

Welcome to the...

FABULOUS
FOX!
WATER
TRAIL



Fox River Ecosystem Partnership
Annual Meeting
January 11, 2023

Karen Ann Miller, Illinois Co-Chair



200 fabulous miles

Across 2 states and 8 counties

With over 70 public access sites



FABULOUS
FOX!
WATER
TRAIL



The Fabulous Fox! Water Trail has been developed!



The Vision

...to provide suitable access to the public, to enjoy the quiet and active recreation, scenic beauty, abundant wildlife, and historic and cultural features. Communities along the Fox River embrace stewardship and public engagement to provide a sense of place.

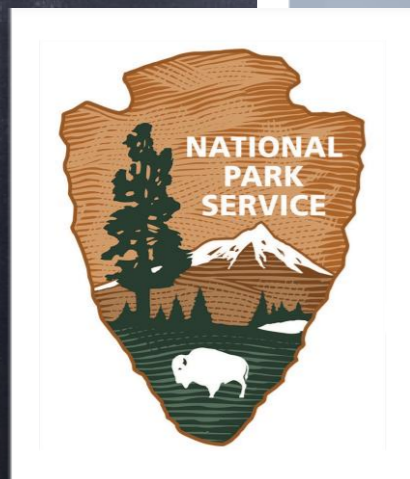


It Takes a Team

- National Park Service - 3 years technical assistance
- Kane County, Illinois
- Fox River Ecosystem Partnership
- Southeast Fox River Partnership
- Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
- Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission
- Naturally McHenry County
- Village of Waterford, Wisconsin
- Real Racine
- Illinois Paddling Council
- River Management Society
- Friends of the Fox River
- Fox River Study Group
- Travel Wisconsin



Designation into the ... NPS National Water Trails System



A distinctive national network of exemplary water trails that are cooperatively supported and sustained.

Application Submitted November, 2022!

Best Management Practices

- Recreation opportunities
- Education
- Conservation
- Community support
- Public Information
- Trail maintenance
- Planning



A community of partners



Letters/Resolutions of Permission from:

Wisconsin

- City of Brookfield
- Waukesha County
- State of Wisconsin
- Village of Big Bend
- Village of Waterford
- Village of Rochester
- Racine County
- City of Burlington
- Kenosha County
- City of Waukesha



Illinois

- State of Illinois
- City of McHenry
- McHenry County Conservation District
- Lake County
- City of Algonquin
- Forest Preserve District of Kane County
- Village of Carpentersville
- Village of West Dundee
- City of Elgin
- St. Charles Park District
- City of St. Charles
- City of Geneva
- City of Batavia
- Batavia Park District
- Fox Valley Park District
- City of Aurora
- Oswegoland Park District
- City of Yorkville
- Kendall County Forest Preserves

At this time LaSalle County does not qualify for designation

A community of partners

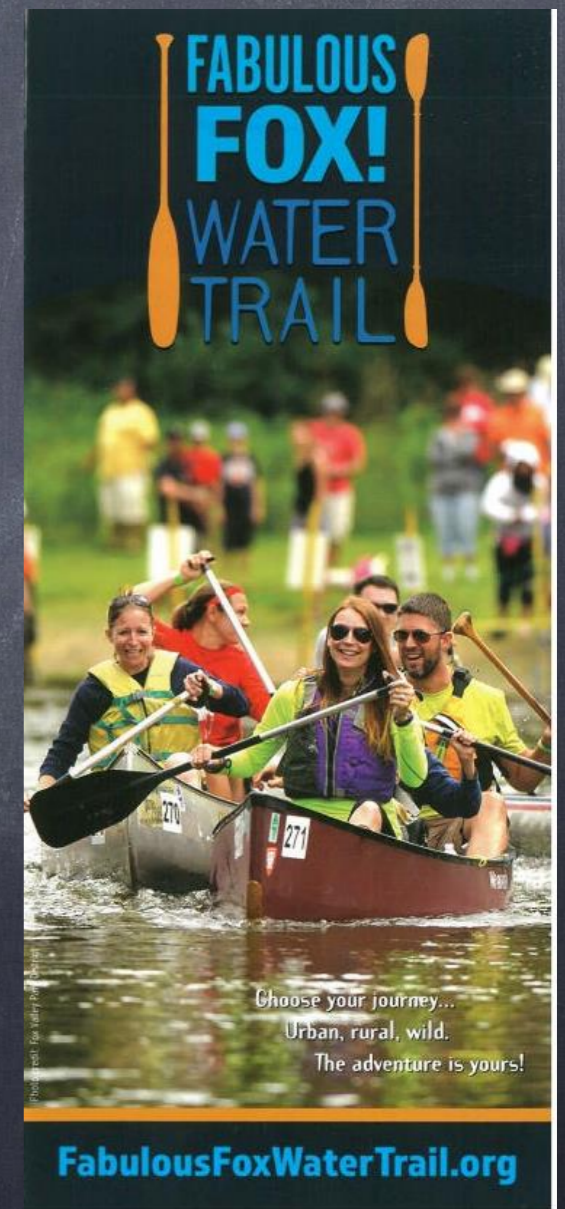
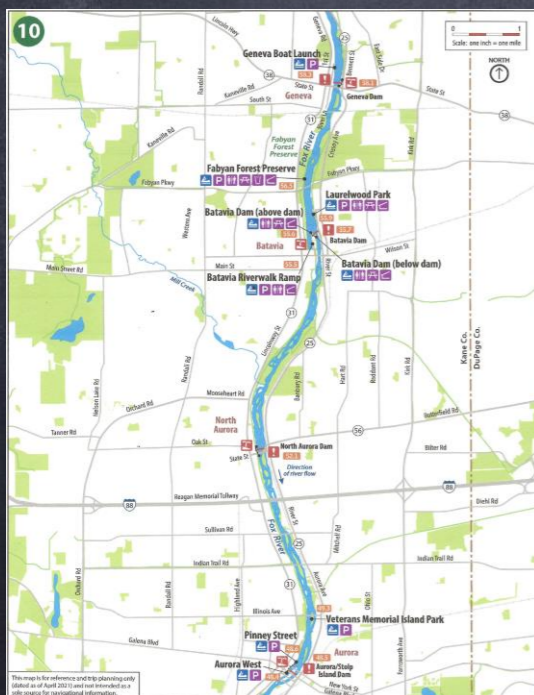


Over 40 Letters/Resolutions of Support from:

- Aurora Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Chicago Wilderness
- City of Brookfield
- City of Geneva
- City of Waukesha
- Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
- Environmental Defenders of McHenry County
- Fox Metro Water Reclamation District
- Fox River Ecosystem Partnership
- Fox River Study Group
- Fox Valley Park District
- Friends of the Fox River
- Howling Wolfe Canoe & Kayak
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- Illinois Paddling Council
- Illinois State Trails Program
- Kane County
- Kane-DuPage County Soil & Water Conservation District
- Kendall County Soil & Water Conservation District
- Kenosha County
- Lake County Forest Preserves
- McHenry County Conservation District
- McHenry County
- Naturally McHenry County
- Racine County
- Real Racine
- Representative Anna Moeller
- Representative Keith Wheeler
- Representative Maura Hirschauer
- River Corridor Foundation of St. Charles
- Senator Duckworth and Congressman Foster
- Southeastern Wisconsin Fox River Commission
- South Elgin Economic Development
- The Conservation Foundation
- Village of Algonquin
- Village of Rochester
- Village of South Elgin
- Village of Waterford
- Wisconsin State Legislature
- Openlands

Timeline

- Dec. 7th – NPS has completed their cursory review and moved the application up to the next level.
- Feb. 17th - A more detailed review will be completed. Determination whether or not to send as a nomination to Interior Secretary Debra Halland.
- By June will be approved or declined by President Joe Biden



Fabulousfoxwatertrail.org

Meanwhile...

Kane County Board approved \$1.2 million in American Rescue Plan funds for:

- Planning
- Marketing
- Infrastructure for new & improved access
- Signage



OPTION A – Display (prototype): Land and River sides of Access Point Dimensions: 12"x18" w/(2) 3/8" holes at 2.0"

Fox River Greenway North

FABULOUS
FOX!
WATER
TRAIL

River Mile **173.5**

Visit fabulousfoxwatertrail.org for maps and trip planning



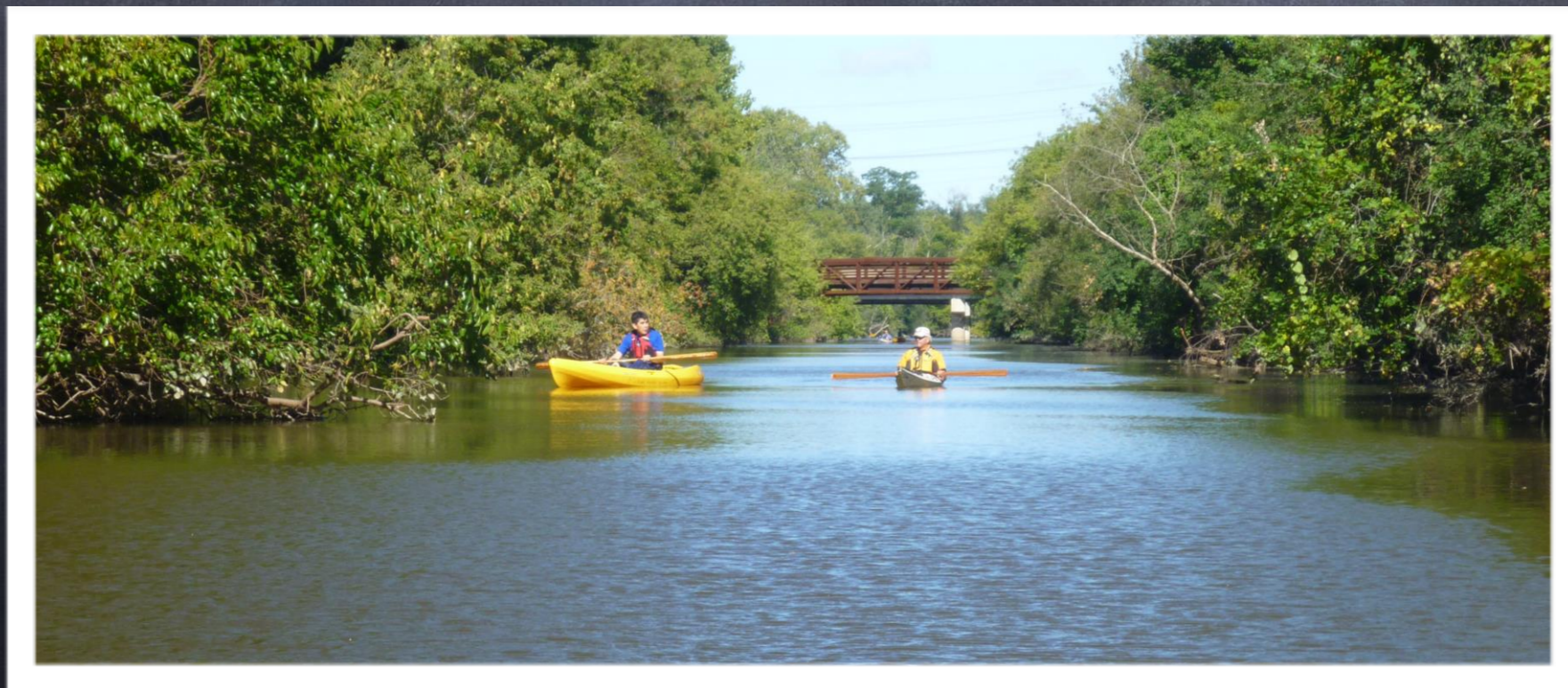
- Visit **Safety** at fabulousfoxwatertrail.org for current river conditions
- Respect private property and the environment
- Wear clothing appropriate for conditions
- Wear a proper fitting Life Jacket
- Carry a map and locational device
- Bring emergency and rescue gear
- Tell someone your plans

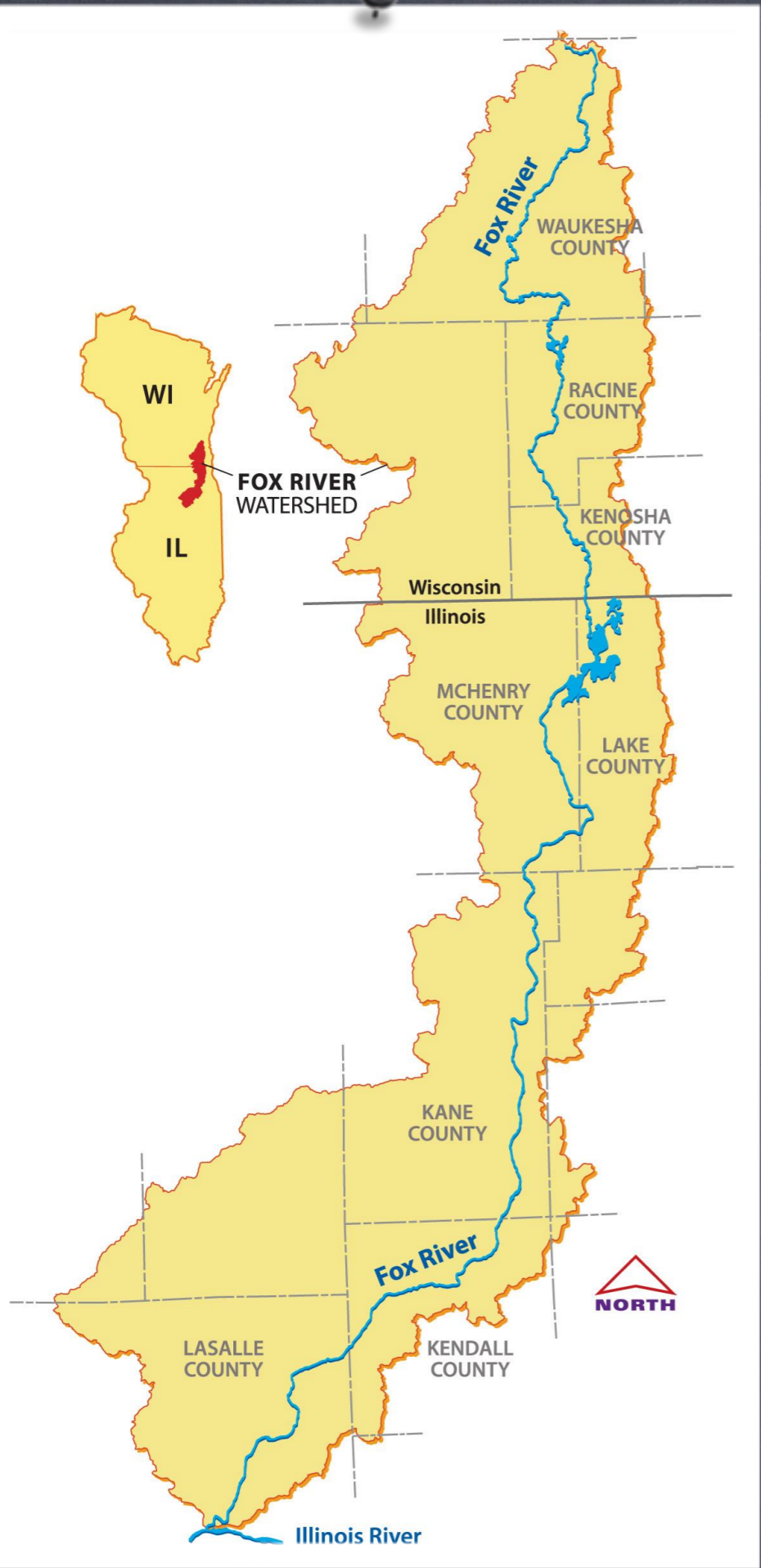


Meanwhile...

Kane County Development Department:

- applied for an Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity Tourism & Festivals Grant
- is applying for funding from the Illinois Tourism & Grant Program
- contracted with Gilmore Marketing Concepts to develop a marketing plan for the FF!WT in Kane County that can be used as a model for the other counties along the Fox River.





Enjoy!

