

D&H Rail-Trail
Rail-Trail Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Inc.

Trail use is free and open to the public dawn to dusk.
Incorporated 1991 -- Non-profit 501 (c) (3) -- Bureau of Charitable Organizations
33-member board with 1700 members

38 mile Delaware & Hudson Railbed acquired with Transportation Enhancement funds
Master Plan complete -- Construction plans complete for first 32 miles
10 miles complete Vandling to Herrick Center; next 10 miles scheduled for construction 2008

Location: NEPA Tri-County area of Lackawanna, Wayne and Susquehanna Counties

Municipalities: Lackawanna: Fell Twp., Vandling Borough

Wayne: Clinton Twp., Starrucca Borough

Susquehanna: Forest City Borough, Clifford Twp., Union Dale Borough,

Herrick Twp., Ararat Twp., Thompson Twp., Thompson Borough,

Starrucca Borough, Harmony Twp, Lanesboro Borough

Progress:

- Up-to-date website www.nepa-rail-trails.org and quarterly newsletter
- Trailheads at Simpson, Forest City, Union Dale, Thompson, Starrucca.
- Office at 334 Rear Main Street, Forest City
- Over 240 trees and 100 shrubs & perennials planted
- Over 22 dump-trucks loads of trash removed, yearly spring cleanup
- Worked 5 years with Susquehanna Summer Youth Service Corps
- Historical interpretive signage at 3 areas
- 6 Railroad bridges decked with side rails
- Routine maintenance: brush removal, grading, wash-out repair
- Easement on adjacent 8 mile O&W railbed for access to D&H and loop trips
- Upper Lackawanna River Watershed Conservation Plan
- Two riverbank restoration projects, saving trail and preventing coal fines siltation
- National Trails Day celebration, all day family activities on trail
- 3 "Trails for Tomorrow" American Hiking Society national recognition awards
- 'Friends of Trails' yearly volunteer awards recognizing 20 individuals/groups
- Assisting with Waymart D&H trail plan, exploring linkages to Simpson
- Working out conditions of ownership of Bridgewater-Endless Mountain trail

Linkages:

- Links to D&H Susquehanna River Trail, New York
- D&H links to the south through Carbondale, Upper Valley, Scranton, Old Forge as part of the Lackawanna Heritage Trail (Master Plan & portions completed)
- Lackawanna Heritage Trail has potential to link to Delaware & Lehigh Heritage Trail system with linkages to Philadelphia area
- Potential linkages to east, D&H Gravity and Honesdale Branch, through Waymart and to Honesdale

Future Plans:

- Complete trail improvements on entire 38 miles of D&H
- Make connections to Lackawanna Heritage Trail system and Waymart D&H Trails
- Maintain & manage trails for public use