

July 2024 Trail E NEWS

Meet Tiff and Matt – Have Trail Will Move!

Let LCTA put you to work

Indian Creek Trail – Gem of a Destination

Thanks to our Business Sponsors!

Calendar of Events



Tiff Cremer and Matt Knight recently moved to the Midwest and selected Cedar Rapids primarily because of **TRAILS!** So, we had to ask a few questions...

Why did you choose Cedar Rapids? We are trail people. We've lived in the southwest, southeast, northwest, mid-Atlantic, and the Midwest and can rattle off trail names better than old addresses. So, when we compared cities for a move back to the Midwest, we clicked the google map overlay "biking" and let the "trail green" be our guide. Where can I get to via trail? Can I get groceries on the trail? Can I get to parks/nature centers via trail? A trail is a community saying, "We're bike friendly, and we've invested in the infrastructure to prove it."

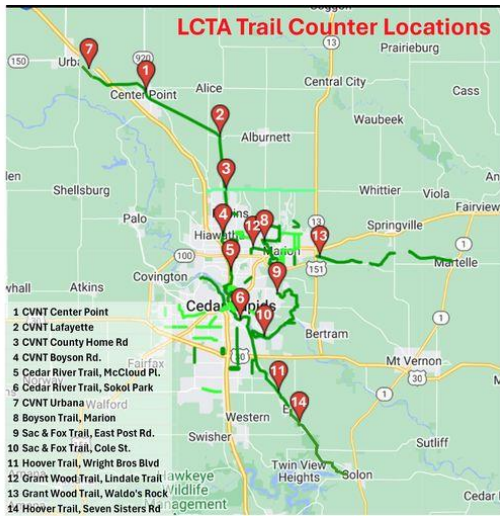
On our scouting trip we rented Goldfinch bikes and rode up Mt. Trashmore, then up to Marion on the CVNT (see "Best Day" below). We checked out a few other mid-sized cities the same way, and CR had the most pleasant trail access among them. Lots of places to live that were close to trails, and lots of trails that were close to places we go (parks, grocery stores). A trail is an extension of the neighborhood, so any park, store, and person on the trail becomes our neighborhood park, neighborhood store, and neighbor.

Do we bike, hike, run, commute by bike? We commute daily by bike to volunteer at Matthew 25, Chain Reaction Bike Hub, and Indian Creek Nature Center, taking the Ellis Park trail and riverfront trails to get downtown. But we'll also take longer "mileage" cycling trips on the CVNT down to Solon or up to Sugar Grove Farm. Tiff recently started mountain biking with the Fearless Women of Dirt and is enjoying all the single-track options too!

Favorite trail/route/destination? We recently visited Jams Coffee Bar up in Urbana. The scones, the espresso cookie, the cold brew. Delightful. Beautiful farms along the way with high-velocity bird/wildlife spotting.

Best day on the trail? Our scouting trip last September was pretty great. Three libraries visited, biking under the Milwaukee Road bridge sign (Matt's from Milwaukee, WI), getting groceries at New Pioneer, enjoying a cookie at NewBo Market. Then biking along the trail crossing Lion Bridge to eat a kolache, drink a Czech beer, and dance a polka or two at the BrewNost Czech and Slovak festival.

Thanks Tiff and Matt for taking time to chat about trails!
We fully agree, trails in Linn County ROCK!



Please participate in LCTA's "Adopt a Trail Counter" program. Fourteen trail counters are in service throughout Linn County's network of trails, and count reports are coming in.

The process is simple – stop at the trail counter, scan the QR code, and follow the prompts to report the current trail counter reading and include your initials and any issues you observed in the Remarks section. These trail counters provide considerable insight into trail usage when requesting funds and planning future development.



The Corridor MPO trail spotlight series recently highlighted the Indian Creek Trail! Located in Marion, IA, this paved multi-use trail connects Tower Terrace Road to Donnelly Park. It follows Indian Creek past Willow Park, through Linger Park, and then past Indian Creek Elementary School and Linn-Mar Highschool. Completed in 2022 this path follows the winding of the Indian Creek through trees, grasses and wetlands. Consider checking out the Indian Creek Trail on your next outdoor adventure!

Calendar of Summer Connections

July 13 – Downtown Farmer’s Market

August 3 – Downtown Farmer’s Market

August 10 – Marion Uptown Farmers Market

August 12 - LCTA Board Meeting

August 17 – Downtown Farmer’s Market

September 9 - LCTA Board Meeting

September 21 – Downtown Farmer’s Market

October 5-6: Iowa Trails Summit

We Thank our Business Sponsors 2024 to date.

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