

From: RICHARD H [<mailto:>]
Sent: Sunday, September 27, 2015 7:31 PM
To: Vandall, Chris
Subject: Trail Maintenance

Chris,

I frequently walk the lake to lake trails. From the Crossroads area I head south to the fruit & vegetable stand at the corner of 156th and SE 16th. From there I follow the trail north past Lake Hills Blvd., around Larson Lake, across 148th and the board walk over the wetlands. At Main St. I head west down to the power line trail above the golf course and south to the Connector. From there I walk the trails on the hillside east of Kelsey creek farm (I've done all variations that crisscross the hillside) and then back to the Crossroads area. In all about 6 miles round trip. I walk this route 1 to 3 times a week depending on the weather and what ever else is going in my life at the time.

You and your staff are doing a wonderful job maintaining these trails. There is a lot to keep up on - removing fallen trees and branches, barking, pruning, weed whacking, bridge maintenance, drainage work to keep the trails dry and the streams contained...and probably a lot more that I'm not even aware of. You always seem to be on top of problem areas.

A few years ago there was major work done along the trails east of Larson Lake and just north of the old Library. In the end, a whole lot of what looked like sticks or broom handles were planted along trail. I thought "what were they thinking?...those will never grow". Well, indeed they did grow and rather rapidly. Soon they formed a hedge along the trail. Recently I noticed that in a few places, these bushes were starting to creep out onto the trail. I intended to call you when I got home to alert you that some pruning may be required. But by the time I got home and took a shower, the thought went out of my head. But a few days later, lo and behold the bushes were all pruned. I don't know if you all routinely walk the trails to monitor their condition or where you get your information. But however you do it, it is working.

These trails get a lot of use. Over time I have seen many people - young, old, walkers, joggers, people on bicycles, mother's with baby carriages, dog walkers, etc. All enjoying these wonderful trails.

Thank you and your staff for the great job you all are doing. Your efforts are much appreciated.

Thank You,

Richard H

From: Vandall, Chris
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2015 8:28 AM
To: RICHARD H
Cc: DeWald, Dan; Vandall, Chris
Subject: RE: Trail Maintenance

Hi Richard,

Thank you very much for your comments and praise for our trail system. It really means a lot to us when folks like you use the system and enjoy the experience. I am fortunate enough to work with people that really take pride in the system and do a great job managing their workload in the field. It is really a team effort and I feel that the team we have is truly #1.

Thank you again for your comments and praise. I will pass them along to the team. It is people like yourself that make our trail system truly great.

Thank you for your support

Please feel free to call me anytime.

Chris

Chris Vandall
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