



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 14, 2014

Montco Opens Pennypack Trail Extension; Overall, \$9 Million in Trail Improvements Scheduled

Huntingdon Valley, PA (November 14, 2014) – The Montgomery County Commissioners, flanked by officials from local municipalities, SEPTA, and the Bicycle Coalition of Philadelphia, cut a ribbon today opening Phase One of a 3.2 mile extension of the Pennypack Trail in the eastern part of the county.

The \$2.1 million project extends 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 totally 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. This phase involves the construction of a 143-foot truss bridge crossing a tributary to the Pennypack Creek. The northern extension to Route 63 included an at-grade crossing of SEPTA's West Trenton Line; construction of over ½ mile of trail, two bridge crossings (rehabbed and decked by county employees), and a 40-car landscaped parking lot. Traffic signal improvements at Route 63 create safe access to the new parking lot. Mile markers have been placed every quarter-mile so trail users can refer to these markers in case of any emergency when utilizing the trail. The entire trail extension to Byberry Road and the associated parking areas will be open by the fall of 2015.

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/trails>.