

Minooka Park Mountain Bike Trails- Frequently Asked Questions

Fast Facts About the Project

Waukesha County has partnered with the Waukesha Bicycle Alliance (WBA) in the design, construction and maintenance of mountain bike trails at Minooka Park. The trail system is designed to fit within our Master Plan update, and will offer a new way to experience the park. This will be the first trail designated for off-road bicycle only use in the parks system.

When will the Mountain Bike Trails be open?

The grand opening will take place during National Trails Day on June 1st. Watch for more information coming soon!

Why is the County creating Mountain Bike Trails in Minooka Park?

The trails will meet a community and regional need, and promote bicycling and outdoor activities in the park. Currently, Waukesha County has only 4 miles of off-road trails designated for bicycles. In partnership with the WBA, landscape architects from the Waukesha County Dept. of Parks and Land Use are designing new trails and trail signage. In addition, the Waukesha County Department of Parks and Land Use are updating the Master Plan for Minooka Park. The project takes advantage of existing site conditions and the single-track aspect will minimize conflicts with existing trails. Naturalists from Waukesha County Parks were involved in order to minimize impact to the park's significant natural resources.

What are the benefits of this project?

As part of Waukesha County Parks System's mission to provide its' citizens with many different recreation opportunities and activities, this project will create an additional outdoor activity for its residents. This network of trails, approximately five miles in total length, will provide a new outdoor recreation opportunity at Minooka Park. This project has a unique opportunity to be a great partnership, and offer residents a new opportunity for mountain biking

What will the Mountain Bike Trails entail?

The basic elements of the Minooka Park Mountain Bike Trails will include single-track trails as well as a multi-use trailhead. There will be trails for a variety of different skill levels, from beginner to advanced covering a variety of terrain. The single-track aspect of the trails encourages safe riding speeds.

What trail standards are being used for design?

A fundamental principle of Waukesha County is to provide quality recreation within the capabilities of the ecosystem. We care deeply about the environment on which we recreate. Waukesha County is creating its first fully sustainable trail system designed to IMBA standards for mountain biking within our system. The goal is to provide high quality mountain biking experiences using existing planning and environmental assessment combined with expertise from third parties in trail design and construction to construct trails with minimal environmental impacts.

What is the timeline for this project?

The first phase of the mountain bike trails began in Fall, 2012. There will be a grand opening for these trails on June 1st in conjunction with National Trails Day. Further trail design and construction will happen through 2013 and 2014.

How much does this project cost and who is paying for it?

County staff will assist with clearing the trails, but WBA volunteers will conduct the majority of trail development and maintenance. Ongoing maintenance will be primarily by WBA volunteers, with guidance and assistance from County staff. Trail users will be expected to acquire Daily or Annual Park Entrance stickers to use Minooka Park if entering the park by motor vehicle.

What are the hours of the Mountain Bike Trails?

The trails will be open during regular park hours, sunrise to 10:00 p.m. Use of the designated Mountain Bike Trails will be limited to bikes only from April 1st to November 31st. Snowshoeing will be allowed on designated Mountain Bike Trails from December 1st to March 31st only.

What are the fees?

The use of the mountain bike trails is included in the park entrance fee. Trail users will be expected to acquire Daily or Annual Park Entrance stickers to use Minooka Park if entering the park by motor vehicle.

Where can I find more information about this project?

To volunteer, please contact the Waukesha County Parks System Volunteer Coordinator, Holly, at (262) 896-8074, or at hglainyk@waukeshacounty.gov. For questions or comments, please contact Ginny Bocek at (262) 548-7803 or gbocek@waukeshacounty.gov. Project updates will be posted on the Waukesha County Parks and Land Use website at www.waukeshacountyparks.com.