



# FFMHT TRAIL TRACKS

## Jan., 2008

**ANNUAL MEETING: FEBRUARY 26, 2008**  
**Montcalm County ISD 621 New St., Stanton, MI**  
**Meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.**

### **Celebration in Edmore!**

On August 25, 2007, the new 3.5 miles of Trail from McBride to Edmore were officially dedicated with a party and ride attended by some 200 supporters. The day was cloudy, but spirits were high as the ribbon was cut, the new section ridden by many bikes and walkers, and a gorgeous cake was appreciated and then eaten! Many thanks to Paul Kluwe, Edmore Village Manager and everyone who helped prepare for the day. Thanks to all for coming!!

### **Route into Greenville**

On September 19, 2007, members of the Trail Maintenance Committee met with Carol Smith at LS Engineering in Greenville to plan a route from Lake Road to Greenville. A tentative route was worked out, viewed by vehicle, and marked on maps. Since that meeting, the Montcalm County Road Commission has approved the group's proposal. The suggested route would begin at Lake Rd. (current Trail end), go north to Fuller Rd. and turn west to Fitzner Rd. At Fitzner, the Trail would turn south, cross Peck Rd, and continue south until the small lakes are passed. It would then jog west and connect with the power line right-of-way, turn south again and continue into Greenville on the power line ROW. It would join the Fred Meijer Flat River Trail near Seminole Dr. in Greenville.

### **Alma to Riverdale - 2008**

On December 20, 2007, representatives from FFMHT, City of Alma, LS Engineering, Pine River Twp, Seville Twp. and the Gratiot County Road Commission met in Alma to discuss the final plan for the Alma to Riverdale section of the FMHT. Clarifications were made concerning the bridges on the route, bollard numbers, fencing, County and City questions concerning the Trail and signage for it, and the final route of the Trail through the City of Alma. It was agreed that the route

would parallel the railroad through the Alma College campus to Superior St., turn west to Grant St., cross Superior St. and continue south on Grant St. to Center St. There the Trail would turn east on Center to Lincoln St. From there it would parallel the railroad tracks to Prospect St.

At the Grade Inspection meeting with MDOT on January 3, 2008, the MDOT Representative and LS Engineering felt that the project is on track, with bid lettings set for April and construction to begin around the end of May, 2008. Completion is scheduled for fall, 2008.

### **Greenville to Lowell –and beyond . . .**

The Michigan Trails and Greenways is in the process of purchasing the former rail bed from M-57 in Greenville to Lowell. This former rail bed passes through Belding and Smyrna to Lowell for a total of about 25 miles. Additionally, the trail could be extended from Lowell to Ionia for another 12 miles. This would connect to the Fred Meijer Flat River Trail in Greenville and to the FMHT, also in Greenville. When completed, the nearly 77 mile trail will be one of the premier trails in Michigan.

### **Workday in Edmore**

On December 6, 2007, a hardy crew installed about 100 ft. of fence to protect the new trail. It was a beautiful day, brisk and sunny. .A “two person” auger helped with the work but really worked much better with three!



Hope to see you at the Annual Meeting!

Also: Add to your calendar the Annual Banquet: Saturday, May 31, 2008 in Edmore at the Curtis Building.