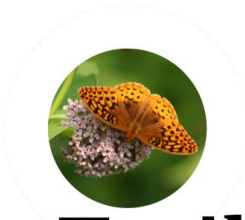


## Press release

August 30, 2017

Re: 9/11 Memorial at Eagle Nature Trail

# Eagle



# Nature Trail

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## 9/11 National Day of Remembrance

Are you looking for a peaceful spot to reflect on the events and the aftermath of 9/11? The Eagle Nature Trail committee invites everyone to commemorate all of the people impacted by September 11, 2001. The trail is the perfect place for peaceful reflection.

The events of September 11, 2001, have been called the most devastating foreign attack on American soil since the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. The attack echoes through 16 years to the present day because the United States continues in a fight against terrorism.

### Memorial trees

As a way to honor the people of 9/11 and its aftermath, we have set seven memorial trees. Each tree honors a group: Civilians in the World Trade Center, Firefighters and paramedics, United & American Airlines passengers and crews, Pentagon employees, Law enforcement personnel, U.S. Military members, all citizens who were impacted by 9/11--- all of us!

Four of the memorial trees—with fencing and signs--are located along the boardwalk area leading to the pond; three others are near the outdoor classroom area. Home Depot made a generous donation for this trail project!

Our memorial trees were grown from the seeds of the swamp white oak trees that surround the World Trade Center Memorial in New York City. Phil Hall, formerly of Eagle, planted the seeds, nurtured the small trees and donated them to the Eagle Nature Trail in 2013.

The swamp white oaks of the World Trade Center Memorial in New York City which were planted at ground zero in 2011 are meant to change the feel of the New York site from disaster to a feeling of peace and beauty. Likewise the 7 trees at the Eagle Nature Trail provide peaceful and beautiful markers of remembrance.

Wander our short trail surrounded by a prairie and small woodland. Head to the boardwalk leading to the small pond. Sit for a while on a bench or at the outdoor classroom and find comfort surrounded by nature.

Our memorial display will be available through the month of September. Our entrance signs have background information on 9/11 and our memorial trees. The trail is open daily from dawn to dusk.

Parking is available in the Eagle Municipal Building's parking lot on Main Street—Hwy NN-- in Eagle. The trail can also be accessed from Eagle Elementary School's visitors parking lot. Because the school year has begun that parking lot will be busy during the day.

**Additional quotes, if needed**

Author F. Scott Fitzgerald said, "Show me a hero and I will write you a tragedy."

"How true this is of every person who faced the unexpected and tragic events of September 11, 2001," explained Jean Weedman, chair of the Eagle Nature Trail.

"We want to remember many people who became heroes that day—from restaurant workers to financial company personnel to fire and rescue crews--who went to work one day and faced unimaginable challenges. It is about remembering the resolve to accomplish what needs to be done; it is about fulfilling duties to others; it is about human kindness and concern; it is about courage in the face of extreme heartbreak. We set these trees as a way to remember," said Weedman.