



National Pike Trail Council

Membership Agreement & Conflict of Interest Policy- *Revised August 2026*

1. Purpose of Agreement

This Membership Agreement defines the relationship between the National Pike Trail Council (NPTC) and its members and is intended to be consistent with the NPTC By-Laws. Membership supports the development, preservation, maintenance, and promotion of the National Pike Trail and the purposes of the Council.

2. Membership Qualifications, Categories, and Dues

- Individual - \$15.00 annual dues
- Family - \$25.00 annual dues
- Club or Organization - \$50.00 annual dues
- Supporting - \$50.00 annual dues
- Corporate - \$50.00 annual dues
- Honorary - Gratis

3. Member Rights and Authority

Members have the rights granted by the NPTC By-Laws: to vote and be counted toward a membership quorum; to be eligible for election to the Board of Directors; to initiate petitions to the Board; and to otherwise participate fully in Council activities. Members may vote in person or by written proxy. Membership alone gives no individual member authority to bind, contract for, spend funds for, make commitments on behalf of, or represent the NPTC unless specifically authorized under the By-Laws or by the Board of Directors.

4. Member Obligations

A member must sympathize with the purposes of the Council, pledge to uphold the NPTC By-Laws, and pay the required dues. When participating in Council activities, members shall follow applicable Council policies, safety requirements, and authorized directions. Committee members act only within committee authority: committees investigate and make recommendations to the Board and may not represent the NPTC in advocacy of or opposition to a project without specific Board confirmation.

5. Volunteer Participation and Permission for Grant Reporting

By signing this agreement, members authorize the National Pike Trail Council to collect and report volunteer hours for programs including the Recreational Trails Program, the Federal Highway Administration, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and the Local Share Account Grant Program.

6. Liability, Safety, and Assumption of Risk

Members participate in volunteer and trail activities subject to applicable NPTC policies and safety requirements. Nothing in this Agreement changes rights, duties, protections, or liabilities established by the By-Laws or applicable law.

7. Stewardship Standards

Members are encouraged to support the Council's purposes by preserving and protecting the natural resources and history of the rights-of-way and supporting their development for public recreational use.

8. Privacy and Communication

Member information will be used for official Council purposes, including membership administration, communications, volunteer coordination, and grant compliance.

9. Membership Status and Dues

Membership is established upon satisfaction of Article V qualifications and payment of the required dues. Membership categories and dues are governed by the By-Laws.

10. Conflict of Interest Policy Acknowledgment

Members acknowledge receipt of the National Pike Trail Council's Conflict of Interest Policy. Persons to whom the Policy applies are responsible for complying with its requirements.

11. Agreement and Signature

By signing below, the Member acknowledges the qualifications, obligations, rights, and limitations of authority stated above, agrees to uphold the NPTC By-Laws, and acknowledges receipt of the Conflict of Interest Policy.

Member Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____
Membership Category: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Conflict of Interest Policy of the National Pike Trail Council

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY OF NATIONAL PIKE TRAIL COUNCIL

Article I - Purpose

The purpose of the conflict of interest policy is to protect this tax-exempt organization's (Organization) interest when it is contemplating entering into a transaction or arrangement that might benefit the private interest of an officer or director of the Organization or might result in a possible excess benefit transaction. This policy is intended to supplement but not replace any applicable state and federal laws governing conflict of interest applicable to nonprofit and charitable organizations.

Article II - Definitions

1. Interested Person — Any director, principal officer, or member of a committee with governing board delegated powers, who has a direct or indirect financial interest.
2. Financial Interest — A person has a financial interest if the person has, directly or indirectly:
 - a. An ownership or investment interest in any entity with which the Organization has a transaction or arrangement,
 - b. A compensation arrangement with the Organization or any entity with which the Organization has a transaction or arrangement,
 - c. A potential ownership or investment interest in, or compensation arrangement with, any entity or individual with which the Organization is negotiating a transaction or arrangement.
 - d. A financial interest is not necessarily a conflict of interest unless determined by the governing board.

Article III - Procedures

1. Duty to Disclose — Interested persons must disclose the existence of a financial interest.
2. Determining Conflict — After disclosure, the remaining board or committee members determine if a conflict exists.
3. Addressing Conflict:
 - a. The interested person may present information but must leave the meeting during deliberation and voting.
 - b. Alternatives must be considered.
 - c. The board must determine whether a better option exists without the conflict.
 - d. The board decides whether the proposed arrangement is fair, reasonable, and in the Organization's best interest.
4. Violations — The board may investigate and take corrective action if a member fails to disclose required information.

Article IV - Records

Meeting minutes must record:

- a. Names of persons with financial interests and actions taken.
- b. Names of persons present, discussion details, and voting records.