



HISTORICAL COMMISSION AGENDA

Thursday, March 15, 2012

7:30 p.m.

City Hall

Conference Room #4

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of the Historical Meeting Minutes for the February 16, 2012 Meeting

New Business

1. Anoka County Sheriff Buster W. Talbot
2. QR Bar Codes
3. Historic Mississippi River Field Guide
4. Historic Bikeway/Walkway Trails in Coon Rapids

Other Business

1. Announcements

Adjourn



Historical Commission - Regular

Meeting Date: 03/15/2012

SUBJECT: Approval of the Historical Meeting Minutes for the February 16, 2012 Meeting

Attachments

February 2012 Minutes

HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 16, 2012

The February meeting of the Coon Rapids Historical Commission was brought to order by Chairperson Lyle Goff at 7:35 P.M. The February meeting was held in the Coon Rapids City Hall Conference Room #4.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Powell, Boo Mills, Jim Marsolais, Lyle Goff, Tracy Ekberg

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ron Wendel and Jackie Dingley

1. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 19, 2012 HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES.

A MOTION BY JIM MARSOLAIS, SECONDED BY TRACY EKBERG TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS PRINTED. The Motion Passed Unanimously.

2. OLD BUSINESS

a. DVD of Margaret Tjosvold

The Commission reviewed the DVD of the interview with Margaret Tjosvold. The Commission was appreciative of the work CTN Studios did in this matter and thought it would make a marvelous addition to the Commission's permanent collection.

b. Antique Road Show

Staff Liaison gave an update. He talked to the Director of the Anoka County Historical Society and it was decided it would be best to have this in either October or November depending on the availability of the Coon Rapids Civic Center. There will be no fee charged but a food donation will be asked for in exchange for having an item reviewed.

c. Historic Guide to the Mississippi River

The Commission discussed incorporating the Historical plaques and Historic information in new and different ways for those who boat/bike in Coon Rapids. The Commission asked Staff Liaison to further investigate the possibility of this idea with the various organizations that might have an interest pursuing this matter with us.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY JIM MARSOLAIS SECONDED BY TRACY EKBERG THAT THE COON RAPIDS HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 8:45 P.M. The Motion Passed Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ned Storla, Staff Liaison
NS/dm



Historical Commission - Regular

1.

Meeting Date: 03/15/2012

Subject: Anoka County Sheriff Buster W. Talbot

From: Debbie Miller, Assessment Clerk I

INFORMATION:

He was the sheriff for 26 years during the 1960's, 70's, and 80's during a period of remarkable growth in Anoka County. He helped establish many policies and procedures some of which are in effect today. We will ask him to talk about the Major Crime Investigation Unit, Crime Lab, Joint Power Agreements and how he helped reduce redundancy and increase cooperation between Anoka County Sheriff's Office and the various police departments in Anoka County



Historical Commission - Regular

2.

Meeting Date: 03/15/2012

Subject: QR Bar Codes

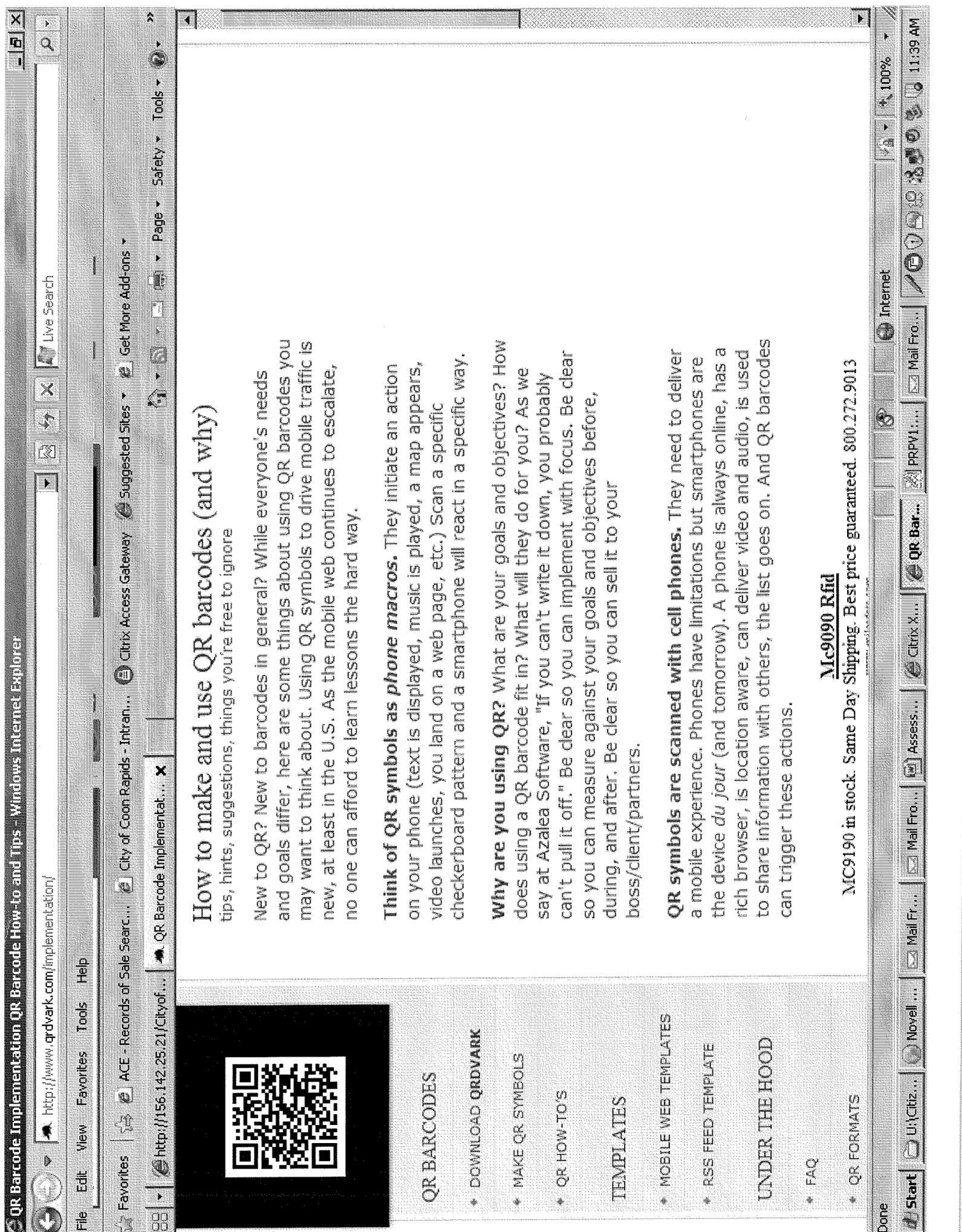
From: Debbie Miller, Assessment Clerk I

INFORMATION:

These bar codes are the "funny looking boxes" that can be read by smart phones. Should we be using QR bar codes to help promote Coon Rapids History?

Attachments

QR Bar Codes



How to make and use QR barcodes (and why)
 tips, hints, suggestions, things you're free to ignore

New to QR? New to barcodes in general? While everyone's needs and goals differ, here are some things about using QR barcodes you may want to think about. Using QR symbols to drive mobile traffic is new, at least in the U.S. As the mobile web continues to escalate, no one can afford to learn lessons the hard way.

Think of QR symbols as phone macros. They initiate an action on your phone (text is displayed, music is played, a map appears, video launches, you land on a web page, etc.) Scan a specific checkerboard pattern and a smartphone will react in a specific way.

Why are you using QR? What are your goals and objectives? How does using a QR barcode fit in? What will they do for you? As we say at Azalea Software, "If you can't write it down, you probably can't pull it off." Be clear so you can implement with focus. Be clear so you can measure against your goals and objectives before, during, and after. Be clear so you can sell it to your boss/client/partners.

QR symbols are scanned with cell phones. They need to deliver a mobile experience. Phones have limitations but smartphones are the device *du jour* (and tomorrow). A phone is always online, has a rich browser, is location aware, can deliver video and audio, is used to share information with others, the list goes on. And QR barcodes can trigger these actions.

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QR BARCODES

★ DOWNLOAD QRDVARK

★ MAKE QR SYMBOLS

★ QR HOW-TO'S

TEMPLATES

★ MOBILE WEB TEMPLATES

★ RSS FEED TEMPLATE

UNDER THE HOOD

★ FAQ

★ QR FORMATS



Historical Commission - Regular

3.

Meeting Date: 03/15/2012

Subject: Historic Mississippi River Field Guide

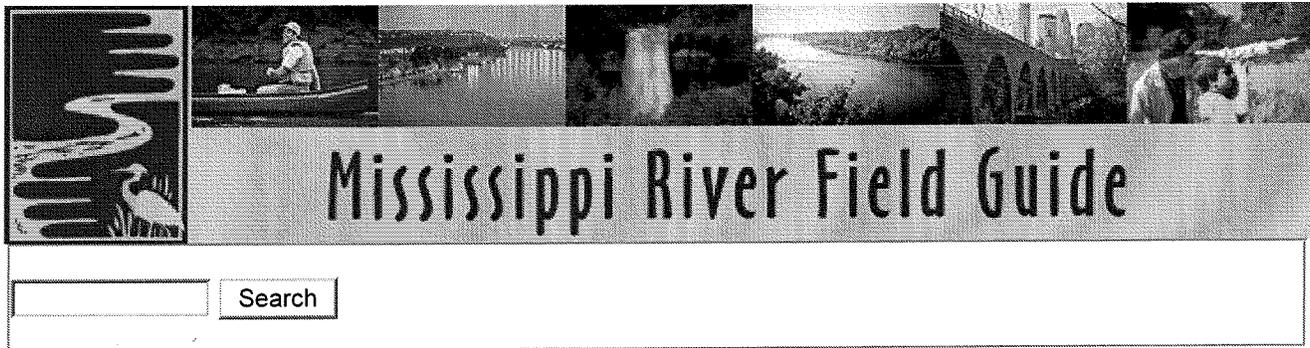
From: Debbie Miller, Assessment Clerk I

INFORMATION:

Staff Liaison will give an update on discussions with the Anoka County Historical Society on creating a Historical Guide for the Mississippi River in and around Coon Rapids.

Attachments

Mississippi River Guide



- [Welcome](#)
- [Browse River Sites](#)
- [Browse Maps](#)
- [Search](#)
- [About this Guide](#)

[About the Field Guide](#) | [Works Cited in the Listings](#)

The Mississippi River Field Guide

The Mississippi River Field Guide gathers historical fact and folklore, information about ecology, natural history, and industry, and tips for the river explorer or recreationalist. Browse this site for interesting and fun facts about the Twin Cities area or use it as a guide for your own river adventure.

Coverage on this website begins at the Coon Rapids Dam in the northwestern Twin Cities. This dam is about 866 miles upriver from the confluence of the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers, at Cairo, Illinois. That confluence point is considered the beginning of the "Upper Mississippi River," and is the 0 mile marker for boats traveling the river north of Cairo. Points of interest are located geographically along a graphical representation of the river and include sites throughout the Minneapolis and Saint Paul metropolitan area. Coverage ends in Hastings, Minnesota, 814 miles upriver from Cairo, Illinois.

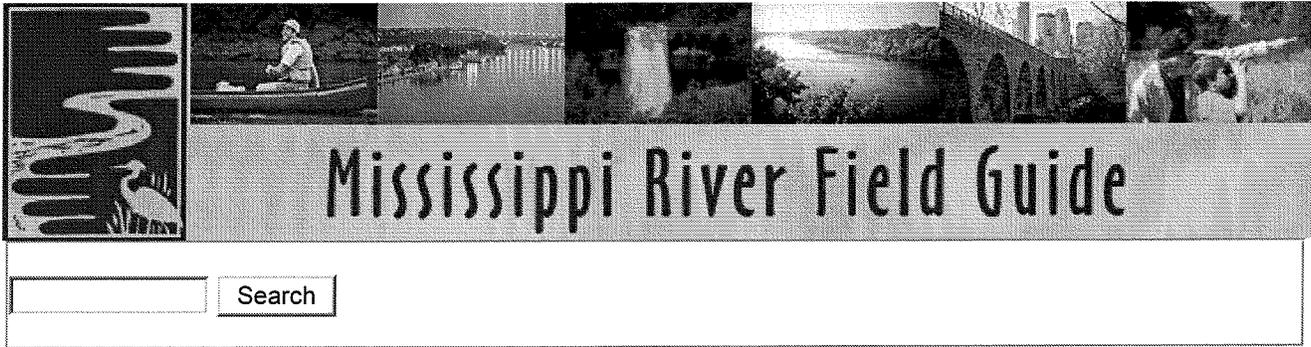
Reading the Listings

When browsing through the field guide, you may notice some coding in addition to the river mile markers mentioned above. "LDB" stands for "Left Descending Bank", and refers to the left side of the river if you were traveling downstream, toward the Gulf of Mexico. Similarly, "RDB" stand for "Right Descending Bank."

Historical, cultural, regional and environmental concerns are prevalent within the entries. A list of areas of "significance" is included for each site, and our [Search](#) page allows you to search by these categories.

This website was created by Friends of the Mississippi River to highlight the information collected and edited by Stephen Lee, a local historian and river enthusiast. Matthew Lee, a Library and Information Science graduate student at the College of St. Catherine, developed prototypes of the site to give form to Steven's vision of a web-based guide which served as a model for this version.

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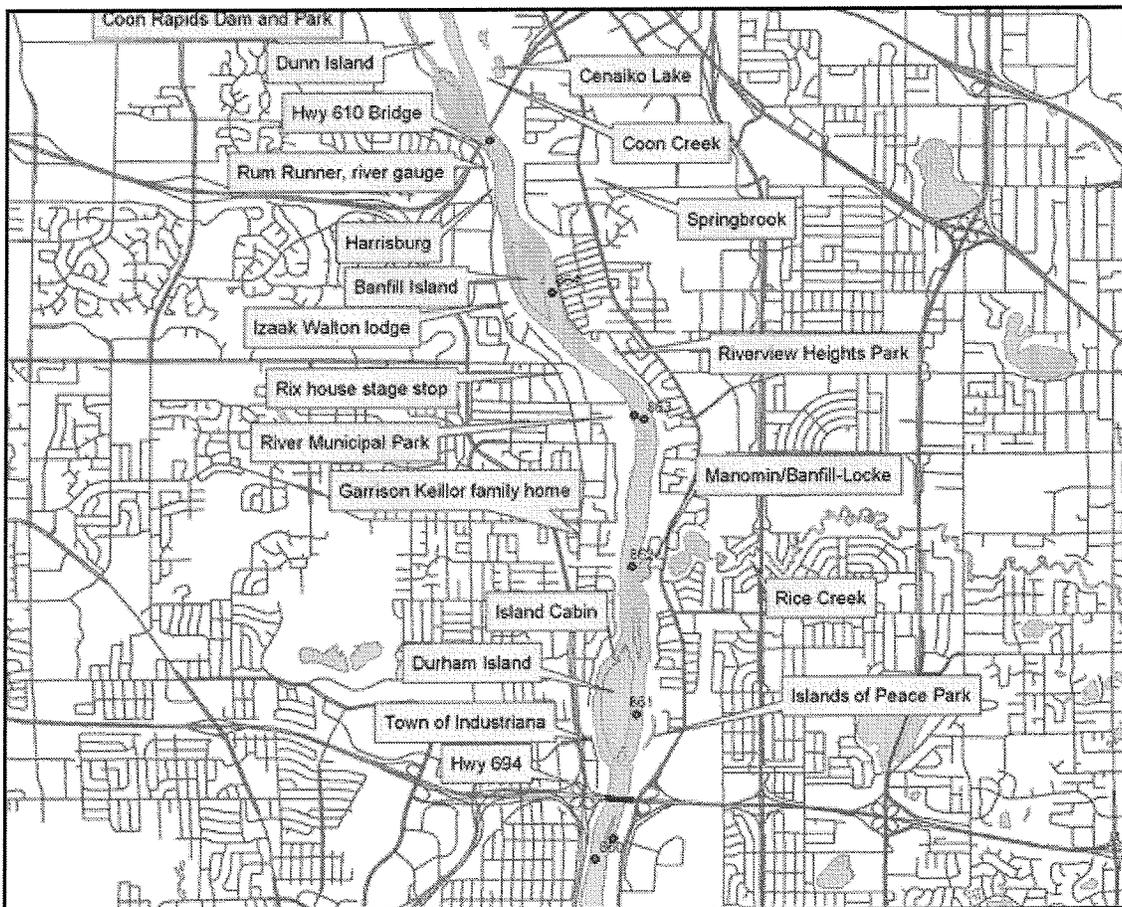


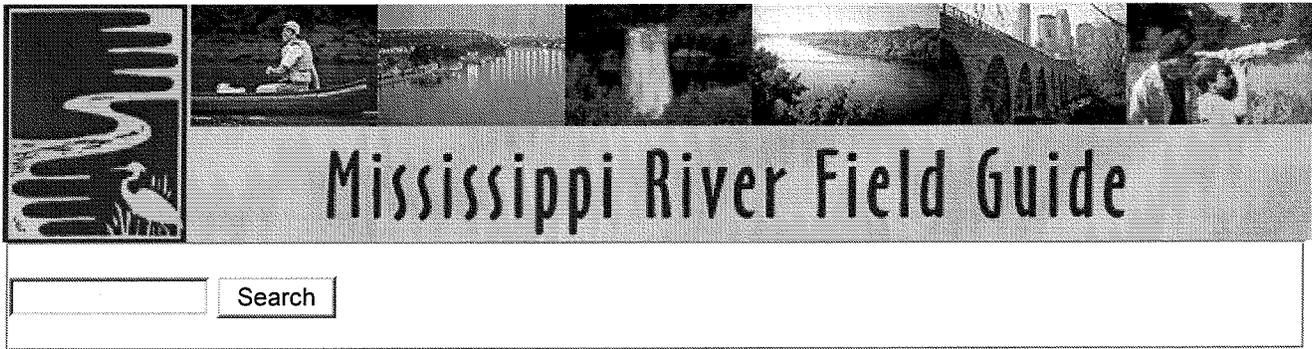
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[Overview Map](#) | [Downstream >>](#)

River Mile 866-860

Most of the yellow labels on the map below link to detailed descriptions of their respective sites on the river. Please note that some labels do not link to detail pages. Also please be aware that many sites in the Field Guide are not yet shown on these maps, but are included in the text listings under [Browse River Sites](#).





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Coon Creek

Site submitted by: Steve Lee

Location

River Mile 865.40 — Left Descending Bank

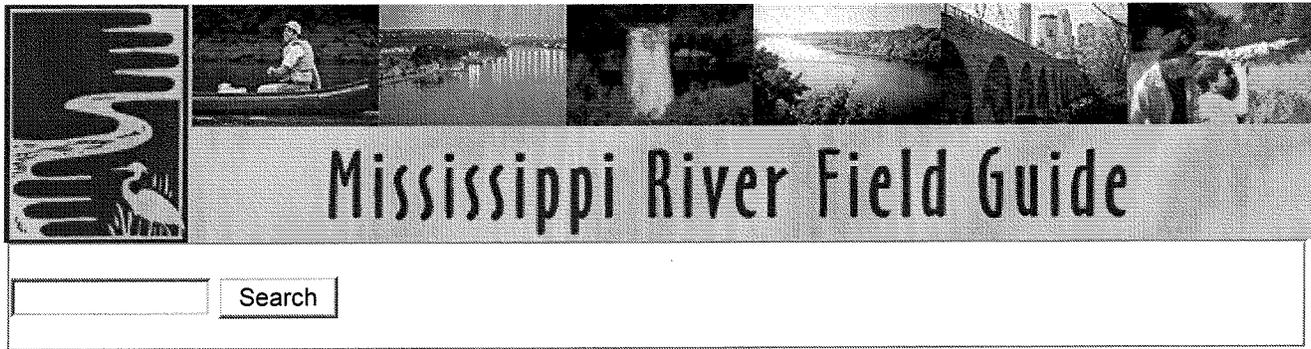
Significance

History
Industry
Geography

Description

Coon Rapids' name is from Coon Creek, so named from the raccoons that were widely hunted along the stream. Ojibwa called it Kitta-jouan, meaning "Little Big River." Dakota called the creek Petorah, meaning "burning coals" for the peat bogs that often smoldered along the creek (Cristin Murphy in CRHC. pp. 26-28). The Condensed Peat Fuel Company made peat fuel bricks at their plant NE of Coon Rapids. The bricks were good, but stinky, fuel (Clairice Griffith and Ted Dunn in CRHC. pp. 58-82).

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Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park

Site submitted by: Steve Lee

Location

River Mile 866.20 — On Both Banks

10360 West River Road, Brooklyn Park MN 55444 or 9750 Egret Blvd, Coon Rapids MN 55433

Significance

Fishing
Birdwatching
Cycling
Paddling
Boating
Picnic Area and Park Amenities

Description

This Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park is owned jointly by the two counties. On the Anoka side entry is about 0.6 miles south of the intersection of Coon Rapids Boulevard and Egret. Access from the Hennepin side is off West River Road (take Highway 252 to 85th; go east to West River Road, then north under the 610 bridge). A vehicle entry fee is collected on the Anoka County (Coon Rapids) side, but not on the Hennepin County (Brooklyn Park) side.

The spectacular walkway over the dam is open June, July, and August, from 5 am to sunset. The Hennepin side has restrooms and parking. The Anoka-side visitors' center has bike rental, a river-fish aquarium, rest rooms, and exhibits related to the dam and the river. South of the dam on the Anoka side is Cenaiko Trout Lake and a prairie restoration. Cenaiko Lake is 30 acres, spring-fed, stocked with Rainbow and Brown

Trout, and has a fishing pier. Fishing here requires a state trout stamp in addition to a regular fishing license. Cenaiko Lake was formed by excavation of soil for the Highway 610 approach. Nick Cenaiko was a County Commissioner and area businessman. Canoers can launch from the south end of the park but should stay far away from the dam itself. A boat access on the north end of the Anoka-side of the park above the dam gives access for boating the recreational pool and river towards Anoka. There is no lock to move boats past the dam. (Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park Brochure, Interpretive Signs, Nature Center Displays)

For more info about the Three Rivers Park District administered park on the Hennepin County side go to [their web site](#).

For more info about the Anoka Parks administered side go to [their web site](#).

Trails leave the park to the north to City of Anoka, and to the south through Fridley connecting to Minneapolis trails. Bicycles can cross the dam on the walkway. On the Hennepin side trails lead to Elm Creek Park Reserve in Hennepin County. There is an annual Carpfest celebration at the dam.

Site Contact

Three Rivers Parks or Anoka County Parks and Recreation

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National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



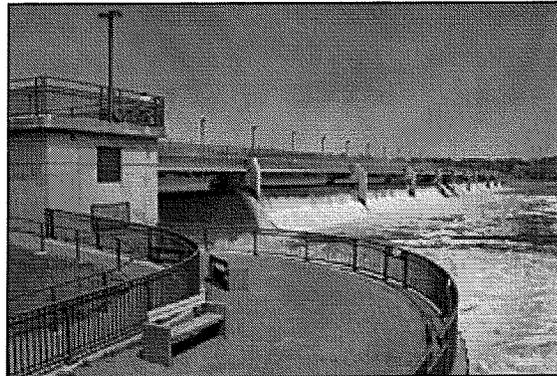
Mississippi National River and Recreation Area West Coon Rapids Dam

Three Rivers Park District
10360 West River Road, Brooklyn Park, MN 55444

 **Get Directions**

Overview

The Coon Rapids dam was built in 1913 by the Northern Mississippi Power Company. It took 1,000 men just a little over 1 year to complete the entire dam system. During construction, a small town grew up on the Anoka County side of the river, complete with barracks, hospitals, fire stations and even dance halls.



Nestled in the woods above the river floodplain, the West Coon Rapids Dam Visitor Center in Brooklyn Park focuses on the Natural History of the Mississippi River. The park provides safe and easy access to the river for investigating water quality. Hands-on programs cover the physical, chemical, and biological health of the Mississippi River.

Activities: There are extensive trails for hiking, bicycling, skiing and snowshoeing. Some of the best bird watching in the metro area can be found in this park.

Hours: Please call for more information.

Contact Information: Call the West Coon Rapids Dam Visitor Center at (763) 694-7790.

Related Activities: Biking, Birds & Wildlife, Fishing & Hunting, Natural History, Hiking & Walks, History & Culture, Museum, NPS Passport Program, Boating & Canoeing, Picnicking, Visitor Center, Winter Recreation



Historical Commission - Regular

4.

Meeting Date: 03/15/2012

Subject: Historic Bikeway/Walkway Trails in Coon Rapids

From: Debbie Miller, Assessment Clerk I

INFORMATION:

How can we better integrate our Historic Markers into the Bikeway/Walkway Trail System?

Attachments

Bikeway WalkWay Trails

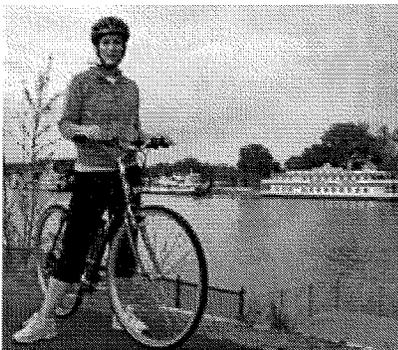
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Mississippi National River and Recreation Area Mississippi River Trail

NPS Trail Guide

Riverside trails within the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area are a small part of a much larger system of bicycle routes that follow the Mississippi from Lake Itasca to the Gulf of Mexico. The **Mississippi River Trail (MRT)** stretches 3,000 miles through 10 states. Sometimes, the trail is on roads and streets, sometimes atop levees, and in other sections, the route is an off road trail for bicyclers and walkers only. Somewhere along the Mississippi, you can find a route to meet any purpose.



In Minnesota, the Department of Transportation (**DOT**) is leading the effort to identify and sign the trail from Lake Itasca to the southern border of the state. The grand opening of the first signed portion of the trail happened on June 6, 2009. The DOT has published a **signage plan** of the MRT in the metro area. This map identifies the streets and trails the MRT signage is set to be installed from Ramsey and Dayton on the north end of the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area to the south end of the park at Hastings. The DOT's **Share The Road** website is an excellent way to learn about safe bicycling and the

dangers of the road.

The National Park Service has also published a **guide to riverside trails** within the park. This guide is designed to help users identify the locations of water fountains, restrooms, parking lots and other points of interest along the route.

The Mississippi River Trail is sponsored by **MRT, Inc.** This organization focuses on identifying and signing the route and encouraging use through all 10 states. They are also a major fundraiser for the development of new trails and partnerships.

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Mississippi National River and Recreation Area

Biking

⇒ Places to Go

Mississippi River Trail

Ride a portion of the 3,000 mile long bicycle trail that follows the entire Mississippi River.
more...

Coon Rapids Dam

Egret Boulevard, Coon Rapids, MN 55433

The Anoka County Park System contains miles upon miles of paved, limestone aggregate and natural surface trails. Enjoy the trail system year-round! Paved trails are designed for bicycling, rollerblading, jogging, and hiking. A ribbon of maintained paved trailway connects Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park in Brooklyn Park to Elm Creek Park Reserve in Maple Grove (North Hennepin Trail Corridor is 5.7 miles).

more...

Crosby Farm Regional Park

2595 Crosby Farm Rd. Saint Paul, MN 55116

Crosby Farm offers seperated, paved paths for both pedestrians and bikers. Located near the confluence of the Minnesota and Mississippi River, the park offers a four miles of path on the Mississippi River bottoms.

more...

Fort Snelling State Park

101 Snelling Lake Road, St. Paul, MN 55111

Fort Snelling State Park offers 18 miles of cross-country skiing trails, 18 miles of hiking trails, 5 miles of biking trails, golf and canoe rentals, picnicking, fishing, boating, and swimming. There is also the nearby Fort Snelling Golf Course.

more...

Hidden Falls Regional Park

Mississippi River Blvd St Paul, MN 55116

Beginning seven miles north of the confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota River, the park offers paved biking and hiking trails, picnicking facilities and great opportunities a multitude of birds.