June 14, 2007 Sarah A. Nichter, 427-6024 Manager-Information & Development

## Salomon Farm Park adds New Trail Loop

Fort Wayne, IN: Al Moll, Director of Parks & Recreation was joined by trail enthusiasts from Northwest Allen Trails, children participating in the Parkview YMCA's day camp program, and area residents as they cut the ribbon on a new trail loop inside Salomon Farm Park.

"This 1.7 mile loop is part of a long-term plan for adding trails throughout Allen County," said Al Moll. "Our partnership with trail organizations like Northwest Allen Trails has helped us identify projects that meet the needs of area residents."

The eastern edge of the Farm is the former New York Central Railroad corridor. The Salomon Trail loop incorporates the first completed NY Central rail-to-trail usage in Allen County. The trail will eventually continue north along the former railroad to Pokagon Park and south to the current Rivergreenway in downtown Fort Wayne.

The 10' wide asphalt path borders Dupont Road on the north and runs along the east edge of the farm for a total 6/10 of a mile. The rest of the 1.7 mile loop is made of crushed limestone, in keeping with the 1930's farm theme at Salomon. Its 10' wide path meanders through the fields and offers a scenic view of this beautiful green haven in the middle of a busy suburban environment.

In celebration of this trail addition, representatives from the Trees Indiana and Northwest Allen Trails groups planted a native species tree along the trail and shared the event with children from the YMCA's day camp program.

Funds for the \$199,300 trail came from the Parks & Recreation bond for trails and connectivity.