The Greenways Foundation Grant Awards 2013 and 2014

Our grant program has been in place since 2012 and is funded entirely by the proceeds received through our Indiana BMV specialty license plate. Please consider purchasing a Greenways Foundation plate to show your support for trails and greenways when you renew your tags, and if you already are a supporter thank you.

Beginning in April of 2012, grant applications were accepted for up to $500 from non-profit groups. In 2013, the Greenways Foundation grant program increased the maximum grant award per application to $2000. The Greenways Foundation awarded a total of $5,400 in grants to trails groups. Our goal is to assist communities throughout the state in realizing the economic, social and health benefits of non-motorized trails and linear parks.

The Greenways Foundation will continue to provide funding to public and/or private entities, such as environmental agencies, Scout troops, service clubs, schools, individuals and others to accomplish projects which protect, enhance, preserve or develop areas throughout Indiana for enjoyment and use by the public. In 2014 the Foundation has awarded a total of $10,000 in grants with a maximum request for each grant at $2,000. Go to www.greenwaysfoundation.com and click on grants to obtain an application.

The following trails completed their work utilizing funds awarded by the Greenways Foundation:

Covered Bridge Gateway Trails Association - First Mile Project
Communities of Rosedale and Rockville in Parke County, Indiana
Grant awarded: 2012 Grant utilized: 2013

Covered Bridge Gateway Trails Association surveyed the First Mile Project in the Fall and are readying for construction. The 1.2-mile segment of a trail in Parke County, Indiana that will eventually connect with the National Heritage Trail continuing North to the B&O coming east from Marion County for a grand total of the 150 mile trail. The pictures are of the hikers on the trail, and bikers at the covered bridge from the Bike the Bridges Fall Challenge.
The Friends of Boone County Trail – Farm Heritage Trail - Thomtown and Lebanon, Indiana
Grant awarded: 2012 Grant utilized: 2013
The Friends of Boone County focused on opening and maintaining more trail areas for bike riding, hiking, and horseback riding. The Greenways Foundation aided efforts as did the volunteer labor and donated materials. The Farm Heritage Trail areas that were over grown with brush and trees that had fallen were reopened. An area of land adjacent to the trail was purchased at a tax sale and converted into a park. A newly installed bench, donated by Boone County Solid Waste makes the perfect resting point for picnics, reading and meeting friends while enjoying the trail. Volunteers cleared the land, planted flowers, put mulch around all trees, foliage and walkways. A bike rack donated by The Methodist Children's Home was refurbished by volunteers. Volunteers were Dan Warkentien, Jack Allen Betty Allen, David Cook, Ken Morrow, Frank Hensley, Ethan Haskins, Don and Kathy Weiss.
Friends of the Eel River Trail – Trail to Trestle - South Whitley in Whitley, Indiana
Grant awarded: 2012 Grant utilized: 2013/2014
The Friends Group is constructing a 1600-foot long and 8-foot wide trail along an abandoned rail bed. Their plight is very similar to other groups who pursue many sources even if it is only small amounts. Donors look favorably on having several sources of funding. They put asphalt down in December and will be placing the topcoat in 2014. Pictures below are of the trail before asphalt.

National Road Heritage Trail - Hendricks County, Indiana
Grant awarded: 2013 Grant utilized: 2013
The National Road Heritage Trail, Inc (NRHT - Founded in 2005) put up permanent signs and created marketing material. NRHT wants to raise awareness that the "local trail" is a part of the cross-state multi-use trail. NRHT also believes this will encourage more support of the trail to spread their message widely.
Zionsville Rail Trail- Railroads Impact in Zionsville: Interpretive Signs, Boone County, Indiana
Grant awarded: 2013/2014
The Zionsville Parks Department and the Sullivan Munce Cultural Center partnered to develop interpretive signs that will provide historical perspective on the trail's original use as the Big Four Rail Line.

Save the Dunes - Bikes on the South Shore - South Bend, Indiana
Grant awarded: 2013 Work continuing in 2014
Save the Dunes will utilize their award to aid in the cost of performing a "South Shore Bikes on Trains" study of the South Shore Railroad line from Chicago, IL to South Bend, IN. Conducting a study is necessary for the region's commuter train district because their infrastructure, schedule, sharing of track with a freight railroad, and sharing of track with another Chicago-base commuter train (Metra) make their system highly unique. Other bikes-on-trains studies or programs can certainly inform the proposed study, but there is no program that would address their unique set of challenges. This is a highly collaborative effort involving the train district, Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, Save the Dunes, National Parks Conservation Association, Arcelor Mittal Steel, Porter County Commissioners, Active Transportation Alliance, South Shore Trails and the Regional Development Authority.

City/County Bicycle/Pedestrian Map - City of Bloomington and Monroe County
Grant awarded: 2014
The City of Bloomington and Monroe County are designing a Bicycle/Pedestrian Map. Bloomington and Monroe County are making every effort to make a map that is easy to use, aesthetically pleasing, and motivates people to explore this beautiful area on foot or by bicycle. They used a local artist to design the cover. They plan to update the map every 2-4 years. Updated versions will use this map as a baseline. Updated maps will reflect the new landscape of the road and trail environment in the city and county, both of which are adding new infrastructure every year. A full PDF version of the map will be available on the city and county websites for use.
B&O Trail Association – Trail Maintenance – Removal of invasive plant species, mowing and weeding
Grant awarded: 2014
B&O Trail Association's goal is to preserve the 65mile abandoned B&O Railroad corridor and convert it into a linear park, or rail trail, for bicyclists, pedestrians, and equestrians. The grant purchase equipment enabling volunteers to mow the trail borders, blow leaves and debris off the trail, stray weeds, mulch trees and bushes. There are native plants and flowers along the trail that will be preserved. Volunteers from Community Service people, social organizations such as the Brownsburg Rotary and Kiwanis, Brownsburg High School Community Service Club, Avon Kiwanis, churches and businesses that plan volunteer days on the trail.

Sweetser Switch Trail, Grant County – Trail Maintenance – Asphalt Sealing
Grant awarded: 2014
Sweetser Switch Park Board resources are stretched severely and maintenance of the existing trail had to be put on the back burner while work on this newer section connecting to the Cardinal Greenway. The existing trail needs cracks filled and sealed. To seal the portions that need this accomplished would be in the realm of $6,000... and that is out of bounds with our budget. They have the machinery and manpower needed through employees and volunteers, but didn’t have all of the funding for the materials.
Wayfinding Signage - Friends of the Ohio River Greenway, Clarksville, Jeffersonville and New Albany (Clark/Floyd County Indiana)
The general project objective is to fabricate and install a wayfinding signage system that assists motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians in navigating throughout the 7.5 miles of the Ohio River Greenway Corridor and to key destinations.

Ditch Witch 750 for Construction/Repair – Hoosier National Forest – Hoosier Back Country Horsemen
Grant awarded: 2014
Hoosier Back Country Horsemen are men and women from all walks of life, from all over the state of Indiana, who have a common goal: To preserve and maintain the multiple-use trail systems in Indiana’s forests for recreational trail riders today, and in the future. The Hoosier Back Country Horsemen are a chapter of the Back Country Horsemen of America. They are using funds from the Greenways Foundation to purchase a Ditch Witch 750 for trail construction and repair.