**Trail Partner Program Announced**

Would you like to see your Rapid City trails cleaner and safer? Would you like to have a voice in how we manage our trails? Would you like to have a voice in developing new trails within the City? Then you will enjoy being a part of the Volunteer Trail Partner Program? The Rapid City Parks and Recreation Department is looking for dedicated volunteers, 18 years of age or older, who enjoy Rapid City’s trails and who are willing to invest some time and energy in a rewarding volunteer effort.

**As a member of the Volunteer Trail Partner Program, you’ll be expected to:**

- Spend a specified minimum number of hours per month or per year patrolling City trails at times, dates, and locations of your choosing (the number of hours differs among each volunteer)
- Attend meetings of the group
- Obtain initial and periodic training as required and scheduled

Rapid City includes over 20 miles of trails within its parks and many additional miles of trails that connect parks and outlying areas. These trails include multiple-use (bicycle / pedestrian) trails as well as trails designed for use by visitors with limited mobility. Members of the Trail Partner Program will be able to walk, bike, or in some cases use small Park vehicle while on patrol.

If you are interested in this program please call the Parks and Recreation administrative office at 394-5225 and partner with us to make our trails and parks even better than they already are.
The purpose of the Volunteer Trail Partner Program is to assist the Rapid City Parks and Recreation Department in the safe, effective management of parklands. In addition, the Trail Partner Program will promote safe and proper park and trail use by all visitors within the City Parks. Partner members will also provide park visitors with educational information and park staff and/or public safety personnel information regarding park, trail or safety issues requiring their attention. Trail Partner members will strive to achieve and maintain a positive interrelationship between different visitor groups, and present a professional image.

**Responsibilities of the Trail Partner will include:**

- Assisting Parks and Recreation professionals in preserving the safety of park and trail users
- Educating park and trail users about
  - City resources, facilities, and programs
  - safe and courteous use of City trails and other resources
  - informing visitors of City rules and regulations
- Observing and reporting
  - damage to park resources or facilities
  - potentially unsafe conditions
  - incidents involving park visitors or trail users
  - violations of City rules and regulations
- Fostering positive relationships among various park and trail user groups
- Reporting police, fire, or medical emergencies along the trails
- Assisting City professionals in preserving the safety of the City's plant, animal, geological, historical, and archaeological resources
- Assisting in clean up activities
- Assisting with special City public events, including traffic control, parking, and education