

The question continues to be ...

Can folks in an all-volunteer organization work effectively with local officials and gather enough community support to bring eastern Vilas County more biking and walking trails?

The answer as we end 2022? A definite

Yes!



**2022
Annual
Report**
November 2022

Dear GHT supporter,

This year included the official opening of the completed trail between Conover and Phelps, two highly successful organized ride events, and the expansion of our working relationships with county committees and town boards.

- Ride with Leinie drew over 300 people on July 30. Despite a soggy Sept. 10, SepTimber Ride also had over 300 registrants.

- Extending the Heart of Vilas is daunting but very doable, and it's being done! See the action plan on the back. GHT is glad to be working with the River Trail Commission, and happy to see the county showing more and more support.

- We're also happy to be working with Conover and the county this fall to look at extending the Conover-Phelps Trail by two miles. More information on the back.

The GHT board of directors has created a **\$5,000 Challenge Fund** to get this yearend appeal rolling. Your support makes all our plans and progress possible. Thank you!

Jeff Currie
Jeff Currie
Executive director



In Phelps on May 28, town officials Steve Doyen and Dale Mayo and GHT's president, Tim Wright, flank Dale Reynolds, nephew of the late former Conover Town Clerk Jim Hedberg, as he cuts the ribbon to officially open the completed Conover-Phelps Trail.

In Conover on July 30, the riders above were among over 300 people who took part in the first Ride with Leinie to be held on the new trail. The ride, featuring Dick Leinenkugel, will be held on July 29 in 2023.

Enhancing a trail, building a trail, increasing our advocacy - Help us do more in 2023!

- Use \$ _____ of my donation to expand and enhance the Conover-Phelps Trail!
- Use \$ _____ of my donation to keep the ball rolling on developing the River Trail!
- Use \$ _____ of my donation to help GHT continue to be a strong advocate for biking and walking trails in Vilas County so it can develop future trails!
- My company/employer has a Matching Gift Program. Company name - _____

Name _____ Phone(s) _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

E-mail address (Please print clearly!) _____

How would you like your name(s) to be listed as a donor? _____

Is your gift being in honor of or in memory of someone? Please provide the person's name below:

Please make your check payable to "Great Headwaters Trails" or "GHT."

Send it with this completed form to Great Headwaters Trails, P.O. Box 609, Eagle River, WI 54521

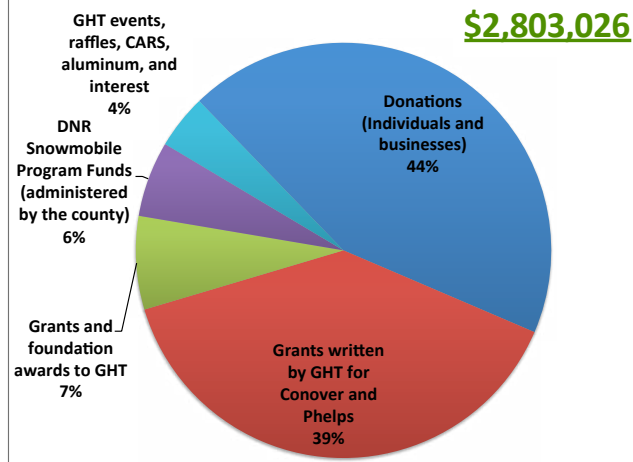
Your contribution is tax deductible to the furthest extent under the law.

The Great Headwaters Trails Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt nonprofit corporation.

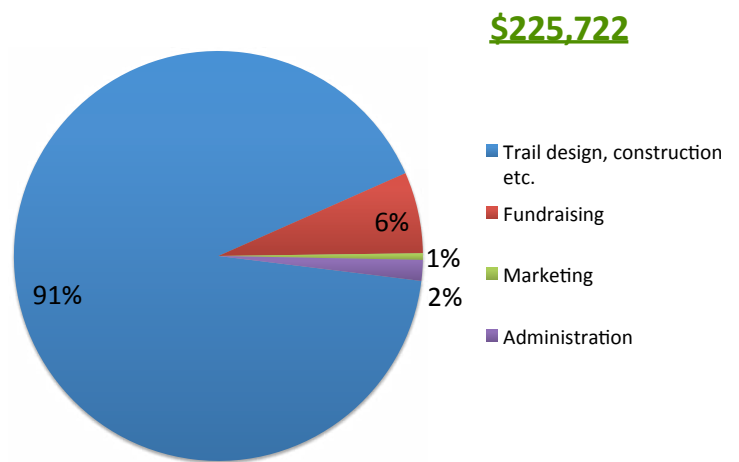
Financials for 2022

GHT's assets as of 9/30/2022 - **\$256,355**

Total of all funds gathered for trail building since 2010:



Expenditures from 10/1/2021 - 9/30/2022



Preparing for next year...

Two segments of River Trail -

As you know, this walking and biking trail will connect St Germain to Eagle River. The plan is to develop it in six segments. We're now focusing on the west end, Segments 1 and 2. Letters just went out to all Cloverland property owners along Old Hwy 70 (Segment 1) to inform them of the project and ask for feedback. In the next few months GHT will be applying for TAP funds to acquire the \$1 million needed to design and construct Segment 2. It runs from the east end of Old Hwy 70 to the old wayside opposite Wilderness Trail. TAP funds would provide 80% of that total cost. We'll be reaching out to supporters for help to raise the 20% local match (about \$200,000). Success with that will kick off building the River Trail!

A care plan for the Conover-Phelps Trail -

The Town of Conover is looking to work with the Town of Phelps on addressing plant encroachment on the aggregate portions of their trail. Current plans for that involve getting help from the county Forestry, Recreation and Land Dept. Talks between the three parties are already underway.

Starting points for special solutions in Conover and Eagle River -



Speaking of the Conover-Phelps Trail, a team of senior engineering students from UW-Platteville is working on a conceptual plan to extend the biking and walking trail by two miles so it connects to Torch Lake Park and the RV park there. Another team of Platteville seniors is developing a conceptual plan for Eagle River to make the ATV/snowmobile crossing of STH 45 by Riverview Park safer for bike riders and walkers. This would help people get into downtown Eagle River and connect the River Trail to the Three Eagle Trail. Both teams will deliver their final reports in a Zoom presentation on Dec. 6.

Adding muscle to GHT -

If you think you can be an effective board member, help with fundraising, provide additional social media or website expertise or add to our strength as a trail building nonprofit, please let us know. Just email or call Jeff Currie using the contact information below.

There are many ways to help fund more trails for eastern Vilas County!

- Write a check to Great Headwaters Trails.
- Donate online (www.ghtrails.org/donate).
- Donate online and establish a recurring donation.
- Set up a pledge plan.
- Donate publicly held stocks.
- Use your IRA distributions to build a legacy. Set up qualified charitable distributions (QCDs).
- Donate your old vehicle or trailer or boat - no hassle! Just scroll down to "Donate your used car or boat" on the Donate page at www.ghtrails.org or phone 855-500-7433.
- Take advantage of AmazonSmile - Go to www.smile.amazon.com. Select "Great Headwaters Trails" as your charity of choice. This works for all Amazon customers, from the occasional buyer to those who have AmazonPrime accounts.
- Your other ideas - Let's talk!

Contact us at ghtrails@gmail.com or call 715-617-0080

Prefer to
donate online?



You can do that and
find out more
about GHT.
Scan the QR code
or go online to
ghtrails.org.