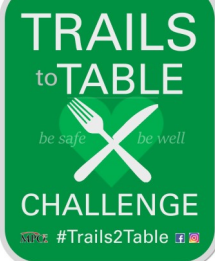


# Sycamore Greenway Trail



Watch for sandhill cranes and migrating waterfowl in the spring.

## What is the Sycamore Greenway?

Each time it rains, stormwater passes over roofs, pavement, and other land surfaces, picking up pollutants such as oil, salt, lawn chemicals, and eroded soil before flowing untreated through the storm sewer system into creeks and rivers. This is how most cities handle stormwater, but a one square mile watershed in South Iowa City relies on a unique alternative system that works with the environment.

**The Sycamore Greenway is an example of environmental infrastructure unlike any other in the Midwest.** Designed by University of Iowa geoscience professor Lon Drake, the 52-acre system consists of a chain of 22 intermittent wetlands that flow into a larger series of crescent-shaped wetland cells, effectively holding and filtering storm water runoff from hundreds of residential properties.

**The Greenway also provides wildlife habitat.** More than 130 bird species, including sandhill cranes, may be observed along the Greenway, and hundreds of waterfowl visit the area each year during migration season. Beaver help to maintain the wetland system. Several species of turtles and frogs live in the area around the Greenway.



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