



Greenways Ink

Fostering the Development and Preservation of Trails and Greenways in the Greater Fox Cities Region

www.foxcitiesgreenways.org

Winter 2009/10

Trails and greenways provide what many Americans seek, and they make communities more attractive and friendly places to live. Thanks to all our contributors who help us help others by creating trails and greenways for our communities!

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Fox Cities Greenways Annual Meeting

Thursday, January 28, 2010
Beverages, snacks, and silent auction
5:30 – 6:30 PM
Annual Meeting
6:30 PM
UW Fox Valley
Communication Arts Center
James W. Perry Hall
1478 Midway Road, Menasha



Fox Cities Greenways annual meeting will be held at a new location this year.

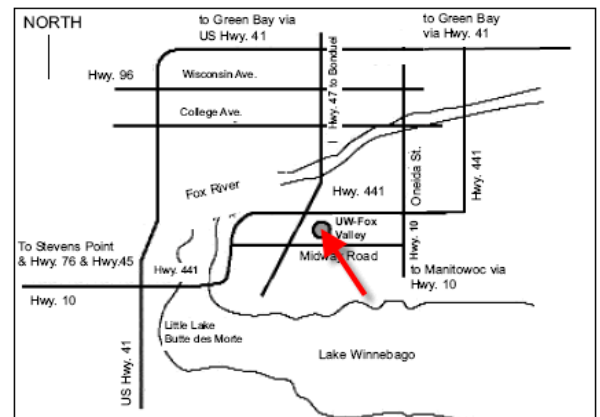
Please join us at the new Communication Arts Center on the UW Fox Valley campus for a progress update on our 2009 goals. The board will also present the projected goals for 2010. A social hour will precede the meeting and will include a silent auction, wine tasting, and snacks. It will be held in the Thrivant Financial Lobby, the area immediately adjacent to Perry Hall where the meeting will take place. Greenways members and friends will have an opportunity to mingle with board members and fellow supporters. Come to enjoy some snacks, taste some wines, and bid on items in the silent auction. Funds raised through the auction will be used for future trail development. We do request that you do not bring food items into the meeting hall.

The highlight of the evening will be two speakers. Kevin Harden of the Wisconsin Bicycle Federation (BFW) will be speaking on Complete Streets and also giving an overview of biking in Wisconsin. The goal of the BFW is to make Wisconsin a better place to bicycle through advocacy, education, and coordination. The BFW is based in Madison. Due in part to efforts by the BFW, Governor Jim Doyle recently accepted the League of American Bicyclists Silver Level Bicycle Friendly State Award. The League ranked Wisconsin second in the country for being a bicycle friendly state. The goal of BFW and other bicycling advocates is to be the number one bicycle friendly state!

Paul Linzmeyer, our second speaker, is the founder of New North. New North, Inc. is a consortium of business, economic development, chambers of commerce, workforce development, civic, non-profit, and education leaders in 18 counties of Northeast Wisconsin who are working to be recognized as competitive for job growth while maintaining their superior quality of life. Paul will be speaking on sustainability.

Please join us for what promises to be an enjoyable and informative evening.

Map to UW Fox Valley



President's Letter

Hello Fox Cities Greenways members,

Hard to believe it's approaching a year since I became president of Fox Cities Greenways. While it has been interesting, it for sure has been busy. Our monthly meeting agendas are full, but not as complicated as before. Why? Because we have a home. In July we leased space from the Wild Ones on Butte des Morts Beach Road. It's a perfect location and with a perfect housemate.

It's a good fit all around. We meet in the same place each month, and we have all our gear and materials stored on site. We recently hung our awards, some prints of projects on which we are working, and our mission. In October we held a strategic planning session there to strengthen our organization and give us better direction. Our subcommittees meet there, and well, we'll share these things at our annual meeting.

Some of you may have seen us out and about this year. In April we had a booth at the Earth Day event sponsored by Restore. In summer we had our booth at the Green Market in downtown Appleton. We were at a Women's Health Day event and the Safe Rides to School kickoff. We dedicated a large sum of money to cost share the Friendship Trail grant, which later was absorbed by the Town of Harrison. With our money back, we gave some to the City of Menasha to enhance a part of the same trail that runs through their community. Finally, we are signing the portages on the four locks which run through Appleton, as you heard at last year's annual meeting.

Speaking of the annual meeting, you won't want to miss this one. We are holding it at one of the premier new attractions in the Fox Cities – The Communication Arts Center on the UW Fox Valley Campus. Besides the great location, there will be a classy wine tasting social prior to the annual meeting, as well as cheese and crackers and other refreshments. It will be nice. We will have an expanded silent auction and exhibits from area communities. During the meeting we will recognize the accomplishments of worthy volunteers and communities with six new awards categories.

Come and celebrate another year with us and learn what YOUR Fox Cities Greenways organization is planning for 2010. Mark the date: Thursday, January 28th, 2010. I hope to see you there.



Strategic Planning Meeting Fall 2009

The Greenways Board held a strategic planning session to strengthen our organization and give us better direction.

2009 Greenways Board Members

President Dave Muench, Appleton

Action Vice President Dick Kendall, Appleton

Co-VP Programs Marilyn Garner, Appleton

Co-VP Programs Jan Heifner, Appleton

Secretary Peggy Cox, Appleton

Treasurer Vickie Kluge, Appleton

Past President Vicki Milde, Menasha

Newsletter Editor Pat Spiegelberg, Pickett

Newsletter Layout Tom Ales, Neenah

Additional At Large Board Members:

Dave Johnson, Greenville

Gordy McDaniel, Little Chute

Mike Kading, Neenah

Linda McDaniel, Little Chute

Kara Homan, Menasha

Tom Walsh, Appleton

Patty Leiker, Greenville

Our Board meetings are held monthly and are open to the public. Contact any member for date and location of upcoming meetings. Board members can be reached at www.foxcitiesgreenways.org

Thanks to our 2009 Contributors

This list recognizes this years membership renewals and unrestricted contributions to Fox Cities Greenways. Thank you!

CONSERVATOR

Kim Schueller
Ironwood Foundation (Kinde)

ADVOCATE

Michael & Marcia Hittle
David Seitz of Mechanical
Contractors Association of North
Central WI
Ruth & Wayne Streck
Gordy & Linda McDaniel
Tom & Pat Schinabeck
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Roger & Nancy Orlady
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Kimberly-Clark Foundation
J.J. Keller Foundation, Inc
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation
ITW Foundation

GENERAL DONATION

Christopher Kunz

GRANT

Johnson Controls Blue Sky, Inc.

If your contribution reached us after December 24, 2009, we regret that your name will not appear in this list due to publication deadlines. We will recognize you in the 2010 contributor list next year.

Donate Online With PayPal

For those who prefer the convenience of giving online, Fox Cities Greenways now offers the option of donating via PayPal on our website at <http://www.focol.org/greenways/donate.html>. Just a click of a membership

level or special contribution button on this page allows you to donate using any major credit card or an e-check.

Your donations go a long way, and with your help we can fund many more projects like those described in this newsletter. Fox Cities Greenways, Inc. works with municipalities and counties in Wisconsin's Fox Valley to expand and connect a comprehensive trail system. Connect with us by becoming an annual donor, donate to a specific project, or give a general contribution to be used as needed.



Events

January

9 Sierra Club Cross-Country Ski at High Cliff State Park. We will ski for as long as everyone wishes then retreat to the Outpost to warm up. Bring your own equipment and water. We will hike if the snow is insufficient for skiing. Contact the outings leader Charlie Paine 920-739-1900 chasp@ntd.net

16 Sierra Club Cross-Country Ski at Brown County Reforestation Camp. Contact the outings leader Rich Krieg 920-497-8004 eddyout@gmail.com

16 Cross-country Ski Clinic for Beginners. Discover the wonderful sport of cross-country skiing during this beginner level course for the entire family. Bring your own equipment, or use the Center's ski packages during the course. Fallen Timbers Environmental Center, W4531 Robin Road, Black Creek. Cost: \$8.00/person with own skis \$12.00/person with rental skis. Limit 40 people. Reservations required 920-984-3700 http://www.cesa6.k12.wi.us/products_services/fallentimbers/index.cfm

18 Fox Cities YMCA Ski and Snowboard Sale. New and used equipment for sale. Heart of the Valley YMCA, 225 W. Kennedy Ave., Kimberly. Sellers drop off equipment Jan. 8, 5-9 p.m. Erica Hamilton 920-954-7618 ehamilton@ymcafoxcities.org

22 Sierra Club Owl Hike at Bubolz. Cynthia Mueller, Executive Director at Bubolz, will lead us on a night hike over the snowshoe trail seeking the Great Horned Owl. Dress warm. Meet at the Bubolz Nature Center at 6:00 p.m. and plan on 2-3 hours. Afterwards we will meet inside the nature center for some hot cider and snacks. Please call to reserve your place. Charlie Paine 920-739-1900 chasp@ntd.net

Friendship State Trail Update

The .6 mile Friendship Trail segment connecting North Shore Road to Firelane 12 in the Town of Harrison is on track for 2010 construction. The Calumet County Parks Department coordinator of the project indicates that engineering agreements, project planning, and the bidding process will take place in the next few months, with construction expected in spring, 2010. The City of Menasha continues to work toward development of the Friendship Trail connection between Lake Park Road and Oneida Street on the north side of Hwy 114. Watch for the announcement of a

public informational meeting regarding this segment in the coming months. If you would like to receive email updates on progress of the Friendship Trail in the Town of Harrison and Calumet County or would like to voice your support for this project, please send your email address to vicmilde@hotmail.com and ask to be added to our Friends of the Trail email list. Many thanks to all who continue their advocacy for this long awaited Friendship Trail connection. The goal of a Friendship Trail connection to High Cliff State Park is within reach!

Fritse Park Comfort Station

A new trailside comfort station will open in April 2010 at Fritse Park along the Fox Cities Friendship/Trestle Trail. The comfort station will feature seasonal (April-November) bathroom facilities at the trail level with an overlook of the park and lake. The lower level will be open year-round and feature restrooms and a warm area. The comfort station is one part of a complete renovation of Fritse Park including a new quiet water launch, motor launch, parking facilities and an adventure play area. For more information, please contact the Town of Menasha – Park and Recreation Department at 920-720-7108.



Fritse Comfort Station

Annual Trail Planning Workshop-Thursday, April 22, 2010

Fox Cities Greenways has changed the format of the bi-annual trail planners meeting to an all-day workshop designed to encourage the further development and maintenance of connecting trails throughout the Fox Cities and beyond. Elected officials, community development, public works, park and recreation professionals, and trail enthusiasts are invited to attend. The day will consist of a keynote speaker, several breakout sessions and the opportunity to interact with individuals from surrounding communities.

Through the generosity of Miron Construction, the workshop will be held at the Miron Corporate Office in the Town of Menasha, 1471 McMahon Road, Neenah.

Reserve Thursday, April 22 and join us for a day focusing on trails! Look for specific registration information in February!

Improvements Planned for Menasha Segment of Friendship Trail

With the increasing popularity of trails throughout the region, several organizations have stepped forward to make improvements to a crucial link of the Friendship Trail. Located between Jefferson Park at Third Street and Heckrodt Wetland Reserve at Plank Road, this section of the trail winds through the city of Menasha. Improvements to the section began in 2002 with a new railroad crossing, followed with asphalt paving at a later date. Users of the trail have long identified the seclusion, vegetation, and wildlife as both desirable features and reasons for concern.



Lighting Improvements

Studies of the trail in 2009 identified four major objectives: increase safety and security, remove invasive species, employ sustainable practices, and add to trail beautification.

The 2010 project is to include lighting similar to that installed on the Trestle Bridge portion of the Friendship Trail to increase safety for nighttime users. Wayfinding for all trail users will be improved by the use of consistent lighting throughout

Menasha as the trail shifts through parks, streets, and off-street segments. The proposed fixtures use induction bulbs, thus cutting energy use significantly while providing similar light levels.

A partnership with Heckrodt Wetland Reserve will facilitate removal of the Japanese knotweed and other invasive species found in the corridor. They will be replaced with low maintenance plantings and grasses designed to capture scenic vistas on the east and screen public works operations to the west, as well as provide food and cover for wildlife.

Participation of multiple groups is making this possible. Fox Cities Greenways and Menasha Rotary will donate the lighting; Heckrodt will provide expertise and volunteer labor; the City of Menasha will provide labor and equipment; and additional corporate sponsors will provide plant materials.

Thanks to the efforts of so many throughout the community, from both the public and private sectors, an important but undervalued segment of the Friendship Trail will be significantly enhanced for all to enjoy.

New Publication Now Available

Trails and Their Gateway Communities: A Case Study of Recreational Use Compatibility and Economic Impacts (G3880) by Bob Kazmierski, Mike Kornmann, Dave Marcouiller, and Jeff Prey is now available from Cooperative Extension Publishing. Recreational trails improve local quality of life and are increasingly considered a central strategy for community development. Effective trail management and successful development of trails and their gateway communities require an understanding of the key considerations. This case study provides an operational trail profile, including trail use characteristics, recreational use compatibility, and economic impact data, and covers implications for public policy. For more information and to order

copies, visit the Learning Store at <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Trails-and-Their-Gateway-Communities-A-Case-Study-of-Recreational-Use-Compatibility-and-Economic-Impacts-P1359C51.aspx>.

Please note: Due to technical difficulties, the PDF of this and other publications on the Learning Store are not available for download at this time. If you need the PDF, please contact Cooperative Extension Publishing (877-947-7827) and we will be happy to forward it to you.

Don't miss the Cooperative Extension Publishing blog at <http://blogs.ces.uwex.edu/extensionpublications/> and you can now follow them on [Twitter!](#)

Events Continued January

22 and 23 Candlelight Snowshoe Hikes. Snowshoe or ski the one-mile loop across the boardwalk and back by the light of the stars, moon, and candlelight. 5:30-7:30 p.m. Navarino Nature Center, W5645 Lindsten Road, Shiocton. \$2 member, \$5 non-member, \$12 family. 715-758-6999 www.navarino.org

23 Candlelight Snowshoe Walk. 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. Mosquito Hill Nature Center, N3880 Rogers Road, New London. Mary Swifka 920-779-6433 swifkamk@co.outagamie.wi.us www.mosquitohill.com

23 Cross-country Ski Lessons. Lessons are designed for first time cross-country skiers or anyone who wants to improve on their basic skiing skills. Cost is \$10 including rentals. 10 to 11 a.m. Buboltz Nature Preserve 4815 N. Lynndale Drive, Appleton. To register please contact mbeaber@bubolzpreserve.org or call 920-731-6041. <http://www.bubolzpreserve.org>

29 Moonlight Ski and Snowshoe Trails Illuminated at Buboltz Nature Preserve. Capture the beauty of the preserve in the dark! Cross-country ski and snowshoe trails will be illuminated 6 – 9 p.m. Call the Preserve for more details. 920-731-6041. If no snow, hike will take place. Rentals available <http://www.bubolzpreserve.org>

30 Snowshoe Races. 1 mile, 3 miles, 200m kids' race. 10:00 a.m. Mosquito Hill Nature Center, N3880 Rogers Rd. New London. Bring own or rent snowshoes. Mary Swifka 920-779-6433 swifkamk@co.outagamie.wi.us www.mosquitohill.com

February

2 Cross-country Ski Lessons at Buboltz Nature Preserve. See January 23 event for information.



Events Continued

February

4 Sierra Club Starlight Ski/Snowshoe on Green Bay. After a couple years of uncooperative weather, let's try again! Bring snowshoes or skis, dress for the weather, and meet at Maureen's at 6:00 p.m. We'll venture out on the Bay, under the stars. Flashlights or headlamps are helpful. Conditions permitting, we can explore the zebra mussel shell deposits that are forming dunes along the shore. A crackling fire and chili supper will warm us after. \$3 donation for chili & "fixin's", BYOB. Please call by Monday, February 1st so I know how much chili to make. Contact the outings leader Maureen Birk. Call for directions 920-468-7252.

6 Candlelight Ski/Hike/Snowshoe. High Cliff State Park. Forest Management trail is torch-lit for skiers and hikers. Stop by the bonfire to warm up along the trail and visit the Friends of High Cliff concessions booth for some hot beverages and snacks. 5-8 p.m. High Cliff State Park, Sherwood 920-989-1106

13 Candlelight Snowshoe Hike at Navarino Nature Center 5:00 – 7:00p.m. See event on January 22 for more information.

13 Learn to Snowshoe. Discover the beauty of nature on snowshoes using the trail and "off-trail"

system. Snowshoes will be provided for all registered adults and children. Fallen Timbers Environmental Center, W4531 Robin Road, Black Creek. Cost: \$8.00/person. Limit 40 people. Reservations required 920-984-3700 http://www.cesa6.k12.wi.us/products_services/fallentimbers/index.cfm

19 Moonlight Ski at Buboltz Nature Preserve. See January 29 event for more information.

19 Candlelight Snowshoe Hike at Navarino Nature Center 5:00 – 7:00p.m. See event on January 22 for more information.

Harrison Studies Ways to Make Roads "Complete Streets"

Within our region, we have neighborhoods that are walkable and that support bicycling and transit use. We also have neighborhoods that are completely auto-dependent, which limit transportation options and personal mobility. With that in mind, the Town of Harrison, with the help of East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, is working on a plan to make Harrison's urban roads complete streets. Complete streets, by definition, include lanes for auto traffic and bicycles, easy access for bus passengers, and sidewalks. They make economic sense; they reduce crashes; and they encourage more walking and bicycling. Complete streets can help ease traffic jams and increase the capacity of the transportation network. They help

children (and adults) get fit and they are good for air quality.

Complete streets just make fiscal sense. Harrison knows that by integrating sidewalks, bike lanes, transit amenities, and safe crossings into the initial design of a project spares the expense of retrofits later. Midway Road is first on the drawing board for the 20+ member working committee, which will meet monthly through March to come up with a plan.

When finished, their complete streets plan may be a model for other area communities to follow.

Good luck, Town of Harrison, and thanks.

Dave Muench, President, Fox Cities Greenways

North STARS Update

North STARS, Northside Fox Cities Safe Trails and Recreation Supporters, is peddling along at a walker's pace. We're hoping to influence speed limit reductions on County JJ near Fox Valley Lutheran High School and Appleton North High School. Outagamie County is beginning to gather data to study the problem. In December, both Appleton and Grand Chute approved their own versions of 2030 Com-

prehensive Plans which include language and maps highlighting the desire of residents of these municipalities to have multi-use trails on the north side of the Fox Cities. We hope this will eventually lead to trails for safe passage for the many students, pedestrians, and cyclists in the area. Join us in our efforts! Contact Joy Hagen (joyous4all@new.rr.com) or Carla Jones (jaciecarla@hotmail.com).

Fox Locks Portages Taking Shape

Kayak, canoe, and other quiet water paddlers will have another water venue, come next spring. No longer will they have to wait until the great Park to Park Paddle to navigate the locks on the Fox River. As part of the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway project, the Friends of the Fox have taken on the task of building portages around each lock and other obstacles on the Fox River from Neenah to Green Bay, and Fox Cities Greenways is an important part of the action. Greenways has been a part of the project by providing the signage for the portages.

Why is Greenways a part of this project? Thinking outside the box, this is a trail, right? Well, the mission statement of our organization says in part that it exists "to serve as an advocate for trail and greenways development, facilitate projects, and raise awareness." Color aside, the Fox River is an environmental corridor, a greenway, and we are developing a trail. It's going to be great for local and regional paddlers, and an economic boon to tourism and community promotion.

Locks 1 -4, which are in the City of Appleton, will be open for use in May, or when water levels are safe. Watch for the grand opening.



Portage Signage

Update on the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway Project

The language for the feasibility study for the Fox - Wisconsin Heritage Parkway is still in progress. Senator Kohl's and Feingold's offices are working on the funding language. It is expected that this will be completed soon. When the feasibility study is completed it will be presented to congress. Friends of the Fox in the meantime are continuing work on developing the water trail and shore sites. During November, informational meetings were held in the communities that neighbor the parkway. Concerns of the river property owners were also addressed at these meetings. Further information regarding The Friends of the Fox can be found at www.friendsofthefox.org.

Portages and Locks

As of this writing, the four portages around the Appleton Locks are complete. Oscar Boldt Construction worked as general contractor on this project and the portages look great. Pictures of the portages shown below were taken from the Friends of the Fox website www.friendsofthefox.org. Locks 1, 2, and 3 have typical landings on the upstream and downstream sides of the lock. Lock 4 has a stair landing with a ramp on the upstream side and a typical landing on the downstream side of the lock. As more locks are restored, portages with improved landings will be added. These portages will enable paddlers to travel the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Trail.

Signage for the portages is furnished by Fox Cities Greenways; some of the signs have already been placed. (See article on page six for more about the portage signs.)

The Menasha Locks, as well as the Little Rapids and De Pere Locks will begin operation again in spring with the opening of the navigation season. They will continue to operate on a regular schedule. The four Appleton Locks and the Cedars Lock will be operated on an abbreviated schedule beginning in 2010.

Coming in April of 2010:

Fox River Heritage Voyage, A Journey of Rediscovery

A paddle trip down the Fox River from Portage to Green Bay is being planned by a group of people representing several organizations and their interests in the river, paddling, the history of the Fox River, and environmental stewardship. Some of those groups include Fox Wisconsin Heritage Parkway, Northeast Wisconsin Paddlers, Inc., Friends of the Fox, and Fox of the River Voyageur Canoe, LLC. The April trip is the first of a series of paddle trips called the Fox River Heritage Voyage 2010, which will follow in part the water route that historically was used by Wisconsin industry to transport materials to markets. One of the primary waterway routes linked the Great Lakes to the Mississippi River, following the Fox River from Green Bay to Portage.

The paddle trips will include either a Saturday (one day) or weekend trips with put in and take out locations at your discretion. The tentative first date is April 24, 2010, starting at the Indian Agency House near Portage. The remaining dates and put in locations are still under consideration. The paddle of the Upper Fox will end near Omro in mid-July. The Lower Fox trip will begin in Shattuck Park with the *Park to Paddle* event on July 24 and end in Green Bay during the Tall Ships Festival on August 13. Watch the paper and the events section of the Northeast Wisconsin Paddlers website, www.wisconsinpaddlers.org for additional information



Events Continued

February

22 Northeast Wisconsin Paddlers Kayak Lessons at the Appleton YMCA. The classes are generally scheduled from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. on successive Sunday afternoons. Registration information is published in the YMCA's winter program catalog and available online. Registration for classes that begin in Winter Session 2 (February 22 - April 11) is open for YMCA members on February 15 and for non-members beginning February 18th. Please contact Jody LaPlante, YMCA Program and Aquatic Director, at 920- 954-7640 with questions regarding registration. See the NEWP website for more information on paddling classes <http://www.wisconsinpaddlers.org/activities/classes>

27 Moonlight Snowshoe Hike. Enjoy the (almost) full moon while hiking the trails. Snowshoes will be provided. Please arrive one half hour early if you will need assistance putting on snowshoes or for a quick lesson. 1000 Islands Environmental Center, 1000 Beaulieu Court, Kaukauna. Please call the Center at 766-4733 at least one week prior to event to register <http://www.1000islandsenvironmentalcenter.com/calendar.html>

April

11 Scheels Run for Home 5K & Kid's Runs. Appleton. Pace Setters Fox Cities <http://www.pacesettersrun.com>

18 Oshkosh Half Marathon. Oshkosh. Pace Setters Fox Cities <http://www.pacesettersrun.com>

24 Segment 1 - Portage (Indian Agency House) to CTH O of the Fox River Heritage Voyage 2010. Paddle trip. See article on page 7 of this newsletter for more information or visit the Northeast Wisconsin Paddlers website <http://www.wisconsinpaddlers.org/activities/events/fox-river-heritage-voyage-2010>



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Winter 2009/10
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~ *Fostering the Development and Preservation of Trails and Greenways in the Greater Fox Cities Region* ~

Please Join Fox Cities Greenways Today!

Name: _____ Address _____

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My company has a matching gift program: No Yes, Company Name: _____

I would like to receive newsletter via e-mail: Yes No

I would like to receive occasional special alerts about Greenways issues via e-mail: Yes No

Membership Levels for one year: I wish to volunteer for:

Guardian \$35 Trail landscaping, maintenance

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Conservator \$250 Greenways committees

Trailblazer \$500 Other talents I could share

Pathfinder. \$1,000

My annual membership fee \$ _____ Special contribution \$ _____

Total \$ _____

Mail to Greenways, P.O. Box 5, Menasha, WI 54952-0005