

Trails for everyone, *forever*



2018 *annual report*



Thank you to our community for providing the passion and support that will allow us to ensure there are trails for everyone, forever.

Powered by hikers like you, Washington Trails Association is mobilizing everyone who loves the outdoors to explore, steward and champion trails and public lands. From building new trails to shaping land management decisions and inspiring new adventures, in 2018 you helped protect the places we love.

Thank you to the more than 19,497 people whose financial support made so much possible in 2018.

This page: Rainy Pass.
Photo by Michael Kim.
Cover: Glacier Vista,
Mount Rainier.
Photo by Sophia Tolentino.





Youth Ambassador Ingrid Phillips wants to help break down barriers to the outdoors by introducing a new generation to hiking. Photo by Britt Lê.

Engaging Explorers — Fostering Community and Building Connections

Thousands of hikes and more than 23,000 trip reports are just the surface of what people connected with when they explored wta.org in 2018. Thanks to you, hikers were inspired to try new adventures, came together over shared experiences and explored new ways to keep our public lands safe and accessible. You allowed WTA's outstanding youth ambassadors to go above and beyond. Together they presented to more than 2,000 peers and community members about WTA and contributed a jaw-dropping 1,543 hours of service to protect trails.

Sharing hiking with a new generation



It is always great to hear them laughing and talking. These hikes are more than just learning opportunities; they are a chance to decompress from busy fourth grade life. By teaching them to hike, hopefully they will be prepared for a lifetime of spending time outdoors.

— **Ingrid Phillips, youth ambassador**, reflecting on her service project leading Twin City Elementary School students on monthly hikes to discover the wonders in their backyard.

Accomplishments:

7,875

people shared their local trail knowledge via 23,000 trip reports.

1,085

youth volunteer experiences.

2,053

total outdoor experiences were supported by our Outdoor Leadership Training program. We provided clothing and equipment to support more than 100 outdoor adventures for youth and family groups.



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We volunteer with WTA trail crews to spend time in the outdoors and rub shoulders with so many good and dedicated people. We contribute financially to WTA because we see the organization's successes first-hand.

— Cliff and Pauline Cantor

Volunteer Assistant Crew Leaders Cliff and Pauline Cantor on their volunteer vacation in the Paysayten Wilderness. This was one of 102 backcountry trips lead by WTA in 2018. Photo courtesy of Cliff and Pauline Cantor.



Inspiring Stewards — Improving Our Trails

Your dedication enabled WTA to celebrate the 25th anniversary of our volunteer trail maintenance program last year. What began as an idea to support land managers in the age of declining budgets has grown into the nation's largest statewide volunteer trail maintenance program. In 2018 alone, nearly 5,000 people donated 171,000 hours to keep our trail system safe and accessible. Thanks to our members and volunteers, this model continues to be recognized as an innovative and successful public-private partnership. Our trail maintenance program has brought people together, taught hikers new skills and provided WTA with the expertise and authority to help shape trail policy and planning conversations.

Lost Trails found — just in time.

Another devastating fire season threatened our already struggling backcountry trails, but your dedication brought trails back from the brink. You helped 50 key backcountry trips deliver much-needed maintenance and clear the way for thousands of hikers throughout the state. We opened backcountry connections that provided vital alternative routes for Pacific Crest Trail hikers when fire closed two critical sections of the PCT in the Goat Rocks and Pasayten wildernesses in 2018.

Accomplishments:

250 trails
improved across the state.

\$4.9 million
in donated labor to
our public lands.

30 miles
of new trail
opened up.





WTA advocates sent more than 3,400 postcards welcoming Glenn Casamassa, the new regional forester for the Pacific Northwest, encouraging him to prioritize recreation. Together we demonstrated the power and passion of Washington's hiking community.

Empowering Champions — Shaping the Trail System of the Future

More than 53,600 strong, our activist network is shaping the future of trails and recreation policy in our state. In 2018, WTA worked with lawmakers to commission a study to demonstrate the value of recreation. Thanks to your support, these findings will highlight the positive impacts that hiking and biking have on health, as well as the local economy. This research will make it easier for WTA and decision makers to build the case for investing in recreation in Washington.

From planning to pulaskis:

You have given trails in the Teanaway a jump start this year. Support from hikers helped shape the 15-year vision and recreation plan for the Teanaway Community Forest. This effort laid the groundwork for exciting new hiking experiences. Your support for this area is amplified by corporate partners like REI, as well as numerous community organizations. In fact, 300 of REI's leadership team volunteered to kickoff trail-building efforts in the Teanaway. This trail network will eventually connect local communities via hiking, biking and more.

Accomplishments:

WTA brought partners together to collaborate in the Pasayten Wilderness and plan the restoration of the Boundary Trail.



Washington Trails Association has created an engaged community that loves trails and the outdoors in Washington. That is no easy feat and it has led to some great things for our state's trails. REI is proud to partner with such an influential organization.

— Kristen Ragain, philanthropy & community partnerships manager at REI Co-op



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WTA does so much to keep trails accessible, while balancing a focus on sustainability. I am proud to be a member because I see how much work gets done.

— Maggie Oliver, WTA member

Photo by Grace Guenther.

Looking to the Future of Trails

Our members and supporters continue to inspire us. You've stepped up time and again to demonstrate that hikers are the key to ensuring there are trails for everyone, forever. With the support and excitement of our community, we will continue to address the problems facing our trails and create a trail system that will stand the test of time. We will do this by supporting trails from the backcountry to your backyard, protecting the trail network on the whole, while also highlighting a few priority places that need a little extra TLC. These priority places will be shining examples of what is possible when we come together to protect our trails and public lands. We believe that everyone should have access to enjoyable hiking experiences. We are so thankful for our community for helping us create opportunities and remove barriers for getting outside.

Thank you to our donors who make this work possible. See the list at wta.org/2018supporters



Financial Information

In 2018, WTA was able to invest in organizational growth thanks to several transformational gifts to support implementation of the strategic plan. These gifts, as well as strong annual revenue performance over several years, enabled WTA's board and staff leadership to approve a growth strategy that includes added investment in key programs and the launch of new strategic initiatives to WTA's work going forward.

Financial Statement

Total Assets **\$7,641,196**

Total Liabilities **\$348,871**

Unrestricted Net Assets **\$3,884,421**

Temporarily Unrestricted Net Assets **\$3,407,904**

Total Net Assets **\$7,292,325**

Condensed Statement of Activities

Revenue	Dec. 31, 2018	Dec. 31, 2017
Membership	605,777	587,771
Donations and Grants	2,910,862	4,043,893
Trail Maintenance	909,021	782,402
Interest and Other Income	64,587	322,411
Change in Value, Long Term Assets	(340,241)	316,217
Total Revenue	\$4,150,006*	\$6,052,694

*WTA recognizes the full value of multiyear pledges in the year they are confirmed.

Expenses

Program Services	3,985,648	3,388,959
General and Administrative	371,751	320,448
Fundraising	692,200	500,129
Total Expenses	\$5,049,599	\$4,209,536

Changes in Net Assets

Unrestricted	(494,481)	1,131,280
Restricted	(589,212)	711,878

Total Changes in Net Assets **(\$1,083,693)** **\$1,843,158**

Net Assets

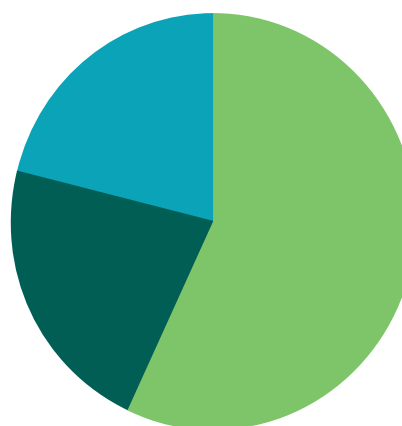
Beginning of Year **\$8,376,018** **\$6,532,860**

Net Assets

End of Year **\$7,292,325** **\$8,376,018**

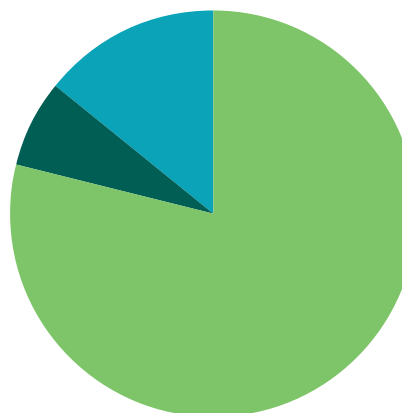
Financial information has been derived from Washington Trails Association's financial statements, audited by Peterson Sullivan LLP. Visit wta.org for the most recent audited financial statements.

Sources of support 2018



Individuals **57%**
Grants & Corporate Support **22%**
Contracts and Fees **21%**

Expenses 2018



Program Services **79%**
Fundraising **14%**
General & Administrative **7%**

Board of Directors

President | Susan Queary

Secretary | Ken Myer

Treasurer | Geoff Martin

VP, Philanthropy | Matt Martinez

VP, Board Development | Mike Dunning

VP, Advocacy | Jenny Faubion

Directors at Large

Andrea Baines • Bruce Burger • Ethan Evans • Ashley Fontaine
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Charlie Lieu • Titti Ringstrom • Arun Sambataro • Mason White



Thank you for your support

