

ABOUT TRAILS IN WARREN COUNTY



The trail system in Warren County, Iowa, consists of two trails with connection to the Polk County trail system and future plans to create a loop of trails throughout the county. The scenic SummerSet Trail stretches 12 miles from Carlisle to Indianola with Banner Lakes at SummerSet State Park as a respite spot along the trail. The 16.5 mile Great Western Trail stretches from Martensdale through Cumming and on to Des Moines. Both trails run along former railroad lines, crossing prairie and wetlands, and showing off many endangered plants, woodlands, and farmland, showcasing Iowa's natural beauty. Warren County has approximately 38 miles of trail, including those within city limits.



Make a Contribution to the Endowment Fund:

Checks made payable to
Warren Co. Trails Endowment
may be mailed to:
Warren County Philanthropic Partnership
P.O. Box 218
Indianola, IA 50125

Make a contribution at:
www.desmoinesfoundation.org/warrencountytrails

For more information, e-mail:
warrencountytrails@gmail.com

Established by the Warren County Leadership Class of 2014



WARREN COUNTY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

In Partnership with

**Warren County
Philanthropic Partnership**



**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**
GREATER DES MOINES

WARREN
COUNTY
TRAILS
ENDOWMENT
FUND



Live well...

Into the Future

LIVE WELL, INTO THE FUTURE

The trail system in Warren County, Iowa, is a popular source of recreation and exercise, enriching the well-being of people of all ages throughout the community.

Both the county and the cities within the county where the trails are located are responsible for maintaining the trails, yet budgets do not always allow for the repairs that are needed due to general use, wear and tear, and storm damage.

In 2014, the **Warren County Trails Endowment Fund** was established as a class project by the Warren County Leadership Institute to create a life-long option for those who wish to support the maintenance of the trail system.

The Endowment gives residents an opportunity to do their part and show their support of the trails they use and love by making a contribution.

The Endowment is maintained by the charitable foundation *Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines*, which allows donors to take advantage of the Endow Iowa tax deductible benefits. The funds from the Endowment are distributed by the *Warren County Philanthropic Partnership* to cities and the county who apply for funds when money is needed for trail maintenance.

WHO CAN CONTRIBUTE?

- Individuals— through a direct contribution, by naming the Endowment in a will, through real estate or gifts of retirement assets
- Youth Groups, 4-H groups, churches, garden clubs and other local organizations who need a place for fundraising dollars
- Businesses and financial institutions who wish to make a contribution to the community

The Endowment can serve as one location for any fundraiser intended to benefit the trail system.

WHY AN ENDOWMENT?

When you make a charitable donation to the Warren County Trails Endowment Fund, you're not only helping the community today—you're building a stronger community for tomorrow.

- 25% of each donation qualifies for the Endow Iowa tax credit, plus any federal tax benefits available.
- The Endowment is a fund which is kept in perpetuity, providing interest and dividend earnings for the long-term benefit of the trail system.
- A percentage of the fund is used each year for trail maintenance and the remainder stays in the fund to build interest, creating life-long funding for the trails.

