

Waukesha County: Park system accessible trail project begins new phase, offers donation opportunities

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(Waukesha, WI) – The Waukesha County Park System is pleased to announce the start of the second phase of the Discovery Trail Project, as well as opportunities to help support future trail additions. This multi-phase project is revitalizing and expanding accessibility of the paved trail at Retzer Nature Center. Contributions from the Waukesha Rotary Club and the Friends of Retzer Nature Center made this accessible trail project possible.

“Support from the Waukesha Rotarians and the Friends of Retzer group have advanced this amazing project,” said Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow. “The accessible trail and educational features are going to bring the wonders of the natural world to people of all abilities and levels of mobility.”

Project Phases

Phase two of the project, which began this week, will construct a gateway feature at the entrance and create a series of ‘Exploration Stations’ along the trail for outdoor education, sensory-based play experiences, and STEM activities for families and school groups. The trail will also include an area for outdoor classes and events to fully immerse attendees of all abilities in nature. This phase is expected to be completed mid-autumn. More information is available at www.waukeshacounty.gov/discoverytrail.

Phase one of the project constructed a connector path to meet the new accessible boardwalk trail. Trees were harvested on-site for reuse in the design, climbing boulders were placed and site restoration was completed with native trees, shrubs

and plants. The project was awarded Community Development Block Grant funding to reconstruct the old trail to ensure ADA accessibility. Phase one was completed in May.

Fundraising Opportunities for Future Phases

Future phases will continue to add additional 'Exploration Stations' along the trail. The Park System has launched an online donation campaign at www.waukeshacounty.gov/discoverytrail. The project is funded through contributions from the Waukesha Rotary Club, the Friends of Retzer Nature Center Fundraising, sponsors and donors.

About Retzer Nature Center

Retzer Nature Center is a part of the Waukesha County Park System, which is a natural resource-based park system that demonstrates stewardship while providing recreational and educational opportunities. For more information, visit www.waukeshacounty.gov/retzernaturecenter, follow Waukesha County Parks on [Twitter](#), like us on [Facebook](#), or follow on [Instagram](#).