

# June 21 Ribbon-Cutting to Celebrate Completion of Winfield Segment of West Branch DuPage River Trail

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Community Contributor Deb Snow  
Humiston

The public is invited to a ribbon-cutting at 3 p.m. Thursday, June 21 to mark the completion of a 3-mile stretch of the West Branch DuPage River Trail connecting Winfield Mounds and West DuPage Woods forest preserves through downtown Winfield.

The ribbon-cutting will be on the trail in West DuPage Woods west of Gnarly Knots Pretzel Company, 27W570 High Lake Road in Winfield. Parking is available east of Gnarly Knots.

The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County collaborated with the village of Winfield and the Winfield Riverwalk Committee to complete the segment and connect residents to Winfield Mounds Forest Preserve, West DuPage Forest Preserve, Wynwood Park, Lions Park, Oakwood Park, downtown Winfield, the Winfield Metra station and Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital.

"This trail segment is part of a district-wide initiative to connect our trails throughout the county to provide an environmentally friendly and conservation-minded alternate route for DuPage residents to travel," said Forest Preserve District of DuPage County President Joe Cantore. "This link is important to all of our trail users."

Winfield Village President Erik Spande agreed. "Winfield is pleased to have a new trail that promotes health and wellness and provides recreational opportunities. The new trail is the result of partnerships between the village of Winfield, the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County, community leaders and Riverwalk Advocates nonprofit, and land donations from Central DuPage Hospital. When we work together we can accomplish great things."

The 10-foot wide trail and bikeway meanders through downtown Winfield along the West Branch DuPage River and consists of 2.1 miles of crushed limestone screenings, 0.3 miles of asphalt, and 0.6 miles on street with striping and signage. It also features a 640-foot boardwalk and an 80-by-14-foot prefabricated bridge.

The \$2.9 million project was supported by \$2.2 million in federal funds through the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) and the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) administered by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP); \$184,000 from the village of Winfield; and \$538,000 from the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County's construction development and bond funds.

This segment is one of the remaining critical links in the 23-mile West Branch DuPage River Trail, which will ultimately extend from the North Central DuPage Regional Trail in Hanover

Park south to Will County, where it becomes the DuPage River Trail and connects with the I&M Canal Trail near Channahon.

The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County has been connecting people to nature for more than 100 years. More than 4 million people visit its 60 forest preserves, 145 miles of trails, five education centers and scores of programs each year. For information, call 630-933-7200 or visit [dupageforest.org](http://dupageforest.org), where you can also link to the District's e-newsletter, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages.

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