



## ***Congressional Delegation Supports Fox-Wisconsin National Heritage Corridor Designation***

A major milestone has been reached for the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway! After an extensive amount of work, and with review from multiple agencies, the Friends of the Fox and the ECWRPC have completed the final draft of the *Feasibility Study*. This is a very important and required step in seeking the National Heritage Area designation from the National Park Service. The document provides a detailed analysis of the proposed Heritage Area and the resources that make it a viable consideration for nomination.



On June 23rd staff from ECWRPC and Friends of the Fox presented the *Feasibility Study* to staff from Senators Kohl and Feingold's office, as well as staff from U.S. Representatives Tom Petri, Steve Kagen, Tammy Baldwin and Ron Kind. After further discussion, the congressional delegation staff agreed that Senator Kohl will take the lead in sponsoring the legislation to create the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway as a National Heritage Area, with Senator Feingold, Congressman Kagen, Congressman Petri, Congressman Kind, and Congressman Baldwin agreeing to co-sponsor the bill.

The *Feasibility Study* was also sent to the National Park Service for review and recommendations. The next step in this process is to receive the recommendations from the National Park Service, and for the congressional delegation to draft federal legislation creating the Fox-Wisconsin National Heritage Parkway. The *Feasibility Study* document can be found by clicking [here](#).

## ***Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway receives funding from area foundations***

A total of \$48,500 in grants has recently been awarded to the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway! The generous donors include the [Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region](#) awarding \$19,000, the [Oshkosh Area Community Foundation](#) awarding \$19,000, [WE Energies](#) awarding \$7,000, and [Alliant Energy](#) awarding \$3,500 to the project. These funds will be used to update a plan that ECWRPC created in 1997 for the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway. This version of the plan will have more focus on the individual communities which comprise the Parkway and the program effort also includes two years of part-time staff allocations for the actual implementation of the plan's recommendations, once developed. We are extremely grateful for these generous gifts, and would like to thank these organizations for their support!



## ***Another successful year for the Park to Park Paddle***



The 8th Annual Park-to-Park Paddle was held on Saturday, July 25th 2009. The paddle began with a group launch at Shattuck Park in Neenah, preceded around Doty Island to the Menasha Lock, and on to Lutz Park for a total paddle distance of nearly 8.5 miles. Participation was an all time record with 234 boats of various sorts and sizes passing through the lock in two separate passes. The event was

hosted by the [Northeast Wisconsin Paddlers/ACA](#), [Friends of the Fox](#), [Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance](#) and supported by several organizations with sponsorships or help at the event.





Notable events included participation of a Voyager canoe with its 13 passengers, and the dedication, by the City of Menasha, of a new sculpture located at the Menasha lock. The average participant age was 44.6 years old with the oldest participant being 81 years old. Participants included local area residents along with residents of Colorado, Michigan, Illinois, and California. Next year's event is scheduled for Saturday July, 24th. Please visit <http://www.wisconsinpaddlers.org/> for more information.

## **Coming Events**

Fall events can be downloaded in pdf format by clicking [here](#). For a more extensive list of events throughout the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway and the state, please visit [www.travelwisconsin.com](http://www.travelwisconsin.com) and click on "Events Calendar" on the upper left side of the website. You can then search by type of event, location, or zip code.

If you have comments or questions, or river related coming events that you would like to include in this newsletter please e-mail [fox-wisconsin\\_heritage\\_parkway@live.com](mailto:fox-wisconsin_heritage_parkway@live.com)