



## Friends Of The Border To Border Trail Fall 2015

[www.bordertoborder.org](http://www.bordertoborder.org)

Also on [Facebook](#)

*"Timeline" Disclaimer – Please note that dates of construction are often mentioned in the news items below. It should be taken in account that these dates often change due to design changes, construction delays and other situations.*

### Friends Of The B to B Annual Membership Meeting - November 17th

The Friends of the B2B Trail will hold its first annual general membership meeting on Tuesday, November 17th, 7pm at the Ann Arbor REI store community room, [970 W Eisenhower Parkway](#). The meeting starts off with updates and speakers on the B2B Trail and ending with a short business session. You do not have to be Friends of the B2B member to attend this event.

The featured speaker at the annual meeting will be Peter Sanderson from the Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission (the main agency behind the Trail) giving news updates such as steps being taken to take the Trail off road from Dexter to Ann Arbor and also north into Livingston County. Also at the meeting, representatives of the Huron Waterloo Pathways group (<http://huron-waterloo-pathways.org>) will give an update on their work to create an off-road path from Dexter to Chelsea to Stockbridge.

### Friends Of The Border-To-Border Trail – Board Of Directors Volunteers Needed

The Friends is looking for volunteers who would be willing to take a more active role in the organization and work towards the group's motto of "completing, enhancing, and encouraging the use of the Border To Border Trail". Duties including attending Board meetings (approximately 6 times a year) and working on group projects (to see what happens at meetings visit the [Board Of Directors tab](#) on the Friends web page for agendas/minutes). If interested in serving on the Board please contact Bob by November 15th at [worlverbob@gmail.com](mailto:worlverbob@gmail.com) or call 734-487-9058.

### Ypsilanti B2B Trail Segment Construction Update

As of early November, the new segment of the Border To Border Trail in Ypsilanti from Michigan Avenue south to Grove Road has been paved and is now open for use. In addition a new B2B Trail bridge from Riverside Park across the Huron River to Michigan Avenue was installed on November 5<sup>th</sup> with construction details set to be wrapped up by mid-November.

With cold weather shutting down construction for the winter, the spring of 2016 will see the installation of a signaled crossing of Michigan Avenue from the new bridge to the new paved B2B segment in the Water Street area. Also planned for 2016 will be improved non-motorized connections between the south end of the newly paved B2B segment at Grove Road south to the Grove Road /I-94 bridge.





### **Dexter-Huron Metropark To Dexter Segment**

After many delays, construction on this very short segment from the current west end of the Dexter-Huron Metropark path to Central Avenue in Dexter (about 2/10's of a mile) has started and is scheduled to be completed by the end of December if not earlier.

### **B2B Pavement Directional Markings**

The Friends of the Border To Border Trail and the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission are working together to have directional markings painted on sections of the Border To Border Trail that will have a "B2B" marking along with a directional arrow informing users to turn or go straight. These markings will be in addition to B2B directional signs already in place. Such directional symbols are commonly used on large bicycle ride events, such as the Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society "One Helluva Ride". A few of these markings will be put up in late 2015 so as to gather public input, with many more markings painted in the spring of 2016.

### **Become A Friends Of The B2B Trail Member**

Individuals, families, organizations and businesses now can support the Friends of the Border To Border Trail by becoming a member. Memberships begin at \$10/year for individual memberships (\$25 for a family membership) with those joining receiving discounts at select area bike and outdoor activity merchants. Members can also nominate and vote for Friends of the B2B Trail Board of Directors every November. For more membership information, including a list of merchants offering discounts to Friends members, visit [www.bordertoborder.org](http://www.bordertoborder.org) and click on the "Join" link at the top of the page.

### **Dexter-Huron Metropark to Ann Arbor B2B Segment**

The Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission is continuing to very actively work on a master plan for taking the B2B Trail off-road from Dexter-Huron Metropark east to Ann Arbor with key aspects at the present time being route selection and working with "stakeholders" (i.e. governmental bodies that would be involved in the total process). As the master plan for this segment becomes more definitive, public information and input sessions are planned.

### **Ann Arbor Gallup B2B Improvements**

Still on track for 2016 is the repaving of the Trail from the Dixboro dam to the "wooden auto bridge" in the center of Gallup Park. As reported earlier delays on this paving was delayed due to easement legalities. This project will be largely funded through a Federal Transportation Alternatives grant ([https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/MDOT\\_TEA\\_Overview\\_175763\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mdot/MDOT_TEA_Overview_175763_7.pdf))

### **Taking The B2B Trail North**

Work is continuing on a steady basis to take the B2B Trail north from its present end at Hudson Mills Metropark to meet up with the Lakeland Trail ([www.hamburg.mi.us/lakelands\\_trail\\_state\\_park](http://www.hamburg.mi.us/lakelands_trail_state_park)). Staff from the Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission are working closely with officials from the Huron-Clinton Metropark Authority, Livingston County and Hamburg Township on where the pathway will be located as well as obtaining funding for construction. It also should be noted that the Lakeland Trail will also be a part of the "[Great Lake-to-Lake Trail](#)" from South Haven to Port Huron.

### **Border To Border Trail AABTS Bike Ride**

The Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society ([www.aabts.org](http://www.aabts.org)) every year holds a number of rides on the B2B with the final ride for 2015 being Sunday, November 15th at 10am. The ride will be on the B2B from Dexter to Hudson Mills Metropark, with optional longer rides off-trail on area roads. For more information contact Lynn at 734-546-1047. The ride starts at the Fire Station at [Mill Creek Park](#) (parking there too) in Dexter and is open to the public (you don't need to be an AABTS member to participate).

### **Huron-Waterloo Pathways Update**

The Huron-Waterloo Pathways group, who's long term goal of having a non-motorized path from Dexter west to Chelsea, then up to Stockbridge, held a well attended open-house session on October 21<sup>st</sup> in Chelsea. The group also recently secured three separate \$25,000 private donations from Chelsea Milling, Chelsea State Bank and the Peter and Patti Feeney Family. With the help of these donations, Huron Waterloo Pathways is actively working to create a unique, looped trail connection to Michigan's [Iron Belle Trail](#). The circular design of the trail ties the Border-2-Border Trail and the Lakelands State Trail into a single, integrated trail system. The resulting 44-mile trail, known as the "Loop," will create a unique and highly attractive destination for regional events entirely off of roadways. A map of the proposed loop trail is at [HWPI Loop map.jpg](#). For more information about the group in general, visit <http://huron-waterloo-pathways.org>.

### **Volunteers Needed To "Adopt" Trail Segments**

The Friends of the Border To Border Trail is still looking for volunteers who would be willing to "adopt" a section of the Border To Border Trail. Volunteers, who routinely use a specific B to B segment on a regular (2-4 times a month) basis would be asked to perform the following...

- Pick up trash (although for the most part, the B to B stays remarkably trash-free).
- Report serious problems (potholes, major downed branches, missing direction signs, etc.).
- During the "green" months, trim back (with hand-tools) vegetation tending to obstruct the trail.

Currently, B-to-B segments needing "adoption" would include (links are to maps of each segment)...

- Grove Road (Ypsilanti Township) - [Bridge Road west to Harris Road/Loonfeather Park](#)
- Grove Road (Ypsilanti Township) – [Harris Road/Loonfeather Park west to Grove Road I-94 bridge](#)

If you would like to volunteer, please send an email to Bob Krzewinski at [wolverbob@gmail.com](mailto:wolverbob@gmail.com) indicating what segment you would like to adopt. Thanks in advance for any help on this!!!

### **Please "Like" Us On Facebook**

The Friends of the Border To Border Trail has a page on Facebook and it would be appreciated if individuals could not only "Like" us, but also encourage others to do the same. To visit the Facebook Friends page, [click here](#). It should be noted that the Friends B2B Facebook page is updated weekly with news about the Trail.

### **Join The Friends of the Border To Border Trail Discussion Group**

If you want to sign up for the Friends of the Border To Border Trail email discussion group, visit <http://groups.google.com/group/border-to-border>. Please note that to keep out spammers, we ask one question before you can be on the list, that being what Michigan County the Trail is in.

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