

York County Rail Trail Authority

2012 Annual Report



Members

Carl Knoch, *Chairman*
Mack Johnson, *Vice-chairman*
Ed Hughes, *Secretary*
Dennis Flickinger, *Treasurer*
Pamela Gay, *County Representative*
G. Robert Gotwols
Henry Herrman
Jeffrey Hines
Heidi Hormel

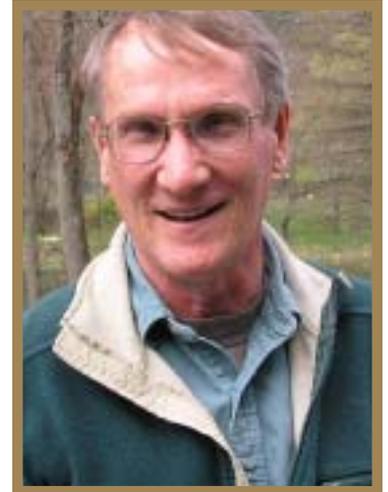
Mission

Enriching York County communities and countryside through the development of a network of public trails focusing on multi-use trails.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

We need a little help from our friends...

The amount of trail that the York County Rail Trail Authority can construct in a year is, to a large extent, dependent upon the amount of funding that we have from various sources. Through the generous contributions of many individuals in the greater York community, we had a successful capital campaign in 2006, raising over \$1.3 million. That source of funding has enabled us to leverage \$3.4 million in funding for PennDOT, PENNVEST, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, York County Community Foundation, and other local, state and federal sources.



In an effort to stretch the capital campaign funds as far as possible, we have called upon the communities where our trail development projects are located to see what they can provide in the way of a grant match through the contribution of labor and equipment. We recognize those municipalities that have stepped up significantly in 2012. In 2008, Hanover Borough built most of the first segment of the Hanover Trolley Trail, and in 2012 the Borough put down a beautiful new surface. Likewise in 2012, Jackson Township provided labor and equipment to help construct the newest section of the Hanover Trolley Trail east of Spring Grove Borough in the township. During 2013, Penn Township will step up and help with construction of yet another segment of the Hanover Trolley Trail, this one connecting to the west with the Hanover Borough section.

The members and staff of the York County Rail Trail Authority can't thank these municipalities enough for their support! We commend these municipalities for playing a significant role throughout 2012 in the success of these projects.

Carl R. Knoch, Chairman

Standing Committees

Planning Committee

Metta Barbour	Mack Johnson
Dennis Flickinger	Frank Kempf
Heidi Hormel	Kevin Westover
Ed Hughes	Tim Williams

Hanover Trolley Trail Operations Committee

David Brown	Mack Johnson
Jeffrey Garvick	Terry Reichart
Henry Herrman	Andy Shaffer
Tina Hinkle	Chris Wagman

Professional Services

Gwenyth L. Loose, CPRP
Executive Director

Scott Beaverson, Esq.
Solicitor

Jeffrey Shue, PE
C.S. Davidson, Inc.
Project Engineer

Affiliations

York County Board of Commissioners
York County Convention & Visitors Bureau
Pennsylvania Recreation & Park Society
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

Cover

Spring Grove Area Middle School students plant native trees, flowers, and grasses along a section of the Hanover Trolley Trail.

2012 PROJECTS REPORT

Hanover Trolley Trail

Jackson Township Phase 2 Complete

Under storm-threatening clouds, a ribbon was cut on August 20, 2012 officially opening the Jackson Township Hershey to Martin Road section of the Hanover Trolley Trail. This phase included engineering and construction of a ¾-mile trail section that connected to Phase 1 at Hershey Road and extended to Martin Road, paving of the Jackson Township parking lot, and native planting of an earthen berm. Funding was provided by a PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (PA DCNR) grant, with a generous donation of labor and equipment from Jackson Township and contributions from the Authority's TRAIL LINKS capital campaign.

Spring Grove Area Students "Dig" the Trolley Trail

Sixty students and their teachers from the Spring Grove Area Middle School spent the morning of Friday, May 4th, planting 40 trees and 800 flowering plants along a stretch of the Hanover Trolley Trail in Jackson Township as part of the Jackson Township Phase 2 development project.

The project was designed to (1) introduce native plants into the trail surroundings for the benefit of wildlife and enjoyment of trail visitors and (2) provide a safety separation between a section of the Trolley Trail and a nearby active rail line. Jackson Township and Spring Grove Borough contributed equipment for mowing and watering; Brown's Orchard of Loganville donated apples for a snack. Contracts with Sylva Native Nursery of Glen Rock, PA and Ecosystem Recovery Institute, Inc. of Freeland, MD provided the plant materials and planting instructions, respectively.

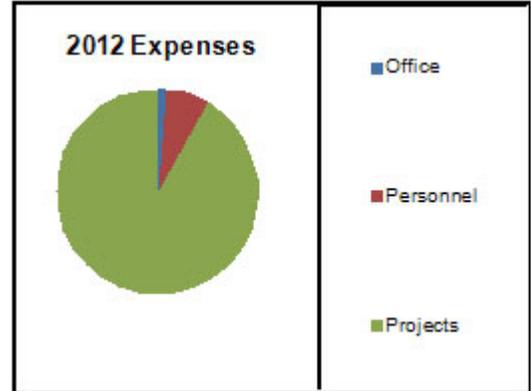
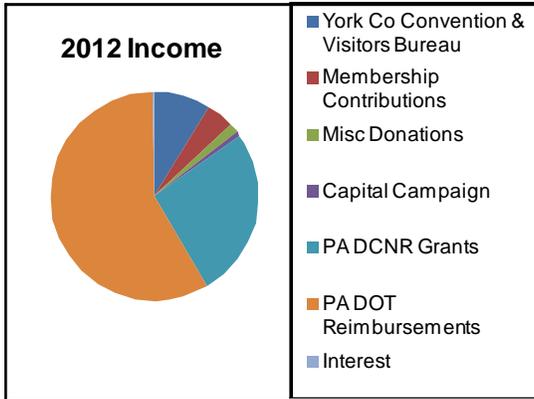
Northern Extension of Heritage Rail Trail County Park

During 2012, Phase 2 was divided into two development projects: bridge & ramps; trail & parking lot. Following a public bidding process, Kinsley Construction Corporation was awarded the contract in February to construct the bridge and ramps for a crossing of the Codorus Creek at Emig Road. As the creek continued to provide challenges to installing the pier support system, the project experienced several delays and a re-design of the western pier's foundation became necessary.

In April, the Rail Trail Authority received a \$921,656 grant from the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PENNVEST) for development of the trail and parking lot.



Focus on Financials



York Co Convention & Visitors Bureau	\$ 50,000
Membership Contributions	\$ 24,810
Misc Donations	\$ 8,565
Capital Campaign	\$ 4,000
PA DCNR Grants	\$ 151,412
PA DOT Reimbursements	\$ 333,728
Interest	\$ 1,820
TOTAL	\$ 574,335

Office	\$ 10,613
Personnel	\$ 60,703
Projects	\$ 783,260
TOTAL	\$ 854,576

2012 Donations: Materials & Services \$ 96,060

Grants Awarded in 2012

PA Infrastructure Investment Authority	\$ 921,656
PA DCNR Growing Greener II	\$ 99,090

2012 Volunteer Hours

1,106 hours

Outreach

Traveling Authority Meetings

May 21: Springettsbury Twp. Bldg.; June 18: Hellam Twp. Bldg.; July 16: Adventure Cycling & Fitness; Aug. 20: Sacred Heart Parish Center.

Information Booths

Hanover Dutch Day, New Freedom Fest, Shank's Mare Outfitters Arts & Outdoor Festival.

Presentations

Hanover Cyclers, Spring Grove Area Middle School, York Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, York County Economic Development Regional Meetings.

Technical Assistance

In York County, technical assistance was provided to City Of York; Hanover Borough; Jackson Twp; Ma & Pa Community Greenway Committee (Red Lion and Yoe Boroughs, York Twp.); York City Redevelopment Authority; York County Department of Parks & Recreation.

Beyond York County, assistance was provided to: Buffalo Valley Rail Trail, Lewisburg, PA; Cumberland Valley Rail Trail; Dickinson College Students; Healthy Adams County Pedestrian and Bicycle, Inc.; Lancaster County Parks & Recreation; PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources; PA Recreation & Parks Society; PA Department of Transportation; and Rails-to-Trails Conservancy.

Municipal & Community Partners

Hanover and Spring Grove Boroughs and Jackson Township collectively gave 199 hours and \$5,314 toward maintenance of the Hanover Trolley Trail. Jackson Township donated labor and equipment totalling \$59,309 toward construction of the Hanover Trolley Trail in the township. Hanover Borough donated labor and materials totalling \$11,600 to resurface the Hanover Trolley Trail in the borough.

Sacred Heart Parish Center Youth Group conducted 11 monthly inspections and performed light maintenance on the Spring Grove-Jackson Township section of the Hanover Trolley Trail. **Spring Grove Area Chamber of Commerce** adopted the Hanover Trolley Trail: Hershey to Martin Rds. Section for three years.

Affinigent, Inc. donated \$2,605 in web services, and **Eysters** donated office space and utilities valued at \$13,350. **Millersville University** provided Jared Hogentogler to serve as a summer intern in the YCRTA office.

Recognitions

Sixth Annual York County Rail Trail Awards



Government Leader Award
Jackson Township Board of Supervisors
and Public Works Crew

For contributing labor and equipment toward the construction of the Hershey to Martin roads section of the Hanover Trolley Trail in Jackson Township, making it possible to complete this section of trail in August 2012.



Trail Champion
Barry Myers

For serving since 2008 as inspector for several of the Authority's rail trail construction projects, most recently in 2012 for the Hershey to Martin roads section of the Hanover Trolley Trail.



Trail Organization Award
Hanover Hospital and its Express Care

*For promoting the health and fitness benefits of the Hanover Trolley Trail by sponsoring the Spring-Summer issue of **Trail News**, writing the lead article, and distributing the newsletter to Hanover area industries.*

Rail Trail Friends

York County Rail Trail Authority extends a sincere thank you to the following special friends whose support and contributions were key to the success of our projects in 2012:

Adams Electric Cooperative, Inc.	Glatfelter Insurance Company	Walt and Leslie Reamer	Sylva Native Nursery
Brian and Jeanne Addison	Mark Goedecker, Jennifer Rein & Family	Jeffrey G. Rebert	The Glen Rock Mill Inn
Adventure Cycling & Fitness	Hanover Borough	Richard Renn	The Graham Group
Affinigent, Inc.	Hanover Area Chamber of Commerce	Alex and Elana Richman	The Jones Family Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Louis J. Appell, Jr.	Hanover Cyclers	Sacred Heart Church Parish	The York Water Company
Robert and Betty Bankert	Hanover Hospital & Express Care	Robert and Betty Sampsell	Total Identity Solutions
Roger and Marietta Barbour	George & Jocelyn Hubbard	Kenneth Sander	Transportation Resource Group
Kathryn Bard	Jackson Township & Sewer Authority	Steven R. Saubel	David and Sandra Vandestreek
Scott Beaverson	Michael D. & Amie D. Jacobs	Scott Savoie	VFW Post 5265
Cy and Joan Beekey	Mack Johnson	John & Sue Schmidt	Jane and John Wagman
Bob Hoffman Foundation	Loa-Lynn Kahler	Shank's Mare Outfitters	Barry and Carol Walker
Brown's Orchard	Horace Keesey III	Steven Shelley & Judi Miller	Webb Insurance
Buchart-Horn, Inc.	Kennies Markets	Shrewsbury Township	Weinstein Realty Advisors
Stephen Byers	Bill and Kim Kerlin	Edward Smith	Brian and Melinda Williams
Eugene Byers	Tom and Karen Kidwell	Spring Grove Area Middle School	Coni Wolf
C. S. Davidson, Inc.	Kinsley Family Foundation	Spring Grove Area Chamber of Commerce	Liz Wright & Charlie Holman
Collens-Wagner Agency	Katherine and Andrew Lesko	Spring Grove Borough	York White Rose Wanderers
Donald & Joan Daugherty	Joyce and Karl Ludeman	Springgettsbury Township	York County
Diehl Family Fund	Fred J. Martin	Springfield Township	York County Parks
Peter Dubs	Lori Mitrack and Family	Joe Stafford	York County Planning Commission
Wanda & Glenn Eyster	Barry Myers	Starview Media Inc.	York Co Convention & Visitors Bureau
John & Ginger Finlayson	Robert Myers III	Steam into History	Charles and Susan Zarfos
First Capital Federal Credit Union	Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Naylor	Stellar Partners LLC	
Dennis and Linda Flickinger	Penn Township	Ken and Phyllis Stine	
Larry Freer & Galyle Clingan	Linda and William Price	J. Lynne Stoyer	
Friends of York County Rail Trails	Printing Express		

E-Trail News Launched

In March 2012, the Rail Trail Authority launched an electronic counterpart to its semi-annual printed newsletter, **Trail News**. **E-Trail News** provides monthly construction updates to nearly 250 individuals, government agencies, and business partners.

2012 Heritage Rail Trail User Survey & Economic Impact Study

York County Department of Parks & Recreation, assisted by the Rail-to-Trails Conservancy's Northeast Regional Office and York County Rail Trail Authority, conducted a survey of visitors to the Heritage Rail Trail throughout the summer of 2012. The survey was a follow-up to previous studies conducted in 1999, 2001, 2004, and 2007, each of which was designed to provide demographic information on visitors to the Heritage Rail Trail as well as an analysis of the economic impact of the rail trail to the local economy. The study was funded by the York County Community Foundation, and the final report will be published in early 2013.

Welcome new members!

The Rail Trail Authority thanks the following community leaders for their willingness to bring a wealth of experience and expertise to the mission of developing York County rail trails:

- ▶ G. Robert "Bob" Gotwols, COO for 'Steam into History,' was appointed to a five-year term on the York County Rail Trail Authority in October 2012.
- ▶ Kevin Westover, a York City firefighter and active member of York Area Mountain Bike Association, joined the planning committee in February 2012.
- ▶ Frank Kempf, newly retired chief engineer of the PA Turnpike Commission, joined the planning committee in October 2012.
- ▶ Tina Hinkle, Spring Grove Area Chamber of Commerce, and Chris Wagman, retired from Met-Ed/First Energy, joined the Hanover Trolley Trail Operating Committee in 2012.

Looking toward 2013

- ▶ Construction of the Northern Extension of Heritage Rail Trail County Park: Phase 2 trail & parking lot in Springettsbury Township.
- ▶ Construction of the Hanover Trolley Trail in Penn Township.
- ▶ Publication of the 2012 HRTCP User Survey & Economic Impact Study.



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Enriching York County Communities and Countryside Through the
Development of a Network of Public, Multi-use Trails.