

The Heart of Iowa Nature Trail is a cooperative effort of the Story and Marshall County Conservation Boards. The 33 mile segment of the former Milwaukee Railroad from Melbourne to Slater forms this recreational trail corridor. Future trail plans will connect the Hwy. 330 trail from Melbourne to Marshalltown's Linn Creek Recreational Trail near the GrimesFarm & Conservation Center.

This trail is part of the American Discovery Trail (ADT) which passes through several metropolitan areas and incorporates many trails as it passes from the East Coast to the West Coast of the United States. The ADT in Iowa begins at Council Bluffs and follows the Raccoon River Valley, Des Moines River Greenway, Heart of Iowa Nature, Cedar Valley, and Hoover Nature trails. It crosses the Mississippi River at Davenport.



This sign is located at the trail head and parking on the south end of the Main Street of Rhodes.



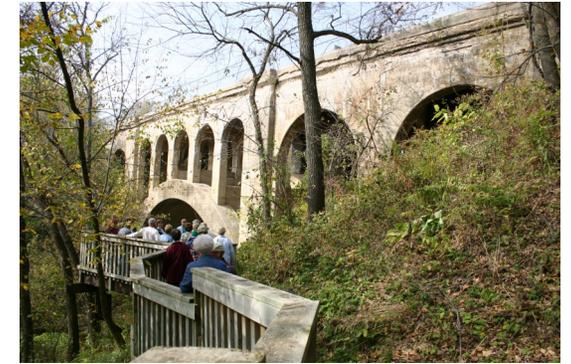
The trail head west toward the historic Hoy Bridge. Watch for the many song birds that make their homes along the trail as well as wild flowers growing there.



A foot path adjacent to the Trail leads to a viewing platform located below the Hoy Bridge.

As you start on the 4.2 mile segment of completed trail from Rhodes into Story County, you will see this sign requesting horses to stay on the grassy area of the trail.

In the fall, the brilliant red of Sumac lines the trail.



The concrete arch railroad bridge over Clear Creek was built in 1912-1913. The 212 feet long bridge sits 60 feet high over Clear Creek.

View looking north from top of Hoy Bridge

**SUMMER:**  
BICYCLING  
HIKING  
HORSEBACK RIDING

**WINTER:**  
HIKING  
X-COUNTRY SKI  
SNOWMOBILING

