

## 5 SIGNIFICANCE

According to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' *Greenways and Trails Planning Assistance Program* brochure, "greenways and trails positively impact individuals and improve communities by providing not only recreation and transportation opportunities, but also by influencing economic and community development. Some of the many trails and greenways benefits include:

- Making communities better places to live by preserving and creating open spaces;
- Encouraging physical fitness and healthy lifestyles;
- Creating new opportunities for outdoor recreation and non-motorized transportation;
- Strengthening local economies;
- Protecting the environment; and
- Preserving culturally and historically valuable areas."

## 6 SCOPE

Currently, available resources preclude the inclusion of some recreational uses found in some greenways and trails plans in other parts of the country. This document and planning that takes place on the basis of this document will thus **exclude horseback riding, waterway travel and recreation, and off-road motorized vehicle use.**

**Active Choices: the 2014 Champaign County Greenways and Trails Plan** will guide the development of pedestrian paths, bikeways, public open spaces, and other greenways over the next 20 years.