

Bridge of Dreams

History of the Bridge

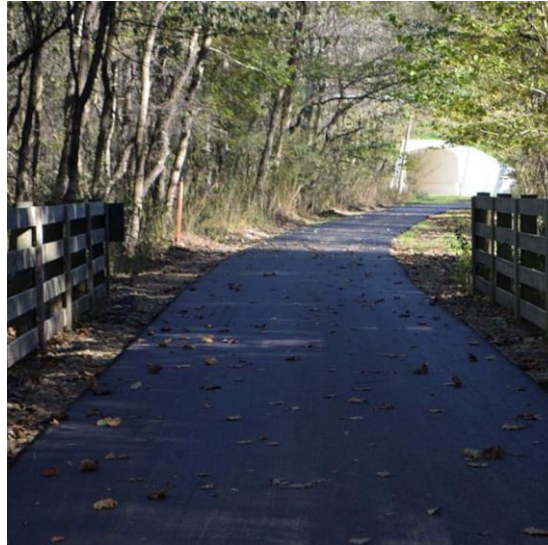
In 1996, as plans for a nature trail to link Holmes County and the Kokosing Gap trails progressed, a vision arose to build a covered bridge across the majestic Mohican River and create a trail linkage. The Ohio Horseman's Council, Mohican Valley Trail Board, Knox County Commissioners, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio Rails to Trails Conservancy, private donors and local corporations pooled their resources and talents, hauled tons of trash from illegal dumping and obtained grants to clean up an eye sore that eventually became a critical linkage on a statewide recreational trail (Ohio to Erie Trail)

The Bridge of Dreams was completed December 18, 1998 and dedicated April 17, 1999, and the trail officially opened on June 15, 2001. The trail goes from East Street in Danville to the Holmes County Line (near US 62), connecting the Kokosing Gap and the Holmes County Trails. Listed by the Ohio Historical Bridge Association as a replica bridge, its historical value is its foundation.



Highlights of the Area

The Mohican Valley Trail is a nature trail built on the abandoned Penn Central railroad bed at the eastern edge of Knox County. This trail, 4.5 miles long and connecting the villages of Brinkhaven and Danville, crosses the beautiful Mohican River through a 360' covered bridge. About one-half mile east of the covered bridge, the trail connects with the Holmes County Trail. This section was recently paved to complete the paving project of the Mohican Valley Trail to Holmes County. Now cyclists can enjoy the paved Ohio to Erie trail systems that go through Knox County.



A park area at the covered bridge includes a handicapped accessible restroom, parking lot and picnic shelter with tables. Also provided are hitching posts for horses and an informational kiosk. The Mohican Valley Trail is the only multi-use trail in Knox County to allow for horse traffic such as a horse and buggy. Geocache sites are located throughout our other park systems or trails in Knox County.

The Mohican Valley Trail and the Bridge of Dreams is located on the Gateway to Amish Country Scenic Byway. The byway begins in Utica on US 62 and ends at the Holmes County line. Many of the quiet villages and hamlets along the byways serve as "trail towns", offering lodging, dining and shopping experiences. Weavers Farm and Furniture is just one of the "hospitality stops" at 29217 Mickley Road, Danville who offers a public restroom facility and a deli featuring sub sandwiches along with other baked goods. Stop by on Wednesday to receive a complimentary soft pretzel the size of a dinner plate!



Recently, the Knox County Park District hosted a Covered Bridge Appreciation Dinner on the Bridge of Dreams recognizing our many volunteers who support our park programs.

Park Courtesy

In order to maintain our trails and park systems we must have courtesy of the parks, river accesses, and trails.

- Alcohol and illegal drugs are prohibited.
- No motorized vehicles on the trail or bridge.
- No smoking, fishing, climbing on or throwing objects off the bridge.
- Littering is prohibited. Trash cans are located at some of our properties for proper disposal, otherwise pack it in, pack it out.
- Horseback riders, then pedestrians, have the right-of-way. Buggies and bikes **must** yield to horseback riders and pedestrians.
- All trail users must walk through the covered bridge and keep horse and buggies on the south side (matted side) of the bridge coming and going.
- Bicycles, buggies and horses must slow down and use caution in congested areas.
- Dogs need to be on a leash.
- Horse owners should carry muck buckets in their trailers to clean up parking areas.
- Primitive Camping is permitted in designated areas with permission.

Improvements to our park systems are made possible, in part, by the passage of the Knox County Park District levies. We thank you for your support to our systems and hope you enjoy all that the Knox County Parks and Trails have to offer outdoor enthusiasts.

For a list of Park District events please visit our website at www.knoxcountyparks.org

Explore Our Parks;

***Hellbender Preserve**

23316 Coshocton Road, Howard 43028

***Honey Run Highlands**

10865 Hazel Dell Road, Howard (Lot) 43028
10816 Millersburg Road Howard (#62 Lot) 43028*

***Honey Run Waterfall**

10855 Hazel Dell Road, Howard 43028

***Indianfield Bluffs Park**

10855 Sapp Road, Howard 43028

***Thayer Ridge Park**

7077 Thayer Road, Mount Vernon 43050

***Wolf Run Regional Park & Bark Park**

17621 Yauger Road, Mount Vernon 43050

***Bat Nest Park**

30500 Walhonding Road, Danville 43014

Explore Our River Accesses;

***Big Run Road Access (Kokosing River)**

8921 Big Run Road, Gambier 43022

***Greer Landing Access (Mohican River)**

20389 Brinkhaven Road, Glenmont 44628

***Kokosing Gap Canoe Access (Kokosing River)**

17812 Lower Gambier Road, Mount Vernon 43050

***Kokosing Water Trail Access (Kokosing River)**

Brown Family Environmental Center
10115 Laymon Road, Gambier 43022

***Millwood Access (Kokosing River)**

11640 Bridge Street, Howard 43028

***Mohican Water Trail Access (Mohican River)**

16606 Hunter Road, Brinkhaven 43006

***Pipesville Road Access (Kokosing River)**

12059 Pipesville Road, Howard 43028

***Riley Chapel Road Access (Kokosing River)**

10300 Riley Chapel Road, Walhonding 43843

***Zuck Riparian Preserve (Kokosing River)**

28300 Zuck Road, Howard 43028

Explore Our Trail Systems

Heart of Ohio Trail- (see other accesses on website)

2750 Huffman Road Centerburg 43011

Kokosing Gap Trail (See other accesses on website)

500 Mt Vernon Ave Mt.Vernon 43050

Mohican Valley Trail - (see other accesses on website)

Bridge of Dreams 16606 Hunter Road Brinkhaven 43006



Bridge of Dreams on the Mohican Valley Trail



Located at
16606 Hunter Road
Brinkhaven OH

Built in 1998

www.knoxcountyparks.org