



# Trail designed for transportation, provides recreation

The City of Wayne and Nebraska Department of Transportation jointly developed and built Wayne's pedestrian trail, which serves the community in a variety of ways.

Phase I of the trail, known as the Will Wiseman Trail was constructed in 2003. It runs through the eastern portion of the city.

The second phase, the Leila Maynard Trail, which connects with the Phase I portion and runs through the western portion of

the city, was completed in the fall of 2020, providing residents with approximately six miles of trail in Wayne

"The Wayne Pedestrian Trail Phase 2 was completed late last fall and a ribbon cutting held this spring on the trail," said City Administrator Wes Blecke.

According to information provided by the city of Wayne Recreation Department, the recently completed portion of the trail, the Leila

Maynard Phase 2 Trail, was started in 2007.

This portion of the trail begins at Victor Park on the south end of Wayne and runs west and north through the Wayne County Fairgrounds on the west side of the city and north past the Wayne Community Activity Center.

An underpass under Highway 35 connects the community as the trail heads north along Greenwood Cemetery.

"Now you can safely travel to Wayne State College, Sunnyview Park, to businesses on the east side of town, to the Fire Hall, the Summer Sports Complex, the Dog Park, Roosevelt Park, Victor Park, the fairgrounds, Ashley Park, the Community Activity Center, the swimming pool and the school. Then, all the way up to the basketball, volleyball, and pickle ball at College Hill Park and then back to Wayne State College," said Lowell Heggemeyer, Parks and Recreation Director.

Heggemeyer said the Phase I portion of the trail is 2.75 miles long and the Phase 2 portion is 3.00 miles long.

"If you walk through the college and get back on the trail, you will have walked over six miles," he said.

While several costs have yet to have been finalized, the cost for the Phase II portion of the trail is

\$2,794,692.74, with the city's cost share being \$585,504.65.

"It was a long process for planning (for Phase II) because, as changes were made, new environmental reviews, etc had to be completed and/or updated. The biggest change was the underpass that went in, instead of an at-grade crossing. This decision slowed the design/review process down," City Administrator Blecke said.

At the present time, five benches, provided by the Wayne Rotary Club and one memorial bench have been installed along the trail.

Future plans call for a renovation of the former bath house at the old swimming pool at 13th and Lincoln Streets to serve as a trail head for the entire trail.

A map of the completed trail can be found on the Trail website is <https://www.cityofwayne.org/250/Bike-Hiking-Trail>



## Gas demand and supply dip as pump prices stabilize; yet remain high

New data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA) showed that gas demand and supply decreased. Moving from 9.78 million b/d to 9.43 million b/d last week, the latest demand measurement is 500,000 b/d lower than the rate at this time in 2019, signaling that summer gas demand is likely softening as the school year starts and concerns about transmission of COVID-19 grow as infection rates continue to increase. Additionally, total domestic gas stocks declined by 1.3 million bbl to 227.5 million bbl.

Although the drop in demand has helped to minimize pump price increases and stabilize the national average, elevated crude prices continue to keep pump prices high as the end of summer draws near.

The national average has held steady at \$3.18 for seven days after reaching its highest point so far this year. The national average is a penny less than a week ago, two cents more than a month ago and \$1.01 more than a year ago.

During the run-up to Labor Day weekend, pump prices will likely continue to fluctuate due to high crude prices. However, gas demand typically drops considerably after the final holiday weekend of summer, bringing much needed relief to American drivers when they fill-up this fall.



# Cars-N-Carroll Show & Shine set for Sept. 26

The eighth annual Cars-N-Carroll Show & Shine will be held Sunday, Sept. 26 on Main Street in Carroll.

The event runs from noon to 4 p.m. There is no entry fee and the event is free and open to the public. It will be held rain or shine.

Over 200 entries were part of the show in 2020. This includes cars, trucks, motorcycles and tractors.

Registration starts 9:30 a.m. and the event is open to any make/model of vehicle.

Door prizes, People's Choice Awards, food, vendors and live music by the Dave Merkel Show and Highway 33 are part of the day's activities.

A Kids Show & Shine will be held at the park for youth age 2 to 10 years old.

Additional details can be found on the website at [carsncarroll.wixsite.com/cars-n-carroll](https://carsncarroll.wixsite.com/cars-n-carroll)

The event is funded in part by a grant from the Wayne County Convention & Visitors Bureau.

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## Follow these safety tips when enjoying outdoor water activities

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission would like to issue the following safety reminders to those out enjoying water activities.

Never swim alone — Always swim with a buddy.

Pay attention — Avoid distractions and focus on swim mates and the water. Drowning is the leading cause of death for children, according to the American Red Cross, and drownings can happen in seconds, as well as in shallow waters. Staying watchful — even of strong swimmers — is encouraged and the best way to respond quickly should an accident occur.

Wear a life jacket — Children especially should wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket, while swimming or wading in water, including swim areas at Nebraska

state parks. Floats such as pool noodles, rafts, donuts and kick boards, are not intended to serve as life-saving devices; properly worn life jackets are.

In Nebraska, children under age 13 and anybody on a personal watercraft also are required by law to wear a Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device. People being towed by a boat on skis, a tube, or other similar device, also must wear a life jacket. Every vessel, except sailboards, must carry a flotation device for each person on board.

Make sure the life jacket fits — Check the jacket for both weight and size limits. Life jackets should be snug and should not pop up around the ears.

Watch for waves, currents,

drop-offs and underwater objects — Lakes, rivers and streams often have murky water, potentially hiding underwater hazards such as logs, currents or changes in water depth. Be prepared for the unexpected.

Avoid alcohol — Boaters and swimmers can become impaired with less alcohol than motor vehicle drivers due to heat and dehydration. Boating Under the Influence also is a criminal violation and is enforced actively in Nebraska.

Watch the weather – Storms can pop up quickly in Nebraska. Check the weather in advance and monitor it during the day, if necessary. Sudden changes in weather can lead to rocky water and potential lightning strikes, both of which put swimmers and boaters at risk.

Learn what to do in an emergency — Know the signs of drowning. Consider getting water safety and CPR trained, and if an emergency occurs, remember to call 911 for help.

Game and Parks recommends RedCross.org and JoshTheOtter.org for additional water safety resources.

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# Boating access improvements coming to Lake McConaughy

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission will begin a nearly \$3.5 million boating access improvement project Aug. 16 at Lake McConaughy State Recreation Area.

To accommodate construction, the Martin Bay Bayside Boat Ramp and Beach Area No. 3 temporarily will be closed to the public until early 2022. Boaters in that area will be able to access Lake McConaughy from the Martin Bay Low Water Boat Ramp, which will open to the public at the same time of the temporary closure.

While reservations for campsites in Beach Area No. 3 were closed, beginning Aug. 16, 40 campsites have been added to other beach areas to continue providing overnight beach camping opportunities for guests. Construction also will take place at the Cedar View Bayside Boat Ramp, which was taken out of service in early August due to low water levels.

Additionally, the Martin Bay Campground temporarily will close to the public beginning Sept. 8, to accommodate the project.

The project will improve boating accessibility and create one of Nebraska's first motorized water

trail systems at the state's largest reservoir. It is being constructed by Myers Construction Inc. of Broken Bow, and designed by Felzburg, Holt & Ullegiv, with offices in Nebraska and Colorado.

A motorized water trail is a marked route on navigable waters for recreational use. Improved boating access sites, once completed at

opposite ends of the reservoir, will be the first element of the motorized water trail and will continue to promote the western Nebraska recreation area and reservoir as a prime travel destination for boaters from around the Midwest.

Martin Bay's bayside ramp improvements will include:

- a steeper, two-lane boat ramp

with turnaround and boat staging area;

- accessible parking added to the existing lot, which also will get repairs and striping; and
- a flush restroom, fish-cleaning station, area lighting, loading ramps and boat dock.

Cedar View's bayside ramp improvements will include:

- an extension to the existing boat ramp;
- surface repairs and striping for the existing parking lot;
- accessible parking;
- an exit lane at the top of the ramp to improve traffic flow; and
- a cement vault latrine, loading ramp, boat dock and area lighting.

Both projects are expected to be completed by summer 2022, and the areas will be closed to the public during that time. Originally slated to begin in late 2020 and early 2021, the project was delayed due to high water levels.

Should access resume earlier, Game and Parks will provide notice at [OutdoorNebraska.org](http://OutdoorNebraska.org) and through the media.

Additional closures will be announced for the Martin Bay area in September, when construction begins on a nearly \$3 million

expansion and improvement of the Martin Bay Entrance, which proposes to build two new entrance kiosks, expanded stacking lanes and related utilities. That project currently is out for bid and will begin later this fall.

The improvement projects are being funded with a combination of the Game and Parks' Capital Maintenance Fund and park user fee revenue, in partnership with matching federal funds provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Sportfish Restoration Fund and the Federal Highway Administration's Recreation Trails Program along with the State Recreation Road Fund.

It is the latest in the continuation of Game and Parks' Lake McConaughy/Lake Ogallala Master Plan, a 20-year outline of enhancements developed in concert with local stakeholders. Since its inception in 2016, nearly \$6 million has been invested in repairs and developments at the reservoir and recreation area, funded largely by the Commission's Capital Maintenance Fund, park revenues, the Nebraska Department of Transportation Recreational Road Program and Keith County Visitors Committee tourism grants.



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## A black and white photograph capturing the aftermath of a demolition derby. Two cars are shown in a state of extreme disrepair on a muddy track. The car on the left, a 1967 model, features a sign on its roof that reads "67 REESE" and has an American flag attached to its roof rack. The car on the right is equally mangled, with its bodywork completely crushed. In the background, a large crowd of spectators is gathered behind a metal fence, watching the event. The scene is filled with the debris of the crash, including mud and twisted metal.




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# Snowmobiling statistics and facts shared

While it may be some time before the season begins, The International Snowmobile Manufacturers Association has provided the following facts about snowmobiling:

**Snowmobiling quick facts**

There are four major manufacturers that build snowmobiles. They are: Arctic Cat – Headquartered in Thief River Falls, Minnesota; BRP – Headquartered in Valcourt, Quebec; Polaris Industries – Headquartered in Medina, Minnesota; and Yamaha Motor Corporation – Headquartered in Ontario, Canada. In 2021 there were 133,444 snowmobiles sold worldwide; 59,234 were sold in the U.S. and 50,567 were sold in Canada.

There are over 1.3 million registered snowmobiles in the US and over 596,000 registered snowmobiles in Canada.

**The economic impact of snowmobiling**

United States—\$26 billion annually

Canada—\$9.3 billion annually Europe & Russia—\$5 billion annually

Over 100,000 full-time jobs are generated by the snowmobile industry in North America. Those jobs are involved in manufacturing, dealerships and tourism related businesses.

**Snowmobiler profile**

The average age of a snowmobiler is 46 years old.

The average snowmobiler spends \$2,000 each year on snowmobile-related recreation.

50% of snowmobilers trailer their snowmobiles to ride. 50% snowmobile from their primary residence or have a vacation home where they keep and use their snowmobiles.

Snowmobilers are caring neighbors, they raised over \$3 million for charity annually.

There are 3,000+ snowmobile clubs worldwide, involved in trail grooming, charity fund raising, & family activities.

There are over 42 registered non-profit associations representing snowmobilers in the US, Canada, Europe and Russia.

Snowmobiling is great exercise bringing people outdoors interacting with nature and each other. It is an invigorating sport, great for stress release and good mental health.

**Snowmobile use**

The use of snowmobiles in National Parks is regulated by federal Law Enforcement. Snowmobiling occurs on roads groomed and marked for snowmobiling, the same roadways used by recreational vehicles, cars, trucks and busses. Snowmobiles are NOT used as off road vehicles in National Parks such as Yellowstone, Rocky Mountain and Grand Teton.

On US National Forest Land, most of the trails used by snowmobiles are on groomed roads used by summer recreationists. There are also secondary and seasonal roads within the forests used by snowmobilers. These roads are groomed and marked by volunteers who work closely with the local U.S. Forest Service staff in maintaining and managing those areas.

The manufacturers have always been actively involved in promoting safe riding behavior while snowmobiling. Over one million safety related brochures and decals, and hundreds of thousands of posters and safety DVDs have been distributed free of charge to snowmobile enthusiasts throughout the world. Safety trainers, enforcement officers, Chambers of Commerce,

etc. use safety materials provided by the manufacturers through the

Safe Riders! You make snowmobiling safe™ safety campaign.

## Fuel saving tips shared

Bad driving isn’t just unsafe. It’s expensive. Studies have repeatedly shown that personal driving habits are the single biggest factor that affects vehicle fuel consumption. Adopting new and improved driving behaviors not only makes car travel safer, it can contribute to significant savings at the gas pump. Here are some simple ways you can improve your car’s gas mileage:

**Ownership, Maintenance & Repairs**

- When buying a car, look for models that offer the best fuel economy in their class. For most drivers, an optional larger and/or more-powerful engine is unnecessary.
- Maintain your car according to the manufacturer’s recommendations. Modern cars don’t need “tune ups,” but regular service will ensure optimum fuel economy, performance and longevity.
- Take your car to a repair shop as soon as possible if the “Check Engine” light comes on. This indicates a problem that is causing excessive emissions and likely reducing fuel economy.
- Keep tires properly inflated. Underinflation reduces fuel economy, but more importantly, tires low on air degrade handling and braking, wear more rapidly and can overheat and blowout.

**The Daily Drive**

- Slow down and drive the speed limit. On the highway, aerodynamic drag causes fuel economy to drop off significantly as speeds increase above 50 mph.
- Avoid “jackrabbit” starts and hard acceleration. These actions greatly increase fuel consumption.
- To idle or not to idle**
- Avoid extended idling to warm up the engine, even in winter. It’s unnecessary and wastes fuel.
- Avoid prolonged idling in general. If your car will be stopped for more than 60 seconds, shut off the engine to save fuel. Many newer cars have automatic engine stop-start systems that do this.
- When driving in town, adjust your speed to “time” the traffic lights. This reduces repeated braking and acceleration that consume additional fuel.
- When approaching a red light or stop sign, take your foot off the gas early and allow your car to coast down to a slower speed until it is time to brake.
- Accelerate smoothly with light to moderate throttle. This allows the automatic transmission to upshift into higher gears sooner, reducing engine rpm and saving fuel.

See FUEL, page 7

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# Safety tips for novice motorcycle riders

Millions of motorists traverse the country’s roadways when the weather allows. An increasing number of those motorists are seeing the sights while riding motorcycles. Riding a motorcycle can be an awe-inspiring experience much different from riding inside a car or truck. According to the motorcycle information resource Biker Report, 1.5 million Americans owned a motorcycle in 2018.

Even though motorcycle accidents have declined in recent years, a recent report by the Governors Highway Safety Association, a non-profit organization representing state highway safety offices, indicates that, when adjusting for miles traveled, motorcycle fatalities occur 28 times more frequently than fatalities involving passenger vehicles. Alcohol and drug impairment, distraction and an aging motorcycle population have contributed to the elevated accident risk among motorcycle riders. However, inexperience also plays a role. By adhering to certain safety measures, novice riders can avoid various risks and stay safe as they get more acclimated to their motorcycles.

- Get your license. It is essential



to ride with a license. In the United States, riders are required to have a motorcycle license or endorsement in addition to a driver’s license to legally ride a motorcycle. Depending on where riders live, a motorcycle safety course may be a prerequisite to getting a license and can help riders improve their skills on a motorcycle.

- Enroll in a safety course. A safety course can teach riders various strategies, including emergency evasive maneuvers. The Motorcycle Safety Foundation offers courses for riders, who can check to see if

any such courses are available in their areas.

- Wear a helmet. Many states require motorcycle operators and riders to wear helmets when bikes are in operation. Helmets are required by law in Canada across all provinces and territories. The U.S. Department of Transportation also recommends a full-face helmet as an added safety option for novice motorcycle riders. Biker Report states that a helmet can reduce risks of brain injuries from a motorcycle accident by up to 67 percent.
- Wear protective clothing. In

addition to helmets, jackets and other protective gear can reduce the risk of injury for riders involved in crashes. A 2011 study published in the journal Accident Analysis and Prevention determined there was a significantly reduced risk of injury to the upper body when riders wore fitted body armor.

- Practice in a closed environment. It is essential that motorcycle riders grow accustomed to riding the bike they will be taking out on the road. Doing so in a parking lot or a closed course enables riders to

get a better feel for the throttle grip and brakes and steering. Riders can gradually increase their time on the motorcycle and skip long distance trips until they feel comfortable on their bikes.

In addition to these tips, novice riders are urged to be as visible as possible while on the road. Bright or reflective items can make motorcycle riders stand out. With these safety measures in place, novice motorcycle riders can reduce their risk for accidents and injuries while on the road.

## Fuel

(Continued from page 6)

- Use cruise control to help maintain a constant speed and save fuel. However, never use cruise control on slippery roads because a loss of vehicle control could result.
- If your car has a manual transmission, upshift as soon as you can without “lugging” the engine. When practical, you can also save fuel by skip-shifting – for example, going directly from first gear to third.

### Don’t be Fueled into Wasting Gas

The practices above will definitely help improve fuel economy. Also keep these more general fuel saving tips in mind:

- Minimize your use of air conditioning. Even at highway speeds, open windows have less effect on fuel economy than the engine power required to operate the air conditioning compressor.
- Plan ahead to accomplish multiple errands in one trip, and whenever possible travel outside high-traffic times of day.
- If you own more than one car, use the most fuel efficient model that meets the needs of any given journey.

### Fuel Economy Myths

- In hot weather, park in the shade or use a windshield sun-screen to lessen heat buildup inside the car. This reduces the need for air conditioning (and thus fuel) to cool down the car.
- Remove unnecessary and bulky items from your car. It takes more fuel to accelerate a heavier car, and the reduction in fuel economy is greater for small cars than larger models.
- Minimize your use of roof racks

and remove special carriers when not in use. On the highway even an empty bike, canoe or ski rack can reduce fuel economy, and a loaded rack or car-top container will have a major effect on gas mileage.

- AAA research has found that unless premium fuel is recommended or required by your car’s manufacturer, it provides no added benefit. Motorists should refer to their vehicle’s owner’s manual to check which type of gasoline is recommended for their engine.

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