

Clear Creek Trailhead



719 Camp Cardinal Boulevard



The Camp Cardinal Trailhead is the first trailhead constructed in the Clear Creek Greenbelt and the first official trailhead constructed in the City of

Coralville. It's 1,050 square foot roof line provides shelter from the elements or a place to gather before leaving on a trail excursion.

Clear Creek Trail Funding Sources:

To date, varied funding sources have gone into constructing 4.3 miles of the Clear Creek Trail and Trailhead. The funding sources have come from several grant programs and allocations. They are:

- State Recreational Trails Program \$1,312,328
- Congressional Allocation, Senator Harkin \$1,250,000
- American Discovery Trail Spur Allocation \$169,000
- Federal Recreation Trails Program \$141,000
- City Share for Grant matches \$969,760

The trailhead features parking, restrooms, shelter area, and a kiosk area where trail information can be posted. The trailhead also features a place for people to get close to Clear Creek. A water access point allows paddlers to launch small canoes and kayaks or allows visitors to get up close to the creek and enjoy watching the water run by or the minnows playing tag in the shallows.

Landscape Architect:
Confluence
Iowa City

Architect:
Martin Design
Marion

General Contractor:
Vieth Construction
Cedar Falls

Opened
September 2012

Combined Project of Trailhead and 1650 foot section of trail.

Total Trailhead Project Cost:
\$414,276

Clear Creek Trail Phase 5, Part 1 Total Project Cost:
\$243,968

For More Information:
Coralville Parks & Recreation
319-248-1750
www.coralville.org

Design and Features

Coralville Connection to Tiffin Border by the Clear Creek Trail

Portions Remaining Until Connected

Phase 6
.94 miles Engineers estimate is \$550,000

Phase 7
1.0 miles Engineers estimate is \$850,000.

Coralville has 24 miles of trails and over wide sidewalks. All are multiuse trails for both pedestrians and cyclists.

Design Choices

The building was designed using a gabled roof line that is found in the greenbelt at the Charles Gay Festival Grounds. This roofline has been repeated at the Coralville Creekside Ballpark and now at the trailhead. The City has also worked with David Dahlquist, RDG Planning and Design, to use special “echo block” treatments to tell the story of the spaces in the Clear Creek greenbelt. At the trailhead, these echo block show leaf and water patterns while at the ballpark, images of the working black Angus farm are featured.

Another design element that was important to this facility is its ability to withstand flooding. Clear Creek can flash flood occasionally. If flooding were to occur, the building is made of cement block construction and has vents at each side that are designed to let the water flow through. Once the water recedes, the building can be washed out, inspected for damage, and reopened.

The City worked closely with the Iowa DNR to obtain a No Rise permit. This means the building was placed in the shadow of the Clear Creek street bridge on Camp Cardinal and a study was done to show that the building would not hold back flood waters up stream in a high water event.

Water Access

When a master plan was developed for the Clear Creek Greenbelt, it was noted that while often the flow through the creek could support paddling and floating, the banks along Clear Creek are steep and inaccessible. The launch structure built with the trailhead allows people to go down to the water and get up close to it. Kayak and small, non-motorized watercraft may be launched from the trailhead and taken out at City Park in Iowa City. A future launch and debark point is planned where Clear



Creek meets the Iowa River. *Touch the Earth*, University of Iowa outdoor equipment rental facility, rents kayaks, canoes, as well as show shoes and cross country skiing equipment.

What's Next for the Clear Creek Trail?

The City continues to apply for grants and look at ways to fund the approximate remaining two miles. Once the trail connects with Tiffin, users will be able to ride through Tiffin and along the trail going west towards Kent Park. The vision for the Clear Creek Trail is to continue west to the Amana Colonies, creating a twenty plus mile destination trail.