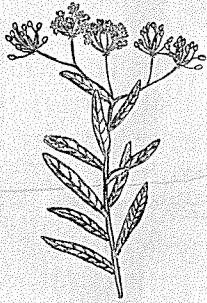


# THE ILLINOIS PRAIRIE PATH NEWSLETTER

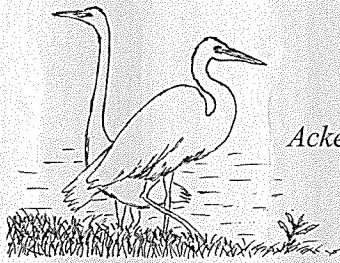
## What to look for and try out: the Great Western Trail in DuPage County.



Butterfly Weed

The DuPage County Trails System now boasts its second trail, officially opened on June 17, 1992. The spanking new Great Western Trail is 11.4 miles long and connects to its big sister, the Illinois Prairie Path, at Villa Avenue in Villa Park and also just west of Prince Crossing Road in rural West Chicago. The DuPage County Division of Transportation is responsible for major maintenance and development of both trails while The Illinois Prairie Path not-for-profit corporation offers consultation and various other services provided by its volunteers.

The new trail is not continuous yet. Gaps which should be bridged to provide safe grade separations occur in the Lombard area at St. Charles Road, the Chicago and NorthWestern Railroad, Grace Street, Park Street, and I-355. The map shows suggested bypasses. The trail also crosses numerous residential streets at grade and seven four-lane arterials.



Great Egret

Points of interest adjoining the trail include the Villa Park Historical Museum and old Ovaltine plant, Community Park in Lombard, the Commonwealth Edison generating station at Swift Road, Ackerman Park in Glen Ellyn, and bridges over the East Branch of the DuPage River, Klein Creek, the West Branch of the DuPage River, and a small tributary. Colorful prairie flowers are seen at Churchill Forest Preserve in Lombard, the old St. Stephens Cemetery west of Schmale Road in Carol Stream, and in Timber Ridge Forest Preserve between County Farm Road and Prince Crossing Road. Great egrets abound in the forest preserve wetland west of Prince Crossing.

