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Brown County

### County Won't Take Task of Shoveling Fox River Trail

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**CHARLES STUART PLATKIN**



By *Chris Duffy*

With a thick blanket of snow covering the Fox River trail, an Allouez man is trying to send a message to Brown County officials. He's doing it one shovel stroke at a time.

Slowly but surely, Dan Conzemius is clearing a path on his favorite trail.

"Always bend with your knees. My father always taught me that well," he remarks.

After a few more shovels, "Is this really worth it?"

Flinging snow to the side, his path continues for half a mile.

"Bedrock. There we go."

His motivation? So he can jog in peace, away from the city streets.

"I'll just run back and forth, get my mile in."

In the winter, Conzemius, a few cross country-skiers, and an occasional walker are the only ones who can be seen on the snow-covered trail.

"This is ridiculous," he said.

Last winter the Allouez man grew tired of shoveling property he doesn't own, so he asked the county to plow it.

"I figured it would be a no-brainer just to open it up for a few more months of the year."

The county refused, saying it would be a \$17,000 setback annually. County officials say if city and village governments along the trail want to plow it themselves, they're welcome to.

Green Bay Park and Rec. says for as long as the trail has been around their trucks have voluntarily plowed about a mile-and-a-half stretch of the Fox River Trail.

Conzemius says it's a good start, but to the south there are miles and miles of unplowed trail that still need to be taken care of.

"Try it for a winter, see what happens," he suggests. "If people come out here, then keep the program going. If they don't, then I'm wrong."

But until Conzemius sees action, he'll keep on pushin' that shovel, "One man's crusade to get that exercise that everyone's always telling us about."

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