



Delaware County Indiana Enhances River Safety with New Mile Marker System on the White River

August 28th, 2025

The Delaware County Emergency Management Agency, in collaboration with the Delaware County 911 Communications Center, the Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District, the Ball Brothers Foundation, and Canoe Country of Daleville, has launched an initiative to install mile markers along the White River, spanning from Morrow's Meadow in Yorktown to County Road 900 West in Daleville.

This segment of the river experiences the highest level of use in the county, primarily due to Canoe Country's livery service and its accessibility to various other recreational users. Over the years, numerous emergency service calls have been made from this area, with river users often unable to provide precise location information to 911 dispatchers and first responders, resulting in delays that could hinder timely, life-saving assistance.



SWCD Board Member Joe Hamilton and EMA Deputy Director Cory Kissick

To address this challenge, the mile marker project has been developed. Twenty-seven mile marker signs have been securely affixed to trees along the river every quarter mile, positioned at an elevation above the typical high flood level. The 12x18" retroreflective aluminum signs feature easily visible mileage numbers. The mile marker system adheres to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources' format, with mile "0" located at the confluence of the White River and Wabash River in southwestern Indiana, and increasing upstream, placing Delaware County in a designated range from 300-331 miles.

The signs also include the new White River branding recently developed by the Soil and Water Conservation District in partnership with the Ball Brothers Foundation and Intersection Design Agency.

Since the trees on which the signs are affixed are located on private property adjacent to the river, the property owners were contacted, and permission was granted for the installation.

These mile marker locations have been integrated into the 911 Dispatch (CAD) GIS mapping system, as well as into the CrewForce and ShieldForce mapping applications used by fire and law enforcement agencies operating in the area. This integration allows for faster identification of individuals' locations on the river, thereby improving response times and enhancing overall safety.

Additionally, updated maps and information regarding the mile markers have been provided to Canoe Country, enabling them to brief their canoe rental clients on the new markers and to advise them on emergency procedures prior to embarking on their trips.

As river recreation usage increases with new canoe launches being installed in the next few years, expansion of the river mile marker project is planned.

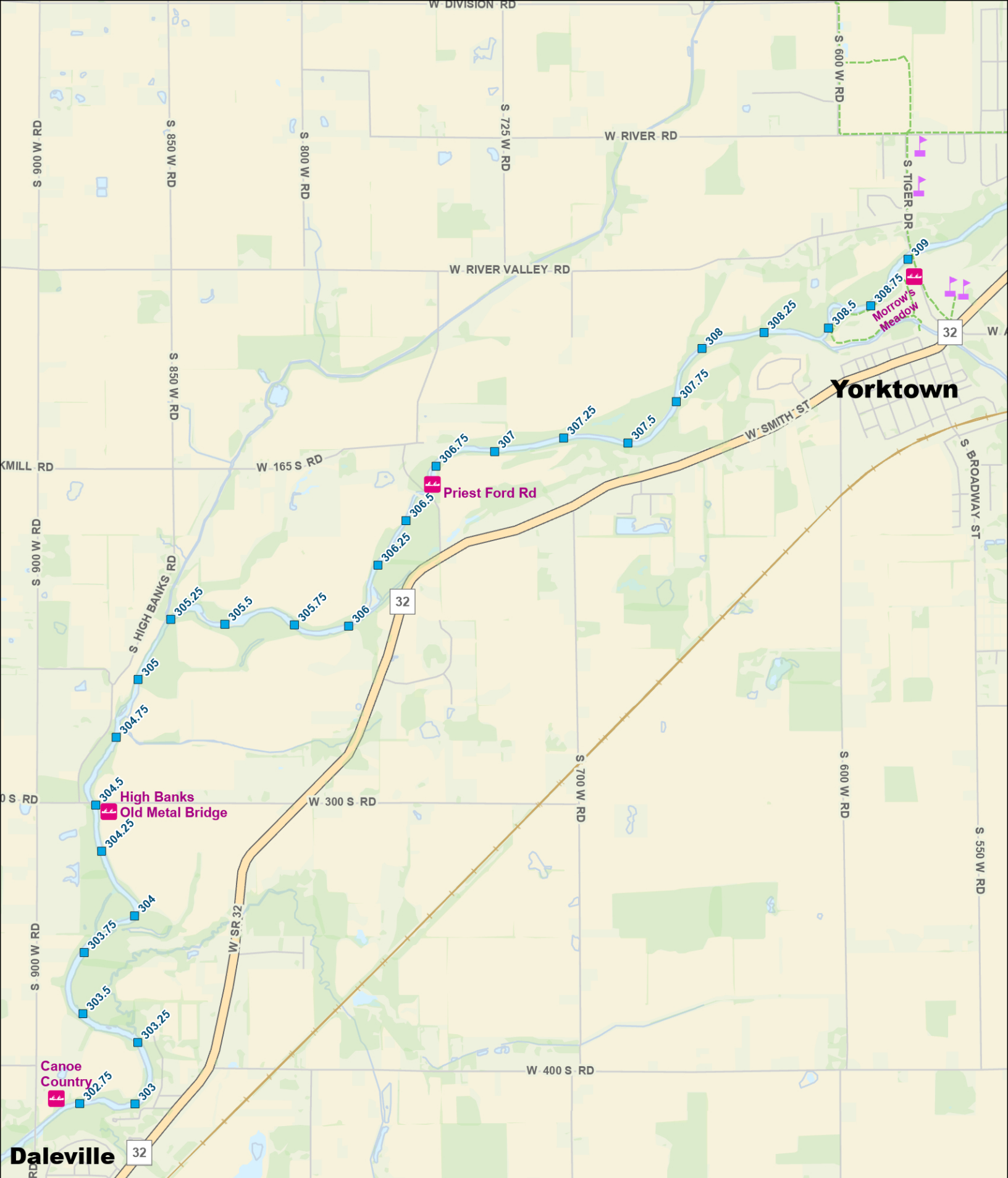
We would like to thank the Ball Brothers Foundation for funding the design and manufacture of the signs, the Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District for coordinating the grant application, Intersection Design Agency for the design of the signs, and Canoe Country for their support and assistance.



12x18 Retroreflective Mile Marker Signs



Deputy Director Kissick installing a mile marker sign near Morrow's Meadow in Yorktown



White River Mile Marker Project

