

Kenosha County Mountain Bike Trail Development

FAQS:

Why are mountain bike trails important to Kenosha County?

Parks, trails, and outdoor recreation simply add to the quality of life for residents and visitors to Kenosha County. Visitors spent \$162 million dollars on tourism and recreation in Kenosha County in 2012*. The Outdoor Industry Association states that outdoor recreation generated \$12 billion in consumer spending in Wisconsin and supported 142,000 jobs in the state**. Local trails will provide more closer-to-home recreational opportunities, safe and healthy outdoor experiences, increased economic activity (spending on local businesses + jobs), and more FUN!

Where are the trails being developed?

At this time, the focus is on developing trails at Silver Lake County Park. Silver Lake County Park is a 260 acre park located one mile south of Hwy 50 on County Hwy F between the communities of Paddock Lake and Silver Lake.

What kind of trails will be constructed?

The Silver Lake Park trail plan includes 10-14 miles of purpose-built mountain bike trails.

When will the trails in Silver Lake be completed?

Some riding opportunities already exist at the park. Approximately 5 miles of trails have already been constructed and existing double-track trails are in place. Ideally, with strong volunteer support, the 10-14 miles of single track trails will be completed by fall of 2015.

Who is building the trails and how can I assist?

The trail plan has been designed by Great Lakes Trailbuilders from La Crosse, Wisconsin. The dirt surface trails are being built by volunteers from Kenosha Off-Road Bicycle Association (KORBA) with building starting in May of 2014. Work dates will be posted on the KORBA Facebook page and with the county parks department. To volunteer or for more information about work dates, go to the KORBA Facebook page, email KORBAinfo@gmail.com or call 262-235-0443.

What is KORBA?

KORBA is a new volunteer organization working with Kenosha County Parks to bring sustainable mountain bike trails to the area.

Is KORBA affiliated with the International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) or any other IMBA chapters?

KORBA is not an official IMBA chapter but many of the group's members belong to IMBA and other mountain bike groups. KORBA does not have an official membership base but is comprised of individuals who love mountain biking and have a desire to see sustainable trails developed in the local area. Kenosha County Parks Department will act as the group's fiscal agent for grant opportunities, funding management, and transparency.

How is this project being funded?

Kenosha County Parks is funding the development plan and providing tools, a work shed, and other support. KORBA will continue to look for fundraising opportunities through donations, grants, and sponsorships. Funds will be needed for signage, additional tools, and maps.

Are there plans for developing trails elsewhere in Kenosha County?

The Kenosha County Parks Department wants Silver Lake Park (SLP) trails to be completed first and will then look at other opportunities such as the KD County Park property near Twin Lakes and formalizing the trails at Petrifying Springs County Park near UW Parkside in Kenosha. Plans and working groups for these properties will be organized in the future.

How can I become more involved?

Work crews are needed. Watch the KORBA Facebook page for announcements about volunteering for future work dates. People with trail building experience can volunteer to act as crew leaders.

Individuals with experience in marketing, social media, fundraising, and sponsorships are also needed.

How can I learn more?

Work dates will be posted on the KORBA Facebook page and with the parks department. To volunteer, connect with members, or to learn more information about the project and future events, go to the KORBA Facebook page, email KORBAinfo@gmail.com or call 262-235-0443.

*Wisconsin Department of Tourism – 2012 Economic Impact Report – May 2013

** The Outdoor Recreation Economy - Outdoor Industry Association – April 2013.