



Musketawa

Adopt-A-Trail Program



Imagine a vast network of trails connecting our cities to the countryside and countless communities to each other... linking neighborhoods to workplaces and congested areas to open spaces...serving both transportation needs and the demands for close to home recreation. Consider the possibility of a safe, clean, trail focused on enhancing the environment and wildlife. This is the hope for the Musketawa Adopt-a-trail program. The Program is modeled after state and local Adopt-a-highway programs.



The Musketawa Trail is a 26 mile recreational trail, from Marne to Muskegon, past farmlands and wetlands, over creeks, and through villages. It offers a four-season adventure for the outdoor enthusiast, living healthy and having fun. A safe and natural environment for individual, family, and organizational use is enjoyed by bikers, snowmobilers, horseback riders, rollerbladers, crosscountry skiers, wheelchair travelers, hikers, and nature lovers.



Friends of the Musketawa Trail is a non-profit organization of West Michigan volunteers excited and committed to turning the old railroad bed between Marne and Muskegon into a recreational trail. The Friend's mission is to act as a public advocate in support of the trail. As advocates, the Friends hope to gain the support of government agencies, local businesses, and private citizens in constructing and maintaining the trail. The Friends are involved in construction projects, lobbying, fund raising, trail beautification, habitat and wildlife preservation, etc. Local businesses are encouraged to support these efforts in view of documented economic benefits brought on by similar trails.

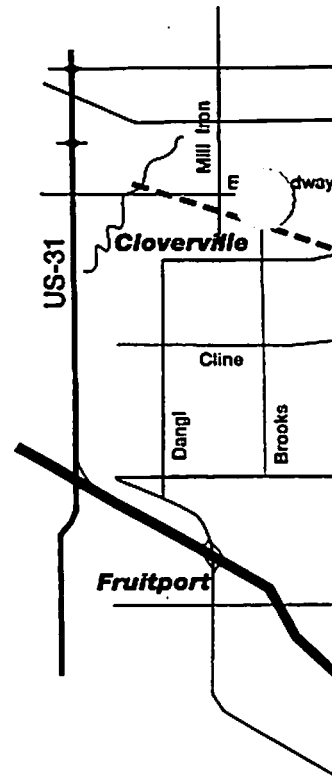


The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has purchased the trail, funded developmental studies, and is providing primary funding for the trail. Through our partnership, our area can have a recreational trail to compare with other highly successful rail-trails throughout Michigan, eventually tying into others to provide a regional network. Come join the efforts!

Suggestions for Adopt a Trail Projects

- ☛ Plant trees or shrubs
- ☛ Plant flowers
- ☛ Clear trail of debris
- ☛ Pick up refuse
- ☛ Promote wildlife & natural environment
- ☛ Maintain birdhouses
- ☛ Paint bridges, benches, railings
- ☛ Prune Trees or shrubs
- ☛ Remove Tree drop debris
- ☛ Clean/Repair benches & picnic tables
- ☛ Report vandalism & unsafe conditions
- ☛ Sweep parking lots
- ☛ Raise funds for new purchases

** All Projects must have approval by the Musketawa Trail Manager*



- Available
- Adopt

Muskegon

- Black Creek
- Broadway
- Mill Iron
- Brooks
- Hts. Ravenna
- Wolf Lake
- Hilton Park
- Maple Island
- Barnes
- Sullivan
- Ensley
- Swanson
- Moorland
- Bossett
- Blackme
- Adams
- Ravenna
- Ellis

Program:

Organization agrees to a two year period with four clean up dates per year in April, June, August, and October.



Application:

Interested groups apply to Friends of Musketawa Trail, c/o Harold Drake, 3734 Center St. Ravenna, Michigan 49451 which approves groups and assigns trail segments.

Eligible Participants:

Any group or organization with ten or more participants. Organizations must be based in Muskegon, Ottawa, or Kent Counties.

Material Provided:

Musketawa Trail will provide safety rules, safety vests, refuse bags, refuse pickup, recognition sign located on the trail segment (acknowledging the name of participating group), and adoption certificate.



Dear Adopt-a- Trail group members,

Once again spring is just around the corner and it's time to think about the spring clean up for your section. As last year, the litter problem doesn't seem to be too serious. We must have some of the neatest rail users found anywhere. With the past tease of summer, the trail saw lots of use. If that is a promise of what's to come than we will have thousands of people enjoying our trail in the months to come..

Just a few short notes to bring you up to speed on the news of the trail..I'm sure you get the newsletter and have read about some of this already..

The Ravenna to Muskegon section is scheduled to be paved this summer. Best estimates from the D.N.R. put us on the schedule for August or early Sept..Lets keep our fingers crossed.

The Musketawa is one of the few trails in the state and apparently in the nation to have an active Adopt-a-Trail program. I was asked by the Rails to Trails Conservancy to provide them with information concerning our program so they could forward it to the National Conservancy. The National is looking for ways to establish a program similar to ours nationwide. I think we should all be extremely proud of the fact that we could be the pattern for a nation wide effort.

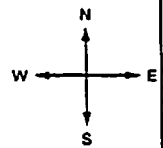
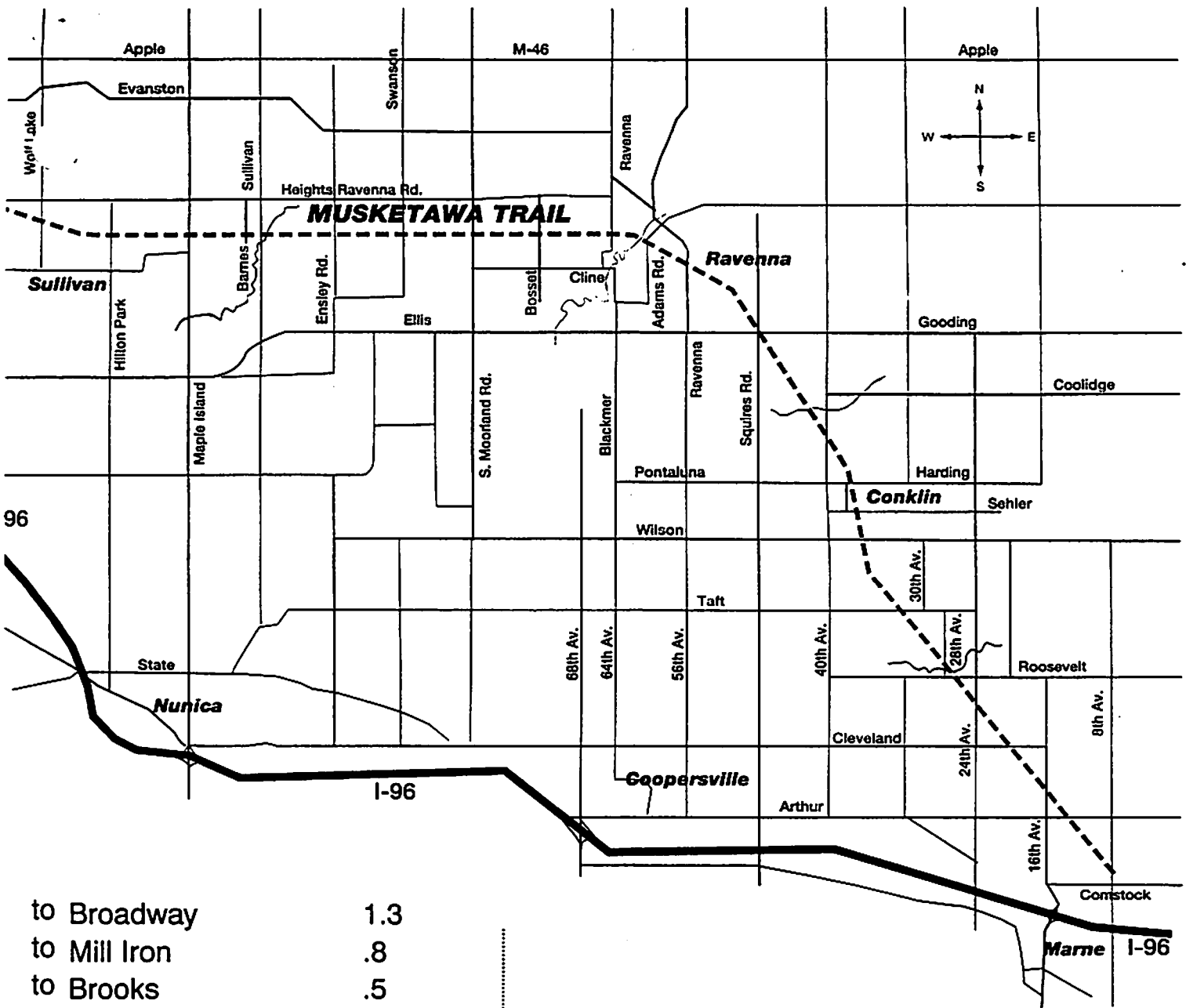
Almost all of the birdhouses installed along the trail have been used. I have seen Chickadees, Tree swallows, and Blue birds using those houses.

This year I have seen the usual deer, turkeys, pheasants, etc. while traveling the trail. In addition I observed one rather large coyote in the Ravenna area and several average sized ones around Conklin and Sullivan. The rare sight for this year has to be the black fox sighted, and captured on video, between Ravenna and Sullivan. It's the only one I have ever seen.

Several of your contracts expire this year. I will automatically renew them unless I hear otherwise. If you no longer want to be involved with the Adopt-a-Trail program please contact me.

On behalf of the Friends of the Musketawa Trail, and from me I extend a heartfelt THANK YOU. your participation in making the Musketawa one of the nicest trails in the state is deeply appreciated.

Yours Truly
Wes Lomax
Musketawa Trail Manager



to Broadway	1.3
to Mill Iron	.8
to Brooks	.5
to Hts. Ravenna	1.1
to Wolf Lake	1.1
to Hilton Park	1.1
to Maple Island	1.0
to Barnes	.75
to Sullivan	.25
to Ensley	1.0
to Swanson	1.0
to Moorland	1.0
to Bossett	1.0
to Blackmer	1.0
to Adams	.6
to Ravenna	.7
to Ellis	1.4
to Squires/48th ave	.10

Ottawa

<input type="checkbox"/> Squires/48th Ave	to 40th Ave	1.8
<input type="checkbox"/> 40th Ave	to Harding	.5
<input type="checkbox"/> Harding	to Sehler	.55
<input type="checkbox"/> Sehler	to Wilson	.55
<input type="checkbox"/> Wilson	to Taft	1.25
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Taft	to 28th Ave.	.9
<input type="checkbox"/> 28th Ave.	to Roosevelt	.3
<input type="checkbox"/> Roosevelt	to 24th Ave.	.5
<input type="checkbox"/> 24th Ave.	to Cleveland	.8
<input type="checkbox"/> Cleveland	to 16th Ave	.8
<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Ave	to Arthur	.5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arthur	to 8th Ave.	1.0

Musketawa Adopt a Trail Application

Organization Name: _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
Crew Leader _____ Position in Organization _____
Day Phone _____ Night Phone _____ Fax _____
Back-up Contact person _____ Position in Organization _____
Day Phone _____ Night Phone _____ Fax _____
Number of Participants _____ Number under age 16 _____
Requested Area Choice: 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____

THIS PERMIT ISSUED SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

1. This permit grants to the permittee those rights specifically stated and no other.
2. Issuance of this permit does not relieve the permittee from meeting any and all requirements with other public bodies or agencies.
3. The permittee shall save harmless the Friends of the Trail, and all officers, and agents thereof, against any and all claims arising from operations covered by this permit.
4. Assignments will be made on a first come basis. Group must agree to pickup litter a minimum of (4) times a year, during designated dates in April, June, August and October. All work days are to be scheduled with the Musketawa Trail manager to insure availability of needed safety equipment and the availability of needed resources.
5. This permit expires after 2 years. Groups may renew the permit.
6. Groups failing to follow the guidelines or not participating in trash pickup for two periods of the year will have their permit revoked.
7. The group must consist of (10) or more persons and maintain at least (10) persons throughout the 2 year permit. Crew leader and group contact person(s) must be identified above. Identification of original proposed group by name, address, and phone is requested. Changes in the contact person(s) must be approved by Friend of Musketawa Trail. Persons in group may change without notification. Organization must be based in Muskegon, Ottawa, or Kent County.
8. Volunteer groups shall consist of at least (10) people who are 18 years of age or older, unless the volunteer group is a school or scout organization in which case the volunteer(s) may be under 18 years of age.
9. Participants must hold a safety meeting once a year prior to the first pickup, conducted by the adopting group with provided safety tips used as a guideline.
10. All trash must be placed in bags. Those objects to large/heavy shall be placed next to the bags. Full bags are to be placed in designated locations for pickup. No personal household trash of group members will be accepted.
11. The Friends of the Trail will supply the initial set of signs recognizing your group's participation in the program. Any signs which are stolen, damaged, defaced or destroyed may be replaced at the group's expense.
12. The Friends of the Trail shall retain the right to revoke any permit at any time. The permittee, upon request of the Friends of the Trail, shall immediately cease operations and surrender this permit. Issuance of a permit and/or participation in the ADOPT-A-TRAIL program does not indicate Friends of the Trail or the DNR supports or endorses any organization or position.

Applicant/Authorized agent agrees to all conditions of the application. _____
Signature _____ Date _____

Friends of Musketawa Trail Use Only

Approved - Approved By: _____
 Rejected - Rejected by: _____ For: _____
Start Date _____ Expiration: _____
Assigned Area _____ Permit # _____



Musketawa Trail

CLEAN UP CREW LIST

DATE _____
SECTION _____
GROUP Name _____

CREW LEADERS NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ MI, ZIP _____

NAME	HOME ADDRESS	PHONE
1.	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____
11.	_____	_____
12.	_____	_____
13.	_____	_____
14.	_____	_____
15.	_____	_____
16.	_____	_____
17.	_____	_____