FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
For more information, contact:

Jerry Kane
Madison County Transit
(618) 797-4600

NEW MCT TRAILS MAPS NOW AVAILABLE
Bikeway Maps Detail 100 Miles of Scenic Madison County Bikeways

GRANITE CITY, ILL., MAY 27, 2010 . . . As bicyclists, runners, walkers, rollerbladers, healthy-living advocates, families, commuters, nature enthusiasts and trailgoers of all ages took to the Madison County Transit (MCT) Trails this week, they discovered that MCT has released a new 2010 MCT Trails Bikeway Map and Trail Guide. The much-anticipated map graphically depicts the more than 100 miles of scenic Madison County bikeways that have been developed and maintained by MCT since the 1990s.

Designed by MCT Graphic Artist, Kelly Brasel, the new map is larger and more detailed than previous versions, and includes the newest trails, trail extensions, and trail loops. Additional features include:

• Map insets of communities with detailed information on points of interest along the trail.
• Individual trail descriptions which include lengths, surface type, scenery and nearby attractions.
• Detailed descriptions of the MCT Trails loops with distances and connections.
• Identification and addresses of designated MCT Trails Park & Bike lots throughout the region.
• Locations of public restrooms, water fountains, parks and roads adjacent to the trails.
• Information on how to utilize the bike racks located on the front of all MCT fixed-route buses.
• Full color photos of the MCT Trails throughout Madison County.

“On behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff of the Madison County Transit District (MCT), I am pleased to present the new MCT Bikeway Map and Trail Guide to the people of Madison County,” said Jerry Kane, Managing Director of MCT. “Our staff, including the MCT Trails Crew and MCT Engineer Mark Steyer, has done an excellent job in making the MCT Trails a regional asset that we can be proud of.”

In a letter to nearly 4,000 trail advocates in the region who registered on the MCT Trails website, www.mcttrails.org, MCT Managing Director Jerry Kane indicated that the map is so new, trails are included that are still under construction. The MCT Confluence Trail in Granite City and the MCT Watershed Trail in Edwardsville are depicted as complete, but will not open until later this summer.

-MORE-
In coming weeks, MCT will also launch a new MCT Trails site (still located at mcttrails.org) with additional features and updated information and create a Facebook page, allowing trail users to provide instant feedback, report trail issues and post photos, videos or other details about their experiences on the MCT Trails. The large kiosk maps and trails rules located at trailheads will also be replaced. Trailgoers are always encouraged to check the website for the latest information about trail closures and construction updates and are advised to proceed with caution in areas where trail construction, maintenance or cleaning is taking place.

Unique in its field, MCT is one of the only transit systems in the country to have an integrated bus and bikeway system, where park & ride lots serve as trailheads and passengers can travel seamlessly from bike trail to bus with the aid of on-board bike racks. Since the mid-1990s MCT has preserved more than 100 miles of former Madison County railroad corridors for interim trail use and future light rail possibilities. Today this system of inter-connected Class One bikeways provides a safe and family-friendly transportation and recreation option, allowing trailgoers to travel on a series of loops and return to their point of origin without passing the same scenery twice.

The MCT Board of Trustees includes: Board Chairman Dan Corbett, Vice-Chairman and Collinsville Township Supervisor Terry Allan, Rose Marie Chadwick, Granite City Mayor Ed Hagnauer and Madison County Board Member Bruce Malone.

New MCT Trails maps will be available at kiosks along the MCT Trails, on MCT buses, at Madison County bike shops and at MCT Transfer Stations. Trailgoers may also sign up to receive a new map online at www.mcttrails.org.

Editor’s Note: To obtain a photo or graphic for printing, please contact SJ Morrison at 618-797-4600.

Madison County Transit (MCT) enhances the mobility of Madison County and the St. Louis region by providing multi-modal transportation services. MCT operates a fixed-route bus service locally and regionally connecting to MetroLink; express weekday commuter service directly to and from downtown St. Louis; and seasonal express service to the Rams games and the Muny. For elderly and disabled residents who are unable to use the fixed-route buses, MCT provides Paratransit bus service. MCT is also responsible for the construction and maintenance of more than 100 miles of scenic Madison County bikeways known as the MCT Trails, as well as overseeing RideFinders, the St. Louis region’s FREE carpooling and vanpooling program. For more information on MCT services, routes and schedules, call (618) 931-7433, Option 3, or visit www.mct.org.

# # #