



Dakota Prairies RC&D

Bismarck, ND



College employees working on preliminary ground preparation



Council Member and State Association President, Jim Schmidt, participating in the ribbon-cutting Ceremony



Campus students enjoying the new one-mile recreation trail that circles their campus and ties into the existing Bismarck-Mandan Public Trails Network

United Tribes Technical College Recreation Trail Project

United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck provides occupational and social skills for Native American students from the five Tribal Nations of North Dakota. The College requested technical assistance from Dakota Prairies RC&D Council to help with the development and construction of a recreation trail around the perimeter of their north campus. RC&D utilized engineering resources from the Natural Resources Conservation Service provide assistance for the development of a preliminary soil survey and GIS map for initial project planning.

Dakota Prairies worked with The College to develop two proposals requesting grant funds for trail construction and related expenses. The North Dakota Department of Transportation approved a \$185,000 project proposal in late 2009, and the College secured federal stimulus funds to provide the needed cash match for the project. They also provided employee time and equipment to do some of the brush clearing and dirt work. Other project partners included the Burleigh County Commission, the Campus Green Committee, local Metropolitan Planning Organization, and Federal Highway Administration.

The trail will be utilized by the United Tribes staff and students as a component of their wellness program, which also includes a walking club that was organized by the "Strengthening Lifestyles Program" of the Lewis Goodhouse Wellness Center. It is open to public use and can be accessed at the United Tribes College main entrance on University Drive.

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