

LEBANON VALLEY RAIL TRAIL

LVRT will be 32.8 miles long in Lebanon County upon completion. Phases are Outlined on the map.

Completed Phases 1-5, miles in long: The Trail runs from Conewago Township, Lancaster County Line to Chestnut Street in the City of Lebanon.

Benefits: On a weekend as many as 1700 people use this Trail.

1. Gets Families Outdoors for a healthy lifestyle through recreation.
2. Promotes alternatives to driving and road congestion--hike, bike, and in Swatara State Park, horseback ride.
3. Provides an alternate exit from town during an emergency evacuation.
4. Provides a safe pathway for pedestrians and cyclists. Also, the Trail educates and brings an appreciation of our history, land and water to the public.
5. Links to businesses enhance our economy--Jigger Shop, Rite Aid (S 9th St), Jubilee Ministries, HA Boyd, Lebanon Valley Mall, Supreme. Connects schools, communities, and other trails--Mt. Gretna, CCHS, the LV Expo, South Hill Park, Fisher Park, City of Lebanon, Lebanon High School, Lebanon Catholic HS, future Wengert Memorial Park, #GloningerMeadowsPark, Friends of Coleman Memorial Park, Union Canal Tunnel Park, Swatara Water Trail, Jonestown, Friends of Memorial Lake and Swatara State Parks, future Allwein Park, Appalachian Trail Communities, and StonyValley.com. Allows passage for wildlife and in some instances, alternatives to road crossings. Evidenced by inclusion in real estate listings, increases value to properties along the Rail Trail. Phase 6 is 1.3 miles long: Runs from 12th Street along Chestnut Street to 22nd Street where it will cross Route 422 at the Lebanon Valley Mall.

Pocket Parks are or will be connected using this route:

Phase 6: Beginning at 12th street, the Trail will parallel Lebanon Catholic through Wengert's pocket park honoring John Wengert who owned Wengert's Dairy; and then west on Chestnut to 22nd Street where just around the corner, North Cornwall Township completed Gloninger Woods Park. A new bridge is due to be installed across the Quittapahilla Creek near 22nd Street heading towards Lebanon Valley Mall. The crossing is being designed. People will be welcome to go through the Mall, grab a bite to eat, use the facilities, and go through the tunnel behind the Mall. Commissioners submitted a grant application for over \$700,000 for Phase 6.

Completed Phase 7 is 1.7 miles long: This segment runs from 25th Street on the N side of the tunnel behind Lebanon Valley Mall on the old rail bed along Union Canal Tunnel Park through to Long Lane. A lighted underpass at Tunnel Hill Road is complete. A soft opening occurred on July 18, 2019. Therefore, people may use the Trail. A **grand opening** is planned for **September 19, 2019 around 11AM.**

This segment runs through a farm. The goal is for the farm and Rail Trail to co-exist. Commissioners support farms and farmers through farmland preservation and Clean and Green, which waves higher real estate taxes on productive land. This farm is enrolled in both programs. All segments of the farm are accessible.

- Farms and Farmers are Valued. The goal is for the farm and Rail Trail to coexist.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i92n5RyrUzU>
- Building the Trail Underpass:
 - Finishing the Underpass <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jC15qdV0ZI4>
 - Drone Footage https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vKlwBML_SE
 - Day 2 Placing Culvert Pieces
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ws8_9XWmZYs&t=83s
 - Culvert Pieces arrive https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i6cXMGq_lsw
- This Trail segment links to **Union Canal Tunnel Park** and the
 - Historic **1700s Krall Barn**. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-GwCH74b4eY&t=4s>
 - 2018 A look inside Union Canal Tunnel
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XqVYjNJheL0&t=1s>
 - 2018 Boat Ride <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yMo2c2ao4YI&t=435s>
 - 2017 Boat Ride <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j5dMjBMICVo>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZyVp9XqhFS4&t=11s>
 - 2017 Pete Silldorff on the Union Canal
 - James Hartman Photographer of the Union Canal Tunnel
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ECs7PqZrsl>
 - 2015 Union Canal Tunnel with Warren Parks
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6nokXUPaQkg>
 - 2013 with Vince Tricamo <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b5PZQwtheQM&t=2s>
 - 2012 Master Plan <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x7b4i5Bpqp8>
 - 2009 Park Pavilion <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e1kvfp1fabU>

Phase 8 is 2.8 miles long: Long Lane to Bunker Hill. Some paths are still being negotiated. This will be the last segment completed.

Phase 9 is 1.7 miles long: Bunker Hill to S of Route 22/78 Jonestown and Supreme Area.

Completed N of the old iron tress Lebanon to Tremont Railroad Bridge over the Swatara Creek, from this point north, the Rail Trail often parallels the **Swatara Water Trail**. To facilitate Phase 9 N of Jonestown, commissioners signed an agreement for an easement with the **Lebanon Water Authority** to pass through their property. Both the L&T Railroad Bridge deck and 1700' of Trail S of the RR bridge construction cost \$587,076. Phase 9 will join in a **Grand Opening ceremony on September 19, 2019 around 11AM where partners—Friends of the LVRT, Lebanon county commissioners, PennDOT, PA DCNR, and state officials will participate.**

Phase 10 is 3.0 miles long: N of Route 22/78 to Lickdale: Also, the 1899 "Z-Truss" Ironwood Bridge was removed in July 2019, and will be restored and placed at a Trailhead on land donated by Chuck and Charlotte Allwein. To give you an idea of the struggles, team work, and partnerships that it took to replace the Inwood Bridge, here is a series of videos dating from 2011-2019.

- Moving the "Z" Truss Inwood Bridge: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ojyRlxBW6MU>
- Historic video of the 14' wide, 151' long Inwood Bridge over Swatara Creek was built in 1899, and the iron structure stands at the gateway to Swatara State Park. The "Z" shaped

connections are unique, but two such bridges also are found in Cumberland County.:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MCFosfBwjvc>

- PennDOT waives the County's 5% match:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S0DzMSVX4qY&t=466s>
- 2017 with Jon Fitzkee and Song Kim
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=05jeokQy_uU&t=148s
- 2017 with Jon Fitzkee and Tom Kotay <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zcMPp6QBw-s&t=29s>
- 2015 Inwood Bridge Delayed 10 Years with Wilson Consulting and Tom Kotay
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CP2-EDmrDd4&t=29s>
- 2015 Jamie Wolgemuth on an Extension
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z05x0rzzT74&t=44s>
- 2013 with Wilson Consulting <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pVzlyUGhPgs&t=210s>
- 2013 Commissioners approve a \$20.500 match from Liquid Fuel Funds for the Inwood Bridge
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uzF6FK6_194
- Contract Amendment with Jamie Wolgemuth
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uzF6FK6_194
- 2011 with Wilson Consulting <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=urpRy8jpRc&t=118s>

Completed 7.3 miles in Swatara State Park: The Appalachian Trail crosses over the Swatara Creek. Other great features are: **Union Canal Locks** to explore; the rustic **Armar Bordner Cabin** and **Aycrigg's Falls**, Lebanon County's only waterfall <http://joellenlitz.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Bordner-Cabin-Brochure-2016.pdf> ; and a bank of **prehistoric fossils** that you can dig through. Hike, bike or horseback ride both sides of the Swatara Creek. Watch for paddlers on the Swatara Water Trail <http://swatarawatershed.org/> .

The Big Picture is a regional trail connecting counties and other trails like Stony Valley and the Appalachian Trails:

- Tourism/FINAL MPO Rail Trail CCAP article 11.2016 <http://joellenlitz.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/FINAL-MPO-RailTrail-CCAP-article-11.2016.pdf>
- Map All Phases <http://joellenlitz.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Rail-Trail-Phases-Outlined.jpg>
- Map Completed Phases 1-5 <http://joellenlitz.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Rail-Trail-Map-Phases-1-5.jpg>