

**County of Rock  
Public Works Department**

Highways  
Parks  
Airport



3715 Newville Road  
Janesville Wisconsin 53545  
Telephone: 608/757-5450  
Fax: 608/757-5470  
www.co.rock.wi.us

**- A G E N D A -**

Public Works Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, December 13, 2011 – 8:30 a.m.  
Public Works Department Committee Room

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes of October 11, 2011 (November meeting canceled)
4. Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements
5. Vouchers/Bills/Encumbrances/Pre-Approved Encumbrance Amendments & Transfers

**PARKS BUSINESS**

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6. ACTION ITEMS
  - a. Consider Gibbs Lake House Lease for 2012
  - b. Consider Resolution Authorizing Application for the Natural Resources Foundation's C.D. Besadny Conservation Grant for State Natural Area Kittentail Restoration
  - c. Consider Letter of Agreement Between the County of Rock and the Ice Age Trail Alliance – Rock County Chapter for Trailhead Parking Lot Improvement and Maintenance
7. INFORMATION ITEMS
  - a. MSA Park Plan Update
  - b. Ice Age Scoping Process
  - c. Project Report
8. Parks Advisory Committee Remarks
9. Next Meeting Date
10. Adjournment

# RESOLUTION

## ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Lori Williams  
INITIATED BY

Public Works & Parks  
Advisory Committee  
SUBMITTED BY

Lori Williams, Parks Director  
DRAFTED BY

November 21, 2011  
DATE DRAFTED

**Authorizing Application for the Natural Resources Foundation's C.D. Besadny Conservation Grant for Magnolia Bluff Park State Natural Area Kittentail Restoration**

- 1 **WHEREAS**, the Natural Resources Foundation has a community grant program for public and
- 2 private organizations or government agencies working on natural resource projects and programs at
- 3 a small-scale, local level; and,
- 4
- 5 **WHEREAS**, the County designated portions of Magnolia Bluff County Park and Carver-Roehl
- 6 County Park as Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources State Natural Areas in November
- 7 2010; and,
- 8
- 9 **WHEREAS**, the Parks Division desires to restore an area of Magnolia Bluff Park that contains
- 10 kittentails, a state threatened plant, to a low-grass savanna; and,
- 11
- 12 **WHEREAS**, three years ago this section of the park was turned into a "no mow zone" encouraging
- 13 the kittentail population to expand and allowed identification of other remnant native species; and,
- 14
- 15 **WHEREAS**, the Parks division would like to augment this area with native seeds and plugs to
- 16 create a permanent restoration site.
- 17
- 18 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly
- 19 assembled this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011 hereby authorizes the Parks
- 20 Director to act on behalf of Rock County to submit a grant application to the Natural Resources
- 21 Foundation's C.D. Besadny Conservation Grant for \$1,000 to restore a portion of the State Natural
- 22 Area in Magnolia Bluff Park.

Respectfully submitted,  
Public Works Committee

Parks Advisory Committee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kurtis Yankee, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas Presny

\_\_\_\_\_  
Betty Jo Bussie, Vice-Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Floyd Finney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eva Arnold

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Guisleman

\_\_\_\_\_  
David Diestler

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brent Fox

AUTHORIZING APPLICATION FOR THE NATURAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION'S  
C.D. BESADNY CONSERVATION GRANT FOR MAGNOLIA BLUFF PARK STATE  
NATURAL AREA KITTENTAIL RESTORATION

Page 2

FISCAL NOTE:

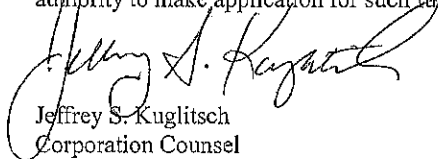
This resolution only authorizes an application for a grant and therefore has no fiscal impact at this time. If a grant is awarded, a subsequent resolution would be required to accept the grant and amend the budget.



Jeffrey A. Smith  
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The authority to accept grant funds pursuant to sec. 59.52(19), Wis. Stats., necessarily implies the authority to make application for such funds.



Jeffrey S. Kuglitsch  
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.



Craig Knutson  
County Administrator

**- EXECUTIVE SUMMARY -**

**Authorizing Application for the Natural Resources Foundation's C.D. Besadny Conservation Grant for Magnolia Bluff Park State Natural Area Kittentail Restoration**

Sections of Magnolia Bluff and Carver-Roehl County Parks were designated as State Natural Areas (SNA) in November 2010. The parks were selected based on their habitat quality and diversity, extent of past disturbance, context within the greater landscape, and rarity of features on local and global scales.

The Natural Resource Foundation's C.D. Besadny Conservation grant program gives priority to proposals that address rare and endangered species and State Natural Area support – which are both addressed in this project.

The Parks Division received a \$1,000 grant from this program in 2011 to produce two State Natural Area educational signs.

This year, we are requesting funds to purchase seeds and plugs to restore an important portion of the State Natural Area in Magnolia Bluff Park to a low-grass savanna. This portion of the park contains kittentails, a state threatened plant. For the last few years, this section of the park has been turned into a “no mow zone” which allowed the kittentails to produce seeds and their population has increased to over 350 plants. The no mow zone currently includes a few remnant native species, but we would like to augment this area with native seeds and plugs to create a permanent restoration area. Thus, creating a savanna with short-grasses and native flowers that is visually appealing while encouraging the kittentails to produce seeds and increase their population.

The Besadny Conservation Grant is a 50/50 match, a maximum of \$1,000 is awarded. Matching funds will come from staff and volunteer time to prepare the site, spread seeds and plant plugs.

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE COUNTY OF ROCK  
AND  
THE ICE AGE TRAIL ALLIANCE - ROCK COUNTY CHAPTER  
FOR TRAILHEAD PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE**

This Agreement is made by and between **The County of Rock** and **The Ice Age Trail Alliance – Rock County Chapter** for the improvement and maintenance of a trailhead parking lot to be located in the 2600 block of North Washington Street/North County Road E. Located on the east side of this road in Janesville Township, between the railroad underpass and Riverside Golf Course, is county highway right of way, where roadway formerly existed. Beneath this abandonment area remains highway gravel sub-grade on which a suitable parking lot is proposed to be constructed. The location and configuration of the parking lot is shown on Exhibit A, attached hereto.

The Ice Age Trail Alliance has recently constructed and adopted maintenance of a new trail segment from North County Road E westerly through the Hendricks' Arbor Ridge Subdivision to the Janesville Cook Arboretum. This scenic and popular trail extension merits a public parking lot where vehicles can be parked off street and where users can readily access the Ice Age Trail.

The Ice Age Trail Alliance – Rock County Chapter went on record at their November 28, 2011 meeting in support of requesting Rock County approval to establish a new parking area at the above indicated location. This parking lot will initially utilize the existing grass surface, and if warranted in the future and agreed by the County, the Ice Age Trail Alliance may upgrade the lot to gravel or asphalt surfacing. If such parking lot upgrade takes place, the Alliance will maintain the lot and its surfacing.

The Ice Age Trail Alliance – Rock County Chapter agrees to provide improvement of this parking lot with an asphalt paved apron entrance/exit as designed and specifically located by the City of Janesville Engineering Division. In addition, the parking lot will be defined with a perimeter barrier and be appropriately signed. The chapter will mow and maintain the lot and its improvements as necessary.

The term of this agreement shall be for 20 years with an automatic 20 year lease renewal to continue, unless it becomes the desire of either of the parties to terminate this agreement at that or any other prior time. The party seeking to terminate the agreement shall give the other party a 6 or 12 month advance notification of that desire. This Park Improvement and Maintenance Agreement shall begin on **January 1, 2012 and extend to December 31, 2032**. Further, unless objection is raised by one of the parties, this agreement shall **automatically renew and continue until December 31, 2052**.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties above agree to the Ice Age Trail Alliance – Rock County Chapter adoption of this parking lot placed on county highway right of way.

**COUNTY OF ROCK**

**ICE AGE TRAIL ALLIANCE – ROCK COUNTY CHAPTER**

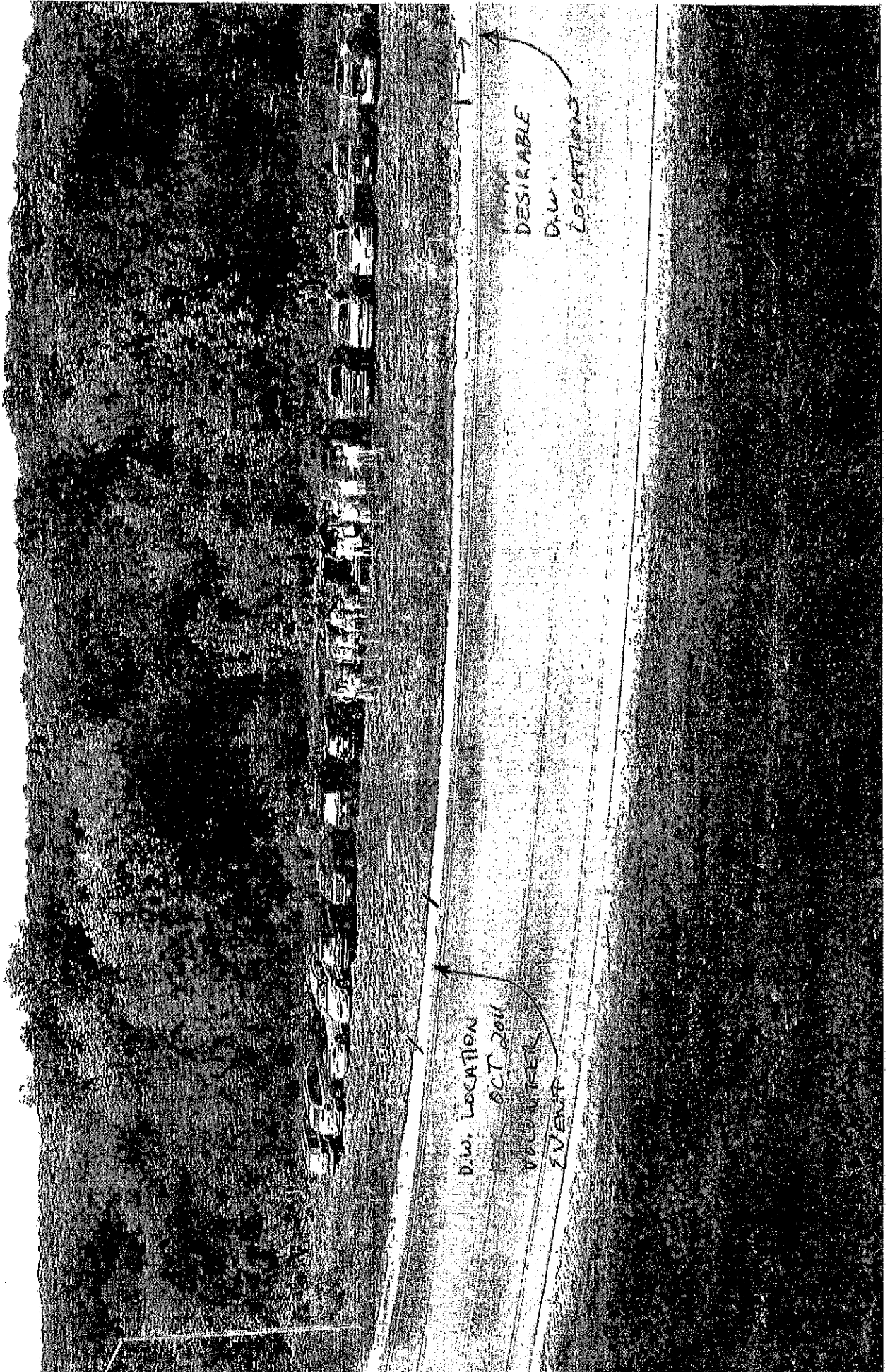
\_\_\_\_\_  
Benjamin J. Coopman, Jr.  
Director of Public Works

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Guisleman  
Rock County Chapter Coordinator

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

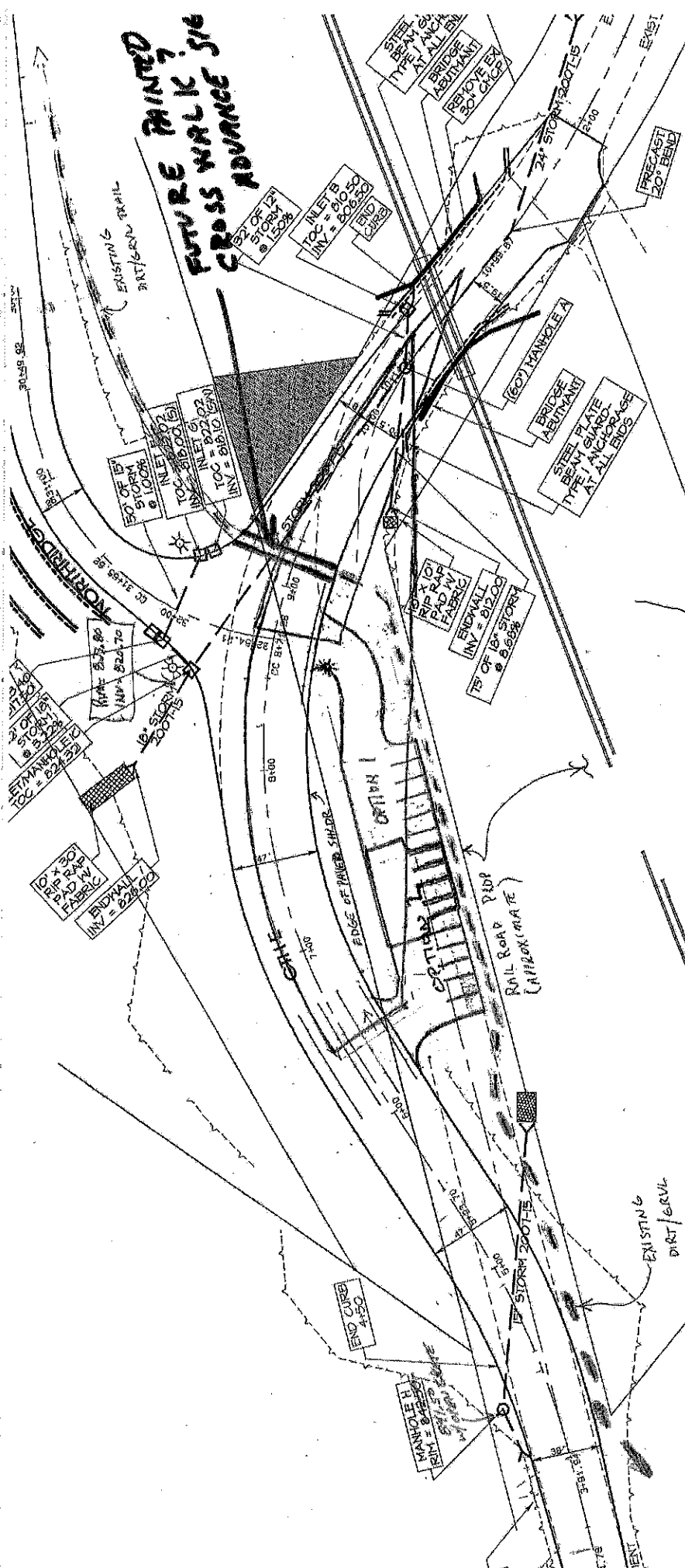
OCT 2011



D.W. LOCATION  
OCT 2011  
VOLVO CRUISE  
EVENT

MORE  
DESIRABLE  
D.W.  
LOCATIONS

FUTURE PAINTED  
CROSS WALK SIG  
CROSS ADVANCE



OPTION	STALLS	PAVED	COST	CULV & GRVL	MEETS	MEETS	MEETS
1	10	\$23 K	\$16 K	\$25 K	NO	YES	NO
2	10	\$18 K	\$14 K	\$25 K	YES	YES	YES

LEGEND

- \* = DECISION PT FOR DRIVER ON MINOR ROAD (PARKING LOT 2, K)
- \* = EXISTING STREET LIGHT
- = CRITICAL SIGHT DISTANCE "TRIANGLE" OPTION 1
- = " " " " " 2
- = " " " " " 2

\* CITY D.W. PERMIT APPLICATION REQUIRES 650' L1 SITE DISTANCE WHICH OPTIONS 1 + 2 DON'T.

## Ice Age Trail Presentation at 12/13 DPW – Parks Meeting

The National Park Service (NSP) will give an informational presentation on the progress for establishment of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail in Rock County. No action is required on the part of the committee. The presentation will last approximately 15 minutes, and there will be time for questions and discussion.

The National Parks Service (NSP) is in the scoping phase of planning for the Ice Age Trail in Rock County. To date, a Preliminary Scoping Process (PSP) document has been prepared. The PSP describes the process used to map and prioritize points of interest, and identifies 12 possible corridor segments. The NSP is making informational presentations to local government officials during the month of November and December and will hold public open house meetings in January and early February to gather public feedback.





**DRAFT  
ICE AGE NATIONAL  
SCENIC TRAIL ALTERNATIVE  
CORRIDORS REPORT FOR  
ROCK COUNTY**

Prepared by:

National Park Service

Ice Age National Scenic Trail

Madison, Wisconsin

National Park Service-  
Ice Age National Scenic Trail  
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Mary Tano  
Trail Planner  
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# **Ice Age National Scenic Trail**

## **Preliminary Scoping Process for Rock County**



### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

On October 3, 1980, an amendment to the National Trails System (16 U.S.C. 1241 et seq.) authorized establishment of the Ice Age Trail as a National Scenic Trail (NST). To date, Congress has authorized the establishment of eleven NSTs—"extended trails so located as to provide for maximum outdoor recreation potential and for the conservation and enjoyment of the nationally significant scenic, historic, natural, or cultural qualities of the areas through which such trails may pass." These trails are patterned after the renowned Appalachian NST. NSTs are intended to provide superlative hiking experiences.

When Congress authorized the Ice Age NST, a pedestrian footpath, in 1980, only a general route was identified with the assumption that more detailed planning would occur in the future. Today, planning teams are carrying out the Ice Age NST Corridor Planning Process on a county by county basis to identify possible locations for the trail and involve the public in the process.

The Preliminary Scoping Process (PSP) is the first phase of the Corridor Planning Process (CPP). The PSP consists of identifying criteria to place the trail, inventorying existing resources or attributes, and developing alternative corridors that fit the criteria. The attributes—natural features, public lands, camping opportunities, support facilities, scenic views, etc.—are important to determine trail location and provide user satisfaction. This study ranks the attributes both within and between criteria categories. It then develops alternative corridors, and comparatively analyzes them to identify issues and opportunities of each corridor. Computer modeling was also utilized to identify the best alternatives.

Through this PSP, twelve corridor segment alternatives were identified. Many of these corridor segments overlap one another. The planning team reviewed and came up with a high to low ranking of possible corridor combinations. These corridors will be presented for broad public review and input by local officials and citizens regarding their desirability and feasibility. Once this occurs, those corridors that have the potential to provide a premier hiking experience will be carried forward to the next phase of the CPP. The outcome of the CPP will result in a 2-5 mile wide "preferred" corridor for the Ice Age NST, with possible route options identified within it. The reason the corridor is so wide is to allow flexibility in locating the trail since all landowner participation is voluntary. The Corridor Plan is then approved by the Midwest Regional Office of the National Park Service and the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board.

# IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRELIMINARY SCOPING PROCESS

## **Objectives**

The Preliminary Scoping Process is to identify alternative corridors which contain significant values and services to support the Ice Age Trail in Rock County, Wisconsin. The 1983 Comprehensive Plan provides general guidance on where to locate trail. It states that the trail shall follow the terminal moraine or other glacial features left by the last glacial advance. Statewide, the identification of the proposed Ice Age NST corridor is based upon a number of broad objectives. They are:

- Inclusion of glacial features left by the Wisconsin advance
- Linkage to public lands for support facilities and interpretive opportunities
- Provision for a varied and scenic hiking experience
- Preservation of significant natural features and
- Directness of route.

## **Participants**

To identify those elements or “attributes” (geologic features, scenic views, cultural resources, public lands, support facilities such as parking, bathroom, food, etc.) that bring value to the trail, as well as develop alternative corridors, the National Park Service staff in January 2006 convened two working groups: the Rock County Ice Age NST Steering Committee and Technical Advisory Committee.

The Steering Committee is composed of representatives from both public and private agencies that desire the completion of the trail and directly manage portions of existing trail segments. They include Rock County, City of Janesville, IATA, WDNR, and NPS.

The Technical Advisory Committee consists of subject matter specialists in the fields of geology, history, agriculture, birding, botany, planning, landscape architecture and geographic information systems. Their role was to ensure that all attributes of significance were identified and comparatively evaluated by the Steering Committee.

## **Criteria**

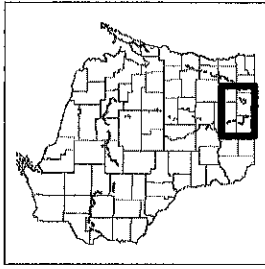
Utilizing the broad objectives for locating the trail stated above, the Steering Committee developed and prioritized criteria to evaluate proposed alternatives. The criteria and descriptive statements selected and approved for the Rock County segment of the Ice Age NST, in priority order are:

- Trail should provide for a varied and scenic hiking experience
- Trail should traverse a variety of glacial features
- Trail should link significant archeological, historical, cultural, geographic, geological and biological sites
- Trail should avoid development in rural areas
- Trail should provide support facilities
- Trail should traverse a variety of plant communities
- Trail should link communities
- Trail should utilize public land if possible.

**Public Review**—To complete the Preliminary Scoping Process, the alternative corridors will taken out for broad public review and input. Members of the Core Team will meet with County, City and Town Officials as well as interested citizens. Once that step is complete, the refined versions of the alternatives will then be moved forward to the Corridor Planning Process.

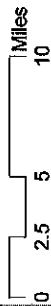
# Ice Age National Scenic Trail

# Existing Ice Age Trail in Southern Wisconsin



### Legend

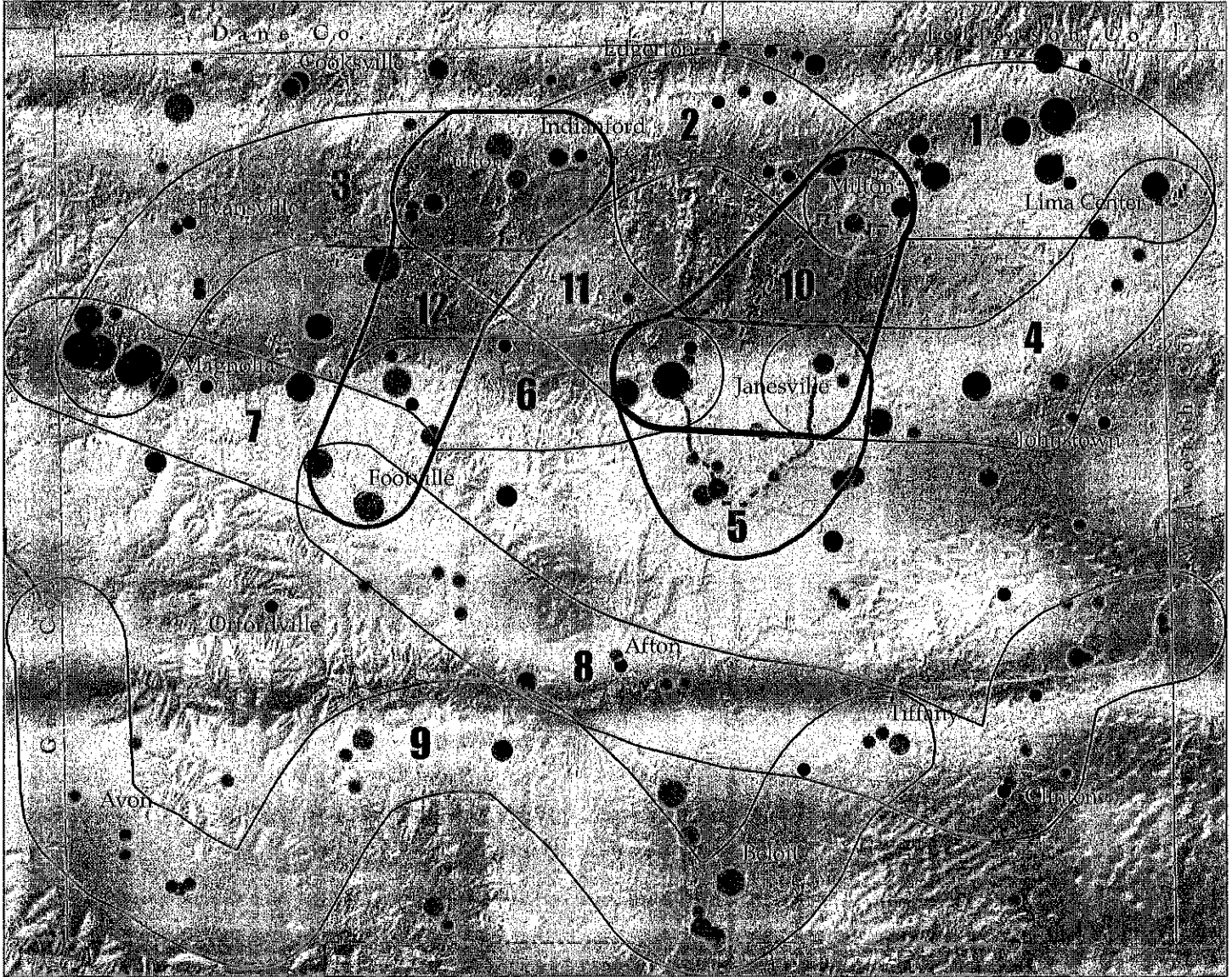
- County Boundaries
- Ice Age Trail
- WDNR Managed Lands
- Landtype Associations**
  - Began Moraines
  - Dune-Jefferson Drumlins and Lakes
  - East-Johnstown-Milton Moraines
  - Jefferson Lake Plains
  - Moraine Eroded Moraines
  - Onondave Eroded Moraines
  - Rock River Prairies
  - Sugar River Valley
  - Watertown Drumlins
  - West-Johnstown-Milton Moraines



Data Sources:  
 National Park Service: Ice Age NST,  
 Contour: Linc  
 WI Dept. of Natural Resources: Hydrography,  
 NRI, Managing Lands, GIS Project Boundaries  
 WI Natural Inventory  
 WI Dept. of Administration: Highways,  
 County Boundaries  
 Rock County GIS: Significant Natural Areas, Kettle,  
 Local Roads, Municipalities

# Ice Age National Scenic Trail

Potential Corridor Segments  
Rock County, Wisconsin



- Scenic Hiking Experience (s)
- Geology (g)
- Cultural Resource Destinations (cu)
- Rural Character/Future Use (r)
- Potential Support Facilities (f)
- Natural Resource Destinations (n)
- Communities (c)
- Public Lands (p)

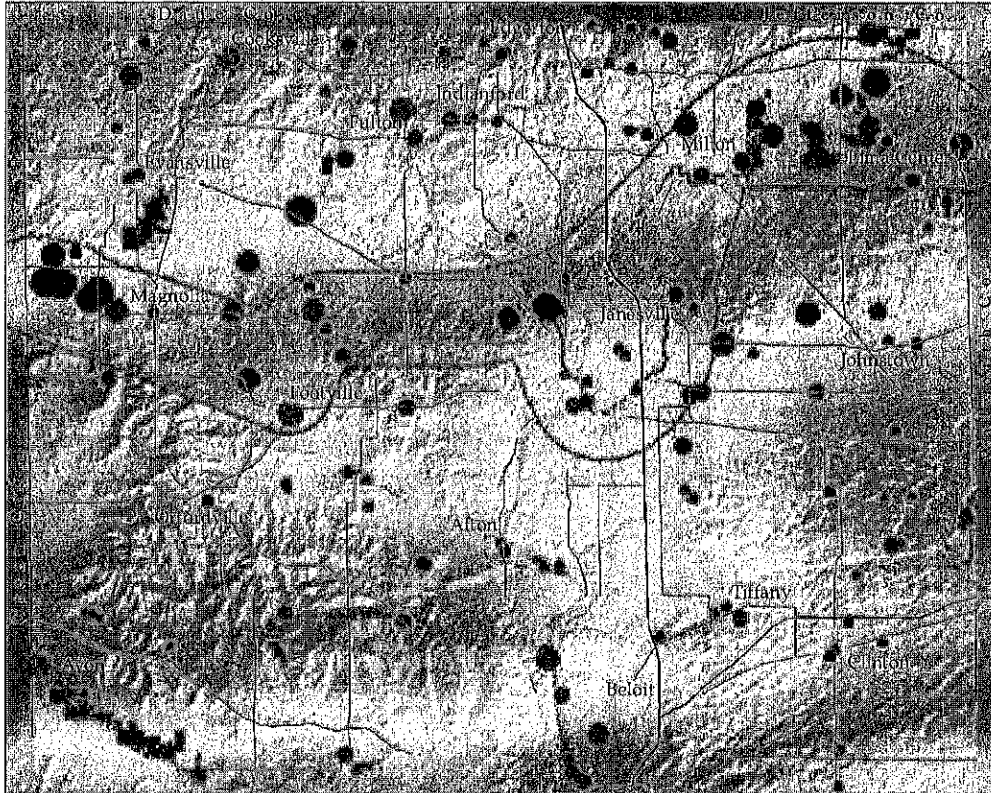


**Ice Age National Scenic Trail**

**Alternative Corridor A (1,10,5,6,7)**  
Rock County, Wisconsin



**A**

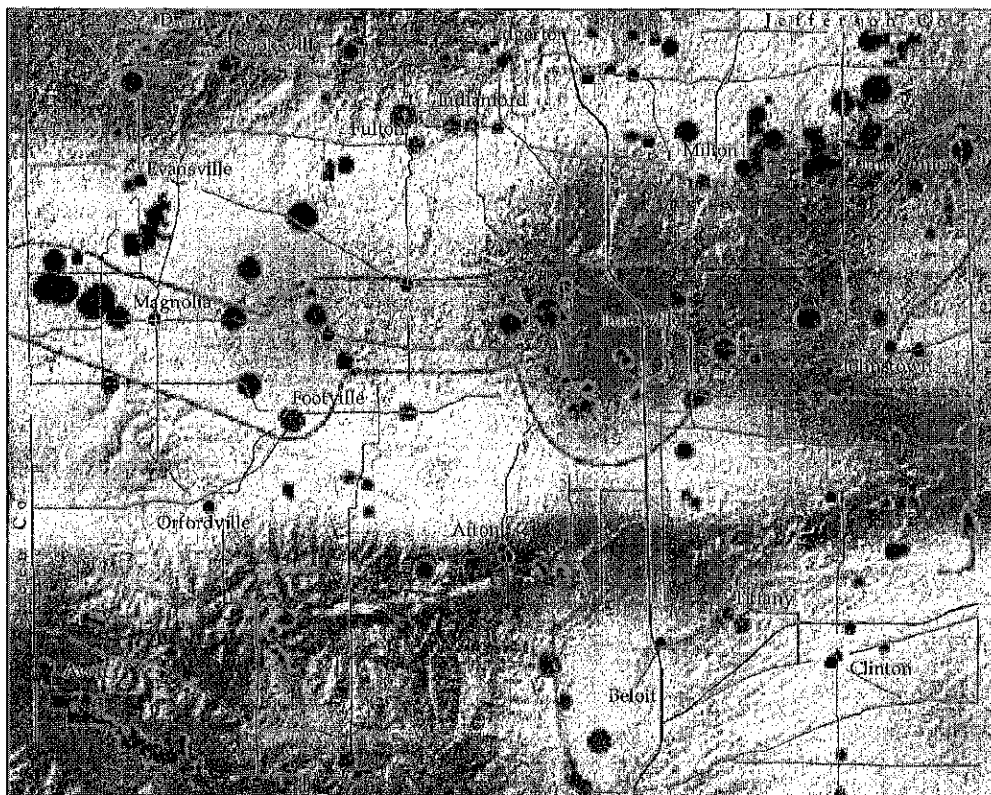


**Ice Age National Scenic Trail**

**Alternative Corridor B (4,5,6,7)**  
Rock County, Wisconsin



**B**



- Scenic Hiking Experience (s)
- Geology (g)
- Cultural Resource Destinations (cu)
- Rural Character/Future Use (r)
- Potential Support Facilities (f)
- Natural Resource Destinations (n)
- Communities (c)
- Public Lands (p)
- Public Lands

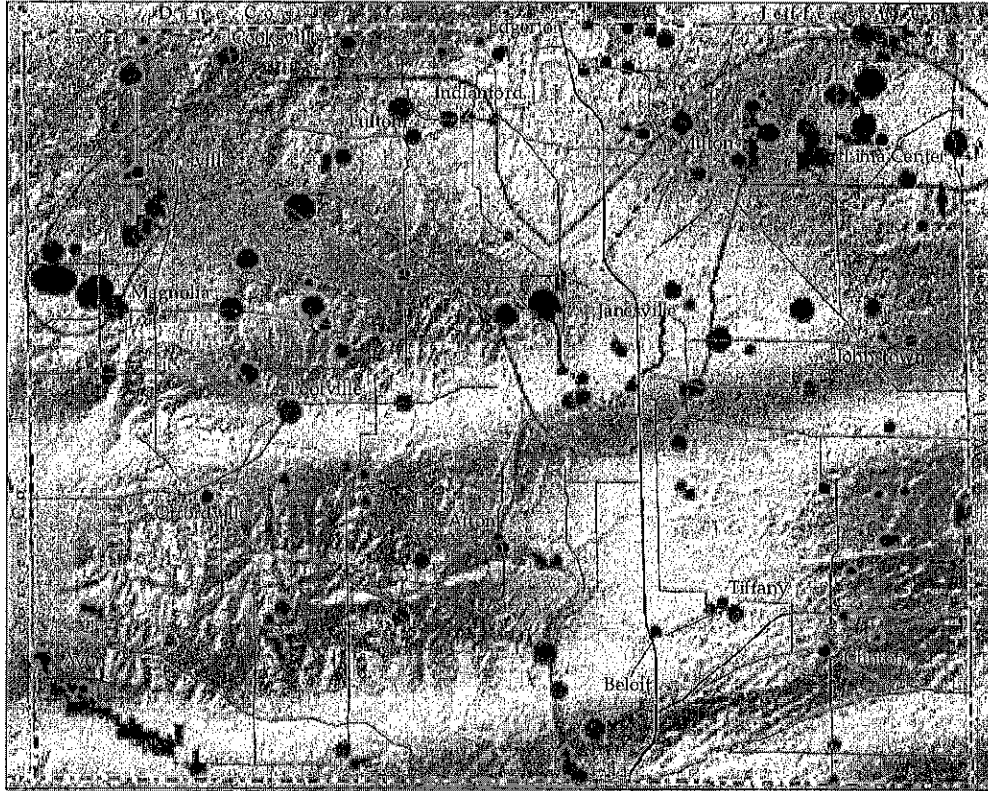


**Ice Age National Scenic Trail**

**Alternative Corridor C (1,10,15,11,9)**  
Rock County, Wisconsin



**C**

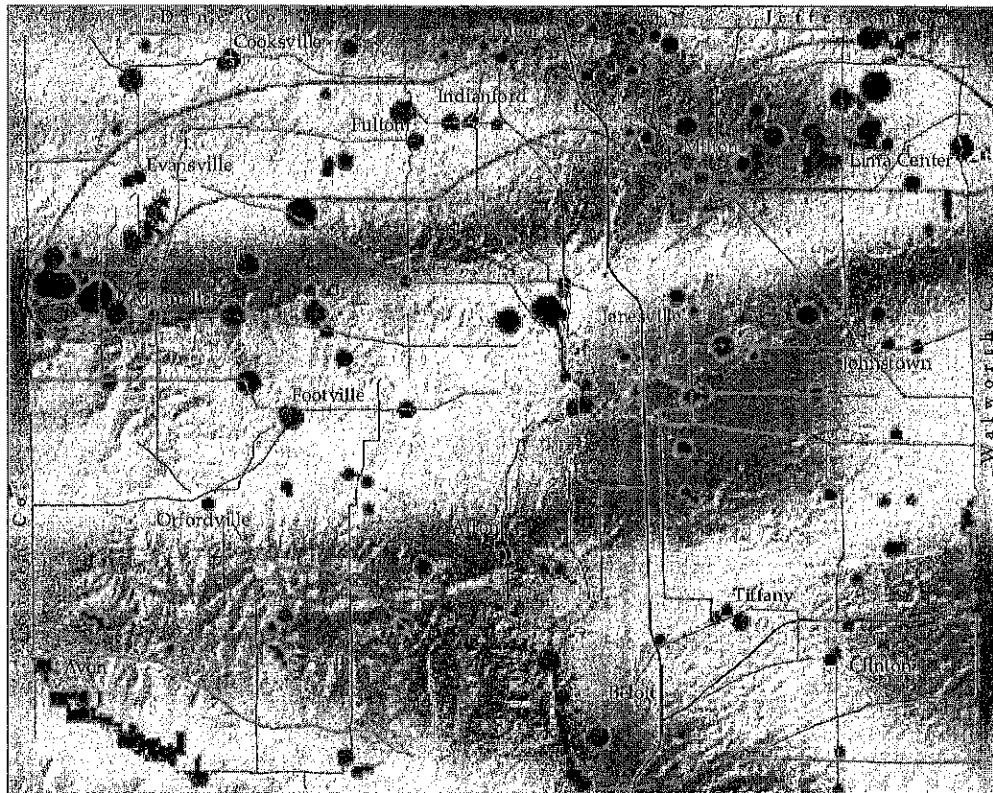


**Ice Age National Scenic Trail**

**Alternative Corridor D (1,2,3)**  
Rock County, Wisconsin



**D**



- Scenic Hiking Experience (s)
- Geology (g)
- Cultural Resource Destinations (cu)
- Rural Character/Future Use (r)
- Potential Support Facilities (f)
- Natural Resource Destinations (n)
- Communities (c)
- Public Lands (p)
- Public Lands





**Current Rock County Park Projects  
October – December 6, 2011**

- **Beloit-Janesville Trail**-----1) Participating in committee meetings in the feasibility study in planning this trail corridor.  
2) Railroad crossing to be installed soon.
  
- **Beckman Mill** -----1) Met with Beckman Mill Members to relocate bench on boardwalk and discuss various items.  
2) RFP for northwoods trail improvements released.
  
- **Carver- Roehl**-----1) Park Plan public information meeting #2 held on Monday November 28, 2011.
  
- **Community Coordinator**-----1) Attended FISTA chainsaw safety training October 24<sup>th</sup>.  
2) Attended a Volunteer Development Workshop hosted by REI on November 13<sup>th</sup>.  
3) Partnered with Rock County Conservationists and U-Rock for a showing of Green Fire November 16<sup>th</sup>.  
4) Met with an intern from the Fish and Wildlife Service on November 17<sup>th</sup> at Beckman Mill Park to discuss wetland management objectives. FWS will provide some funding to complete this work.  
5) Led family geocaching program at Happy Hollow Park on November 19<sup>th</sup>.  
6) Led workenders in buckthorn removal at Carver-Roehl Park December 7<sup>th</sup>.
  
- **Delong**-----1) Sent out offer to purchase.  
2) Working with the town on rezoning schedule.

- **Gibbs Lake** ----- 1) Well re-chlorinated, casing seal repaired, water tested safe and handle replaced.
- **GIS**----- 1) Attending Land Records meetings as scheduled.  
2) Assisting Highway with map projects as needed.
- **Green Fund**----- 1) Purple Creek fundraiser date set for December 13<sup>th</sup>.  
2) Candlelight hike dates set for January 13, 2012 at Beckman Mill and February 17, 2012 at Gibbs Lake.
- **Ice Age Trail**----- 1) Participated in work day on October 19, 2011 at JSOL.  
2) An update of the scoping process will be presented at the December 13, 2011 meeting.
- **Magnolia Bluff** ----- 1) Fall burn of south bluff held on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> by volunteers.  
2) Participated in a riding excursion with volunteers to see the trails from their perspective.  
3) Public information meeting #2 held on Monday December 5, 2011.
- **Murwin Park**----- 1) Repaved lot and accessible path to bathroom and hand-pump well completed and areas re-seeded.
- **Other Information**----- 1) Docks pulled out of water November 2, 2011.  
2) Staff re-certified in CPR and First Aid.  
3) Received signs for snowmobile program.  
4) Installed concealed carry signs.

**5) Completed various roof repair projects at Sportsman's, Sweet Allyn, Carver-Roehl, and Happy Hollow Parks.**

**6) Attended Rock County Senior Fair with Parks display.**

**7) Attended Wisconsin Park and Recreation Association Fall Conference in Green Bay November 1-4, 2011.**

**8) Assisted and participated in all staff snow plow rodeo on November 14, 2011.**

**9) Worked with the State on vision corner of 67 and 140 (Lee Park) and relocated sign.**

□ **Pelishek-Tiffany Trail**-----

**1) Met Pete Tiffany to discuss realistic options for cooperative efforts on the Walworth County end of the trail and the foundations long range goals.**

**2) Working with Gary Hahn on trail easement for draining project on his property.**