

# Missoula County Media Release

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## **Missoula County Awards \$37,000 in Grants to Community-Led Park and Trail Projects**

Residents throughout Missoula County will soon enjoy additional outdoor recreation opportunities thanks to nearly \$37,000 in matching grants awarded by the county's Parks and Trails Advisory Board.

Grant applications submitted this year reflect the community's continued interest in enhancing trails for both transportation and recreation. The newly formed Butler Creek Trail Association received \$12,000 to complete preliminary design work for a shared-use path along Butler Creek Road, and the National Museum of Forest Service History received \$7,500 to construct additional natural-surface recreational trails at their developing campus west of the Missoula Smokejumper Center.

Two other grants will help fund critical capital and maintenance projects at existing facilities:

- \$7,386 to complete upgrades to the baseball field infrastructure and apply weed and feed lawn treatments at Hellgate Lions Park in Bonner (Friends of 2 Rivers)
- \$10,000 for expansion of the ice rink facility and related amenities located on the Seeley Lake Elementary School property (Seeley Lake ROCKS)

The Parks and Trails Matching Grant Program leverages partnerships with local nonprofits and community groups to maintain county parks and other public recreation areas. In these partnerships, the Parks, Trails and Open Lands Program provides planning assistance and funding, while the partner organization matches those funds through a combination of project expenses, in-kind donations and volunteer service hours.

Organizations interested in receiving information on the next round of funding, typically announced in late summer, should email Missoula County Park and Trails Coordinator John Stegmaier at [jstegmaier@missoulacounty.us](mailto:jstegmaier@missoulacounty.us).

For more information, call Juniper Davis, Parks, Trails and Open Lands program manager, at 406-259-4716 or email [jdavis@missoulacounty.us](mailto:jdavis@missoulacounty.us). More information on the Matching Grants Program is also [online](#).

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