

Gwen Loose

From: York County Rail Trail Authority <info@yorkcountyrailtrails.org>
Sent: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 4:47 PM
To: Gwen Loose
Subject: Happenings on York County Rail Trails!

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2026

E-TRAIL NEWS



Trails start with us.

JUST A FEW LEFT

2026 York County Rail Trails Calendar



If your New Year's resolution is to walk more, run more, cycle more, be healthier more, hanging a **2026 York County Rail Trails Calendar** near the laptop that keeps you on your butt may be just the motivation that you need. Each month's fantastic photo will inspire you to get up and get going.

All proceeds support YCRTA's work to build more miles of the rail trails you love. Click [here](#) to purchase for just \$16 plus \$4 shipping.

JUST ONE LEFT

Bench overlooking Oil Creek Wetlands



The newest section of the Hanover Trolley Trail includes four benches located at two wildlife viewing areas. York County Rail Trail Authority (YCRTA) offers a bench adoption program for individuals and groups to honor, recognize, or remember a person, organization, or special event. Three benches have been adopted; one remains.

All proceeds support maintenance of the Hanover Trolley Trail. Contact YCRTA at info@yorkcountyrailtrails.org for more information.

OIL CREEK WETLANDS RESTORATION

An Example of Environmental Excellence



In early January, YCRTA submitted an application to the PA Department of Environmental Protection seeking the Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence for Oil Creek Wetlands Restoration. The application highlights ecological benefits such as improved water quality, stormwater retention, and habitat creation.

Once a fast-moving stream carrying away tons of adjacent rich farm soils, Oil Creek now meanders through a wetland meadow teeming with aquatic life, waterfowl, small mammals, and native plants. Awards will be announced in the spring.

\$1.4M TRAILHEAD PROJECT BEGINS!
YCRTA receives local and state grants.



YCRTA is thrilled to receive a PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources Keystone Grant in the amount of \$700,000 and a York County Planning Commission Marcellus Shale grant of \$60,000, both to support the development of a trailhead/parking lot in Heidelberg Township. Grants from The Powder Mill Foundation and PA Local Share are providing the matching funds required by PA DCNR.

Heidelberg Township's donation to YCRTA of a 12-acre parcel located along RT 116 in 2025 made this project possible. Construction is planned to begin early summer and conclude in fall of this year.

BUNDLE UP!
Enjoy a winter rail trail visit.



The Heritage Rail Trail and Hanover Trolley Trail offer quiet, serene landscapes during the winter. Crisp air, brilliant sunshine, and tiny animal tracks everywhere. Make your visits safe by wearing lots of layers and boots with good treads, taking plenty of water and energy snacks, and planning your route in advance. Invite a friend, take the family dog, and don't forget your phone to capture the wintry wonderland!

NOTICE: Motorized vehicles, including snowmobiles and ATVs, are **not** allowed on York County rail trails. (Photo courtesy of Tim Senft)

DONATE NOW

YOUR DONATION SUPPORTS THIS TRAIL WORK!

Become a supporter by joining FRIENDS OF THE YCRTA.

Memberships begin at just \$25 for an individual.

And you'll **FEEL GREAT** the next time you step onto a **YORK COUNTY RAIL TRAIL.**

THANK YOU!

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THESE PROJECTS?

YCRTA's next business meeting will be held **February 12, 2026 at 3 PM.**

Hanover Junction Station, 2433 Seven Valleys Rd, Seven Valleys, PA.

Public always welcome!

This email was sent to gloose@yorkcountytrails.org
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
York County Rail Trail Authority · PO Box 335 · Seven Valleys, PA 17360 · USA