



LITTLE LAKE BUTTE DES MORTS TRESTLE/TRAIL

AASHTO Legacy Award, 2007
- Project benefitting the public through history, culture & well being. Demonstrates a public-private partnership.

ACEC - WI Best of State, Engineering Excellence Award, 2007 - Peer recognition of an outstanding overall project.

ASCE - Engineering Achievement Award, 2006
- Peer recognition of an outstanding overall project.

Excellence Award, Wisconsin Park and Recreation Association



The centerpiece of the Friendship Trail between the Cities of Manitowoc and Stevens Point is the Little Lake Butte des Morts Trestle/Trail in Menasha. It serves as a physical and symbolic link between two growing communities situated on opposites of the lake.

With the help of the Graef, Anhalt, Schloemer design team, various project elements were identified and studied. There was early recognition that factors surrounding this project would significantly complicate the effort, but also create some unique opportunities. These "opportunities" included:

- finding a viable means of crossing a navigation lock. The result is a beautiful European-style lift bridge.
- finding an alternate means to bypass the "active rail" causeway leading to the trestle. The result is a boardwalk that crosses a shallow bay and wetland area.
- finding a visually and structurally pleasing way to incorporate the double-wide trestle pier configuration. The result is a special-use platform area that includes a mid-span covered pavilion employing the railroading theme.
- finding a visually pleasing way to combine the trail's linear nature with the required 52-inch safety railing. There was concern that a tunneling effect would be created. The result is a railing that uses cost-effective open cabling.

The completed trail, the longest (1600 feet) pedestrian trail crossing a body of water in Wisconsin, has become a true community asset!

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