Great Headwaters Trails Foundation

DEAR FRIEND OF GREAT HEADWATERS TRAILS,

Because of your support, **Great Headwaters Trails Foundation is turning a vision into progress.** Miles of trails have been built, communities have been connected, and important new projects are moving forward. Now, we have an opportunity to take the next big steps—**and your gift can go twice as far.**

$35,000 MATCHING CHALLENGE!

Generous donors from **Cloverland and St. Germain have pledged to match every dollar donated to GHTF, up to $35,000**.

Your $50 gift becomes $100. Your $250 becomes $500. Your $1,000 becomes $2,000.

Our goal is to raise at least **$35,000 from our supporters and unlock the full $35,000 matching commitment—putting $70,000 or more toward trail development**.

Will you help us meet the challenge?

Moving the River Trail Forward

For years, we have envisioned a trail connecting **Eagle River and St. Germain**, linking our communities to the broader Heart of Vilas County Bike Trail System.

That vision took a major step forward in August 2026 when the **Town of Cloverland was awarded nearly $1.3 million through the federal Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)** for Phase 1 of the River Trail.

Phase 1 will create a **1.9-mile off-road, multi-use trail from Old Highway 70 Road to Wilderness Trail**, along with bike-route and wayfinding signage connecting the new trail to the existing St. Germain trail system.

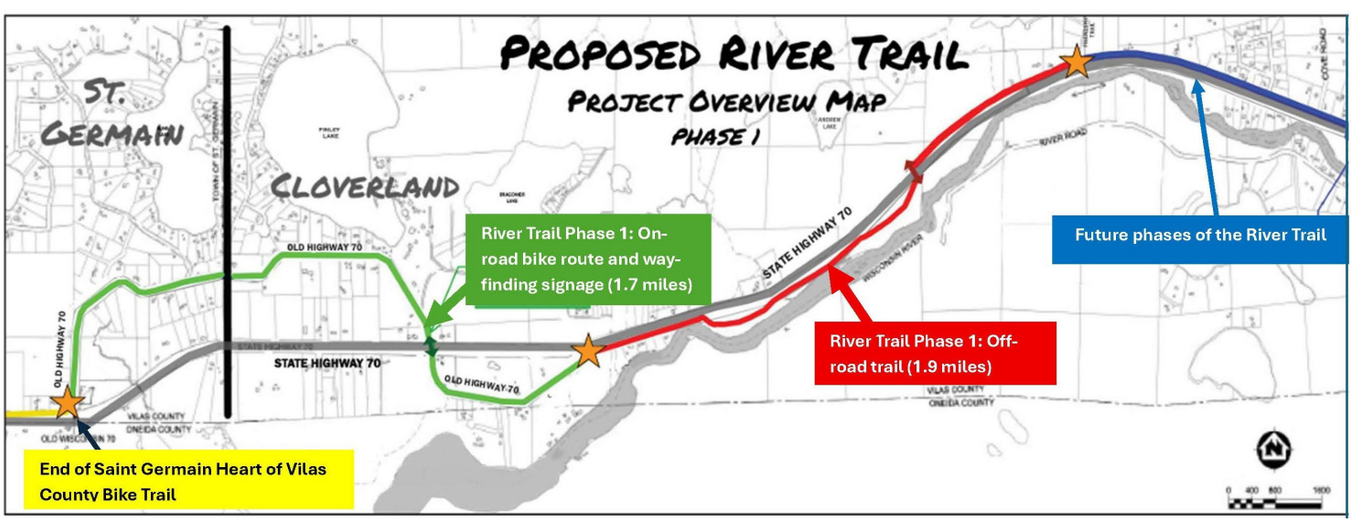
GHTF has committed nearly $500,000 toward this project, including the required local match and engineering and design costs.



Rendering of the River Trail

We are also partnering with the **Eagle River Revitalization Program** to create a safe bicycle and pedestrian crossing of Highway 45 in downtown Eagle River on the eastern end of the future River Trail. GHTF has committed an additional **$130,000 toward completing this project in 2027**.

These are significant commitments, but they demonstrate our determination to make the River Trail a reality.



Map of proposed River Trail

Extending the Conover-Phelps Trail

GHTF is also building on one of our greatest accomplishments—the **10.2-mile Conover-Phelps Trail**, completed in 2021.

Our next goal is to extend the trail approximately **two miles south to Vilas County's Torch Lake Park**. While the current estimate to construct the two-mile extension is approximately **$1 million**, our immediate focus is on completing the engineering and design work needed to prepare the project for construction.

We anticipate this next phase of engineering will cost up to $150,000. Your support will help us fund this critical next step and keep the project moving toward construction.

Your Support Keeps Us Moving Forward

Turning these projects from plans into trails requires more than construction dollars. Engineering, planning, landowner outreach, fundraising, communications, insurance, rent, and other essential expenses allow GHTF—an organization with **no paid staff**—to continue this work year-round.

Your gift will help us **move the River Trail toward construction, advance the Conover-Phelps Trail Extension, and provide the resources needed to keep GHTF working toward future trail connections**.

When you give during this matching challenge, **your support has twice the impact**.



Conover-Phelps Trail

Help Us Unlock the Full $35,000 Match

When Great Headwaters Trails Foundation was founded, a connected trail network throughout eastern Vilas County was a vision. Today, that vision is becoming reality.

We need your help to keep it moving.

Please consider making a gift today. **Every dollar you give will be matched, up to $35,000**. Together, we can turn $35,000 in gifts from our supporters into **$70,000 for trails** and continue building a healthier, more connected, and more vibrant future for eastern Vilas County—**one trail at a time**.

With gratitude,
Laura Van Valkenberg
President, Great Headwaters Trails Foundation, Inc.

P.S. Double the impact of your gift! Generous donors from Cloverland and St. Germain will match every dollar donated, up to $35,000. Please use the enclosed donation form or visit **GHTrails.org/donate/** to help us unlock the full matching commitment!

Extending a trail, building a trail, increasing our advocacy—Help us do more in 2027!

Donation Amount $ _____ *Visit GHTrails.org to set up recurring monthly payments online.*
☐ My company/employer has a Matching Gift Program. Company name _____
Name _____ Phone(s) _____
Address _____ City, State, Zip _____
Email Address (please print clearly!) _____
☐ *Receive our newsletter via email*
How would you like your name(s) to be printed as a donor? _____
If gift is ☐ in honor of or ☐ in memory of someone, please provide their name: _____

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

Please make your check payable to "Great Headwaters Trails Foundation" or "GHT."
Send it with this completed form to **Great Headwaters Trails Foundation, P.O. Box 1164, Eagle River, WI 54521**

To pay by credit card, scan the QR code on the right with your smartphone or go to **GHTrails.org/donate/**