

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fiscal Year 2014
Handshake Program Application**

Please review instructions before completing application!

Corps Lake/Project Name:**Lake Shelbyville, Illinois**

Handshake Proposal Title:**Making Trails Work - Lake Shelbyville Project**

Corps POC Name:**Philip J. Manhart**

Telephone:(**217**) **774 - 3951** ext. **7010**

E-Mail: **phil.j.manhart@usace.army.mil**

A. Eligibility checklist:

1. Will the Handshake funds be spent on Corps facilities and resources that are being fully maintained by the Corps? * **Yes** **No**

2. Will the Challenge Partnership agreement be with a non-federal public or private entity(ies)? * **Yes** **No**

3. Is the proposed activity within current authorities and contained in the annual or 5-year work plan in the approved lake project OMP? ** **Yes** **No**

**If "No" to any of the above questions the proposal cannot be authorized under the Corps' challenge partnership authority.*

B. Handshake Funding Program Request (maximum \$30,000): \$30,000.00

C. Cooperative Agreement Bonus: Challenge Partnerships that include a Cooperating Association with which your project/district has entered into a Cooperative Agreement are eligible to compete for an additional \$5000. You must include a copy of the signed agreement with your proposal. (Reference Chapter 9 of ER and EP 1130-2-500 for information on cooperating associations).

D. Incentive Points Category: Check the box if your application qualifies to receive bonus points on the evaluation score for partnering with three or more partners. A summary of the partners' contribution to the Handshake Project should be included in the financial worksheet below.

- Application includes 3 partners (25 bonus points)
- Application includes 4 partners (40 bonus points)
- Application includes 5 partners (50 bonus points)
- Application includes 9 partners (50 bonus points for the first 5 partners plus 10 points for each additional partner)

E. Describe your partnership and the proposed project:

Your project will be evaluated on the following categories: Sustainability, Partnership Value, Recreation Benefit, Environmental Stewardship Benefit, Communication and Education Value, and Innovativeness. Please address each in your description.

Description:

Being selected for the FY14 Handshake Program will ensure completion of the following, as part of the Making Trails Work - Lake Shelbyville Project:

- 1) Extend the General Dacey Trail 5 miles. Work will consist of creek crossings, hillside stabilization, and the development for trail amenities such as trail head kiosks, benches, and interpretive panels showcasing wise stewardship of the natural resource.
- 2) Rehab the 11 mile Illini Trail which will link the IDNR's Eagle Creek State Park with the USACE's Lone Point Recreation Area. Re-route low areas of trail, re-build bridges, erosion and invasive species management, and create way finding markers.
- 3) Provide non-routine maintenance and make improvements to Wolf Creek's 12 mile equestrian trail. Complete by clean-up and clearing of the current trail, rehab the trail surface and invasive species removal, erosion and water drainage management.
- 4) Provide non-routine maintenance and construction of 1 mile extension to Camp Camfield's 7 mile trail.
- 5) Create water trail access sites. Develop amenities such as outdoor interpretive panels showcasing maps, safety, and the experience one may seize from nature with a paddle.

The General Dacey, Illini and Camp Camfield trails have all been identified by the National Park Service as National Recreation Trails.

The primary handshake partnership will be between the USACE, General Dacey Trail, and Trails for Illinois. Making Trails Work is a program developed in August 2013, between the National Park Service, Trails for Illinois, and the Student Conservation Association (SCA). This program was developed to enable partnerships to be formed to complete maintenance to existing trails and new trail construction. Lake Shelbyville has been selected to serve as the inaugural pilot project to operate as a model for building, maintaining and improving trails in Illinois in 2014. Without the FY14 Handshake Partnership Program, USACE at Lake Shelbyville will only be able to support this project at a minimal level.

Making Trails Work – Lake Shelbyville Project supports a multiple public and private partnership to showcase what a public / private can accomplish by working together for the American Public. This project will serve as a model for building, maintaining, and improving trails that are less expensive and take less time than traditional federal and local models, which can be used throughout the State of Illinois and ultimately the entire country. Lake Shelbyville is home to a variety of multi use trails and provides the ideal setting to showcase the proper way of building, maintain and improving trails for future generations to learn from.

Making Trails Work – Lake Shelbyville Project currently consists of 10 public / private partners, including: National Park Service (NPS), Trails for Illinois, SCA, Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA), General Dacey Trail, Central Illinois Mountain Bike Association (CIMBA), Boys Scouts of America, and the Lakes Volunteer Association (LVA). Existing agreements already in place to support this project include; USACE and NPS, NPS and Trails for Illinois, USACE and SCA, USACE and IDNR, USACE and General Dacey Trail, USACE and IMBA, USACE and CIMBA, USACE and Boy Scouts of America, USACE and LVA, and NPS and SCA.

Sustainability: This partnership will demonstrate the best management practices to lower long term O&M costs while creating low impact and eco friendly recreation opportunities. Making Trails Work will provide value to local communities and to the visitors at Lake Shelbyville for future generations. Visitor requests for increased

outdoor recreational opportunities as well as declining budgets for agencies have led to the development of this partnership. This project will ensure the sustainability of trails at Lake Shelbyville for many years through planning, education, opportunities for multi-users, and environmental improvements that these trails will provide. Currently MOU's with CIMBA (Central Illinois Mountain Bike Association) and The City of Shelbyville General Dacey Trail have provided O&M commitments to sustaining the Dacey Trail, Camp Camfield trail and the Illini Trail. Extensions to the General Dacey Trail and Illini Trail, the improvements to the Illini Trail, equestrian, and mountain bike trails, along with the opportunity to develop Water Trails proves that there is value in trail development and that with the proper partnerships, education and environmental improvements, trails can be sustained for years to come. Results of this partnership will lower O&M Costs and create onsite job training through the SCA employees.

Partnership Value: Making Trails Work - Lake Shelbyville Project proves partnership value by just looking at the history of the partners involved and will show the level of commitment the US Army Corps of Engineers has in supporting public / private partnerships and their value. This partnership collaboration will prove to be a success through volunteer man hours, trail improvements, design consultation, equipment, and funding. Each partner provides both immediate and long term benefits for a sustainable project. This project provides a dynamic combination of strong partners that have proven their worth from experience and longevity, and result in community, state, and federal goals being accomplished with the public's interest in mind. This partnership shares a common goal that will lay a foundation that the State of Illinois as well as the rest of the country will be able to utilize.

Environmental Stewardship Value: The above mentioned trails are nestled in high quality prairies and native woodlands with abundant wildlife viewing. These trails provide opportunities for birding and watchable wildlife. Through the diversity of the partnership and the expertise each partner contains, it is guaranteed that only best management practices will be followed. Invasive species prevention/management, erosion control, education through tree id and interpretive panels are just a few of the ways this project will promote and enhance the environmental stewardship of the American People.

Recreation Benefit: The result of this project will support our America's Great Outdoors Initiative by giving more opportunities to reconnect Americans with the outdoors for futures to come. Lake Shelbyville sees 4 million visitors annually in search of that outdoor experience. Nationwide trends as well as local requests prove trails are becoming America's leisure highways. With the ever increasing demand, trails are not just for hikers, bikers and horses anymore, but are now also being utilized by birders and wildlife watchers, geocachers, and for health and fitness - all of which share the mission of recreation. Lake Shelbyville is already a destination for people across Illinois and the local communities, but with the advancement of this project it will also become a trail destination for multi-user types and trail developing professionals to learn from and enjoy. The local communities rely on the economic impact that Lake Shelbyville brings through its recreation function, and this project will serve as another link between those communities and the lake.

Communication and Education Value: Developing a strategic plan for trails and connecting recreation to environmental education is a main focus in Making Trails Work at Lake Shelbyville, as well as promoting educational opportunities and awareness to all visitors at the lake. Never more than now has there been a demand for the low cost, environmental education opportunities that this project supports. In addition to the current interpretive signage, maps, wayside trail markers, and tree identification exhibits; trail head signage, brochures, and mile markers with QR codes are just a few ways the project plans to provide and improve static education along the trails. Working with the NPS, Trails for Illinois, IDNR, IMBA and SCA will be another valuable educational asset through demonstrations and seminars offered, including seminars for best trail building and maintaining practices with IMBA. This project will also provide educational opportunities in all facets including; prairie management thru prescribed burning, timber stand improvements, providing for outdoor classrooms for

schools and universities, trail stewardship, water management, erosion control, exhibits and interpretive panels. These various educational experiences will assist visitors and the community to take pride in their trails and make them their own, while learning to use trails properly and aid in future development.

Innovativeness: With today's fiscal environment it is recognized that partnerships are increasingly valuable to the nation, and a public / private partnership of this caliber had never been attempted before. With this in mind, the NPS, Trails for Illinois, and SCA have been working on a feasibility study to model the construction, maintenance, and trail improvements in Illinois. The study seeks to support the business case that through public / private partnerships trails can be less expensive and require less time and maintenance than traditional federal and local models. NPS, Trails for Illinois and SCA have selected Lake Shelbyville to serve as the inaugural pilot project to launch this model. Lake Shelbyville has a wide multi-use trail system in need of improvements. Currently 10 partners representing both public and private sector have stepped up in support of the Making Trails Work – Lake Shelbyville Project with more partners expected to join. Each partner has had a highly successful history and track record that will bring value to this project. The end product will serve as a model for the State of Illinois and the rest of the country to follow in trail management.

The Corps will:

The funding supplied by the handshake grant will allow the corps to contract with SCA to assist with funding of work crews. The Corps will provide hand tools, materials to improve trail surfaces, bridge repairs, and erosion control, transportation for materials, and staff to assist with coordination, management, and quality assurance. The Corps will maintain overall responsibility/ direction/ oversight/ coordination of Making Trails Work within the scope of the Challenge Partnership Agreement.

The Partner(s) will:

The Challenge Partnership Agreement will clearly define the commitment and responsibilities for each of the Partners. The General Dacey Trail and Trails For Illinois will be the primary Challenge Partnership Agreement partners. Numerous letters of support have been written from partners for the Making Trails Work - Lake Shelbyville Project.

- General Dacey Trail will provide trail equipment (Vemeer & Gator), volunteers, and monetary contribution of approx \$15k
- Trails for Illinois will provide program planning, SCA fundraising, promotions, media relations, program evaluation, report development and publication
- Lakes Volunteer Association will provide volunteer service
- Boys Scouts of America will provide volunteers service
- Central Illinois Mountain Bike Association will provide volunteer service
- Student Conservation Association will provide SCA work crews, partnership expertise, fundraising for SCA
- International Mountain Bike Association will provide professional expertise and training
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources will provide tools, equipment, tech support, staff, supplies and materials
- National Park Service will provide technical support, knowledge and expertise

Challenge Partnership Financial Work Sheet

Corps Project Name: Lake Shelbyville, Illinois

Work Project Title: Making Trails Work

POC Name: Philip J. Manhart

Address: RR4 Box 128 B

City: Shelbyville

State: IL

Zip Code: 62565

Telephone: 217 - 774 - 3951 x7010

Location on Project: Lake Shelbyville

Partner Organization 1: General Dacey Trail

POC Name: Jerry Yockey

Address: 504 North Morgan

City: Shelbyville

State: IL

Zip Code: 62565

Telephone: 217 - 774 - 1376 x

Partner Organization 2: Trails for Illinois

POC Name: Steve Buchtel

Address: 1639 Burr Oak Road

City: Homewood

State: IL

Zip Code: 60430

Telephone: 708 - 365 - 9365 x

Partner Organization 3: Lakes Volunteer Association

POC Name: Kathy Niksic

Address: PO Box 23

City: Shelbyville

State: IL

Zip Code: 62565

Telephone: 217 - 663 - 4138 x

Partner Organization 4: Boy Scouts of America, Troop 51

POC Name: Walter B. Lookofsky

Address: PO Box 379

City: Shelbyville

State: IL

Zip Code: 62565

Telephone: 217 - 774 - 9639 x

Partner Organization 5: Central Illinois Mountain Bike Association

POC Name: Eric Harris

Address: 212 Elim Springs Park

City: Sullivan

State: IL

Zip Code: 61951

Telephone: 217 - 855 - 9615 x

Partner Organization 6: Student Conservation Association

POC Name: Ted Miller

Address: 239 4th Ave, Suite 2100

City: Pittsburgh

State: PA

Zip Code: 15222

Telephone: 412 - 325 - 1851 x3024

Partner Organization 7: International Mountain Bike Association

POC Name: Marty Caivano

Address: 207 Canyon - Suite 301, PO Box 7578

City: Boulder State: CO

Zip Code: 80306

Telephone: 303 - 545 - 9011 x

Partner Organization 8: Illinois Department of Natural Resources

POC Name: Richard Glazebrook

Address: RR1 Box 99

City: Windsor

State: IL

Zip Code: 61957

Telephone: 217 - 459 - 2831 x

Partner Organization 9: National Park Service, Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance

POC Name: Diane Banta

Address: 25 E. Washington Street, Suite 1650 City: Chicago

State: IL

Zip Code: 60602

Telephone: 312 - 863 - 6287 x

Proposed start date of work: May-14

Simple description of work to be accomplished through the partnership: Partnerships will allow SCA work crews and partnership expertise to collaborate, provide non-routine repairs to trails and associated infrastructure, and construct new trails.

Double click on spreadsheet to access data entry fields:

	Local Corps Office	Handshake Funds	Partner 1, Dacey	Partner 2, Trails for ILL	Partner 3, LVA	Partner 4, Boy Scouts
Salaries	\$15,000	N/A	\$0	\$11,960	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$0	N/A	\$0	\$2,079	\$0	\$0
Materials and Supplies	\$25,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$6,500	\$0	\$0
Equipment Use	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Funds Contributed	N/A	N/A	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personal Property	N/A	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Volunteer	N/A	N/A	\$15,000	\$0	\$500	\$3,500
In-Kind Services	N/A	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (explain below)	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$50,000	\$30,000	\$80,000	\$20,539	\$500	\$3,500
Share of Total Cost	18.5%	11.1%	29.6%	7.6%	0.2%	1.3%

	Partner 5, CIMBA	Partner 6, SCA	Partner 7, IMBA	Partner 8, IDNR	Partner 9, NPS	Total
Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$4,500	\$7,560	\$39,020
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,440	\$3,519
Materials and Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$0	\$38,500
Equipment Use	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$12,000	\$0	\$77,000
Funds Contributed	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$15,000
Personal Property	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Volunteer	\$2,100	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$21,100
In-Kind Services	\$0	\$51,264	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$56,264
Other (explain below)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$2,100	\$51,264	\$5,000	\$18,500	\$9,000	\$270,403
Share of Total Cost	0.8%	19.0%	1.8%	6.8%	3.3%	100%

Explanations: Handshake Funds of \$20K will be used to contract with the Student Conservation Association (SCA) in providing trail crew teams.

Making Trails Work— Lake Shelbyville Project



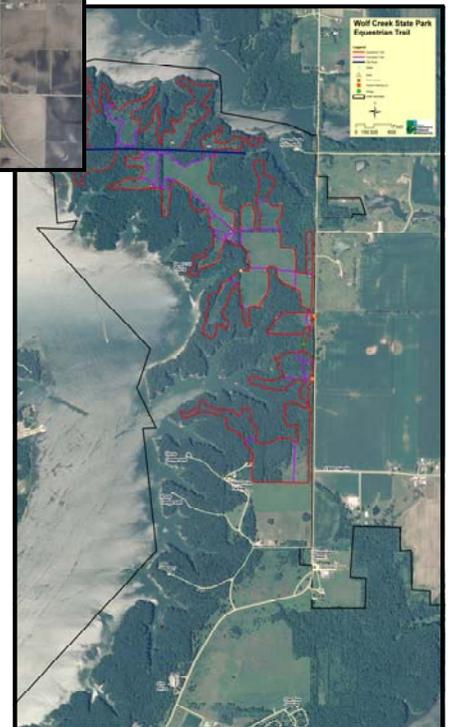
Trail Opportunities

- Creating
- Building
- Improving
- Maintaining

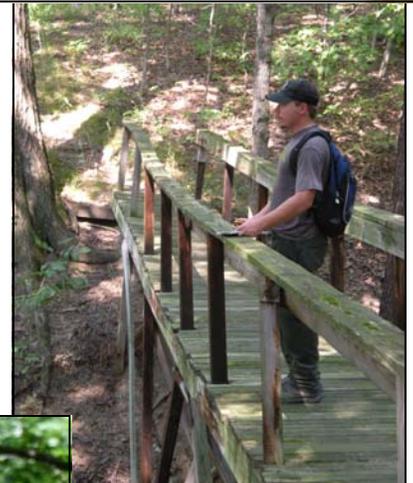


Partnerships

- Provides opportunities for future generations.
- Creates common goals



Making Trails Work— Lake Shelbyville Project



“In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks.”
-- *John Muir*

“Walking: the most ancient exercise and still the best modern exercise.”
-- *Carrie Latet*



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance
Midwest Region, Chicago Field Office
25 E. Washington Street, Suite 1650
Chicago, Illinois 60602

IN REPLY REFER TO:

MWR-CRSP/R

Mr. Ricky Raymond
Operations Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Lake Shelbyville
RR4 Box 128 B
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Dear Mr. Raymond:

As a partner in the Making Trails Work: Lake Shelbyville Project for 2014, I am pleased to outline my work on this project from its inception to the final phase of implementation. Working with Trails for Illinois (TFI) in the fall of 2012 we began discussing the opportunity to work with the Student Conservation Association (SCA) to host a Trail Corps Team for trail projects in Illinois. This attempt was supported by SCA, but was perhaps started too late in the season to gain the traction it needed to be a successful on the ground project.

The TFI/SCA discussions lead to hiring through SCA for this current fiscal year, Curtis Witek, my RTCA Fellow, to aid in project planning for next summer. The responsibilities Curtis will have for this project through December are project support through meeting attendance, notes and lead writer of the Trails for Illinois, Making Trails Work report.

This report will be the second in a trilogy of reports offering targeted audiences an opportunity to learn more about trails and: the value and dollar benefits of trails (Making Trails Count), how to develop and to leverage local partnerships to build trails, outlining project planning and needs (Making Trails Work) and the final report a, "How-To" snapshot of project implementation, showcasing the demonstration projects completed by the Lake Shelbyville Project (Making Trails Happen). The second report will be used by Trails for Illinois and the Student Conservation Association as a funding document during the search for financial support for the Lake Shelbyville Project.

As a technical assistance program, RTCA does not provide funding, but my role will be to facilitate the partnership in reaching its goals with leadership in meetings and support of the project process: making partner and stakeholder connections, resource sharing and planning, with the bulk of the RTCA involvement being in the beginning of the planning process.

Jerry Yockey, General Dacey Trail (GDT), requested RTCA assistance with the extension of 4.52 mile of the General Dacey Trail, where it became apparent that this project fit the current Trails for Illinois/SCA Trail Corps planning. On July 24th RTCA staff and TFI visited with potential partners to discover all the opportunities for trail work within the Lake Shelbyville region. After the first meeting it was determined that the whole TFI/SCA project should take place at Lake Shelbyville given the many components that offer the greatest opportunities for success for all the partners involved.

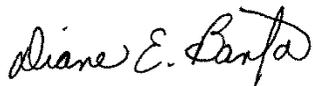
First and foremost the potential offered by working with the US Army Corps as a partner, land owner and recreation provider, is that this project then reaches a large audience from across the state of Illinois and realizes benefits to Illinois residents at a scale the previous projects we had scoped did not. To have two federal partners combining skills, knowledge and resources continues to enhance the value of this project. It is also significant to have two National Non-Profit organizations working on this project. Through an existing MOU with International Mountain Bike Association, NPS RTCA is seeking an IMBA Trail Care Crew to join this project as a partner. The relationship with SCA as partner continues to build its momentum with their new assistance in finding funding for two Trail Corps Teams.

Our local partnerships continue to grow with the aid of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Greenways and Trails Division and the General Dacey Trail. The importance of the local leadership and vision of the GDT is at the heart of this projects success as it has support from community members and enhances the outcome by connecting people to places through recreation opportunities.

The project work done in conjunction with SCA allows out agencies a connection to youth looking to work in the environmental field and gives them exposure to Federal employment prospects. Our project sites support diverse user groups from equestrians, mountain bikers, hikers and the water sports of canoeing and kayaking. By creating successful projects for each of these user groups, we are enriching the dialogue on trails within Illinois and we are demonstrating the many ways trails provide fun and health to our residents.

Thank you for your partnership in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diane E. Banta". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Diane Banta
National Park Service, RTCA



TRAILS FOR
ILLINOIS

1639 Burr Oak Road
Homewood, Illinois 60430

708-365-9365

trailsforillinois.org
facebook.com/trailsforillinois
twitter.com/trails4illinois

August 14, 2013

Mr. Ricky Raymond, Operations Manager
U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers
Lake Shelbyville
RR4 Box 128 B
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Dear Mr. Raymond:

I write to you in support of Making Trails Work: Lake Shelbyville Project, a demonstration that I believe will show the State of Illinois and its towns and agencies a faster, more productive, lower-cost model for developing recreational trails.

Illinois desperately needs a faster, better, cheaper way to build trails: a perfect storm of rising inactivity, a laboring economy, and climate instability are eroding quality of life in our state, while the state's mismanagement of trail funding programs and federal government cutbacks have stunted Illinois' ability to respond. My own research, Making Trails Count in Illinois (<http://trailsforillinois.org/maketrailscount>) shows that trails address this "triple threat" by boosting gains on a Triple Bottom Line: increased economic activity, stronger environmental stewardship, and an improved quality of life.

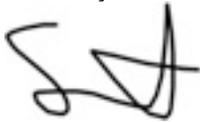
As you likely know, pursuing trail funding through state and federal sources is highly competitive, inconsistent, and upon award ties an agency to the IDOT review process, which can add years to a trail project. Many towns, many individuals in Illinois do not have years. Illinois needs the benefits from trails sooner, not later.

Making Trails Work: Lake Shelbyville seeks to showcase how Illinois agencies can lower the cost and shorten the timeline of trail development by leveraging Student Conservation Association's trail crew along with local resources over 12 weeks in Summer 2014. To support this project, Trails for Illinois will provide fundraising, program coordination, media relations, and local outreach for the duration of the project. Trails for Illinois has 20 years of experience in planning, funding, and coordinating community bicycle and trail projects. Making Trails Work is a key component of our strategic goal to accelerate trail development in Illinois.

We are delighted to find committed and resourceful partners in and around Lake Shelbyville. The Lake Shelbyville area will benefit from a dramatically expanded and improved trail system, including increased tourism and more frequent engagement with Lake Shelbyville's local residents.

We are confident that the partnerships and the trail building opportunities present at Lake Shelbyville will allow Trails for Illinois to model a new and quicker path to stronger local economies, more sustainable lifestyles, and a higher quality of life for all of Illinois.

Thank you for reading,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Buchtel', with a stylized, cursive style.

Steve Buchtel, Executive Director
708/365-9365
steve@trailsforillinois.org



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
www.dnr.illinois.gov

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

August 13, 2013

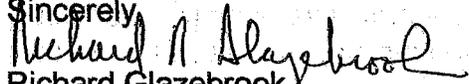
Mr. Ricky Raymond
Operations Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Lake Shelbyville
RR4 Box 128 B
Shelbyville, IL 62565

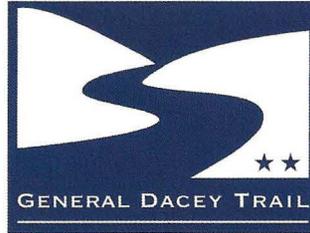
Dear Mr. Raymond,

I am writing this letter in support of your efforts to apply for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's "Handshake Partnership Program" that promotes innovative ways for doing business and reduce costs on Corp owned property. This program, along with your other efforts to utilize the National Park Service's "Student Conservation Program", will utilize funds and student workers to build and improve recreational facilities on Lake Shelbyville.

We would welcome the opportunity to utilize available resources from these programs to improve our 12.5 mile equestrian trail at Wolf Creek. IDNR staff have recently reestablished the alignment of the trail which had grown over with invasive vegetation. Portions of the trail system that were not part of the original planned alignment have also been closed. Recently we have been awarded a SFY13 RTP grant to assist with improved way-finding signage and trail maintenance and surface improvements.

Wolf Creek State Park is committed to improving the recreational experience of our equestrian trail system. Through this joint partnership with the Corps, NPS and IDNR, we can offer technical assistance from agency staff as well as the use of some of the equipment secured through our RTP grant to aid the conservation workers in improving this trail.

Sincerely,

Richard Glazebrook
Eagle and Wolf Creek State Parks



August 14, 2013

Mr. Ricky Raymond
Operations Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Lake Shelbyville
RR4 Box 128 B
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Dear Mr. Raymond,

I am writing this letter in support of you efforts to apply for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's "Handshake Partnership Program". I understand this grant request will help fund the effort that is known as "Making Trails Work – Lake Shelbyville Project" which has several partners including the General Dacey Trail Committee.

The General Dacey Trail Committee will make available equipment needed to construct the proposed trail and perform maintenance on existing trails. This equipment includes, but is not limited to, a Vermeer S650TX Mini Skid Steer and a John Deere Gator. The estimated rental value of this equipment over a twelve week period is approximately \$50,000. In addition, the trail committee would value volunteer time and cash contributions to equal \$30,000 towards the Lake Shelbyville Project.

The General Dacey Trail Committee looks forward to continuing their thirteen year long relationship with the Army Corps of Engineers and the new partners that are involved in helping with the "Making Trails Work – Lake Shelbyville Project".

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Yockey". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Jerry Yockey
Chairman, General Dacey Trail



August 12, 2013

CIMBA
212 Elim Springs Park
Sullivan, IL 61951

Mr. Ricky Raymond
Operations Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Lake Shelbyville
RR4 Box 128B
Shelbyville, IL 62565

Hello Ricky,

We have been informed of the proposed 2014 Making Trails Work-Lake Shelbyville project. CIMBA feels that this would be an excellent opportunity for the Lake Shelbyville area trails. We already have several very nice trail systems, and there is potential for improvement and expansion at every site. There continues to be a steady increase in trail use by hikers, cyclists and runners in our area, and CIMBA believes that this trend will continue indefinitely.

CIMBA, through its partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been committed to promoting and maintaining safe and enjoyable trails in the Lake Shelbyville area for over 15 years. We feel that the Making Trails Work project would greatly assist our efforts, and increase the recreational opportunities on the Lake. CIMBA would like to offer 100 man hours for this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Eric Harris
President-Central Illinois Mountain Bicycling Association

**COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND THE
LAKE VOLUNTEERS ASSOCIATION**

This Cooperative Agreement is for the mutual benefit of both parties and is between the United States Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, Lake Shelbyville, Carlyle Lake, and Kaskaskia River Project (hereinafter referred to as the "Corps") and the Lake Volunteers Association (hereinafter referred to as the "Association"), acting through the Chair of the Board of Directors or the board's designee. The Association meets all requirements of a cooperating association as defined by Corps regulation.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Corps operates the facilities and Visitor Centers at Lake Shelbyville, Carlyle Lake, and the Kaskaskia River Project, Illinois, for public recreation and the understanding of the Corps mission; and,

WHEREAS, the Corps achieves its operational goals for natural resources management through a wide range of activities, programs, events, and facility maintenance; and,

WHEREAS, the Corps operates its program for the benefit of the public, and the public requires information and facilities management for the safe and appropriate use of Corps projects. This information is conveyed through a variety of interpretive media such as programs, exhibits, and displays which rely heavily upon the use of audio visual materials, photographs, models, interactive displays, lectures, artifacts and other materials which illustrate the Corps, its mission and activities in and around the projects as well as the archaeological, natural and cultural history of the area(s); and,

WHEREAS, the Corps and the Association mutually recognize there are significant national public benefits to a visitor center and other facilities which use interpretive techniques that supports the Corps goals of management, education, perpetuation of national pride, preservation of national heritage, safety and enjoyment of the people of the United States; and,

WHEREAS, the Corps' natural resource management program fosters the stewardship of natural and cultural environment; and,

WHEREAS, the Association has as its purpose and intent the enhancement of the environment through research, education and scientific activities and intends to assist the Corps in the conduct of its natural resources management programs and activities; and,

WHEREAS, the Association has as its purpose and intent the interpretation for public benefit and education of the archeological, natural, cultural, and historical environment, and the Association intends to assist the Corps in its interpretive activities through the use of its programs, exhibits, displays, and materials at the Visitor Centers and other facilities; and,

WHEREAS, the Association intends to assist and support in the acquisition, maintenance, and replacement of exhibits at the Visitor Centers and other facilities, and intends to assist the Corps in its presentation to the public of the natural, cultural, economic, environmental, recreational, and manmade features of the region through programs, exhibits, and materials; and,

WHEREAS, the Association has as its purpose and intent to enhance facility improvements through upgrades and maintenance to provide safe and healthy recreational opportunities and intends to assist the Corps with its facility management and environmental stewardship programs; and,

WHEREAS, the Corps has authority, pursuant to Section 4 of the 1944 Flood Control Act, 16 U.S.C 460d, to permit the maintenance and operation of recreation facilities at water resource development projects by local interests and may enter into leases with non-profit organizations for park and recreational purposes; and,

WHEREAS, the Corps has the authority, pursuant to the Federal Water Recreation Act, Public Law 89-72; the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, Public Law 89-665; The National Environmental Policy Act, Public Law 89-190; and the Archaeological Resource Protection Act, as amended, Public Law 96-95, to provide Natural Resources Management programs, activities and interpretive functions; and,

WHEREAS, the Corps wishes to accept and the Association wishes to provide the hereinafter described interpretive and educational services to the visiting public;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

1. The Corps authorizes the Association to provide, and the Association agrees to provide, the hereinafter described interpretive and educational services; and/or research and scientific services; and/or maintenance services to the public and the Corps.

2. CORPS RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Timely Review and Approval

The Corps agrees to review and give necessary approvals or disapprovals in a timely manner to the Association for any and all proposals, programs, special events, suggestions and other activities that the Association might wish to engage in. The point of contact for the Corps is the Lead Interpretive Services and Outreach Program Ranger.

- B. Use of Government Facilities

- 1) Should the Association, as part of its cooperative activities require the use of Corps facilities, Visitor Center and other facilities, the Corps agrees, that in recognition of the services the Association is contributing to the public, to provide at no cost to the Association such facilities, utilities, janitorial services, and routine and general maintenance when incidental to the normal operation of the facility by the Corps.
- 2) Should the Association require facilities, utilities and services over and above what the Corps would normally require for operation of the facility, or area used by the Association, the

Association will reimburse the Corps at an agreed upon, but nominal cost in recognition of the services that the Association is contributing to the public.

- 3) A lease between the Association and the Corps contains the terms and conditions of sales area and facilities use within Visitor Centers. This agreement in no way alters the responsibilities of the Corps or the Association as may be required by other real estate instruments.

3. ASSOCIATION RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Corporate Requirements

- 1) The Association's Articles of Incorporation and by-laws shall comply with the requirements of the State of Illinois in which it is incorporated. Non-Profit 501(c) (3) status must be maintained in accordance with Illinois and Federal laws. The Association will make available for inspection, at the request of the Corps, documents demonstrating non-profit status.
- 2) This agreement will automatically terminate if non-profit 501 (c) (3) status is not maintained.
- 3) The Association shall have liability insurance which indemnifies, saves, holds harmless, and defends the United States against all fines, claims, damages, losses, judgments, and expenses arising out of, or from any omission, or activity of the Association in connection with activities under this Agreement.
- 4) The Association will exercise reasonable care to prevent damage to any Government property used, or occupied during its operation and shall, insofar as possible, protect all such property. Any damages to Government property shall be governed by any real estate instruments or other written agreements between the parties or in accordance with applicable law.

B. Interpretive Activities

- 1) The Association may offer educational and interpretive services that support the mission of the Corps and/or the project. This includes assisting, planning, designing, implementing, and conducting interpretive and educational programs, activities, and exhibits.
- 2) The Association may offer scientific, research, maintenance, and/or other services that support the mission of the Corps and their natural resource management program. This includes assisting, planning, designing, implementing, and conducting scientific and/or maintenance programs, activities and exhibits. All such services shall be coordinated with the Project representative.
- 3) The Association will cooperate with the Corps in the following activities:
 - a. Produce and make available to visitors by sale or free distribution, suitable interpretive and educational literature and aids to increase the visitors' understanding and appreciation of the natural history, cultural, historical, and man-made features of the Project(s) and the Corps of Engineers.
 - b. Acquire specimens and/or objects pertaining to the history, culture, environment, or recreational activities of the project area(s) for the purpose of adding them to the

exhibitory or programs at the Corps visitor center and other Corps facilities, and assist in preservation programs as appropriate.

- c. Assist in the development and improvement of interpretive devices, and educational materials including signs, exhibits, materials, and audio-visual aids.
- d. Assist in the sponsorship and coordination of professional workshops, training opportunities, and special events.
- e. Assist in all practical ways with the interpretive, educational and community programs of the Corps for the benefit of the public.

C. Sales Option

- 1) As part of this Agreement, the Association may operate sales areas on a continuous or intermittent basis. The Association's sales areas are restricted to locations approved by the Corps, which will be kept clean and presentable at all times.
- 2) The Association is hereby authorized to sell and/or distribute items consisting of but not limited to publications, maps, audiovisual aids, crafts, and other objects directly related to the project, visitors center, region, State of Illinois and the Corps. The Corps may request that the Association sell specific items of interpretive value.
- 3) The Association shall order, receive, inventory stock, and otherwise manage all items offered for sale and/or distribution.
- 4) The Association will sell only items that are appropriate and of high quality. The Association will not sell any item that has not been approved by the District Commander or his authorized representative. The Association will sell items at fair market value and prices of said items will be submitted and approved in writing, in advance by the District Commander or his authorized representative.
- 5) The Association will not sell any original artifacts, sacred items, or antiquities to which the Archaeological Resource Protection Act, as amended, would apply, whether or not such items were discovered on lands owned or controlled by the United States.
- 6) The Association will display the sales items in good taste and in keeping with the general design and décor of the facility that houses the sales area.
- 7) Revenues obtained through such sales shall be maintained by the Association and used by the Association in support of Corps programs by donations of materials, supplies, and/or services.

D. Fiscal Management

- 1) The Association will conduct its fiscal operations in accordance with accepted business practices. This includes an appropriate use of funds accountability system, purchasing system, receipts, invoices, and inventory records.
- 2) The Association shall annually submit (within 135 days following the end of their fiscal year) a complete financial report to the Corps, which includes a written summary of Association activities for the year.
- 3) The Corps may review the fiscal records of the Association at any time during the term of this Agreement.

4. JOINT RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Annual meeting. The Association and the Corps shall meet annually to discuss prior completed activities and proposed projects that will be carried out by the Association for joint Corps/Association benefit. A business plan shall be presented by the Association at such annual meeting to identify funds, labor, materials, and equipment available for implementation of projects conducted pursuant to the Agreement.

- B. Donation of Interpretive Services or Materials
 - 1) The Association may, at the discretion of its Governing Board, loan materials, and/or services to the Corps. The Corps reserves the right to accept or decline without obligation any service or loan by the Association.
 - 2) The Corps will take reasonable precautions to protect items loaned by the Association, but assumes no other responsibility for these items. The Corps will return loaned property or items as requested by the Association.

- C. Personnel
 - 1) The Association and the Corps shall each designate, in writing, an Association member, and a Corps person and alternate who will act as points of contact for the purpose of implementing this Agreement.
 - 2) The Association will provide such personnel as are reasonably necessary to conduct, operate, and manage its cooperative activities. This does not preclude Corps personnel, during the course of their normal duties, from assisting the Association with nominal duties, including sales.
 - 3) Corps personnel may not serve in a voting capacity on the governing board, or as Treasurer for the Association. Corps personnel may serve in an advisory capacity on the Association's governing board or committees. Corps personnel may not act as the official representative of the Association in any matter relating to the Corps, or the terms of this Agreement. However, if the Association has a membership program, Corps personnel may join and participate in membership activities.
 - 4) The Corps will orient all Association personnel, staff, and/or volunteers with regard to Corps rules, regulations, and requirements, particularly with regard to the project and facilities, safety, and appropriate emergency procedures. Association staff and volunteers involved in visitor contact will receive additional orientation in regard to interpretive services. All orientation will be conducted prior to assumption of duties.
 - 5) Association employees or volunteers may not wear the Corps uniform, or items of clothing that resemble the uniform. Employees and volunteers of the Association, when working at duties that bring them into contact with the public, will wear visible identification that identifies them as an Association employee or volunteer.

5. ASSIGNMENT

No transfer or assignment of this Agreement or any part thereof or interest therein, directly or indirectly, voluntary or involuntary shall be made by the Association unless approved in writing by the Corps.

6. MODIFICATION AND AMENDMENTS

Modifications and amendments to this agreement in the form of Supplemental Agreements may be made from time to time upon the mutual written consent of the District Commander for the Corps and the Board of Directors of the Association.

7. DURATION

This agreement shall be effective for five years commencing on the day following the ratification of this agreement by the Corps. This agreement will automatically renew for another five year period on October 1 of the last year unless notice or cancellation is given by either party before the date of renewal. The Corps reserves the right to terminate the agreement or any part thereof, at any time upon written notice. Prior to giving such notice, the Corps will meet with the Association to set forth the reasons for such termination. The Association reserves the right to terminate the agreement, or any part thereof, at any time upon written notice. Prior to giving such notice, the party seeking termination will meet with the other party to set forth the reasons for such termination. In the event of such a termination, any monies, supplies, or other assets of the Association that have not yet been transferred to the Corps shall remain the property of the Association, to be managed in accordance with the by-laws of the Association.

8. MISCELLANEOUS

A. The rights and benefits conferred by this agreement shall be subject to the laws of the United States governing the Corps of Engineers and to the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder whether now in force or hereafter enacted or provided; and the mention of specific restrictions, conditions, and stipulations herein shall not be construed as in any way impairing the general powers of supervision, regulation, and control by the Corps.

B. This agreement in no way obviates the responsibilities of the Corps, or the Association as may be required by a Lease Agreement.

C. The Association agrees that all its activities shall be conducted in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, both state and Federal.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, The Association has caused this agreement to be executed this

22 day of July 2013.

LAKE VOLUNTEERS ASSOCIATION

KATHLEEN S. NIKSIC
By Kathleen S. Niksic
Chair, Board of Directors

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Corps has caused this agreement to be ratified this

22 day of July 2013.

UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

By CGH

Christopher G. Hall

Colonel, U.S. Army

District Commander