



NEWS RELEASE

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North Murfreesboro Greenway ribbon-cutting ceremony Dec. 14

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. — The newest 1.34-mile section of the Murfreesboro Greenway System is set to open December 14, 2016 with a ribbon cutting ceremony slated for 2:30 p.m. at the Central Valley Trailhead located on Central Valley Road near Walter Hill Dam.

As a cooperative effort between the City of Murfreesboro and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the \$4.5 million North Murfreesboro Greenway starts at Walter Hill Park on Highway 231 and heads west on the east side of the Stones River. The new portion extends the Greenway to 13 miles.

“This new facility provides beautiful and challenging trails for equestrians, runners, walkers, and bike riders alike,” said Nate Williams, Recreation Superintendent with Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation Department (MPRD), “and will be a welcomed addition to Northern Murfreesboro.”

The asphalt trail features two overlooks, a switchback, or “S-Curve” hill, and a tree-top canopy offering shade. The Central Valley trailhead boasts extended parking spaces suitable for equestrian trailers.

The North Murfreesboro Greenway trail will be open from daylight until 30 minutes prior to dusk. The Walter Hill trailhead is one half mile south of Jefferson Pike on Highway 231 (Lebanon Road), and the trailhead on Central Valley Road is located approximately one mile from Highway 231.

The same park and greenway rules will apply to the pedestrian trail; for example, non-motorized bicycles are allowed, and skateboards are prohibited. All pets must be on a leash, and dog owners must clean up after their pets. Horses are not allowed on the pedestrian trail.

In July 2014, the City of Murfreesboro and the Corps signed a project partnership agreement to design and construct improvements to the trail system and support facilities on the upper J. Percy Priest Lake (East Fork Stones River).

This project includes improvements to the Walter Hill Park trailhead, a new combined equestrian and multi-use parking facility at Coleman Farm, and a combined trail system of three miles of new trails, approximately two miles paved and one mile natural surface.

The project also includes a new connection point from Coleman Farm to the popular 18 mile Twin Forks Horse Trail, adding new facilities at the southern terminus of this popular trail. The horse trail has a rich history with approximately 2.5 miles being a part of the Trail of Tears, another section going through the town of Old Jefferson. The trail runs from this southern terminus to the Nice's Mill Recreation Area with a total visitation is over 30,000 visitors a year.

The first 4.5 miles of greenway opened in 1996 from Thompson Lane to Cannonsburgh with help from former U.S. Rep. Bart Gordon. The City's 25-year Greenway, Blueway and Bikeway Plan includes another two-to-three miles of greenway from Siegel Soccer Complex & Community Park to link to the North Murfreesboro Greenway.

For more information, contact the Murfreesboro Greenway office at (615) 893-2141, or visit www.murfreesborotn.gov/parks.

For City News online, visit www.Murfreesborotn.gov.

1. *View of North Murfreesboro Greenway.jpg*

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