

May 30, 2012

News Release

For Immediate Release

New Section of Wilson's Creek Greenway Opens

In partnership with the Springfield-Greene County Park Board, Ozark Greenways will "connect a ribbon" by cutting the ribbon on a new mile of Wilson's Creek Greenway, Saturday, June 2, at 10 a.m., just west of Springfield.

A brief ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place on the trail about a mile south of Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park. The public is invited to try out this new section of trail on foot, on skates, in a stroller, wheelchair or by bike! Parking will be available at Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park. From there, allow 15 minutes to bike or 25 minutes to walk to the ceremony. A shuttle will also be available.

The new section creates two continuous miles of trail, spanning between Farm Roads 150 and 156, with Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park serving as the mid-point trailhead. A new bright green bridge over Wilson's Creek makes a lovely feature in a beautiful Ozarks setting. Plans are already underway to extend the trail to the south, connecting to South Creek Greenway.

Ozark Greenways partnered with the City of Springfield to initiate and complete this greenway project, continuing the mutual commitment to develop a comprehensive trail network throughout Springfield, meeting the ever-growing public demand for recreational trails outlined in the Vision 20/20 Plan. Wilson's Creek Greenway is just one component of this planned network.

The 1.08-mile project was funded through a cooperative effort including federal transportation enhancement grants, the voter-approved county-wide 2006 ¼-cent Parks Sales Tax, a land donation from the Haseltine family and the support of 1,000 Ozark Greenways members. Total cost was \$345,000, with 79 percent funded by a federal transportation grant secured by Ozark Greenways.

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