

River Town E-Connections; Trail Towns!



Alana,

Trail Towns! Did you know that some Susquehanna Greenway River Towns are also trail towns? What can you do to make your River Town more trail friendly? This edition of **River Town E-Connections** has news, tools, tips, and tricks for maintaining and celebrating the treasured trails of our beautiful Susquehanna Greenway River Towns. From exciting new designations and ground-breakings to opportunities for statewide recognition, workshops, and grant funding, we're here to celebrate the great things that rivers and trails bring to our Susquehanna Greenway River Towns.

We'll see you on the Greenway,
Your Susquehanna Greenway Team

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Nominations are open!

Trail of the Year



Photo Credit: Frank Burnside, Wyoming County
DCNR's Pennsylvania Trails Advisory Committee is accepting nominations for the 2019 PA Trail of the Year. The deadline for nominations is Friday, November 16, 2018. Eligible trails must be at least one mile in length and be open to the public. Nominations will be reviewed by a panel of judges composed of DCNR's PA Trail Advisory Committee members. The winner will be announced in January 2019. The recognition includes a grant up to \$10,000 for educational materials to promote safety and environmental protection on the trail.

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What's so great about Trail Towns?

Here's what DCNR has to say...

"Pennsylvania communities are seeing the value of connecting to trail corridors. It enhances their town's quality of life with close-to-home recreation and also brings more vitality and business to their downtowns, as well as conserves history and natural resources..."

So, what is a trail town?

"It's any community along a trail corridor, and there are programs established to help these communities. These programs help communities learn how to capitalize on the economic impact trails can generate."

Learn more about the benefits of trail towns and trail opportunities in Pennsylvania by clicking below:

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Trail Town News

From River Towns to Great Places

Congratulations are in order for two Susquehanna Greenway River Towns, and we couldn't be prouder! Lock Haven and Woodward Township's combined Susquehanna Riverfront received the designation of a 2018 Great Public Place in Pennsylvania, and Williamsport's Susquehanna River Walk received the designation of a 2018 Great Greenway/Trail. Both designations are part of the annual nomination process hosted by the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA)...



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Diahoga Trail Breaks Ground

An initiative six years in the making is entering its premier stage of development as crews broke ground on the first phase of the Diahoga Trail this past September. This two-mile trail located on the upper North Branch of the Susquehanna River will run from Riverfront Park in Sayre Borough along the banks of the Susquehanna River to the Valley Playground in Athens Borough, connecting two valuable assets and communities together...



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Congratulations Bloomsburg

We are pleased to announce that Bloomsburg has successfully completed the process to be designated as an official Susquehanna Greenway River Town! The honor was granted on Monday, October 22, during the Bloomsburg borough meeting, where SGP Executive Director Tali MacArthur presented Mayor William Kreisher and Town Administrator Lauren Martz with the achievement...



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Trail Town Tools

Tools from The Progress Fund



Want tips on how to kickstart your own trail community? Check out these tools from [The Progress Fund](#), and sign up for their free Trail Town Guide to learn how to assess your community's bike-friendliness, how to grow and fund business development, and how to market to bring in more trail tourism.

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Open Grants!

Canoe Access Development Fund: The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy's Canoe Access Development Fund (CADF) helps to make the region's rivers and streams more accessible for outdoor recreation. Applications will be accepted until November 16, 2018.

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Several DCED programs: The Department of Community and Economic Development offers a variety of funding programs for projects such as business startups or expansions, community projects, or site revitalizations in Pennsylvania. Click below to search available programs.

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DCNR Next Grant Round

Opens on January 22, 2019



It's never too early to start thinking about your next greenway and trails project. A well developed and thought out grant application

Jersey Shore Bike/Ped Audit

The Jersey Shore Borough recently completed a Community Bike and Pedestrian Audit that was intended to raise awareness about the importance of bicycle and pedestrian-friendly community design for encouraging active and healthy lifestyles, as well as help organize the community around bike/ped issues, identify impediments to safe walking and biking, and identify priority projects for implementation. Funded by a Peer Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR), the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership (SGP) and a professional consultant facilitated the project, in collaboration with PennDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinators, representatives from your Metropolitan Planning Organization and County Planning Department, and a diverse local Study Committee.

Other Susquehanna Greenway River Towns are encouraged to pursue similar audits to empower community leaders and residents to get the funding needed to implement priority bicycle and pedestrian improvement projects. For interest in pursuing a bike-ped audit for your town contact info@susquehannagreenway.org. To read more about Jersey Shore's project and to see their final audit click below.

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Workshops

[South Mountain Partnership Trail Workshop: Building Strong Community Connections](#)

Shippensburg, PA, November 20th, 8:30 AM - 5 PM

[Understanding and Applying the Pennsylvania Environmental Rights Amendment](#)

Willamspport, PA, November 29th, 10 AM - 2 PM

[Pennsylvania Land Conservation Conference](#)

Skytop, PA, May 16th - 18th, ALL DAY

increases your odds of receiving funding for your local project, and starting early is key to that success. Have questions about what DCNR grants are available and their criteria in this next grant round? Click the link below to view more.

[Read More >>](#)

Need help fine-tuning your idea or navigating the best path forward with grant funding? Contact your DCNR regional advisor and set up a time to discuss your project. DCNR regional advisors are one of your best sources of information and can assist you as you journey through the process. Find your regional advisor by clicking the link below.

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About the SGP



The mission of the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership is to envision, create and sustain a greenway along the Susquehanna River to enhance river towns and the lives of current and future generations.

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