

TRAILS START WITH US.

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

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TRAIL CONSTRUCTION



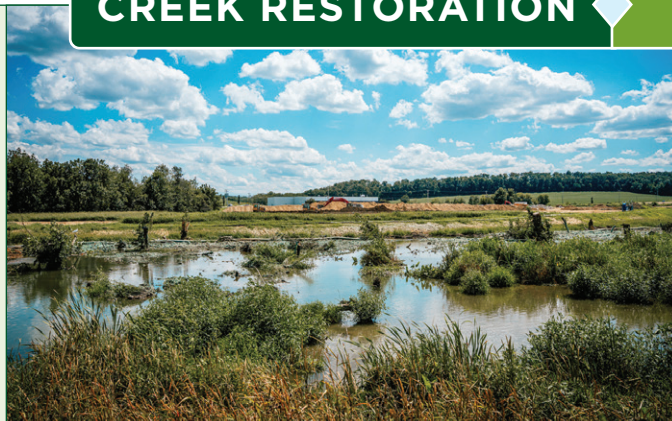
Photograph courtesy of Kinsley Construction.

Early in 2025, York County Rail Trail Authority (YCRTA) completed a 5-year strategic plan that outlined six goals to guide the Authority in coming years. The first goal, continue trail building, was immediately met with a \$1 Million project to add 0.8 miles to the Hanover Trolley Trail in Heidelberg Township. Funding was provided by PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources, J William Warehime Foundation, Powder Mill Foundation, and Explore York.

CREEK RESTORATION

As in 2024, trail construction was paired with the restoration of a section of Oil Creek. The result is a beautiful trail with beautiful views.

Completed in October, this \$1.15 Million project was funded by National Fish & Wildlife Fund, PA Department of Environmental Protection, Susquehanna River Basin Commission, York County Planning Commission, and York County Conservation District.



Photograph courtesy of Kinsley Construction.

CELEBRATIONS



On June 5, 2025, PA Senator Kristin Phillips-Hill joined with York County Commissioners Wheeler, Burford, and Hoke and trail supporters to celebrate the opening of the newest sections of the Hanover Trolley Trail and Oil Creek Wetlands. Bailey Coach provided transportation to the somewhat remote ceremony site. In Fall 2026, following the construction of a trailhead/parking lot in Heidelberg Township, a public celebration will be held.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE

As the Hanover Trolley Trail grows in length, the challenge of maintaining it also grows. In 2025, summer storms toppled several trees, blocking the trail and breaking sections of fence. Many thanks to a small band of regular trail users who stepped up to offer their skills and equipment to clear the trail and repair fence.

Hanover, Spring Grove, Penn and Jackson Townships also continued to maintain their respective sections, collectively giving 246 hours and \$23,377 in services.



COLLEGES AND COMMUNITY GROUPS



On a chilly March day, students and their professor from Dickinson College visited Oil Creek's phase 2 section to collect baseline data on stream life. They will return in consecutive years to measure the changes that occur as the stream is restored and wetlands are created. York College engineering students and professor also visited to better understand the planning and construction of the wetlands. Fourteen young members of Hanover and South Western Key Clubs spent a sunny Saturday morning planting fifty trees along the trail, donated by Kinsley Construction, Inc.

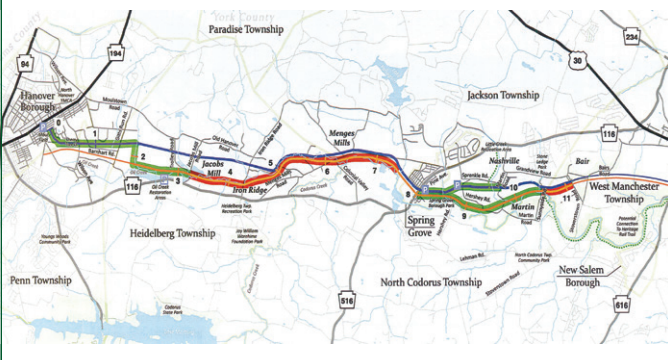
WHO IS YCRTA? AND WHAT DO WE DO?

YCRTA's 2025-2029 Strategic Plan also presented the goal to increase public awareness of our people and our work. Although YCRTA works closely with many county departments such as York County Parks, the Authority is mission-focused on the development of rail trails from planning to design and construction.

In 2025, YCRTA hosted information tables at Codorus State Park ECO festival in June, Hanover's Snack Town Street Fair in July, and Spring Grove's Pumpkin Trail in October.



2026 AND BEYOND



In 2026, YCRTA will complete design, permitting, and then construction for a new trailhead/parking lot to be built on a 12-acre parcel along RT 116 that Heidelberg Township donated to the Authority in 2025. Funding is also being sought to support additional trail construction in Heidelberg Township, as the Authority works to close the gap between the Hanover and Spring Grove sections. A 2027 study will begin to envision a future connection to the Heritage Rail Trail.