

Appendix A: Participants in Ogle Greenways & Trails Planning

The Greenways & Trails Committee and the consultants gratefully acknowledge the interest and direct involvement of many organizations and individuals in the planning process, including the following:

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Steve Bingham, Rochelle

Joe Solitros, Rochelle

Chuck Cawley, Rochelle

Steve Hefel, Byron, Illinois Assn. of Snowmobile Clubs

Bev Moore, Illinois Trails Conservancy

Bob Gingerich, Rochelle Mayor

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Stan Bergstrom, Oregon

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Ogle County Greenways & Trails Plan

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Linda Schreiber, Leaf River
Curt & Becky Furman, Rochelle
Loren Richolson, Stillman Valley
Jonathan & Kate del Valle, Oregon
Tim & Jennifer Kaffenbarger, Oregon
Jim and Trudy Fleming, Oregon
Bill Milam, Oregon
Marcia Heuer, Ogle County Reg. P. C.
Jason E. Sword, Forreston
Beth Hoel, Rochelle
George Bellovics, Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources

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David Halsted, Sauk Valley News

Appendix B: Inventory of Lands and Resources

Many of the following sites are indicated on the *Ogle County Greenways and Trails Plan* map. Most of them are identified by Map Legend only, not by name.

PUBLIC PARKS & PRESERVES

Byron: Jarrett Prairie, River Park

Creston: Booster Park

Forrester: City Park, Warniken Park

Mt. Morris: Freedom Park

Oregon: Ballfield Park, Fairground Park, Oregon Park East, Oregon Park West, Mix Park, Sandsucker Park

Polo: City Park, Westside Park

Rochelle: Atwood Park, Connolly Park, Cooper Park, Flannigan Park, Hillcrest Park, Kelly Park, Lyle F. Kunde Recreation Area (Lake Sule), Memorial Park, Midwest Park, Page Park, Powers Park, Skare Park, Spring Lake Aquatic Park, Sweeny Park, Tilton Memorial Park, V.F.W. Park, Rochelle Railroad Park

Ogle County: Weld Park

Illinois Department of Natural Resources: White Pines Forest State Park, Castle Rock State Park, Lowden State Park, Lowden-Miller Forest

ILLINOIS NATURAL AREA INVENTORY SITES

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------------|
| Douglas E. Wade Prairie | 11.84 | Private |
| Stronghold Prairie | .40 | Private |
| Lowden Memorial State Park | 21.68 | Public |
| White Pines Forest State Park | 63.05 | Public |
| Pine Rock | 55.37 | Public |
| Hereen Prairie | 3.18 | Private |
| Adeline Prairie | 4.70 | Private |
| Oregon Geological Area | 6.64 | unknown |
| Prairie Star School Geological Area | 2.83 | Private |
| Nachusa Grasslands (Lee/Ogle) | 1,569.46 | Public/Private |
| Fearer Tract at Castle Rock S. P. | 143.25 | Private |
| L & M Prairie | 1.09 | Private |
| Beach Cemetery Prairie | 3.00 | Private |
| Mt. Morris East Geological Area | 10.00 | Private |
| Castle Rock State Park | 638.97 | Public |
| Byron Dragway Prairie | 15.44 | Private |
| Commonwealth Edison Prairie | 145.36 | Private |
| Jarrett Prairie | 139.00 | Public |
| Lowden-Miller State Forest | 2,294.34 | Public |
| Kilbuck Prairie | | Private |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------|---------|
| Babson Hollow | 4.27 | Private |
| Sinnissippi Cornus Canadensis Site | | Public |

ILLINOIS NATURE PRESERVES

| <u>SITE</u> | <u>ACRES</u> | <u>OWNERSHIP</u> |
|-------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Beach Cemetery Prairie | 2.5 | Private |
| George B. Fell | 685.6 | Public |
| Jarrett Prairie | 115.8 | Public |
| Pine Rock | 59.0 | Public |
| Douglas E. Wade Prairie | 11.2 | Private |
| Heeren Prairie | 3.2 | Private |
| Piros Prairie | | Private |
| White Pines Forest State Park | | Public |

OTHER CONSERVATION AREAS AND EASEMENTS

| <u>SITE</u> | <u>ACRES</u> | <u>OWNERSHIP</u> |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| Bliss Rock River site | 58.0 | private |
| Devil's Backbone | 40.0 | The Natural Land Institute |
| Elkhorn Creek Biodiversity Area | 43.2 | Northwest Illinois Audubon Society |
| Kyte River Bottomlands | 242.9 | The Natural Land Institute |
| Lorado Taft Field Campus | 140.1 | Northern Illinois University |
| Lutheran Outdoor Ministries | 133.24 | Lutheran Outdoor Ministries |
| Mud Creek site | 60.0 | Kickapoo Mud Creek Nature Conservancy in Oregon, Illinois |
| Nachusa Grasslands (Ogle Co. areas) | 618.9 | The Nature Conservancy |
| Nordic Park Realty Kyte River site | 242.9 | private |
| Stronghold | 331.2 | Presbytery of Black Hawk |
| Thelma Carpenter Sandstone Bluff | 5.0 | The Natural Land Institute |
| Vogl Kyte River site | 167.2 | private |
| Westcott Rock River site | 93.2 | private |

PUBLIC USE NATURE/INTERPRETIVE FOOT TRAILS

| <u>SITE</u> | <u>MILES</u> | <u>ADDITIONAL USES</u> |
|--|--------------|----------------------------------|
| Byron Forest Preserve | 7.5 | equestrian |
| Castle Rock State Park | 7 | cross-country skiing |
| Lowden-Miller Forest | 22.5 | cross-country skiing, equestrian |
| Lowden State Park | 4 | |
| Nachusa Grasslands | varies | |
| Skare Park, Flagg Rochelle Park District | 8 | |
| White Pines Forest State Park | 6 | accessible trail |

PUBLIC USE RECREATION PATHS

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Byron: Don Hamer Recreation Path | 1.7 miles |
| Dixon/Polo: Joe Stengel Trail | 11 miles |
| Rochelle: Rochelle Bicycle Path | 4 miles |

PRIVATE OR CONTROLLED ACCESS RECREATION AREAS

Edgewood Golf Club
Lost Nation Golf Club
Oregon Golf Club
Prairie View Golf Course
Sunset Hill Golf
Rochelle Country Club

Black Hawk Baptist Camp
Camp Lowden BSA
Camp McCormick GSA
Camp Emmaus Church of the Brethren
Dixon Elks Lodge Camp
King's Camp
Northern Illinois University Lorado Taft Field Campus
Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center
Presbytery of Black Hawk (Stronghold)
Rock River Christian Camp
Two Rivers/Three Fires Council Boy Scout Ranch
United Brethren Camp
White Eagle 4-H Camp

Hansen's Hideaway
Lake Ladonna
Lake Louise Campground
Rock River Marina and Camping
White Pines Ranch

Ogle County 4-H Foundation
Ogle County Fairgrounds
Ki Tracks ATV Park
Byron Sportsman's Club
Tri-County Gun Club
Ill. Central Gulf Sportsman's Club
Rochelle Wildlife Conservation Club

HISTORIC SITES

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|
| Adeline Stone School | 1868 | Adeline Road, Adeline |
| Applington House | | 123 N. Franklin Ave., Polo |
| Bemis Homestead | 1835 | |
| Big Mound Cemetery | | Big Mound Road |
| Black Hawk War Battleground Memorial | | 218 W. Main St., Stillman Valley |
| Black Hawk Hotel-Patchwork Inn | ca 1845 | 122 N. 3rd St., Oregon |
| Brodie's Grove/Brodie's cabin site | 1836 | Woodlawn & Heal Roads |
| Brooklyn Cemetery | | 3513 N. River Rd. |
| Buffalo Grove/St. Marion settlement | 1830 | 13000 block W. Milledgeville Rd. |
| Burns House | | 201 N. Franklin Ave., Polo |
| Judge Campbell House | | 111 N. Franklin Ave., Polo |

| | | |
|--|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| Civil War Monument | | 2nd & Chestnut Streets, Byron |
| Daysville Cemetery | | Daysville Rd. South, Daysville |
| Daysville settlement | 1837 | Daysville Road |
| Eagle Point settlement | 1839 | 17500 block W. Eagle Point Rd. |
| Eagle's Nest Artists Colony campsite, cottages, & Ganymede's Spring | 1898-1942 | North River Rd., Oregon |
| Everlasting House | | |
| Fitzhenry settlement | | |
| Gitchell Homestead | | 10538 N. Pecatonica Rd. |
| Grand Detour settlement/ John Deere Historic Site | 1836 | Grand Detour |
| Henry School | 1878 | Rte. 26 South, Polo |
| Hitt Homestead | | 7782 W. Ill Rte. 64 |
| David Hoffhine House | 1836 | 4801 N. Brookville Rd. |
| Kable House | | Sunset Hill, Mount Morris |
| Kilbuck Cemetery | | |
| Lafayette Grove/log schoolhouse site | 1835 | Chana Road |
| Lighthouse Point | 1836 | Lighthouse & Daysville Roads |
| Lightsville settlement | 1836 | 9000 Block, N. Leaf River Rd. |
| Mix Mansion-Pinehill Inn | | 400 Mix St., Oregon |
| Morgan Grist Mill & Settlement | ca. 1840 | 4000 block S. Chana Rd. |
| Ruby Nash House | 1878 | 5th & Franklin Streets, Oregon |
| North Grove Evangelical Church | | 10384 W. Coffman Rd. |
| Oak Ridge Road stage route to Freeport | | Ridge Road |
| Octagon House | ca. 1858 | |
| Ogle County Courthouse and Square | 1891 | 5th & Washington Streets, Oregon |
| Oregon Lime Kiln | | |
| Paine's Point settlement | 1836 | Brick & Stillman Roads |
| Peek Home | | Peek Home Rd. |
| Pine Creek Seminary / Mount Morris College buildings | 1839-1884 | Freedom Park, Mount Morris |
| Pine Creek settlement/Penn Corners | | Lowell Park & Penn Corners Roads |
| Pioneer Cemetery | | West Grove Rd. e. of Leaf River Rd. |
| Polo Lime Kiln | ca. 1850 | 1/4 mi. west of Galena Trail Rd. |
| Lucius Read House | 1843 | Ill. Rte. 2 & Rte. 72, Byron |
| St. James Lutheran Church & Cemetery | 1850 | West Grove & Columbine Roads |
| St. Peter's Episcopal Church | | Grand Detour |
| Shott's Mill (Glen Haven) | | |
| Silver Creek Church and Cemetery | | West Grove Rd. w. of Leaf River Rd. |
| Sinnissippi Farms | 1901 | Lowden Road |
| A. G. Spaulding Birthplace | 1850 | 2nd & Chestnut Streets, Byron |
| Stone Hill School | 1889 | 7690 E. Cottonwood Rd. |
| Stronghold Castle | 1930 | Ill. Rte. 2 north of Oregon |
| Washington Grove settlement | 1835 | Prairie Road |
| Watertown settlement | | Watertown & Honey Creek Roads |
| Weld Memorial Park and grist mill site | | Weld Park Road |
| West Branch Church of the Brethren | 1862 | 4014 N. West Branch Rd. |
| Wilson & Talbot Grist Mill | 1835/1849 | West of S. Wilson Mill Rd. on Elm |
| White Eagle Mill & Stone Schoolhouse | | N. Bass Road |
| The White Rocks/Chaney Cemetery | 1846 | Mowers & Church Roads |
| White Rock Burg settlement on the Chicago & Iowa Trail | | Lindenwood & White Rock Roads |
| White Oak School | 1869 | East of 6461 E. Grist Mill Rd. |

MUSEUMS

Byron Museum of History, Lucius Read Home
Chana School Museum and Education Center, Oregon
Firehouse Museum, Rochelle
Flagg Township Historical Society, Rochelle
Graehling Museum, Polo
Heritage Farm, Byron Forest Preserve
Jarrett Prairie Center, Byron Forest Preserve
John Deere Historic Site, Grand Detour
Ogle County Historical Society / Ruby Nash House, Oregon
Polo Historical Society / Applington House
Stuka Military Museum

PUBLIC SCULPTURE

Black Hawk Statue ("The Indian") by Loreda Taft, Lowden State Park
"The Soldier's Monument" by Lorado Taft, Ogle County Courthouse Square, Oregon
"Black Hawk and Abraham Lincoln" by Jeff Adams, Mix Park, Oregon
"Fish Boys", commissioned copies of two Lorado Taft pieces at the Art Institute of
Chicago, Mix Park, Oregon
"The Muses" by students of Lorado Taft, NIU Field Campus, Oregon

VISITOR CENTERS

Lincoln Highway Visitor Center / 1918 Standard Oil Filling Station, 500 Lincoln Ave.
Rochelle
Chamber of Commerce, 115 N. 3rd St., Oregon
Blackhawk Waterways Convention & Visitors Bureau, Burns House, 201 N. Franklin
St., Polo

Appendix C: Implementation Strategies

Outright acquisition by a public agency or private entity is only one of many options for preservation of greenways, with trails or without. Often, stewardship by the owner of the property may be the best or the preferred option. An individual property may be protected by a conservation easement, lease, management agreement, or by dedication as an Illinois Nature Preserve, to name several techniques. More detailed descriptions of Nature Preserves and conservation easements, how they work and how they may benefit the landowner and the environment, appear in Appendix D.

Restoration of native vegetation—diverse wetland, prairie, forest and savanna seeding and plantings—has mushroomed in Ogle County in the past decade. Typically restorations are associated with sensitive lands and efforts to create natural areas for conservation, research, USDA farm programs, buffers, and residential appeal. As the total remaining natural areas that can be preserved continues to shrink, ecological restoration of open lands by private and not-for-profit landowners is becoming the major conservation method for future greenways.

One innovative technique known as "**conservation development**" or "open-space subdivisions" is credited with preservation of additional green space in many parts of the U.S. Conservation development requires a modified subdivision ordinance allowing more units on smaller lots, a type of "clustering" that sets aside a minimum area, usually 50% of the subdivision including a portion of each lot, as dedicated conservation/green space. Allowing greater density is both an incentive to residential developers and an economic necessity to generate funds for ecosystem restoration and trails in open space. The greenway may be permanently maintained under covenant by the residents of the subdivision for their recreational use and for environmentally friendly management of storm water.

Northern Illinois has been a leader in adopting local ordinances that permit and encourage conservation development. In an R-1 Rural Residence District, Ogle County's *Article V: Open Space Subdivisions* requires that at least 50% of the total site area be designated as open space and permanently protected; in an R-2 Single-Family residence District, at least 33.33% must be designated.

Unless property is already owned and managed by a public agency, utility company, or non-profit organization, the **funding strategy** for an off-road trail involves both the acquisition of the land or an easement on the land *and* the development of the facility. In addition to IDOT and IDNR funding programs that support acquisition or development of bike paths, boat access, snowmobile and equestrian trails by local agencies, both public agencies and private organizations have various techniques available to them to fund trail development.

A successful strategy will require both initial preservation and **ongoing management or maintenance**. Greenway preservation often involves partnerships between government, private owners, and non-profit land trusts organized specifically to assist in acquiring or preserving natural areas for their ecological, educational, recreational, and aesthetic values. Similarly, trail development may involve both public and private initiative, but long-term maintenance of a public trail typically will require the commitment of local public funding.

Appendix D: Conservation Easements and Nature Preserves,

A conservation easement is a legal agreement a property owner makes to restrict the type and amount of development that may take place on his or her property.

To understand the concept, think of owning land as holding a bundle of rights. A landowner may sell or give away the whole bundle or just one or two of those rights. These may include, for example, the right to construct buildings on the land, to subdivide, to restrict access, or to harvest timber. To give away certain rights while retaining others, a property owner grants an easement to an appropriate third party.

Conservation easements are one of the primary tools in the creation of a greenway because public funding for land acquisition is scarce. Easements work because they provide potential benefits to both the landowner and the public, because they are negotiated with the land owner, because the easement does not entail a management expense to the State, and the easement property remains on the tax rolls. However, the real estate taxes may be reduced if the property is encumbered and provides a public benefit. Public benefit certification is determined by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources in accordance with criteria established by law.

Any property with significant conservation or historic preservation values can be protected by an easement. This includes trails, forests, wetlands, farms, endangered species habitat, beaches, scenic areas, historic sites, and more.

Landowners who grant conservation easements make their own choice about whether to open their property to the public. Some convey certain public access rights, such as allowing fishing or hiking in specified locations or permitting guided tours. Others do not.

An easement can be written so that it lasts forever (a perpetual easement) or for a specified number of years (a term easement). Only gifts of perpetual easements can Qualify a donor for income and estate tax benefits. An easement runs with the land; that is, the original owner and all subsequent owners are bound by the restrictions that the easement spells out.

The donation of a perpetual conservation easement is a tax-deductible charitable gift, provided it is donated to a qualified organization or public agency exclusively for conservation purposes and remains undeveloped. The amount of the deduction is based upon the appraised fair market value of the easement.

In recent years there has been a dramatic growth in *land trusts*, not-for-profit organizations set up specifically to acquire and maintain environmentally important lands. Easements are an important method of "acquisition" for land trusts. One of the oldest land trusts in Illinois is The Natural Land Institute, Rockford. NLI has played a role in preserving high quality natural areas at Franklin Creek.

Designed to encourage the protection of privately owned, environmentally sensitive forest lands, the **Forest Legacy Program** (FLP) is an entirely voluntary program administered by the states. Its focus is the acquisition of partial interests in privately-owned forest lands, specifically conservation easements, legally binding agreements transferring a negotiated set of property rights from one party to another without removing the property from private ownership. Most FLP conservation easements

restrict development, require sustainable forestry practices, and protect other values. Private forest landowners may qualify for participation by preparing a multiple resource management plan. The federal government may fund up to 75% of program costs, with at least 25% coming from private, state or local sources. The funding that is available in Illinois each year is limited.

The Rock River Forest Legacy Area corresponds with areas that were largely forested at the time of settlement of Ogle County and neighboring counties.

Very high-quality natural land in private, corporate, or public ownership may qualify to become a dedicated **Illinois Nature Preserve**. This is a legal process whereby the landowner voluntarily restricts future uses of the land in perpetuity for the purpose of preserving the land in its natural state and to perpetuate natural conditions. The owner retains custody but gives up the right to develop the land or make changes that negatively affect the natural qualities. It does not require the owner to take any measures to protect the dedicated property against the action of nature or of third parties.

Dedication is the strongest protection that can be given to land in Illinois. It even protects an area from the threat of condemnation. The permanent protection continues through future conveyances of the land. The process is administered by a state agency, the Illinois Nature Preserves Commission, Springfield.

Appendix E: Economic Benefits of Greenways

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| <u>Real-property values</u> | Many studies demonstrate that parks, greenways, and trails increase nearby residential and business property values. In turn, increased property values can increase tax revenues and offset loss of property tax base on greenway lands. |
| <u>Consumer spending</u> | Spending by local residents on greenway-related activities helps support recreation-oriented businesses and employment, as well as other businesses that are patronized by greenway and trail users. |
| <u>Commercial uses</u> | Greenways often provide business opportunities, location, and resources for commercial activities such as recreation equipment rentals and sales, lessons, and other related businesses. |
| <u>Tourism</u> | Greenways are often major tourist attractions, which generate expenditures on lodging, food, and recreation-oriented services. Greenways also help improve the overall appeal of a community to prospective tourists and new residents. |
| <u>Agency expenditures</u> | The agency responsible for managing a river, trail, or greenway can help support local businesses by purchasing supplies and services. Jobs created by the managing agency may also help increase the local employment base by an amount equivalent to other uses of the lands. |
| <u>Corporate relocation</u> | Evidence shows that the quality of life of a community is an increasingly important factor in corporate relocation decisions. Greenways are often cited as important contributors to quality of life. (In fact, from the earliest days of settlement the natural charm of the Rock River corridor has been cited as a reason for business people and businesses to locate here.) |
| <u>Public cost reduction</u> | The conservation of rivers, trails, and greenways can help local governments and other public agencies avoid costs resulting from flooding and other natural hazards to more intensive development of the same lands. |
| <u>Intrinsic values</u> | While greenways have many economic benefits, it is important to remember the intrinsic environmental and recreation value of preserving rivers, trails and other open space corridors. |

Adapted from *Economic Impacts of Protecting Rivers, Trails, and Greenway Corridors*, National Park Service, 1990.

Appendix F: Bibliography and Resources

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On-Line Resources

- Implementing Trail-Based Economic Development Programs*
Handbook containing case studies and a how-to-guide, developed by Economics Research Associates, Washington, D.C., as a companion to *Iowa Trails 2000*. www.dot.state.ia.us
- Trails and Greenways for Livable Communities*
Promotes trails and greenways to help manage development and control sprawl, by providing transportation options such as bike commuting and walking environments. Links and resources. www.trailsandgreenways.org
- Preserving Historic and Cultural Resources*
Tells how trails and greenways can provide access to and help preserve history and culture by connecting people to the past.
www.trailsandgreenways.org
- Economic Benefits of Trails and Greenways*
Summarizes greenways and trails impacts on quality of life, property values, and the environment. Links and resources. www.trailsandgreenways.org
- Fact Sheet: Top 10 Ways to Work with the Opposition*
Trails and Greenways Clearinghouse. www.trailsandgreenways.org
- Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program: Guidelines and Procedures*
Current manual for local agencies and not-for-profit partners seeking 80/20 funding for transportation-related enhancement projects in specific categories. IDOT Office of Planning and Programming, (217) 782-2755, 1-800-493-3434. www.dot.state.il.us/opp/iltep