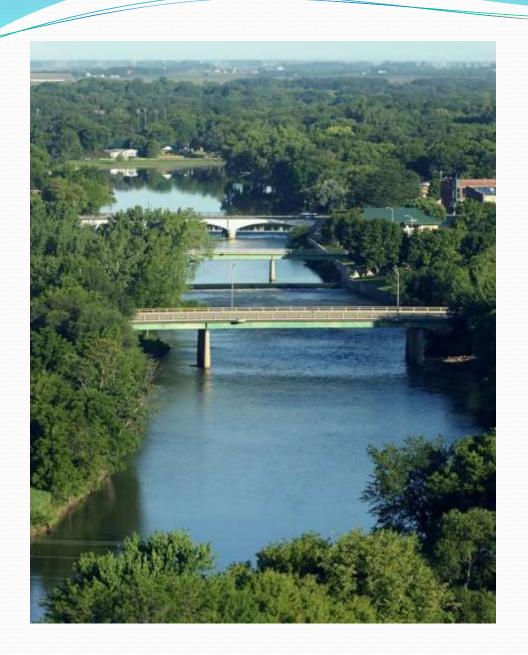


Our Whitewater Story



Cedar River
Charles City,
Iowa

Charles City endured many floods through the years and after each one more homes/businesses were damaged ... land was given back to the City to maintain.

2006: Park and Rec wanted to do something big; to focus on one location/project.Flood mitigation gave 28 acres along the river.

Capitalizing on the river's natural features to help prevent future flooding, Charles City could turn the river from an obstacle into an ecological and social benefit.

THE PLAN: Contacted architects. Choose a plan with small whitewater feature below dam. Met with boaters; researched demographics. Focused on making a destination point!



2007: City Council approved overall park. Do whitewater first as it's the draw, then the park.

2008: June - 500 year flood put brakes on project.

June 2008



2009: Fall - dusted off and got busy fundraising.

2010: Fall - construction began.

Working on dam



December 2010



2011: July - course passed inspection and opened to whitewater paddlers.



Ribbon cutting at grand opening



Grand opening



Charles City's park on the Cedar River is constructed for all types of river enthusiasts. The ¼ mile course is rated at Class II and III levels with three distinct features for paddlers of all levels.

RIVER ENTHUSIASTS
Kayakers
SUPers
Tubers
Fishermen

Kayaking



Stand-Up Paddleboards



Tubing



PARK FEATURES New boat launch Ravine play area Stone amphitheatre Stormwater fountain Labyrinth

Boat launch



Ravine play area



Amphitheatre



Stormwater fountain area



Labyrinth



REVENUE/PARTNERS DNR Great Places Private Fundraising

\$0 tax dollars used other than Hotel/Motel OBSTACLES
Fishermen
Public
Skeptics on draw for boaters

HURDLES DNR approval Army Corp. of Engineers ecological study

IMPACT: \$746,000 established economic impact for our area. Hotels, campground, restaurants, convenience, grocery

NEW BUSINESS







NEW GROWTH (outside of plan): Permeable pavement, labyrinth, Eagle Scout projects, disc golf, Girl Scout fitness stations, memorial gazebo/garden, shower change room. P&R adds include 3 shelters, new trails as more access is needed, prairie planting area.



EVENTS: Charles City Challenge lowa Games





June 6th-8th ccwhitewater.com



Iowa Games: June 21st



EPA AWARD Smart Growth Achievement Plazas, Parks & Public Places

Video Here





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