



NEWS

MONTGOMERY COUNTY OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS
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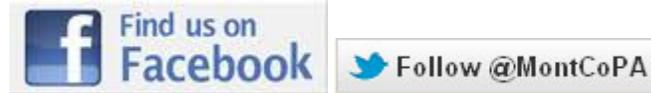
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 6, 2014

Montco Breaks Ground on Pennypack Trail Extension; Over \$9 Million in Trail Improvements Scheduled

Huntingdon Valley, PA (June 6, 2014) – The Montgomery County Commissioners, flanked by officials from local municipalities, SEPTA, and the Bicycle Coalition of Philadelphia, broke ground today on a 3.2 mile extension of the Pennypack Trail in the eastern part of the county.

The \$1.8 million project will extend the trail north through Bryn Athyn, Lower Moreland, and Upper Moreland, and to the south the trail will include a bridge over a tributary of the Pennypack Creek into the Borough of Rockledge. When completed, most of the trail will be along the scenic Pennypack Creek adjoining Lorimer Park and the Pennypack Wilderness Area.

In all, the county plans to spend \$9.2 million on trail extensions and improvements over the next two years. In addition to the Pennypack Trail major work is scheduled on the Schuylkill River Trail and a connection to the Chester Valley Trail. Other trails that are in the process of being developed or extended, but not yet at the construction stage, include the Wissahickon Trail Connector, the Cross County Trail, and the Sunrise Trail.

The construction on the Pennypack Trail will commence immediately, and should be completed by late summer or fall of 2015. The trail is along SEPTA's former Newtown Regional Rail Line.

Removal of the rails and ties of the former train line will cost \$171,000. The bridge connecting the trail to Rockledge will cost \$398,000. The remainder of the project cost will involve work at various road crossing, parking areas, and the preparation of the gravel trail itself.

Montgomery County is a leader in the Commonwealth with over 60 miles of the proposed 165-mile trail system completed. The county trail system attracts a growing number of users. Over 800,000 people use the Schuylkill River Trail each year and over 400,000 use the Perkiomen Trail.

For more information on Montgomery County trails click here:

<http://www.montcopa.org/index.aspx?NID=352>.