

Ozaukee Interurban Trail Newsletter

Winter 2010

Welcome to the new Ozaukee Interurban Trail Newsletter, where you can find out more about all of the exciting activities related to the Trail!



Bike Racks on Buses!

Ozaukee Express buses have a new look! In mid-2009, bus bike racks were installed on all five Ozaukee Express buses. Express Bus bike racks hold two bikes each. Don't worry if you don't know how to use the bike racks, because bus drivers are willing and ready to help riders load their bikes onto the bus bike racks. Bus bike racks match the racks that have been installed on all Milwaukee County Transit System buses. The graphic below, taken from the Milwaukee County Transit System website, demonstrates how to load your bike onto the bus bike racks. Check out Ozaukee Transit on the web for additional information.

www.ozaukeetransit.com

1 Squeeze the release handle and gently lower rack.

2 Lift your bike onto the rack. Fit your wheels into the slots.

3 Raise security handle by pulling lever under the bike and place over top of front tire.

4 To unload bike, lower handle using lever, remove bike and raise rack if there are no other bikes currently using it.

The Milwaukee County Transit System webpage also has video tutorial to that explains how to put a bike on the bus racks. The graphic above and the video tutorial can be found here: www.ridemcts.com/Riding_the_Bus



Stimulus Funds in Ozaukee County

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds were used to entirely fund the 5 new bus bike racks on Ozaukee Express buses. ARRA funds will also be used to completely cover the costs of installing surface bike racks at each of the four Park and Rides in Ozaukee County this spring. The racks, which will be capable of supporting four bikes, will be purchased and installed following Bicycle Parking Guidelines from the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals. Bicycle Parking Guidelines will ensure safety, proper support and adequate room for locking bikes. The bus bike racks and the surface racks will allow Ozaukee County transit to provide a more intermodal transit system.

For more information about the Ozaukee Interurban Trail, please visit us on the web: www.interurbantrail.us

Volunteers Needed!

Come check out our Ozaukee Interurban Trail booth at the Wheel & Sprocket Bike Expo at State Fair Park April 8-11. We could use some Trail enthusiasts to help share information about the Ozaukee Interurban Trail with Expo attendees.

To volunteer, please contact Nicole Sidoff by phone (262) 284-8289 or email nsidoff@co.ozaukee.wi.us.

Economic Impacts of the Interurban Trail

In late 2009, we conducted a survey of local businesses as part of our on-going economic impact analysis of the Trail. The survey was intended to find out what kinds of impacts Trail users are having on local businesses. Thirty-seven of the 90 businesses that received the survey, or 41%, responded. Twenty-six businesses, or 70% of the respondents, think the Trail is an asset or somewhat of an asset to their business. One business owner stated, "Great impact on sales! Directly influences energetic attitude in the community through our shop." Stay tuned for more information about the economic impacts of the Ozaukee Interurban Trail as we wrap up the analysis this spring!

Save the Date for Treasures of Oz!

Treasures of Oz is a Countywide event celebrating the natural gems of Ozaukee County. The event, which will involve visits to 10 exceptional sites around the County, is scheduled for Saturday, July 24, 2010. The sites include: Bratt Woods, the Mequon Nature Preserve, Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve, Highland Woods, Huiras Lake, the Cedarburg Bog, Riveredge Nature Center, Harrington Beach State Park, the Ozaukee Interurban Trail, and Forest Beach Migratory Preserve. The event will culminate in a celebration with music, food, and a raffle at the Forest Beach Migratory Preserve. For more information, or to volunteer, check out Treasures of Oz on the web! www.treasuresofoz.org

Winter Trail Use

Many people have questions in the winter about the plowing conditions on the Trail. The general rule is that the Trail is plowed in the City of Port Washington and south of the City, so uses such as biking, running and walking can continue. North of Port Washington, the snow is left on the Trail, so cross-country skiers and snowshoers can enjoy the Trail. Check with the County Planning & Parks Department for additional information.

Upcoming Events

April 1 - Marina Opens

Port Washington (262) 284-6606

April 25 - Grafton Downriver Canoe Race

Grafton (262) 377-5327

June 6 - Harrington Beach State Park Open House

Belgium (262) 285-3015

June 6 - Miller Lite Ride for the Arts

Port Washington (millerliteride.com)

June 18 & 19 - Giro de Grafton

Grafton (262) 377-1650

Mid-June - Rocket Bike Ride

Belgium (262) 388-0272

June 19 - Tour de Cure

Ozaukee/Milwaukee (888) DIABETES ext. 6529

June 20 - Possibility Playground Run/Walk

Port Washington (possibilityplayground.org)

June 26 - Berry Big Run/Walk for Kids

Cedarburg (262) 377-0784

Upcoming Trail Advisory Council Meetings

2010 Meeting Dates

April 6, 2010

July 13, 2010

October 5, 2010

All meetings start at 1:00 PM in the Ozaukee County Administration Center Auditorium (*unless otherwise posted*)
Meetings are open to the public!

New Tourism Guides & Trail Maps Available Soon!

For a free 2010 Ozaukee County Tourism Guide and Trail Map, contact:
Ozaukee County Tourism Council
(800) 403-9898 or your local Chamber of Commerce.
Maps are also available online at:
www.interurbantrail.us/BikeMaps/Maps