

October, 27
2008

Fall
Newsletter

President's Letter *By Cammie Scully*



CEDAR TRAILS PARTNERSHIP
Fall Newsletter

Of all the seasons to be out on the bike trails—in my mind—Fall is the best! Cool, crisp air, wonderful changing colors. I hope by the time this newsletter reaches your mailbox that there is still time to catch the show! In a meeting this morning I was reminded that we now have 87 miles of trails in our community. What other community in Iowa can boast that many trails! And in the very near future there are plans to expand those trails—watch for our progress! This summer has been a challenge with floodwaters shortening the season, but Waterloo and Cedar Falls have both actually been lucky and have not sustained the damage that the Cedar Valley Nature Trail has experienced. Most of the trails have been cleaned and cleared and are ready for use again. Only one of the Trails Festival events had to be cancelled due to flood damage this summer and next summer we will be back in full swing so mark you calendars now for August 6-9 to participate.

If you are interested in becoming involved in the Cedar Trails Partnership—there are many ways to



Cedar Trails Partnership

participate.

There is the trail patrol, the festival committee, assisting with clean up in the spring or joining the Cedar Trails Partnership board. You may call the Cedar Falls Tourism and Visitors Bureau at 268-4266 or the Waterloo Convention and Visitors Bureau at 233-8350 to get involved.

If you would like to assure the future of the trails, you may contribute to the Cedar Trails Partnership endowment fund held at the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa—for information call one of the above numbers.

A Reminder: Be Safe On The Trails

If you are reading this, you are probably a user of the recreation trails system of which we are so justifiably proud of in Black Hawk County. If so, getting the most enjoyment out of the trail means knowing the proper trails etiquette. Remember **you are not alone out there**; there are other individuals using the trails for different reasons.

Ride, Walk, or Skate To Your Right: leave room for others to pass on your left

Courtesy Takes Precedence: Ride, walk, or skate in single file on the right when you meet others or are being passed. Respect and do not walk over X-country ski trails.

Stop Off The Trail: Signal your stop by saying “stopping” or something similar so others behind you know your intentions. Remember not to block the trails when stopping.

Call Out: Whether bicycling, skating or running call out a warning to others when you are passing them from behind or when you meet them. “Passing on your left” “thank you” are good things to say. *Be especially careful when passing children because they may become startled and swerve in front of you*

Keep Dogs On A Leash At All Times: keep dogs from wandering out in front of other trail users

Inside This Issue

13 th Cedar Trails Festival a Success	2	Trails Festival Seeks Chair Person	6
City Trail Updates: Cedar Falls	3	The CTP Grant Program	6
City Trail Updates : Waterloo	3	Sidewalks are not Trails	7
City Trail Updates :Waverly	4	Treasures of the Katoski Greenbelt	8
Cedar Trails Patrol	5	Update-Cedar Valley Nature Trail	9
CTP Endowment	5	Your CTP Board of Directors	10
The Perfect Gift	5	Continue to be a Member	10

13th Annual Cedar Trails Festival a Success *By Susan Lewis*

Mother Nature made this year's festival a challenge. Not knowing which parks and trails would be available for the festivities or if the flooding was indeed over, the committee was left to plan as best as they could, understanding things could change at any time.

Thursday's opening ceremony was at the Hearst Center for the Arts in Cedar Falls, where participants got a chance to view the past works of our great friend and artist, the late, John Heidersbach and meet his family. The 2008 Festival started with a walk on the very unique "Glass Trail" which started from the Hearst sculpture garden.

Because of the damage done by the flooding in most of the trails, our trails committee had to make the hard decision of canceling the Senior Cruise for safety reasons.

The Dog Walk was again a success, participants had the opportunity to bring their dogs or walk dogs provided by the Cedar Bend Humane Society. During this event, participants learned the importance of sharing the trails with other trail users.

Our new ride this year, the Bridge to Bridge ride, in downtown Waterloo was quite enjoyable, we had great attendance and participants enjoyed ending their ride at Main Street's Friday'loo event.

The Bike Rodeo and Tour de Valley rides took place on Saturday morning carrying on the tradition of being such great family biking events.

For the first time in 13 years we had to cancel the "Light Up the Night" Ride when a sudden downpour doused the luminaries making impossible to change and re-lite all the luminaries.

On Sunday, the Poker Ride counted with over a 100 attendees, that had the opportunity to enjoy a beautiful day visiting several area business and tourist attractions along the Cedar Valley to collect their poker hands. Everyone who participated went home with a door prize donated by local businesses.

The planning committee would like to say thank you to all the sponsors and volunteers that made this festival a great success. The festival committee will start to meet again soon to plan for 2009. We are always looking for new members. If you love the trails this would be a great way to participate in something that gives back to the trails and your community. If you are interested, let me know with an e-mail to susan@waterloocvb.org or by calling 233-8350.

The Cedar Trails Festival would like to express many thanks to all our sponsors, volunteers and all of you who participated in the festival despite the adverse times. Thank you for your support:

Hearst Center for the Arts

Waterloo Conventions and Visitors Bureau, and the Cedar Falls Tourism Bureau

Bike Tech

Friendship Village, Western Home, Allen Hospital and Cedar Falls Lutheran Home

Taylor Veterinary Hospital

Scheel's All Sports

Europa Cycle and Ski, and The Cedar Falls Jaycees

Mulligan's, Starbucks

CV Sports Commission

Cold Weather Running Tips

Layer up: Avoid cotton or other natural fibres, there are many synthetics/microfibres that wick away moisture and keep you dry -Start with a light short- or long-sleeved t-shirt and add a mid-weight layer or shell. You can buy light, mid-weight, and heavy-weight inner layers.

.-Once the weather turns cool, a shell is a must. You'll want one that breathes well and provides cover for the inside layers. A good shell keeps wind out and warmth in.

City Trail Updates

Cedar Falls *By Bob Morgan*

Cedar Falls Bike-Friendly Task Force Progress

The summer's flooding put a crimp in everyone's plans, including the Cedar Falls Bike-Friendly Task Force. We had hoped to have a pilot project put in place by now, but the flood recovery efforts, obviously, had to have first priority for the City.

Still, the Task Force, which was formed by Mayor Crews to make Cedar Falls a more bicycle-friendly community and encourage more utilitarian cycling, has moved forward on several fronts.

The pilot project has been identified. Striped and unstriped bike lanes and signed bike routes will be developed on portions of Seerley Boulevard, College Street, Clay Street, and 18th Street to make bike-friendly corridors between College Hill and Downtown Cedar Falls.

The Task Force, with funding help from the Cedar Trails Partnership, has contracted with the Chicagoland Bicycle Federation and Iowa Bicycle Coalition to develop a master plan for a bike-friendly Cedar Falls. This plan will incorporate the "5 E's" approach:

- * **Engineering** - on-road facilities and bike routes
- * **Education** - bicycle-driving courses for all ages
- * **Encouragement** - incentives for bicycle commuters and utilitarian cycling
- * **Enforcement** – greater awareness of cyclists' responsibilities as well as cyclists' rights
- * **Evaluation** – measuring the effects of the program on bicycle usage in the City.

The effort has already borne fruit, earning the City an Honorable Mention status from the League of American Bicyclists' Bike-Friendly Communities program.

Waterloo *By Noel Anderson*

From our last update, many facets of the construction of the Riverfront Renaissance is very visible. This will create a large looped system (The River Walk Loop) through Downtown Waterloo from 1st Street to 18th Street. The overall goal of the Riverfront redevelopment is to increase the quality of life amenities for citizens and visitors to the Waterloo area, as well as increase the overall connectivity of the trail system.

Under construction:

The first portion of the River Walk Loop is complete from East 18th to East 6th Street. The trail has some scenic areas for learning about the Rath Packing Plant history, and some boulders, benches, etc. for convenient shaded rest areas as well. This is a portion of the American Discovery Trail traveling easterly through Evansdale.

The River Walk Loop construction underway right now, from Park Avenue to Mullan Avenue, will connect into the new trail along the Cedar River through Cedar Bend/Exchange Park that has been funded with grant funding, and connect into the River Road trail which goes behind the Cattle Congress site and connects into the Sherwood Park area. From Sherwood Park, the connection into the Greenhill trails is also accessible.

The first half of the dam is hoped to be completed by December, allowing for continued trail / River Walk area, through the heart of Downtown Waterloo. The dam improvements will work to bring back recreational activities to the Cedar River (adding approximately 4' of navigable water to river). This includes the sluice gate design for the dam improvements project, which would allow for a potential kayak run course through the area in the future when funding becomes available. The sluice gate should also allow for better river flow and potential scouring that will work to keep the Cedar River available for recreational uses.

2009 construction – River Walk, 6th to 18th Street (south shore of Cedar River). River Walk, Mullan to 6th Street (north shore of Cedar River). This will also include some portages along the north side of the Cedar River to allow water trail users, canoeists, etc. the ability to traverse through the Downtown Waterloo area by exiting the Cedar River upstream of the two dams, and re-enter right along the water front in those same areas, downstream of the dams. This works with the overall Black Hawk County water trail system that is being developed by several groups and entities.

City Trail Updates *cont...*

Waterloo *By Noel Anderson*

The River Walk Loop will create a vital route for allowing trail users and downtown visitors a scenic and accessible view of the Cedar River. It also works to allow alternative routes for bicyclists, who may still use the designated trail along Highway 218 for faster riding through the downtown area, while having the pedestrian traffic along the River Walk Loop itself.

The City has also created a new trailhead with a shelter at Idaho Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. This site would allow users of the MLK trail a good starting point for a leisurely ride in this area.

Under construction:

The Donald Street Trail is under construction with portions done from Brinker Lake and heading easterly to the Broadway / Burton intersection. The trail is under construction heading north to Donald Street all the way east to the Highway 63 intersection. The new Allen Hospital expansion will be linked into the trail system, and the upcoming redevelopment of the Highway 63 Corridor will create a trail southerly from Donald Street back downtown. Both of these trails create much needed links towards an eventual large loop with the MLK Drive trail portion.

The City is also working on a \$250,000 State Recreational Trails Grant for a new trail segment heading southeasterly from the 18th Street Bridge area, along the south side of the Cedar River, to the Riverview Recreational Area. The Riverview Area has been a long-term project for redevelopment for more recreational amenities including boating docks, an ATV course, and some lake features. This trail will help to add another scenic trail through a wooded area along the riverfront, while also opening up another trailhead for area users to bring their cars.

Coming:

The City continues work on the Shaulis Road extension from Ansborough to Highway 21. The preliminary design plans show a trail along this new road connection, slated for late 2009 - early 2010. City staff has also been working on a trail connection along the San Marnan Corridor, and where it should be placed to serve the future growth of this area, as well as trail users in southern Waterloo. As the areas along the San Marnan corridor are now being developed west of Tower Park, a trail route is included in the platting and development process. The City is working to connect that new trail being developed through the VGM office area, through the Country Club Business Park, and west to Kimball through the Tower Park office complex. The long-term goal is connectivity to the Crossroads area and Shaulis Road system.

Waverly *By Tab Ray*

Waverly Rail Trail News

The Waverly Rail Trail Work Day was held Saturday, September 25. Tree trimming and clearing debris was the tone of the day. Stopping work at noon, the volunteers met at the Sub City on Bremer Avenue to enjoy a 3' party sub contributed by the Friends of the Trail Group.

The Waverly Rail Trail has just completed correcting the approaches to the trail bridges. Over the years, settling made for rough access on and off the bridges. Now with the new asphalt, the bridges are a smooth transition from the trail. Efforts are in the works to hold the first Fall Candle Light Walk on the Waverly Rail Trail.

The event is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, November 1. It will feature 600-700 luminaries along the trail for about 1.5 miles from the downtown area to the bon fire turn around area where hot chocolate will be available.

Participants may either walk, blade, or cycle. Watch for dates and times in the local media. We are debating whether to have the candlelight cross country ski event. 2007 was the first year in the last 8 that there was perfect weather for skiing. Set up and take down in the cold weather is difficult for the volunteers. We will decide after the fall candlelight event.

Cedar Trails Patrol *by Brent Johnson*

The Trail Patrol has been busy lately making themselves visible (with our bright safety yellow shirts) at events both big and small.

Cedar Valley residents and visitors were likely to see us at recent events such as the Park to Park half marathon/5K, the Peregrine Charities Triathlon, and Cedar Falls' Halloween on Main Street, just to name a few.

We've rescued the lost, aided the injured, directed traffic, and helped kids cross busy streets safely.

Are you interested? We're already starting to think about 2009 and how we can help to make the trails even more safe and friendly.

Contact Brent at biketech@cfu.net or 319-266-5979 to find out more.

Interested in Cross Country Skiing? Although Cross Country Skiing definitely lives up to it's reputation as the "world's best aerobic workout", newcomers should not be frightened by images of sweating figures struggling through the wilderness. Cross Country Skiing can be as easy as a pleasant glide through a neighborhood park...or it can be the best overall fitness experience of your life. Go at your own pace, pick a destination, and off you go. That's all there is to it!

CTP Endowment *By Mary Jones*

End of the year tax planning is here. As you are crunching the numbers, please keep in mind making a charitable gift to the Cedar Trails Partnership Endowment Fund through the Community Foundation of NE Iowa. Your gift will ensure that our trails in the Cedar Valley will continue to be the best in the nation for years to come.

In addition, a gift to the Cedar Trails Endowment Fund the Endow Iowa legislation offers taxpayers the opportunity to apply for a 20% Iowa state tax credit in addition to the normal charitable income tax deductions. \$2 million in tax credits per year has been set aside to distribute on a first-come, first-served basis to those who make a gift to a permanently endowed fund at a qualified community foundation to benefit Iowa charitable causes. (Note: Maximum \$100,000 tax credit on \$500,000 gift per tax payer, per year.)

Contact the Community Foundation of Waterloo/Cedar Falls and Northeast Iowa at (319) 287-9106 for more information about this incentive to build endowments for the long-term benefit of our communities.

Previous Cedar Trails Festival posters, T-Shirts and CTP socks are still available at the Cedar Falls Tourism and Visitors Bureau. Surprise a friend. Why Not!

Looking for the perfect gift?

Give a friend, or a family member the gift of yearly Cedar Trails Partnership membership, a pair of great socks, along with some vintage poster of the Trails Festival. The best part of this gift is that while you are making that friend or family member happy you are supporting your local trails. That is right! All the proceeds go to enhance and maintain our trails. If you are interested in purchasing the **Trails Gift** please contact the Cedar Falls Tourism and Visitors Bureau 319-268-4266 or toll free 800-845-1955. CTP Sox are also still available at Bike Tech, Downtown Cedar Falls.

Cedar Trails Festival Seeks' 2009 Event Volunteers & Chairperson

The Cedar Trails Partnership is seeking 2008 event volunteers and committee members to help plan the 2008 Trails Festival.

Anyone is welcome to be a volunteer or committee chairperson/member. Our festival is scheduled to be held August 8-10, 2008 and meetings are usually scheduled once a month to plan and discuss ideas for the upcoming festival. If you are looking for an opportunity to be active in your community, volunteer, build your resume or share your expertise and ideas on how to make this event even better, please come to one of our meetings. Your help is needed to continue providing the best trail related event in the state of Iowa.

By mail: **Cedar Trails Partnership**
6510 Hudson Road. Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

By phone: **Cedar Trails Partnership**
Phone: 319-268-4266 or toll free 800-845-1955

Picture of the Month Contest:

Want to win a surprise prize once a month??

All you have to do is e-mail your favorite Metro-Trail picture to www.cedartrailspartnership.org and include your **name, address,** and a ****valid email address** (this is how we will contact you if you win) and be selected by the CTP Board of Directors.

Maximum of 3 pictures submitted per month. All pictures will become property of the Cedar Trail Partnership. *Prizes will be communicated via e-mail and are subject to CTP vote.*

Partnership Grants Program Seeking Proposals *by Bob Morgan*

Partnership Grants Program Seeking Proposals

The Cedar Trails Partnership is inviting applications for financial aid for projects that will:

- expand or improve the recreational trail system
- maintain the trails to the highest obtainable standards of safety, beauty and utility
- promote the trail system as a recreational resource and a vacation and tourism destination, or
- educate trail users in trail etiquette and safe trail use

Grants of \$500 - \$10,000 may be requested, to be used as primary funding or as match money for other funding sources. The application deadline is January 15, 2009. Grant application details can be found at <http://www.cedartrailspartnership.org/>.

The CTP Grants are awarded periodically with funds generated by the Cedar Trails Festival, CTP membership dues, and other activities. Past grants have been used for such things as trail renovation, a drinking fountain, wayside signs, a trail sweeper, a scenic overlooks, prairie landscaping, and a 911 trail emergency system. Grants will be awarded in March, 2009.

For more information regarding to the CTP Grant Program please contact us

Cedar Trails Partnership:

6510 Hudson Road

Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

319-268-4266 or 800-845-1955

Walking is...**Green**

walking is not just good for you; it's good for the local and global environment too. It helps to make the city's streets and trails more people-friendly by reducing noise and fumes.

Try walking on our trails, you have 87 miles of paved trails to chose from. (that is without the numerous soft trails that we have within our local and State Parks)

Sidewalks are NOT Bike Trails *by Bob Morgan, League of American Bicyclists Cycling Instructor*

Contrary to what you might think, it's not safe to ride a bicycle on the sidewalk. Virtually every bicycle crash study has shown that the sidewalk is the most dangerous place to ride, not the safest.

In 1996, University of Washington professor Bill Moritz compared crash rates on different types of facilities and devised a Relative Danger Index (RDI) based on the number of miles traveled and the number of crashes on those facilities. The higher the RDI, the more dangerous the facility. Professor Moritz found that the RDI for bike lanes was .41. For sidewalks, the RDI was 16.34. The extrapolated crash rate per million kilometers of travel was 26 crashes in bike lanes, compared to 1,026 crashes on sidewalks.

The only danger sidewalk-riding avoids is the chance of being hit from behind by a motor vehicle – the least-common type of bike crash. Riding on sidewalks actually increases the possibility of every other type of crash.

Why are sidewalks hazardous to bicyclists? First off, they're very narrow, typically only four feet wide. That's not a lot of room for a bicycle, especially when it's traveling at 12-20 miles an hour, the speed most adult cyclists maintain. If something - a pedestrian, an animal, or a car in a driveway - suddenly pulls in front of a bike on the sidewalk, the cyclist is forced off the sidewalk, onto ground that may be soft, rough, or crowded with shrubs and trees and other obstacles. Sidewalk surfaces are uneven and often cluttered with stones, sand, wet leaves, or other detritus that can cause a fall. The faster a cyclist is traveling, the more likely a surface defect will cause a crash. In areas where there's a lot of pedestrian traffic, bicyclists on the sidewalk not only endanger themselves, but the pedestrians - especially in downtown areas, where people can suddenly emerge from a door, right into a bicyclist's path.

And then there's the problem of motor vehicle traffic crossing the sidewalks - a larger problem than you'd think, actually. Drivers don't generally look for traffic on the sidewalks. Their attention is focused on the road, where they expect other vehicles to be. Think about it: do you scan the sidewalk in both directions when you turn a corner in your car? Of course you don't! You look for other cars, not some bicyclist cruising down the sidewalk. For that matter, do you always check the sidewalk when you pull into or out of a driveway? The sidewalk cyclist, moreover, is probably watching the sidewalk for bumps, holes, loose gravel, or litter - and not paying enough attention to traffic on the street, particularly traffic that may be turning across the sidewalk. And, if there are parked cars between the sidewalk and the roadway, both the car driver's and the bicyclist's view of each other may be blocked.

According to one study of bike/car crashes, a cyclist on a sidewalk is four times as likely to have an intersection-type crash with a motor vehicle than a cyclist riding on the road. A cyclist riding on the sidewalk against the direction of traffic is seven times more likely to have a car/bike crash at an intersection. (Those intersection dangers hold true for riders on "sidepaths" – the separated bike trails that run next to a street, like the Greenhill Road Trail, the Lone Tree Road Trail, and the Washington Street Trail. Cyclists should be especially cautious at trail/street intersections and where a trail crosses a driveway.)

Winter Is almost here... don't let it stop you from having fun. Iowa's winters are long but they shouldn't keep you from enjoying nature and getting exercise. Wellness experts advise that outdoor exercise is one of the best ways of avoiding SAD (seasonal affective disorder), a distinctive type of winter depression. **The bottom line is to continue hiking or cycling and reap the benefits year round.**

Treasures of the Katoski Greenbelt *By Peter Komendowski*

All began on my August trip to Maine to hike the Appalachian Trail, explore Desert Island's Acadia National Park, and paddle the Penobscot River wilderness.

Upon returning to the Cedar Valley it wasn't long before my craving for the trails took me to the Cedar River and the lakes of Hartman and George Wyth. Then there was canoeing the Shell Rock, bicycling the Cedar Trails and hiking the nature trails of Hartman Reserve.

Then in September I was off to Washington to hike Mount Ranier and the Olympic Mountains. From the cool alpine breezes and the crunch of careful footsteps on glacier ice to ravens soaring on the edge of clouds and secret waterfalls gazing at the ocean, it seemed as if I had entered another world full of nature's mysteries and places perfectly suited to peaceful contemplation.

And then, almost too soon, I was back home in the Cedar Valley.

It wasn't long before my craving for a little bit of wilderness was overwhelming. I wandered the usual places, and though I found them relaxing there seemed to be something missing.

I shared my thoughts with a good friend, guitar maker Bob Long, a long-time Cedar Valley resident and an avid outdoorsman. With a mischievous glint in his eye he made one comment, "have you ever walked the trails of The Katoski Greenbelt?"

I live a stone's throw from the Greenbelt and had never walked the trails. Judging from the few people I saw on the trails I'd guess that very few Cedar Valley residents have walked the trails.

The trails of the Katoski Greenbelt are exquisite. In just a few steps you leave behind the city and enter a world teeming with nature's treasures. There are many places to stop, relax and enjoy the rich diversity of plants, insects, birds and small mammals. You'll find hidden meadows, ponds, lakes and streams. The sounds of the wilderness will entertain you and the trails will lead you into a world that seems as far away as you need it to be to relax.

The Katoski Greenbelt is a special treasure. Go out there and go for a walk, set aside an hour or two and explore it. Trust me; I have logged a lot of miles in order to appreciate things that are often close to home. Don't cancel that trip to the Rockies or the coast. But if you are looking for a special place a little closer to home, try the Katoski Greenbelt, the Cedar Valley's hidden treasure.

Thank You to Mary Jones, Our Great Treasurer

For many years the Cedar Trails Partnership has been privileged to have the assistance and expertise of our great treasurer, Mary Jones. Mary has ensured that all contributions are deposited and expended per our organization objectives, and as authorized by our board of directors.

Mary has decided that it is time to get involved in a different role within the CTP Partnership. This will be her last term as a treasurer. The CTP Board of Directors would like to express many **THANKS** to Mary Jones for keeping our books in good order while serving as CTP Treasurer.

If you have been thinking how can you help the Trails Partnership... Well, here is another way to help **BE THE CTP TREASURER.. Some of the Treasurer's duties are:**

Processes receipts and payments.

To review and present financial status reports at monthly Board Meetings.

Provide organization financial records are complete and accurate.

If you are interested on helping please call the Trails Partnership at 319-268-4266 or e-mail us at www.cedartrailspartnership.org

An update from your Black Hawk County Conservation Board - Cedar Valley Nature Trail *By Anne Duncan*

During the June flooding the Cedar Valley Nature Trail (CVNT) was submersed and damaged in several areas. As a cherished piece of our trails systems the Black Hawk County Conservation Board (BHCCB) is trying to keep you informed on the repair process.

If you have not traveled the CVNT since the flood, you may not be aware of the damage. The BHCCB manages the northern 26 miles, including the bridges at Evansdale and McFarlane Park. Both bridges were severely damaged by the overtopping water and have been closed since the flood. In addition to the bridges a blow-out one mile north of Gilbertville left a 15-20 foot hole 300 feet wide. Between Evansdale and LaPorte City were an additional 24 areas where the asphalt was damaged and a quarter-mile stretch buried under two feet of cornstalks. From McFarlane Park to Brandon the trail was eroded.

Timeline for Repair

Immediately after the flood water receded an assessment of the trail was completed. The two bridges and the blow-out were closed and barricaded for safety until they can be repaired. Conservation Board staff filled the smaller holes with gravel and cleared the debris, opening a majority of the trail for use.

The process of repairing the trail blow-out began October 16, 2008 when the BHCCB accepted bids for the embankment work. The hope is that by December of 2008 the trail will be brought up to grade and opened for winter use with a gravel top. In the spring asphalt contractors will return to repair the smaller holes and cover the blow-out area. This winter the debris that washed up against the 17 smaller bridges will be cleared by BHCCB staff as well as volunteers from AmeriCorps NCCC.

To reopen the bridges crossing the Cedar River at Evansdale and McFarlane Park will take more time. An evaluation of the condition of the bridges was completed by Schuck-Britson of Des Moines. Their professional recommendations were submitted to the BHCCB October 3, 2008. To repair the bridges will cost \$3.2 million while replacement, including mitigation efforts to help in future flooding, will cost \$3.8 million. The engineers from Schuck-Britson recommend the replacement option. Although it costs more, the lifespan of the structure is three times longer. At this time the BHCCB can not provide a timeline of anticipated repair/replacement. We are working with the Black Hawk County Board of Supervisors, FEMA, and the Iowa department of Homeland Security to arrange possible funding.

What you can do?

1. **Do not** cross the barricades and enter closed areas. Those barriers are there for your safety.
2. As contractors work to repair the trail please avoid their work areas. The faster they can move, the faster they will complete their task and we can open the trail fully.
3. If you have any thoughts, questions, or concerns please contact the Black Hawk County Conservation Board at (319) 266-6813, mail letters to 657 Reserve Drive, Cedar Falls, IA 50613, e-mail vern-fish@aol.com or stop at our temporary office in the residence near Hartman Reserve Nature Center. You can also attend the next BHCCB meeting, November 6, 2008. The meeting will be held at Hartman Reserve Nature Center at 5pm. The CVNT will be on the agenda for public input/comment. The Black Hawk County Conservation Board is moving ahead to reopen the Cedar Valley Nature Trail fully. We ask for your support and patience through this long recovery process. Thank you!

“Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves.” ~ *John Muir*

**CEDAR TRAILS
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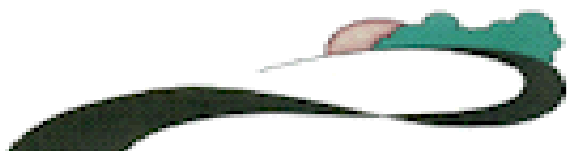
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Persuade a friend to become a member. Let them know the importance of being a partner of an organization that helps maintain, expand and improve our great trail system. Need more information, Please visit us on the WEB at www.cedartrailspartnership.org or contact us at

Cedar Trails Partnership
6510 Hudson Road
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613
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800-845-1955



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