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Press Release

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JUNE 4TH TRAIL MIX(ER) HIGHLIGHTS SYCAMORE ISLAND ON ALLEGHENY

PITTSBURGH, PA – (May 11, 2011) Friends of the Riverfront (FOR) will host this year's Trail Mix(er), celebrating their 20th Anniversary, on Saturday, June 4 from 5 -11 p.m., at Steel City Rowing Club in Verona; and there's something special in the water. Attendees of the event will have the unique opportunity to take a kayak ride to explore nearby Sycamore Island.

Sycamore Island, acquired by Allegheny Land Trust (ALT) in January 2008 with funding from the Colcom Foundation and Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, ensuring it will remain protected forever. Sycamore Island hosts a unique floodplain hardwood forest – among the most rare plant community types globally – and is one of the last undeveloped islands in Allegheny County.

The Colcom Foundation also provided support for developing the Management Plan. The Management Plan provides ALT with specific scientific findings and suggested recommendations for the best use of the island. These recommendations focus on providing safe, interesting and educational access to the island for the public including designs for a low impact trail that allows visitors to experience the internal spaces of the island without harming the unique habitat.

Pre-event kayak and pontoon boat trips to Allegheny Land Trust's Sycamore Island—are available from 3 - 6:30 p.m., and are included with ticket purchase.

Admission is \$50 per ticket, \$35 with a valid student ID, or \$15 Late Night from 9 – 11

p.m. Tickets can be purchased through the secure website www.friendstrailmixer.com. All proceeds will support Friends of the Riverfront trail development, advocacy and stewardship efforts.

Friends of the Riverfront increases awareness and engagement with the Pittsburgh region's rivers and riverfronts through activities, stewardship and expansion of water and land trails. For more information, go to www.friendsoftheriverfront.org or call 412.488.0212.

Since 1993, Allegheny Land Trust has protected 1,500 acres in 22 municipalities in Allegheny and Washington counties. ALT was awarded national accreditation from the Land Trust Alliance Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance. ALT is one of only 130 nationally accredited among the 1,700 land trusts in the United States. To learn more about Allegheny Land Trust visit www.alleghenylandtrust.org or call 412-741-2750.

Steel City Rowing Club in Verona is a non-profit organization devoted to developing the strength and character of individuals of all backgrounds through the discipline and teamwork of rowing and through opportunities to serve others. For more information, go to www.steelcityrowing.org or call 412.828.5565.