Welcome to the second quarterly newsletter for Altoona Outdoors. Here’s the big news.

**Altoona & Eau Claire Get Connected**

With the opening of the River Prairie Drive – to Birch Street connection, we can bike from downtown Altoona to downtown Eau Claire with safe crossings of both new and old Hwy 53 – with off-street trails nearly all of the way. **Try this out! It’s a blast!**

**Lake Road Project Gets Started**

We have started this project by funding the detailed engineering work. We contracted with the City (and paid $21,800) to engage an engineer. Look for the flags and stakes marking the “right-of-way”.

With this engineering done, we’ll have bid-ready designs, ready for contractors to bid on the project.

We can construct the trail when we raise another $48,000. See the solid green line.
Altoona’s Eastside Loop Trail gets the official nod for 80% funding from the D.O.T.

(See the dotted green line above)

We have applied to the DOT for a grant to fund 80% of the cost of this trail - which is estimated to cost $280,000. Altoona Outdoors will fund the remaining 20%. We scored very well on this grant application – 8 among 160 grants in the state. We learned last week that we won the award!

With this in mind, we’ll need to raise an additional $56,000 to cover our share of the $280,000 trail cost.

Note that trail placement will likely be on the south side of the road (south of Beach, and south of KB).

Let’s get the Lake Road and Eastside Loop Trails built next Spring!

The time has come to get a major project done.

We need the following to get these trails built:

- Raise another $48,000 for Lake Road
- Raise another $56,000 for the Eastside Loop

So that’s the near-term target: **$104,000**

We have just received a $52,000 pledge to match dollar-for-dollar any donations made before the end of 2007.

Let’s get these trails built! Here’s how you can help.

Donate today at www.AltoonaOutdoors.org

Talk with your Altoona Council or Town of Washington representative – let them know you support the trails, and would like the City budget to include trail improvements.

Talk with your Federal & State representatives – thank them for the (DOT & DNR) support for the trails, and let them know we could use more help.