

TRAIL TALK

By Erin Reed, Executive Director
Dickinson County Trails Board

DICKINSON COUNTY TRAILS BOARD TO BEGIN MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

The Dickinson County Trails Board will start its first maintenance project of the season on April 19 with the trail along 175th Street in the area of The Ranch Okobojo mini-golf park. Anyone familiar with this area knows that it has been in rough shape for a few years due to water undermining the trail and sediment collecting at the bottom of the hill. Approximately 500 feet of trail will be replaced with a new concrete section and a drain will be placed across the trail by the Ranch parking lot in order to get water away from the trail and into the ditch on the north side. The grade and slope of the trail will also be improved to alleviate the sediment problem. The work will close the trail for approximately two weeks depending on weather.

Several other maintenance projects are planned for 2017 including annual surface treatment of the Spine Trail. The south 3.2 miles from Milford to 202nd Street in the Nature Trails area will receive a GSB fog seal to help preserve the surface. Moving north to Spirit Lake the trail starting at Kiwanis Park to Peoria Avenue and 15th Street to Hill Avenue south of the Gingham Inn will be crack, slurry and fog sealed as well. Other miscellaneous drainage and culvert repairs are also on our list.

In coordination with the City of Okobojo the DCTB will be improving the trail section along Gordon Drive behind Mau Marine and both ends of the Trestle Bridge between East and West Lake Okobojo. The work is scheduled to begin mid-August and result in the trail in that area being closed after Labor Day through October. Keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for updates on trail work and closures.

KEEPING OUR TRAILS NEAT & CLEAN

Thank you to Dennis Clark with Treasure Village for cleaning the West Okobojo Trail from First Lutheran Church to Emerson Bay earlier this month. He also alerted Tom Wright with Okobojo Tree Service of a large tree branch on the trail. Tom took care of getting the tree off the trail as a service to the community. Thank you Dennis and Tom for helping keep our trails clean and safe!



Dickinson County Conservation has been out sweeping the trails so they are ready to go for the nicer weather. Thank you to their crew for all the hard work they do on our trails. We will be reviving our Adopt-A-Trail program soon so be on the lookout for information if you are interested in adopting a section of trail to keep clean from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

RAIL TRAIL RALLY FUNDRAISER

The Corridor is in our hands and the Rail Trail is ready to roll. DCTB is planning our 2017 fundraiser event that will be held on Saturday, June 24 at the Arnolds Park Pavilion. This year's event will highlight the Rail Trail and kickoff the effort to raise local matching funds for its construction. The DCTB has obtained \$2 million in Federal Grants to purchase 37 miles of right of way and rehabilitate the rail bridges & crossings. Local Matching Funds needed for this project are over \$400,000. Please consider getting on board and be a sponsor for this great event. You can find more information on our website at www.dickinsoncountytails.com. Thank you for your support!

Until next time, as always, Happy Trails to you and yours. Erin Reed, DCTB Executive Director