



Minnesota's 4th District E-Report!

Congresswoman Betty McCollum

"Serving Minnesota's Families"



AUGUST 29, 2003

Hot News!

TCAAP Meeting

Army Plans "No Cost" Land Transfer to Ramsey County for Regional Park

McCollum Calls Protection of Rice Creek a Victory for Arden Hills & Region

The U.S. Army plans to transfer, at no cost, 113 acres of land at the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant (TCAAP) to Ramsey County's regional park system. The announcement of the Rice Creek Corridor transfer was made a major stakeholder summit convened this week by Congresswoman Betty McCollum (MN-04) who has worked hard to secure the parkland for public use.

"I am pleased that the Army is preparing to transfer this land to the community," said McCollum. "Bruce Vento had a vision for protecting this sensitive wildlife habitat and open space at TCAAP for the enjoyment of all. Today that vision is becoming a reality."

The 113 acre Rice Creek Corridor is a critical link in the Rice Creek North Regional Trail Corridor that extends from the 2500 acre Rice Creek Chain of Lakes Park Reserve to the 225 acre Long Lake Regional Park. The entire corridor, encompassing over 8 miles, will be developed for hiking, biking, canoeing and other passive recreational activities. In addition the corridor preserves essential natural habitat in a developed urban area.

According to Greg Mack, Ramsey County Parks and Recreation Director, "The Rice Creek Corridor within TCAAP is the 'missing link' in a regional trail corridor that will connect two counties and nine communities. Ramsey County's application to the National Park Service for a Federal Lands to Parks transfer has been approved and will become part of our regional park system in the near future."



Rep. Betty McCollum meets with female athletes from North High School in North St. Paul to promote health, fitness and equal opportunity for all students.

Next Week on Betty's Schedule

Before returning to Washington DC next week, Rep. Betty McCollum will celebrate **Labor Day** at Harriet Island with National AFL-CIO secretary-treasurer Richard Trumka along with other union members.

Also on McCollum's schedule next week:

September 2 - Meeting with the American Refugee Committee

September 3 - Meeting at Head Start Facility with parents, teachers and public health officials to discuss the importance of the preventative health component of Head Start

September 4 - Meeting with US Ambassador to Laos, Douglas Hartwick

Contact Congresswoman Betty McCollum . . . www.house.gov/mccollum/contact.html

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