



www.bransonmo.gov

City of Branson
110 West Maddux
Branson, MO 65616
417-337-8526
Public Information Department
jadams@bransonmo.gov

NEWS RELEASE

October 2, 2009

Contact: Matt Filice, assistant city engineer, 337-8559

City receives grant from local trails association for Lakeside Forest Area

The city of Branson is the recipient of a \$1,500 grant from the Ozark Mountain Nature Trails Association (OMNTA) for improvements at the Lakeside Forest Wilderness Area.

The grant will be used for trail markers and signs at the Wilderness Area, according to Matt Filice, assistant city engineer. The signs will enhance the experience of Lakeside Forest for hikers by providing convenient direction and park information.

"I have discussed this with our parks department and we're looking at areas that we can improve the signage," said Filice. "This grant will be of great help in making those improvements, and we are grateful to the Ozark Mountain Nature Trails Association for its generosity."

Lakeside Forest Wilderness Area is a 130 acre natural park that features hiking trails, an observation deck overlooking Lake Taneycomo and 315 historic stone steps built in the 1930s that descend to the lake. It's located on Fall Creek Road just south of Highway 76.

In awarding the grant to Branson, Arno Wehr, Jr., chairman of OMNTA, said his association clearly recognizes the community and economic benefits of hiking and biking trails in the Branson/Tri-lakes Area.