



# Fox Cities GREENWAYS INK

The official publication of Fox Cities Greenways Inc.

Fostering the development and preservation of trails and greenways in the greater Fox Cities region!

## The outdoors are open and waiting for your next adventure!

Fall in the Fox Cities—a season many people wait for all year long. The beauty in fall colors, the leaves drifting through the sky, the feel of the crisp air—it has arrived. Something that doesn't seem to be changing for the better since our last issue of Greenways Ink is the spread of COVID-19. As we continue to navigate this international pandemic and the stressors that come with it, remember that the outdoors aren't closed and your local greenways are ready and waiting for your next adventure! Share your adventures with us, we want to hear from you! What Greenways have you visited this year? Share your experiences on the

Greenways Facebook page @FoxCitiesGreenwaysInc or share your experience through the lens of a camera in our 2020 Photo Contest (details in this newsletter)! Looking for a new trail to visit? Check out the mapping page on our new website: <https://www.foxcitiesgreenways.org/mapping>

Speaking of things that aren't closed: construction and projects continue throughout the Fox Cities with amazing efforts to expand our bike and pedestrian networks for your morning commute as well as leisure pursuits. Check out the Talkin' Trails por-

tion of this newsletter to learn about all the amazing additions the region has gained this summer! Fox Cities Greenways Inc. continues our strong collaborative partnership with East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission and the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region to bring you a unique virtual event this fall—full flyer and details are included later in this publication.

Together we continue to develop and preserve trails and greenways through the Fox Cities region, a place I am so proud to call home. Be well.

*Holly Femal*

Greenways President

Fall 2020 Edition

2020  
Board of Directors

**Holly Femal**  
President

**Adam Breest**  
Vice President

**Bob Jakel**  
Treasurer

**Kim Biedermann**  
Secretary

**James Merten**  
**Gwen Sargeant**  
**Dave Martin**  
**Michelle Bachaus**  
**Andrea Peterson**

## Fox Cities Trail Summit Updates

In February 2020, the Greenways board hosted our inaugural event with trail partners East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC) and the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region (CFFVR). At the conclusion of the event, we pledged to all in attendance, and to you our membership, to not let the work completed that day end with the event. We are here to stay true to that promise, with a new and exciting event! Our board had hoped that April would be a great time to share the findings of our trail summit, but the world had other plans. So, in an effort to stay safe, share our excitement, and continue the good work of this amazing partnership of community organizations, we are so happy to announce the Fall Follow Up: Focus on Equity and Inclusion. The virtual event will be held October 27th, 2020 from 4:00 p.m.—5:30 p.m. The event will highlight the outcome of the February Trail Summit, share a drone video highlighting projects and accomplishments in the Fox Cities, and host special guest speaker Dudley Edmondson to speak to the topic of equality and inclusion in outdoor recreation. Further details about this amazing event can be located on page 2 of this newsletter. A very special thank you to our trailblazing partners at ECWRPC and CFFVR—for without their support this event would surely not be the multi-faceted trail celebration and educational forum that it promises to be! Please register today at <https://tinyurl.com/TrailSummit>, we look forward to seeing you all online, October 27th!



**OCTOBER 27, 2020**

**4:00 - 5:30 PM**

**REGISTER FOR FREE!**

<https://tinyurl.com/TrailSummit>

# FOX CITIES TRAIL SUMMIT **2020**



**Fall Follow Up: Focus on Equity & Inclusion**

Presented  
By



**Fox Cities**  
**GREENWAYS**



East Central Wisconsin  
Regional Planning Commission  
**ECWRPC**

Sparked and sponsored by the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region

We welcome special guest presenter:

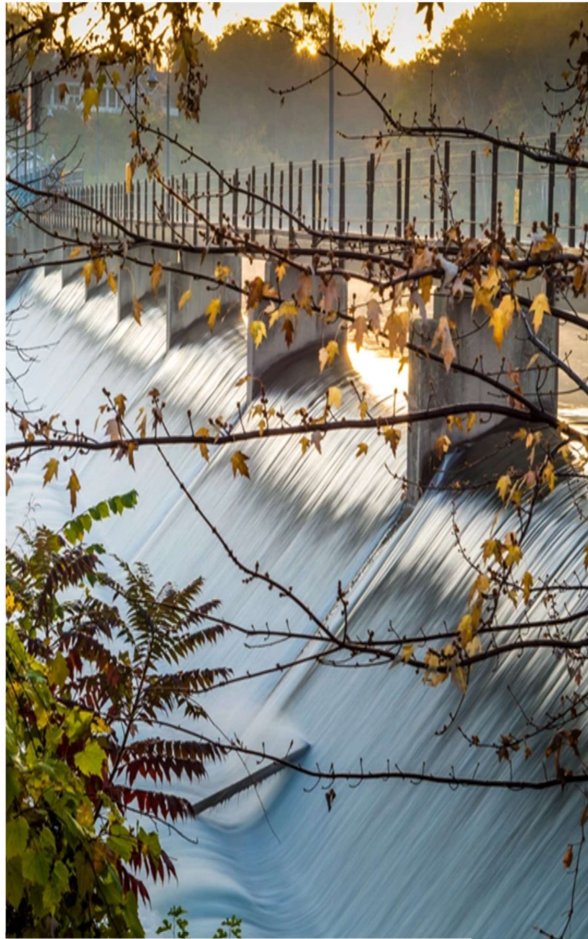
**Dudley Edmondson**

**“Understanding the Disconnect  
Between African Americans &  
the Outdoors”**



Join us to explore how the nation’s history of slavery, racism, and current social and economic factors contribute to the underrepresentation of people of color in outdoor activities. The audience will have

Plus, get an exclusive look at the results of the February Fox Cities Trail Summit and learn about the amazing trail projects coming, to the tune of \$20 million by the end of 2022. To paint the picture, exclusive drone flyover footage will be presented!





# FCGI is Talkin' Trails

*With local trail blazers!*



## Lawe Street Trestle is OPEN!—City of Appleton

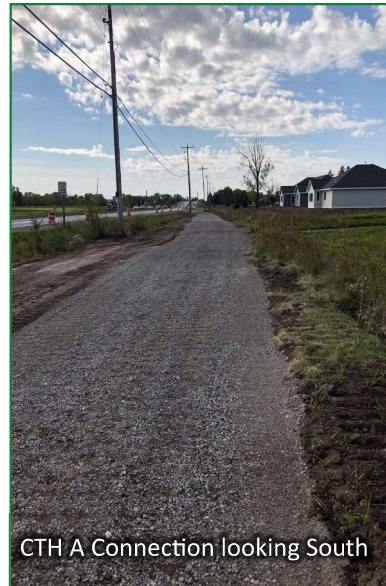
In August, the City of Appleton was ecstatic to present to the citizens of Appleton and the Fox Cities, the Lawe Street Trestle Bridge and Trail Project. The construction included the conversion of a 575' CN Railroad trestle that was built in 1917 by the Chicago Bridge and Iron Works Company into a 14' wide pedestrian and bicycle trail with scenic overlooks and lights. The project also developed a meandering trail along the Fox River from Lawe Street to John Street, adding another half-mile of lighted river front trail and a plethora of amazing scenic sights that are now 100% ADA accessible.

The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$1,420,000. Funding and project support for the project included grants from the DNR Stewardship Fund, Outagamie County Greenways Fund, Neenah Papers land acquisition, and an easement from Eagle Point. Included in the cost was the refurbishing and installation of the Houdini

Monument "Metamorphosis". The Lawe Street location is the site that Houdini almost drowned at as a child and is said to have been the start of his fascination with escaping from water. Submitted by Tom Flick, Deputy Director, Appleton Parks, Recreation, and Facilities Management.

## CTH A Connection- Town of Grand Chute

This project involves the construction of a 10 ft. wide asphalt trail along CTH A from W. Grand Chute Boulevard, extending north approximately 1 mile to CTH JJ. This facility will be an extension of the existing pedestrian and bicycle network in Grand Chute, providing increased access to the trail system in the Fox Cities. The trail extension will provide active transportation options to approximately 70,000 annual visitors to the Bubolz Nature Preserve, and provide access to the adjacent Girl Scouts of the Northwestern Great Lakes Appleton Service Center facilities. The new trail will connect to a multi-use trail facility and existing crossing of CTH A, featuring user-activated rapid flashing beacons, installed as part of a recent multi-family residential development on the east side of CTH A. Additionally, the trail will connect to trail facilities on the west side of CTH A, recently installed as part of the Forest View Estates residential subdivision. Submitted by Mike Patza, Town Planner, Town of Grand Chute



## David and Rita Nelson Family Heritage Boardwalk— City of Kaukauna & Village of Little Chute

After 5 years of planning and fundraising, the "David and Rita Nelson Family Heritage Crossing" broke ground on August 1 of this year. Michels Corporation is performing the construction work and GRAEF is the engineering company in charge of this project. As of the end of October, all of the piers will be in the water. You will continue to see a lot of activity in October as Michels works on grading and installing the steel girders. This project will be under construction through January of 2021 and is anticipated to be opening on June 1, 2021. This boardwalk extending over the Fox River will connect the Little Chute and Kaukauna existing trail systems. This project is also a key link along the Loop the Locks project connecting Kaukauna, Little Chute, Kimberly, and Appleton via a dedicated trail system. The loop will be roughly 13 miles in length. Submitted by Adam Breest, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Forestry, Village of Little Chute



# FCGI is Talkin' Trails

With local trail blazers!

CB Trail Connection



CA Trail addition



## Connections Completed—Town of Greenville

Greenville is excited about the completion of some recent trail projects. In late 2019, the construction of the CB Trail extension from STH 96 north to STH 15 was completed. The CB Trail now extends along the entire length of CTH CB from Neenah north to Greenville! In a project partnership with Outagamie County and Grand Chute, the CA Trail was constructed in 2020 along College Ave, connecting the Appleton International Airport with the Fox River Mall area. Both of these trails are important connections in the Fox Valley area. Submitted by Tony Nowak, Director of Parks, Recreation and Forestry, Town of Greenville

September Ribbon Cutting at the CE Trail extension in Kaukauna



## CE Trail Connects further into Kaukauna

The Outagamie County "CE" Trail is a wonderful ribbon of asphalt extending from Appleton to Kaukauna adjacent four-lane County Road "CE". This heavily used trail and its many amenities was recently extended about one mile east of the City of Kaukauna, connecting newer residential housing with safe routes to school, parks, and work. The trail now extends to Haas Road in Kaukauna providing for future connections to Wrightstown and the Fox River Trail and downtown Green Bay. Thanks to a donation from the David L. and Rita E. Nelson Family Fund, a pedestrian crosswalk with lights and raised medians provides for a safer access to the trail for residents to the south of the "CE" Trail. Submitted by Bob Jackel, Director of Planning and Community Development, City of Kaukauna

## Talkin' Trail Etiquette with WI Bike Fed



### Trail Etiquette

help make sure everyone can enjoy our trails!



#### Use safe speeds, stay to the right, pass on the left.

Announce your intentions to pass by ringing a bell or simply starting with "hello." Plan for the unpredictable movement of others.

#### Stay on the trail.

Please respect property owners who have welcomed us, no short cuts. Don't stop on the trail. Step off for breaks.

#### Teach your kids and pets.

Keep them close and pick up waste. For pets, please follow trail rules and local leash laws.

#### Be alert. It's better to be safe than right.

Trail crossings are not always obvious to other road users. Be aware of your surroundings; if using headphones, keep volume low or use only one ear bud.

#### Know and follow the rules.

New trail users need time to learn best practices, be a friendly example. If required, buy a trail pass; funds help maintain and build new trails.

#### Have fun and make the trail experience positive for all users.

The happier we all are, the more people will use trails.





# FCGI is Talkin' Trails

With local trail blazers!

## Biking Opportunities Expand in Fox Crossing

If there's one theme people take away from this newsletter, it's that you don't have to go very far in the Fox Cities to get closer to nature and explore amazing trails. Those opportunities continue to grow, as are the variety of uses. Anyone who rides singletrack (e.g. mountain bike) knows that we are seeing opportunities to "ride dirt" increase right here in the Fox Cities.

In 2019, a local family, with the assistance of the Northeast Wisconsin Trails (NEWT) and Fox Valley Composite Mountain Biking Team (a school-aged mountain biking team, hosting 30 riders in grades 6-12) and with cooperation of the Village of Fox Crossing, started to build a singletrack course on a 20-acre parcel of Village-owned land at the intersection of CTH CB and Shady Lane. With over a mile-and-a-half of trails, constructed trail builder Chad Romzek hopes to see this turn into a three-mile loop with trails appealing to various skill levels. Evidence of the trail expansion is already underway with flags marking new potential routes. Excess mounds of dirt from the Village are being hauled into an open space, where a skills course is in the works.

As we approach winter, especially a winter where we are finding new activities, the trails will be open to fat biking and snowshoeing, with volunteers maintaining the trails through the winter. You don't have to travel far to get closer to nature and ride dirt (or snow). Happy riding!



Loop the Little Lake Trail Program  
More than Doubles in 2020!

Wouldn't it be cool to get a prize just for using our local trail systems? Well, thanks to Future Neenah and local partners ThedaCare and 4imprint, that's just what is happening to those who are using the Loop the Little Lake trail system.

In the spring of 2019, the one-year anniversary of the Loop the Little Lake was approaching, and Future Neenah wanted to do something to celebrate this anniversary and motivate people to use the trail network. From that concept, the Log Your Loops initiative was launched. Those who log 50 completed loops (about 3.1 miles per loop) via walking or wheeling between Memorial Day and Labor Day received a t-shirt, compliments of ThedaCare. For those completing 25 or more loops in 2020, a ShoeViz LED safety light is provided, compliments of 4imprint.

In just two years, they have seen this grow from 102 individuals completing all 50 loops in 2019 to 230 in 2020, they believe part of this increase was due to people looking for new and safe activities to do during the pandemic. While Future Neenah doesn't know what 2021 will bring, they are already planning for it, with the announcement of it running from May 31-September 6, 2021. If you have already participated, you will get notification to log your loops. If you're looking to do it for your first time in 2021 and want to get registered, you can contact Future Neenah staff at 920.722.1920 or [info@neenah.org](mailto:info@neenah.org). Thanks to their partnerships with ThedaCare and 4imprint, Future Neenah is able to offer this for free to participants. The Log Your Loops program is the trail user's equivalent to having your cake and eating it, too!



# A September Bike Week to Remember

By: Wisconsin Bike Fed and Fox Cities Cycling Association



Thomas Edison, portrayed by Tom Sutter, checks out a Specialized electric bike at the Vulcan Replica Pop Up on the Hydroelectric History Tour



May and June 2020 were planned for a full spring of fun bicycling events for National Bike Month, Week and Wisconsin Bike Week. In hopes of having in-person events, the week was pushed out to September. We had the “air let out of tires” with increased numbers statewide and so it was decided to go virtual and on your own for Wisconsin Bike Week and National Bike Week.

Wisconsin Bike Fed and Fox Cities Cycling Association hosted a Bicycle Benefits Blitz of fun businesses to visit. They also hosted virtual events including Bike to Work Day, Show us your Safety Gear, Ride to the Grocery Store, and How do you Roll and Where? online discussion. Riding events included the “on your own” 7 Parks Moonlight Ride and a Hydroelectric History Tour you could download and complete on your own.

All month long the WI Bike Fed worked with Bike Shops to Pedal for Good. Canned goods and more were pedaled into local bike shops and dropped off for St Joe’s here in the Fox Cities.

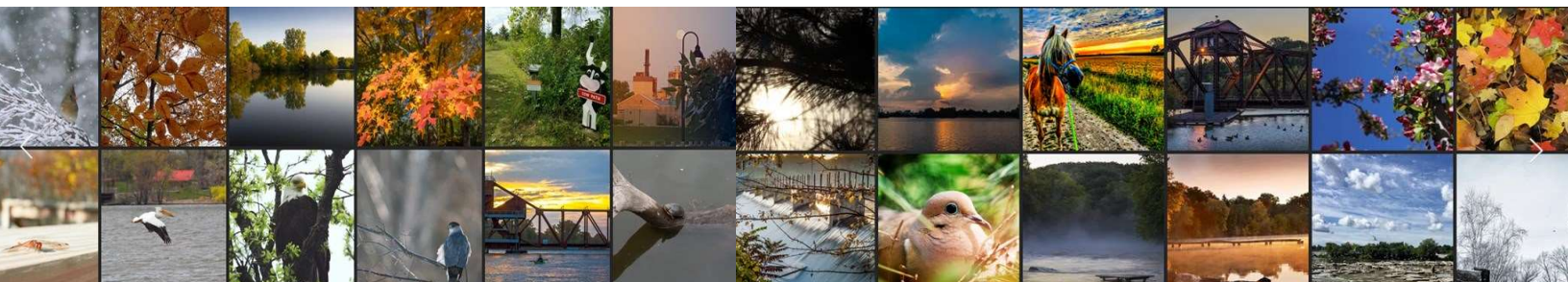
WI Bike Fed created a fantastic series called Portraits by Bike. Our own Denise Fenton was featured in the first series, inspiring others with her story about biking for transportation!

We wrapped up Bike Week with the announcement of Fox Cities Greenways Trail Summit Fall Follow up with a focus on equity and inclusion. At this online event you will learn more about the \$20 million investment in trails by 2023 and see exclusive drone footage.

Find Wisconsin Bike Fed and Fox Cities Cycling Association on Facebook to follow along, ride along (socially distanced), and join the fun!

## 2020 TOGETHER FOR TRAILS PHOTO CONTEST!

2020 has driven people to the trails and greenways in the area—have you captured the beauty of your latest adventure by camera? If so, submit those photos to the Together for Trails Photo Contest! Photos should illustrate the many ways our trails, greenspaces, and waterways are utilized in the Fox Cities region in one of our two categories: Discovering the natural beauty of our trails: wildlife, flora, and fauna OR Exploring and sharing trail experiences with family and friends: encouraging outdoor activities, destinations, fitness, and traveling safely. New for 2020, submit your photos on Google Forms! All links instructions and forms are available on our new website at: <https://www.foxcitiesgreenways.org/photo-contest> Stay tuned on our Facebook Page for voting in December. We look forward to seeing what beauty you have captured in 2020!





# Make the Ride Happen: Cycling Without Age

*A program of Lutheran Social Services of Northeastern Wisconsin*



Bob Pinkton, Volunteer Pilot with Brookdale Senior Living residents

Volunteer Fox Cities, East Central Regional Planning Commission, Wisconsin Bike Fed, Make the Ride Happen and Fox Cities Greenways, Inc. have partnered and developed a community-based cycling without age program. This unique program provides the opportunity for older adults and those with differing abilities to share their stories while riding in pedal assist trishaws piloted by trained volunteers. Make the Ride Happen, a program of Lutheran Social Services, which currently provides vehicular rides for older adults, has folded Cycling Without Age into its existing program. Fox Cities Greenways, Inc. has donated two trishaws to Make the Ride Happen: CWA, thanks to the generosity and support of Fox Cities Greenways, our private and public donors and grant funders.

This program aims to bring joy and a sense of adventure to older adults and those with differing abilities. Since it began in 2019, volunteer pilots have given trishaw rides to over 150 passengers who have traveled 75 miles through parks, trails and neighborhoods throughout the Fox Cities Region. Our riders come from many different organizations in the Fox Cities, like SOAR, The Fox Valley Memory Project, Brookdale Assisted Living, Oak Park Place and local neighborhoods, where we bring the trailhead right to the doorstep of homeowners.

Make the Ride Happen: Cycling Without Age delivered corn-filled meals by trishaw for SOAR's "Corn on the Go" event for friends and family scheduled this past August. Pictured is Holly Keenen, Mobility Director, for Make the Ride Happen: CWA and Jan Sommerfeld, RSVP Director. This is just one example of how MRH: CWA supports the Fox Cities Community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Bob Pinkton, a newly trained Volunteer Pilot, pedaled residents from Brookdale Senior Living through the surrounding neighborhoods. Bob states, "he'll take anyone anywhere on a trishaw ride." For Bob, volunteering for MRH: CWA is a much-needed break from the daily grind. His passengers raved about being outside in the sunshine and loved soaking up the fresh air. Several passengers mentioned they liked being able to go places without "tipping around" in a noisy, crowded uncomfortable bus." He was able to pedal a passenger by a home he had previously owned. Every passenger, of which there were many, said the ride was too short.

How can you help? Get involved by becoming a volunteer pilot, pedal trishaws and ride with wonderful people. Our team has made multiple adjustments to ensure the safety of our volunteer pilots and passengers during the Co-Vid Pandemic. Ask us to pedal trishaws for your organization, church, an event, senior assisted living home or nursing home. Be a passenger, ride with us, make new friends and share your stories. To volunteer contact [rsvp@volunteerfoxcities.org](mailto:rsvp@volunteerfoxcities.org) or 920-832-9360. To schedule a ride, contact [MRH@lsswis.org](mailto:MRH@lsswis.org) or 920-225-1719. Become a sponsor and donate by mailing checks to Fox Cities Greenways, Inc. P.O. Box 5 Menasha, WI 54952-0005, earmarked for Make the Ride Happen: CWA.

## Fox Cities Cycling Without Age Association

Would you like to be a part of an association which helps to ensure trails and greenways in the Fox Cities region are available to everyone, regardless of age and differing ability? Consider joining Fox Cities Cycling Without Age Association. Cycling Without Age extends the joy of cycling to everyone. FCCWA's mission is to "empower local nursing homes, assisted senior living centers, organizations and community members with the resources and knowledge needed to begin their own Cycling Without Age program."

What does it take to bridge the past with the future? The answer is one trishaw ride. Cycling Without Age offers older adults and those with differing abilities the opportunity to access trails in the Fox Cities Region through trishaws pedaled by trained volunteer pilots. Cycling Without Age develops relationships, strengthens communities, creates a sense of belonging, and provides alternative transportation and recreation options. If you are interested in volunteering for FCCWA, please contact Cheryl Zadrzil at [cherylforgreenways@gmail.com](mailto:cherylforgreenways@gmail.com).

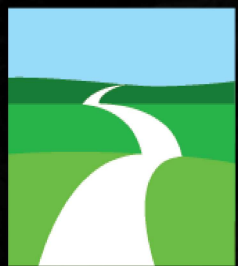


Holly Keenen, Volunteer Pilot



Holly Keenen, Volunteer Pilot & Jan Sommerfeld, Passenger





# Fox Cities GREENWAYS

2021  
Annual  
Meeting

## Save the date for Thursday, January 28th!

Keeping the health and safety of our membership at the forefront of all planning, we will be launching a virtual annual meeting this year. Stay tuned for meeting links, agendas, and more! This promises to be a meeting unlike any before! It's been an amazing year with so much to share, we look forward to seeing you there, virtually!

### Join Fox Cities Greenways Today!

Fall 2020

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership:

- ☐ \$35—Guardian      ☐ \$50—Sentinel      ☐ \$100—Advocate  
☐ \$250—Conservator      ☐ \$500—Trailblazer      ☐ \$1,000—Pathfinder  
☐ Please apply my membership to Fox Cities Cycling Association restricted fund  
☐ My company has a matching gift program: Company : \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to receive my newsletter via...(please circle one)    Postal Mail      Email

Mail this form to **Fox Cities Greenways, P.O. Box 5, Menasha, WI 54952-0005**

You may also join or donate online with Pay Pal at [www.foxcitiesgreenways.org](http://www.foxcitiesgreenways.org).

Fox Cities Greenways, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Your gift is tax deductible to the extent provided by law. Email us with any questions at [fcgreenways@gmail.com](mailto:fcgreenways@gmail.com)

**Thank you for your support!**