budgets and project scopes, project management and onsite inspections of grant projects. He oversaw \$20 million in grant funds awarded, contracts executed, and projects either completed or under way.

Bob is recognized for his creative ideas when developing partnerships in order to find funding for park and trail projects.

He is certified as a Master Trail Builder by Trail Design Specialists, Inc., a Certified Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP), and has been a Certified Playground Safety Inspector (CPSI). He is an experienced trainer for trail construction and maintenance workshops and develops trail assessment and maintenance plans.

Knowledgeable in the 2013 Final Accessibility Guideline requirements for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Outdoor Developed Areas and Trails, Bob provides guidance and on site assistance for facility compliance.

CURRENT PROJECTS

Private Landowner, Sevierville, TN

- Design and construction of 1.5 miles of UTV trail

Legacy Park Foundation, Knox County, TN

- Accessible Trail Bridge, 24' long x 5' wide

Aspire Park, Clinton, TN

- Trail Construction of 0.8 mile Green Trail
- Built 2 - 24' long x 4' wide bridges

Henry Horton State Park and Frozen Head State Park

- 2 Trail bridges, 24' long x 5' wide

“Throughout the past ten years, we have consulted each other several times on trail systems development ideas and the positive impacts trails have had in Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and Kentucky. His breadth and depth of understanding of trails and trail programs such as the federal Recreational Trails Program (RTP) far exceeds anyone I have ever met... I consider Bob Richards the guru on trails and give him my highest recommendations.”

Debby Spencer

President at WMTH Corporation

“Bob has demonstrated strong skills in moderation of a statewide greenways and trails advocacy group. He has shown tireless concern for Tennessee’s counties both large and small and has responded quickly to local needs as they have arisen. His ability to communicate effectively in large and small group setting is well proven.”

Dan Reese

Independent recreational trail consultant and planner for state and local governments and non-profits.

“I had the privilege of working with Bob Richards on two significant projects that showcased his expertise in trail design and accessibility.

When I coordinated the construction of a 350 foot long, 5 foot wide ADA-compliant nature boardwalk at Beaman Park, Bob’s extensive knowledge of accessibility guidelines and trail development was invaluable in ensuring a functional and inclusive design. Bob was the volunteer general contractor for this project working with the Friends of Beaman Park group, park staff and numerous volunteers.

Later, as an independent consultant, I assisted Bob with the project scoping and designing a park trail for a Memphis non-profit entity, where his creativity and practical experience in optimizing trail layouts made a lasting impact.

Beyond his technical skills, Bob is a generous mentor, always willing to share his knowledge and enthusiasm for creating sustainable and accessible outdoor spaces. His guidance and leadership continue to inspire those working to enhance parks and trails for all to enjoy.”

Chris Guerin

Outdoor Recreation Specialist /
Independent Trail Consultant

**CONTACT BOB
FOR A FREE
CONSULTATION**

Bob’s Trails, Trees & Gardens



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