TRAILS 101

“A refresher course”

The Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, also known as Rivers & Trails or RTCA, works with community groups and local and State governments to conserve rivers, preserve open space, and develop trails and greenways.
Why trails?
For...
recreation
fun, health,
young, old –
everyone can use a trail!
Trails create bridges

...that link people to communities, health and economic growth.

Project: Gateway State Trail
Location: Washington County, MN
Trails are for group and community events...

Project: Little Traverse Wheelway
Location: Charlevoix, Petoskey, and Harbor Springs, MI
or they are for solitary moments.

Project: Cardinal Greenways
Location: Muncie, IN
Trails are for Moms staying healthy AND tiring kids out...

Project: Mill Creek Metro Parks Bikeway
Location: Mahoning County, OH
As well as for people with their loyal companions.

Project: Cattail Trail
Location: West Lafayette, IN
Trails improve health...

Project: Monon Trail
Location: Carmel, IN
and safety.

Project: Monon Trail
Location: Carmel, IN
Trails provide a place to sit and re-create...

Project: Downtown Des Moines Riverwalk
Location: Des Moines, Iowa
And a place to celebrate.

Project: Betsie Valley Trail
Location: Frankfort, Elberta, Thompsonville, and Beulah, MI
Recreation

Cultural/History

Environment
AND PROVIDE MANY BENEFITS TO

Health
Economic Development
Transportation
Starting with the Calumet-Sag Trail

(And what this trail will do for THE CALUMET REGION)
A 30± Mile Multi-purpose Trail
Lemont to Burnham
Lead by the Calumet-Sag Trail Coalition,
supported by
Friends of the Calumet-Sag Trail
Linking *People to Places* throughout the region along the Calumet-Sag Corridor
Signed Interagency Agreements for the Engineering of the East end of the trail:

FPD of Cook County
City of Blue Island
Dolton Park District
Village of Burnham

Alsip Park District
Village of Riverdale
City of Calumet City
Funding - East Interagency Agreement

Phase 1 Engineering
CMAQ Approved $680,000

Phase 2 Engineering
CMAQ Approved $550,000
Signed Interagency Agreements for the Engineering of the West end of the trail:

FPD of Cook County
City of Palos Heights

Palos Park
Alsip Park District
Funding West Interagency Agreements

Phase One Engineering
ITEP Enhancements: $340,000

Phase Two Engineering
CMAQ: $360,000
CALUMET-SAG TRAIL STATUS

Approved Funding:

Senator Durbin
FY2008 TCSP

Allocation:
$261,749

RFP for Master Plan
and Design of
Public Open Space
and Wayfinding
Calumet-Sag Trail and Regional Significance

Calumet-Sag Trail
It’s about Connections...
To our past... 
From Archaeological sites to Indian trails,
From Farmers and Lumbermen, 
(1830’s – 1850’s)
Who built a truck farming economy through late 19th Century,
To local land owners providing a safe haven to escaping slaves like Jan Ton
Calumet-Sag Trail and Regional Significance

and an area once known as a sportsman's paradise.
1880-1918 brought lumberyards and mills, ice houses, brickyards, a steel mill, sugar refinery, canneries and distilleries...
with a rich diversity of laborers: Swedish, Russian, Irish, French, British and French Canadian
who supported the emergence of the steel industry and refineries.
The railways, waterways and roads were built that moved the goods
Along a river made into a commerce corridor...
Calumet-Sag Trail and Regional Significance to Today.
Calumet-Sag Trail and Regional Significance

A Corridor linking…
the Illinois & Michigan Canal...
to Indiana Dunes NL,
Connecting to regional trails systems: in Lemont on the Centennial Trail
to the Grand Calumet Trail under development within the Marquette Plan.
The completion of the two-mile gap in the Burnham Greenway creates a key trail juncture serving five regional trails and closes a challenging gap in the 500 mile Grand Illinois Trail.

The Calumet-Sag Trail will also connect to the Pennsy Greenway through the Burnham Greenway.
The trail will bring riders to Chicago when linked to the Last Four Miles of the Lakefront Trail.
Calumet-Sag Trail Connects

Recreation

Cultural/History

But how about the

Environment?
Calumet-Sag Trail - Green?

A Featured 2009 Burnham Centennial Green Legacy Project

Map showing various trails and locations related to the Calumet-Sag Trail and other green projects.
Building Partnerships and Support
Ceremonial Trail Dedication
June 6, 2009
National Trails Day
Calumet-Sag Trail Event

Representatives from local communities, government, schools, recreation groups, youth, business and friends
A sign: “This site dedicated on June 6... as part of the Calumet-Sag Trail”
Calumet-Sag Trail Event

A commemoration of our Past, the Present and to our Future within this corridor
Calumet-Sag Trail Jamboree

Happy Trails Jamboree

OCTOBER 2, 2009
Lake Katherine, Palos Heights

Celebration, FUNdraiser
Calumet-Sag Trail Jamboree

October 1, 2010 Happy Trails Jamboree
Green Infrastructure - this linear park provides an opportunity for ecological restoration

Naperville is not just a place. It's a corner of creation graced with charm and beauty no matter the weather or season.

When asked for reasons why I feel the way I do, I simply say, "Come and stroll the Riverwalk with me!"
--by Greg Asimakoupoulos
It has been said “Quality of life within the region relies on a growing trail network.” How can this be true? Aren’t economic development, jobs, education and a good highway transportation system more likely indicators?
What additional health and recreation opportunities should residents have?
Calumet-Sag Trail

The development of trails (Connecting Places to Places) can provide this quality of life.
These linear parks strengthen local economies, restore and protect natural and historical legacies and improve people’s lives – a triple bottom line of advantages for the Calumet region.
Its rich connectivity to towns and resources will make the Calumet-Sag Corridor a viable and popular east-west non-motorized connection for more than 200,000 residents living within two miles of the trail.

It serves seven village downtowns and their residents by linking schools, employers, and merchants directly thus encouraging healthy lifestyles and locally based economic development.
Calumet-Sag Trail

The development of a green corridor which preserves and creates open space gives a direct connection to 14 suburban communities with four county forest preserves and additional natural areas, to train stations along six suburban commuter rail lines, two colleges, and 400 miles of additional recreational trails.

The Trail will help preserve and enhance the historical treasures of the Calumet-Sag and its communities while strengthening regional identity and pride.
What can you do?

• Stay Tuned – http://calsagtrail.org
• Become a Friends or Coalition member,
• Advocate for regional trail systems by partnering/linking other trail projects
Calumet-Sag Trail

We need you to support the Calumet-Sag Trail
Make the Connection!

www.calsagtrail.com