

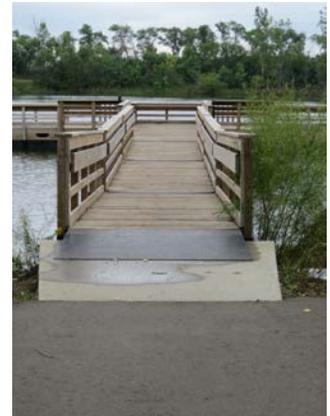


ABLE Award Dakota Nature Center

The Dakota Nature Center has been chosen as a recipient of the A.B.L.E. (Ability, Belief, Leadership and Effort to Achieve Access For All) Award for 2014, presented by the Brookings Committee for People who have Disabilities.

The A.B.L.E. Award (Ability, Belief, Leadership and Effort to Achieve Access For All) is presented annually to recognize the outstanding commitment of a business or public entity in fulfilling the goals of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Located in the 135-acre Dakota Nature Park, the Dakota Nature Center is a model of accessible design. It is accessible at every level, from its overall design down to its fine details and programming. The building itself includes automatic door openers, a welcome desk at the appropriate height and accessible restrooms.



Outside of the building, one will find miles of accessible paths/trails, shelters with accessible picnic tables, and accessible docks/fishing piers.

Individuals may rent a variety of equipment to be used within the park. Such equipment includes, but is not limited to: fishing rods, kayaks, canoes, adaptive bikes, snowshoes, binoculars and GPS units.

The structures as well as the programming truly allows for all individuals to be integrated with their peers while engaging in recreational activities.



It is the Committee's intention to highlight the efforts of an outstanding business or entity, which in turn may motivate others to provide improved accessibility to goods, services and recreational opportunities. Since 1996, there have been 70 nominees for the A.B.L.E. Award.

