

TRAILS START WITH US.

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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TRAIL CONSTRUCTION



In 2024, the Hanover Trolley Trail (HTT) section in Spring Grove-Jackson Township grew by 2.1 miles. This \$1.7 M project was funded through York County's American Rescue Plan funds and grants from PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources and the Memorial Health Fund. Construction also began to extend the Hanover-Penn Township section eastward to make connection to the rail corridor purchased in 2020.

Workers install the trail's crossing of Martin Road in Jackson Township.

CELEBRATIONS

April 26 was a beautiful day to celebrate in Spring Grove with friends, neighbors, and funders the opening of the newest section of the HTT. On September 11, York County Rail Trail Authority (YCRTA) celebrated the service of past Vice-chairman Mack Johnson and Secretary Ed Hughes, who collectively gave fifty years of volunteer service to the Authority.

PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources' Lori Yeich addresses the crowd gathered to celebrate the opening of 2.1 miles of the HTT in Spring Grove, PA.



TRAIL MAINTENANCE



Hanover and Spring Grove boroughs and Penn and Jackson townships gave over \$113,350 in donated materials and labor since 2018 to help maintain sections of the HTT. In 2024, contributions to the HTT Maintenance Fund from private individuals and the Rice Family Foundation, donations of mulch from H&H General Excavating, and the dedication of volunteer gardener Susan Harcourt ensured summer growth was kept at bay.

Workers trim the edges of the HTT in Jackson Township in September 2024.

CREEK RESTORATION

In 2024, YCRTA completed a \$1.6 M phase 1 restoration of Oil Creek in Heidelberg Township. Grants from the PA Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program, National Fish & Wildlife Fund, and York County Planning Commission and Conservation District, matched with local support from J William Warehime Foundation and Powder Mill Foundation, restored approximately 0.5 miles of the stream and created 6 acres of new wetlands.

Oil Creek Restoration Phase 1 was designed by LandStudies of Lititz, PA, constructed by Aquatic Resource Restoration Company of Glen Rock, PA, with engineering services from C.S. Davidson, Inc. of York, PA.



LEADERSHIP



YCRTA welcomed four new directors in 2024, bidding farewell to Ed Hughes, Mack Johnson, Melanie Playdon, and CJ Weigle. Leadership will now benefit from York County Planning Commission's Mike Pritchard, York County Department of Parks & Recreation's Teddy Fisher, Hanover Chamber of Commerce's Jacob Taylor, and Karen Knuepfer of the York running & cycling communities.

Consultant Susie Landes leads members of the YCRTA's committees in a strategic planning work session.

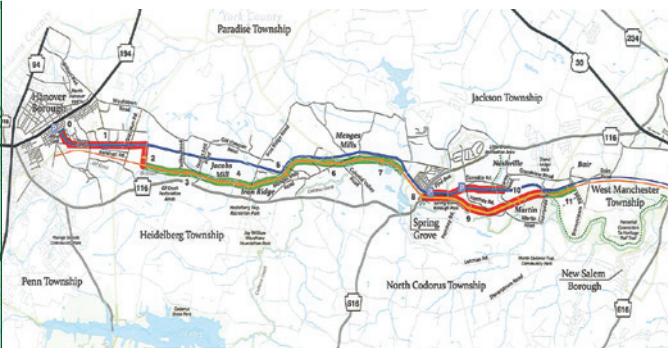
FINANCIALS

Completion of the 2023 Financial Statements in May 2024 spotlighted YCRTA's return on investment. Supported by an operating budget of \$126,000, the Authority generated \$811,000 to support trail development in York County—a return of nearly \$6.50 for every operating dollar! In 2024, YCRTA garnered nearly \$1.9M in local, state, and federal grants to support HTT development.

Kinsley Construction installs drainage system on HTT in Jackson Township.



2025 AND BEYOND



In early 2025, YCRTA will seek construction bids for Oil Creek restoration phase 2 and construction of the Hanover Trolley Trail to Jacobs Mill Rd. A five-year strategic plan will also be completed in early 2025 to guide future development of the Hanover Trolley Trail and the associated restoration of Oil Creek. Trail connections through Spring Grove and to the Heritage Rail Trail will also be studied.

HTT development map indicates completed trail sections, future phases, and potential connections.