

Trails and Parks Initiative update - August 2009

With the help of the Indiana Brownfields Program's Trails and Parks Initiative (TPI), Hoosiers are enjoying two new trails in Indiana. Opening ceremonies were recently held to celebrate completed trail segments in Bloomington and New Albany. TPI was used to perform environmental assessment activities at the trail sites before they were constructed.

New Albany's ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Scribner Place segment of the Ohio River Greenway Project was held in May. A two-mile portion of the trail in New Albany and segments in Jeffersonville and Clarksville are now complete. When required match funding is secured for the federal stimulus funding that has been set aside for the project, construction will begin on a seven-mile riverfront multi-use path that will connect the three segments. Pedestrians and cyclists will then be able to travel the seven-mile river corridor from New Albany, through Clarksville, Jeffersonville, and across the Big Four Bridge to Louisville, Kentucky.

The grand opening of the first phase of the B-Line Trail in Bloomington was held in June. The B-Line Trail project was highlighted in the April 2009 issue of the *Brownfields Bulletin*, available on the Web at www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/files/Bulletin_April_09_FINAL.pdf.

The Indiana Brownfields Program has provided environmental site assessments for nine sites under TPI, which is funded by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency brownfield assessment grant funding and state matching funds. With approximately one year left in the grant period, less than one-third of the original funding is still available for assessment activities. Applicants are encouraged to submit applications as soon as possible to ensure consideration for the remaining funds. For more information about TPI or to download an application, please visit www.in.gov/ifa/brownfields/2366.htm.



Project consultants, supporters, and government officials join the Ohio River Greenway (ORG) Commission in the ribbon-cutting celebration in New Albany. Pictured left to right are Clint Ackerman, One Southern IN Ambassador; Richard Sowa, One Southern IN Ambassador; Jerry Finn, Horseshoe Foundation; Elmer Hoehn, Charter member ORG Commission; Philip Hendershot, Chair ORG Commission; Mayor Doug England, City of New Albany; Col. Keith Landry, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District; Ed Clere, State House Representative; and Shaunna Graf, Project Coordinator ORG.