

about

Sand Creek Trail is a maintained recreational trail that begins on the Bethel College campus in North Newton, Kan. Area residents, students and visitors are encouraged to enjoy the trail and its variety of plant, animal and bird life. The main trailhead is located at Memorial Grove, an area designed for reflection, fellowship and special events. The trail connects with Arbor Lane — a double row of trees designed to welcome visitors to the city of North Newton — as well as the hiker-biker trail, nicknamed The Trail of Two Cities, that runs alongside Sand Creek through the city of Newton.

Take a walk, bird-watch, go for a run, exercise your pets, explore, meditate and much more on Sand Creek Trail. All users are encouraged to avoid littering, keep dogs on leashes and exhibit common trail courtesies when, e.g., hikers and bikers pass each other. Carrying or using firearms on these grounds is not permitted.

features

Sand Creek Trail with all-weather, wood-chipped walkways is set in a beautiful, mostly wooded, area and is open year-round. From its trailhead at Memorial Grove to the north loop paralleling I-135 and then back to Memorial Grove via Chisholm Park in North Newton, the trail is in excess of three miles

long. Benches are installed along the trail to allow users of the trail to rest and to enjoy the surrounding nature. The trail hosts a variety of plant, animal and bird life:

- indigenous cottonwood, willow, hackberry, redbud and black walnut and species introduced over the years such as Osage orange, mulberry and locust
- resident bird species Cooper's hawk, wild turkey, red-bellied woodpecker, northern cardinal and American goldfinch
- summer residents great blue heron, wood duck, yellow-billed cuckoo, American robin, brown thrasher, common grackle and northern oriole.
- winter residents include the white-breasted nuthatch, spotted towhee and dark-eyed junco
- white-tailed deer, beaver and woodchuck

Memorial Grove was established at the main trailhead of Sand Creek Trail in 2003 as a place for small groups to meet around a fire for discussions or worship and also as a means to memorialize individuals, couples or groups who have had a significant relationship with Bethel College and/or the North Newton community. An engraved brick signifies that a contribution of \$1,000 has been made in someone's name. All-campus bonfires are held at Memorial Grove, a local church has its Easter sunrise service



there, and Memorial Grove has been the setting for weddings. A gazebo complements the beautiful flowers, shrubs and trees that make this a special place for quiet reflection. Near Memorial Grove is the 11-foot tall sculpture The Plainsman, carved out of a Siberian elm by North Newton sculptor John Gaedder. To reserve Memorial Grove for an event, call Bethel College at (316) 283-2500.

Arbor Lane, established in 2006, features 54 trees of 18 different species along Highway 15. Each tree is identified by a marker containing the common and Latin names. As the trees grow, Arbor Lane will not only beautify the trail and the approach to town but also benefit the environment.





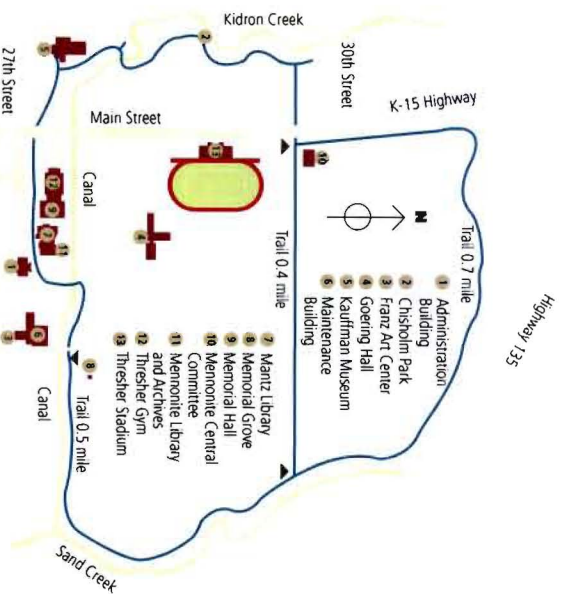
support

Private donations and some matching funds from the Central Kansas Community Foundation have met almost all costs of establishing Sand Creek Trail, Memorial Grove and Arbor Lane. Additional financial resources and labor are required to continue the maintenance. One method of supporting Sand Creek Trail is to purchase a memorial brick to be placed in the entrance walkway to Memorial Grove. Cost of placing a brick engraved with the name(s) of those to be memorialized is \$1,000. Several donors may jointly contribute for a particular brick. A modest endowment has been established to maintain these facilities.

To volunteer labor, contribute funds or purchase a brick, contact the Bethel College Office of Development at (316) 284-5226. Checks, made payable to Bethel College, may be sent to Sand Creek Trail, Bethel College Office of Development, 300 E. 27th Street, North Newton, KS 67117. Donations are tax-deductible.



Sand Creek Trail is owned and maintained by Bethel College with oversight by Sand Creek Trail Committee and in collaboration with the City of North Newton.

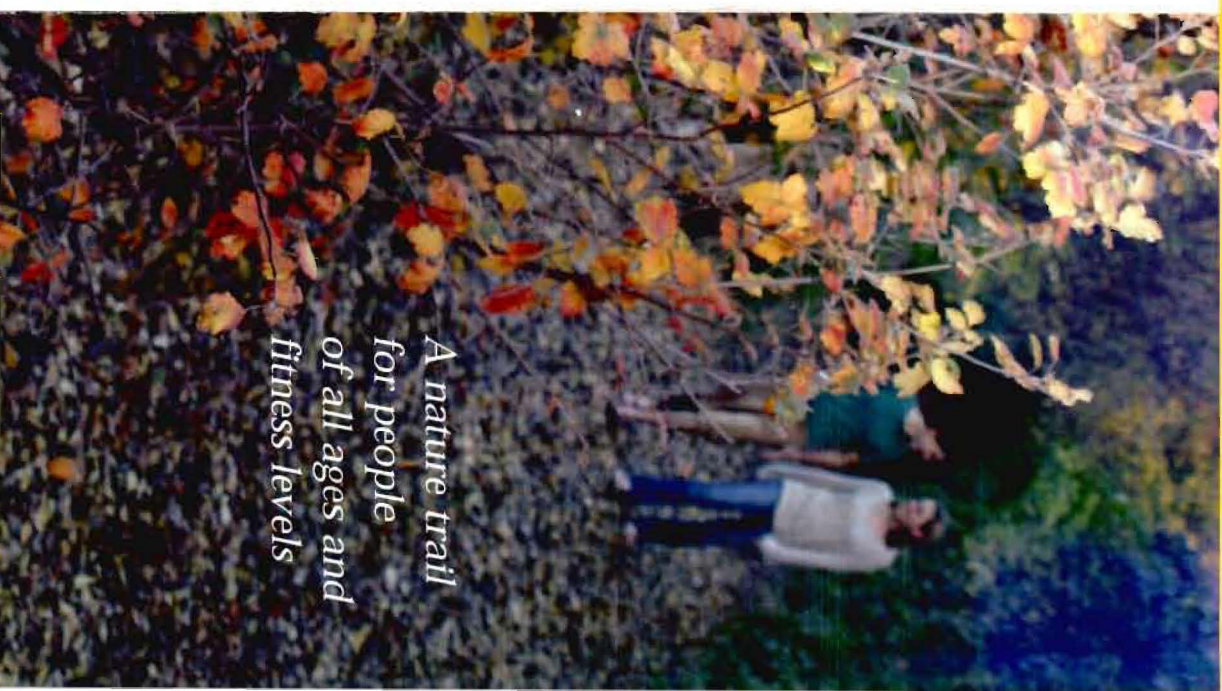


Directions to Memorial Grove Trailhead

From Main Street/K-15 in North Newton, turn east on 29th. Proceed past the parking lot and tennis courts. Follow the road to the right, and then left, past the old campus granary, until you see the Memorial Grove gazebo, fire pit and gravel parking area with the wooden "Plainsman" sculpture to the left. A trailhead is located just south of Memorial Grove. Overflow parking is available just east of the tennis courts, with a paved walk leading to Memorial Grove.



For more information, visit www.bethelks.edu/sandcreek



*A nature trail
for people
of all ages and
fitness levels*