



The Old Creamery Nature Trail

Basic Information

The Old Creamery Nature Trail connects the communities of Vinton, Garrison, and Dysart, Iowa. This former railroad bed meanders through the quiet fields of the upper Midwest on a limestone/rock base. The trail is approximately 15 miles long and we do our best to maintain the trail. There are no motorized vehicles or horses allowed on the trail without proper permits and approval from the Benton County Conservation Board or Trail Committee. All we ask is that you leave the trail in the same or better condition than when you found it.

Our sole purpose is to provide residents and visitors a trail to walk, run, bike ride, or view nature. Portions of the trail are completely shaded by mature trees while other areas take you through corn and bean fields along with pasture ground. The trail head in Dysart is located off Highway 21 and just east of Casey's. In Vinton, you can find the trail head near the trail parking at the intersection of Hwy 218 and West 8th Street. We are always looking for volunteers to help with our trail or donate money or services. We are blessed to have tremendous support from all three communities!



Meetings

Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month from approximately September through March, held at the Benton County Nature Center outside of Vinton, Iowa. The committee does not meet in the winter months. All meetings are open to the general Public.

History

The Old Creamery Nature Trail was donated To the Benton County Conservation Board, on Thursday, April 22, 2010. Nancy Baldwin (Treasurer) presented the final OCNT payment to Tom Neenan of the Iowa Trail's Council. Mr. Neenan then presented the deed to the Old Creamery Nature Trail committee to gift to the Benton County Conservation Board.

There is only one other publicly accessible trail to our knowledge in Iowa's history that was established and survived for two decades without government assistance.

Without the years of volunteer service by amazing people, this trail would not exist. So please come and enjoy the trial.