

County Planning Connection December 2022 News

Southeast Michigan Regional Trails Summit

Southeast Michigan's local government officials and staff, recreation providers and representatives from trail organizations and friends groups are encouraged to attend the **Southeast Michigan Regional Trails Summit** on Thursday, December 8, 2022, from 9:30 am -12:00 am. at the SEMCOG Office, 1001 Woodward Avenue, Detroit.

Trails bring many economic benefits to local governments and businesses, and contribute to a high quality of life with the outdoor experiences they provide. The Southeast Michigan Regional Trails Summit is an opportunity to learn more about funding opportunities and innovative partnership ideas to support trails in our local communities. The Trails Summit is hosted by the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) and the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance (MTGA). The event supports the work of Michigan Trails Southeast; a regional initiative to connect more people with trails, connect gaps in the trail network, and connect local communities and trail organizations with funding and capacity resources to support their work.



The agenda will include:

- Keynote speakers on the value of trails and best practices for maximizing them;
- A panel discussion with public and private funding sources for trails;
- Opportunities to share about your community's trail progress, challenges, or priorities for the future, and;
- Networking with other stakeholders in our regional trail system.

Use the following link to register for the Trail Summit: https://loggedin.semco.org/IMIS_SEMCOG/Events/Event_Display.aspx?EventKey=ADHC120822&WebsiteKey=346ba721-3255-4fb4-9ea6-899d0eb35a62

Livingston County Solar Farm Tour Article

Alex Haddad, Communications Director of the Graham Sustainability Institute of the University of Michigan, recently interviewed Rob Stanford, Principal Planner with the Livingston County Planning Department. Rob was interviewed about his participation in the MAP/MSU/Graham Institute training and bus tour regarding alternative energy, which inspired his efforts to lead a similar tour in Livingston County to educate local government leaders and demystify alternative energy solutions.

The link to the article follows:

<https://www.michigan.gov/egle/newsroom/mi-environment/2022/11/09/planners-tour-of-renewable-energy-projects-spurs-further-learning>

About the Graham Sustainability Institute: In partnership with MSU Extension, the Graham Sustainability Institute developed the Solar Energy Systems Guidebook to help Michigan communities become solar-ready by addressing solar energy systems within their policies and regulations. <https://www.canr.msu.edu/planning/uploads/files/SES-Sample-Ordinance-final-20211011-single.pdf>