



Fast Facts

The Paint Creek Trail is located in northeastern Oakland County. It traverses through the communities of Rochester, Rochester Hills, Oakland Township, Orion Township, and the Village of Lake Orion.

- ❑ 8.9 miles of developed Trail
- ❑ Formerly Penn Central Railroad
- ❑ 8 feet wide
- ❑ Crushed Limestone Surface on 98% of Trail
- ❑ 10.5 miles acquired in 1983
 - \$450,000
 - 50% Land Trust Funds
 - 50% Local Prorated Match

Mileage Information

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|---|
| Rochester Park to Tienken | 0.9 miles | Rochester: 0.6 miles Rochester Hills: 1.4 miles Oakland Township: 5.3 miles Orion Township: 1.2 miles Lake Orion: 0.4 miles |
| Tienken to Dutton | 1.2 miles | |
| Dutton to Silver Bell | 1.0 mile | |
| Silver Bell to Gallagher | 0.6 miles | |
| Gallagher to Gunn | 0.8 miles | |
| Gunn to Adams | 1.4 miles | |
| Adams to Clarkston/K | 1.5 miles | |
| Clarkston/Kes Atwater | 1.5 miles | |
| Total Mileage: | 8.9 miles | |

Organization

Management

- ✓ Paint Creek Trailways Commission, an intergovernmental agency
- ✓ Formed under Urban Cooperation Act of 1967 in December of 1981
- ✓ 2 Commissioners, 2 Alternates from each of the four member communities, 1 non-voting Commissioner from Lake Orion
- ✓ Annual Operating Budget : \$88,871
- ✓ Staff: Part-time Manager, part-time seasonal Bike Patroller
- ✓ Maintenance: by each community

Budget Facts

- 2011 Operational Budget: \$88,871
- Revenue: \$16,549 from each member community (\$66,196) (4% reduction)
- Approximately \$10,000 in utility and property rental license fees
- Temporary Permit fees, interest, event sponsorships, donations, and merchandise sales
- In-Kind Services from each community

Grant Funding

Recent Grant Projects

- 2008-2009: Paint Creek Trail Sign Project
 - Meijer Corporation - \$5,000
- 2006-2007: Rochester Historical Art Project - \$15,000
 - Preede Foundation, Local Organization match
- 2007: Atwater Paving Project - \$10,000 DALMAC grant
- 2004-2005: Prairie Restoration Art & Video project
 - Bordine Beautification Fund, Shellenbarger Fund
 - National Endowment for the Arts - \$11,000
 - Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs - \$15,000



Directional Map

- ✓ Located at 9 Trailheads along the Trail
- ✓ Funded by Meijer Corporation
- ✓ Design courtesy of HomeLogic Housewares in Troy, as corporate community service project




Rochester Historical Art Project

Project Location Map



Grant Funding – State



**Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant
Paint Creek Trail Enhancement Project – 2002-2005**

- Rochester Hills: Picnic Area - \$5,000
- Oakland Township: Picnic Area & Drinking Fountain - \$10,000
- Orion Township: Foley Pond Observation Deck - \$60,000
- Orion Township: Vault Toilet at Clarkston/Kern - \$15,000

Orion Township MNRTF Projects

Vault Toilet at Clarkston/Kern Crossing



Foley Pond Observation Deck →



Oakland Township – MNRTF Project



ADA picnic site south of Gallagher crossing



Rochester Hills – MNRTF Project

ADA picnic site at Tienken trailhead



Uniform Trailways Ordinances

- 20 Ordinances, adopted by each community
- Protects natural features
 - Bans removal
 - No fires, camping, littering
- Limits commercial activity
- Horses/Dogs
- No trespassing to adjacent lands
- No motorized vehicles



Paint Creek Trail Patrol Program

\$12,600 Annual Budget

- Funded by each member community, based on mileage
 - Rochester: \$991
 - Rochester Hills: \$2,124
 - Oakland: \$7,647
 - Orion: \$1,838
 - Total: \$12,600
- Part-Time Bike Patroller
- OCSO Mounted Patrol

David Moutrie, Bike Patroller



Oakland County Sheriff's Office

Mounted Patrol

May thru October

Trail User Demographics

• 2004 MSU Study

- May-Sept: 67,000 users
- 56% : bicyclists
- 44% : walkers/runners
- 90% : Oakland County residents or workers
- 53% male, 47% female
- 51% lived within 2 miles of the Trail
- 3% : disabled
- Improvements wanted?
- Connection to Polly Ann & Bathrooms



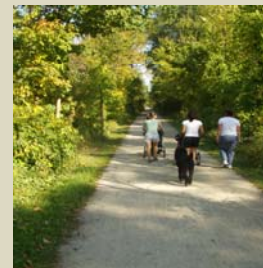
Challenges

- User conflicts – Trail Courtesy
- Parking
- Ordinance Enforcement
- Encroachments
- Connectivity to Polly Ann Trail



Additional Challenges

- Funding
- Maintenance
- Road Crossings
- Bathroom facilities
- Adequate shelter



National Trails Day

- Started by the American Hiking Society
- First Saturday in June
- Each year, new focus
 - Historical Bike Tours
 - Hiking & Geocaching
 - Native Plant Sale/Garlic Mustard Pull
 - Family Friendly Events & Crafts
 - Ribbon Cuttings/Recognition Ceremonies



Labor Day Virtual Bridge Walk and Run

- Governor's Council on Physical Fitness – Community Walks Program
- 6th Annual Walk
- Fudge! Freebies! Fun!
- Local Health Organization Sponsorship
- Grown from 35 to 235!
- 2 mile walk or 10K Run



Labor Day Virtual Bridge Walk and Run



Rochester Hills



- \$84,110 of \$450,000 price
- 1.4 miles – maintained by Rochester Hills Parks & Forestry
 - 3 bridges
- #1 most utilized section of trail

Future Rochester Hills Project

Bridge 33.7 Overlook Replacement Project



- Start estimate: 2012-2013
- Grant funding /Friends project

Rochester Hills - Phase 3 Art Project

- Millennium Legacy Trail Strategic Plan
- Enhancement of trail interpreting local riverine floral/fauna near Tienken Road
- Completely funded by grants and local partners



Current Projects



- Scouting Program – Hostelling International
 - Building Friends Group
- Community outreach programs
 - Weekly walks
 - Cycling
- Native Plant interpretative sites
- Orion Twp – Bald Mtn Connector
- Phase 3 Art Project – Roch Hills



Friends of the Paint Creek Trail

- Launched in July, 2010 as a 501(c)(3)
- Mission: Promote the usage, maintenance, and improvements of the Paint Creek Trail
- As a non-profit, access to grants and additional funding sources, lessening burden on our communities
- First Event: Paint Creek Crawl Cycling Event, May 21, 2011



Future Projects

Recreation Master Plan
2009-2013



- Polly Ann Trail – Orion Twp. Connection
- Atwater Site Development – Lake Orion
- Development of property in SE Rochester
- Phase 4 Art Project – Orion Township
- Recycle Bin Project – All communities
- Overlook replacement in Rochester Hills
- Pedestrian bridge over Paint Creek – Oakland Twp

Oakland County Trail Network

- Oakland County Trails Advisory Council
- 95 miles completed trails
- 13 miles planning stage
- 152 miles under consideration



Trail Connections –



- Downtown Rochester River Walk
 - 0.7 miles
 - Urban connector – business district
 - Funded in part by ISTE grant
 - Rochester Hills Public Library, Royal Park Hotel



Trail Connections –

- Most popular request from Trail users
- Oakland Co. Trails Advisory Council
- 4 possible routes

| | |
|---|------------|
| Orion Twp Residential Connection | 4.33 miles |
| Oxford Twp Commercial Connection | 3.65 miles |
| Bald Mountain State Rec Area Connection | 6.0 miles |
| Oakland & Addison Twps Connection | 6.81 miles |

Fun Facts

- Elevation
 - Low: 750 Feet above sea level
 - High: 980 Feet above sea level
- Paint Creek
 - Designated Trout Stream
- 109.37 Total Acres
- Famous Trail users: Paul McCartney, Willie Nelson, Beach Boys



Honors, Awards & Recognition




- Michigan Society of Planning Officials: Honor Award
- US Dept of Interior: Take Pride America award
- US Dept of Interior: Enjoy Outdoors America Award (one of 6 trails nationwide!)
- White House: Millennium Legacy Trail Award
- MRPA: Community Service Award
- US Dept of Interior: National Recreation Trail Designation
- National Press coverage:
 - Wall Street Journal – 2005
 - Better Homes & Gardens - 2006



www.paintcreektrail.org

For More Information:

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