

**Frequently Asked Questions  
Kalamazoo River Valley Trail  
Revised: 1/2010**



**What is the Kalamazoo River Valley Trail?**

The Kalamazoo River Valley Trail will encompass 35 miles of trail throughout Kalamazoo County. Kalamazoo will be a regional hub, connecting Battle Creek to Lake Michigan, D Ave. to Portage, and eventually Lake Michigan to Lake Huron. This existing trail and planned trails in other counties will enable you to connect more than 140 miles of trails – connecting together the Battle Creek Linear Park, the Kal-Haven Trail, and the Portage Bicentennial Park Trail.

There are currently two of eight segments complete of this non-motorized, paved-asphalt trail. One stretch includes a 4.8-mile section that connects 10<sup>th</sup> Street to downtown Kalamazoo, while the other travels from Mosel Ave. to Mayors' Riverfront Park, totaling an additional 2.8 miles. As funds and property become available the trail will continue to grow, realizing a vision that has been in the works since 1991.

**Who operates the Kalamazoo River Valley Trail?** The KRV Trail is a County Park and is operated and maintained by the Kalamazoo County Parks Department. To report vandalism or obstructions on the trail, please call 269-383-8778.

**Is there a fee to use the trail?** The KRV Trail is **free** to use, and a pass is not required. However, a pass is required to use the Kal-Haven Trail. Passes are available for individuals (\$3.00/day, \$15.00/annually) or families (\$7.00/day, \$35/annually). A list of pass vendors for the Kal-Haven Trail is available on the Van Buren County Road Commission website (Van Buren County operates and manages the Kal-Haven Trail).

**Where can I park to use the trail?** Parking is available at the 10<sup>th</sup> Street trailhead (where the KRV Trail connects to the Kal-Haven Trail: 2 miles North of W. Main on 10<sup>th</sup> Street). Parking is also available on Paterson St. (just West of Riverview Dr.) and at Mayors' Riverfront Park (near Homer Stryker Field). Also, the two major public parking ramps in downtown Kalamazoo provide convenient access to the KRV Trail as well.

**Are snowmobiles or golf carts allowed on the KRV Trail?** Golf carts, ATVs, ORVs, snowmobiles, mini-bikes, gas/electric powered scooters or similar motorized devices are **not** allowed on the KRV Trail.

The KRV Trail is for non-motorized use, such as walking, running, bicycling, skate-boarding, rollerblading, etc.

**Is the KRV Trail ADA accessible?** The KRV Trail is ADA compliant, and motorized wheelchairs are allowed by persons with a disability requiring the use of a wheelchair.

**Does the KRV Trail go through downtown Kalamazoo?** There is a signed-route that connects the two completed sections. The “walking route” follows the sidewalk along Arcadia Creek, and the “bike route” uses Eleanor St. At Burdick St. The walking and biking routes combine to use Water St., leading all the way to Rose Park’s Veteran’s Memorial. The signs are teal in color and have symbols to indicate walk, biking or both.

**Is the trail open all year round?** The trail is open all year round, although it is not plowed in the winter. It is, however, occasionally used by cross-country skiers and walkers. Snowmobiles are *not* allowed on the KRV Trail.

**Is the entire trail paved?** The entire KRV Trail is paved asphalt, and except for a .7 mile section along Ravine Road and the downtown signed route, it’s separated from the road.

**What time does the trail open and close?** The KRV Trail opens at 7 a.m. each day, and closes at sunset.

**Who is paying for the construction of the trail?** The trail is funded by private donations and matching enhancement grants from the Michigan Department of Transportation. A public and private partnership between the volunteer-led Parks Foundation of Kalamazoo County and Kalamazoo County Parks is bringing charitable contributions and public dollars. To donate, please visit [www.kalamazoorivervalleytrail.com](http://www.kalamazoorivervalleytrail.com)

**Who is paying for the maintenance?** The KRV Trail maintenance is funded by an endowment established by the Parks Foundation of Kalamazoo County.

**Who is paying for the programs and events?** In partnership with the Parks Foundation of Kalamazoo County, the Kalamazoo County Parks Department received a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to provide programs and events to help maximize the benefits of the trail. Programs and events can be found at [www.kalcounty.com/parks](http://www.kalcounty.com/parks)

**Do you need volunteers for the KRV Trail?** We have a variety of opportunities for volunteers, ranging from helping to conduct a trail usage study, to assisting with programs and events. For more information, please email [krvt@kalcounty.com](mailto:krvt@kalcounty.com), or call 269-373-5181.

**Does the KRV Trail have mile markers?** The KRV Trail has mile markers every 1/10<sup>th</sup> of a mile, beginning from 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

**Can I take my dog on the KRV Trail?** Pets are welcome, we just asked that you clean up after them and that they are on a leash no more than 6-feet long.

**Is the trail safe to use?** The trail is safe to use. To make your experience more enjoyable, however, we recommend using the buddy-system and enjoy the trail with a companion. There is safety in numbers.