



217 Elm Street Oil City, PA 16301-1412
814-677-3152 Ext. 116 Fax: 814-677-5206
dfrawley@oilregion.org
www.nwpagreenways.org

Project update for the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Alliance Meeting; April 28, 2015

Projects along the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail of the member organizations of the Council on Greenways & Trails and the regional projects are progressing well. And there is new interest and activity from other groups and towns along the way.

East Branch Trail – The Corry to Spartansburg extension continues at a slow pace. Negotiations are underway with the landowners for right-of-way agreements. Funding is needed for engineering and construction. The Black Bridge ownership is secure.

Oil City – is conducting a Master Site Plan process for the marina on the south side of town. This will become the main trailhead on that side of town as well as the access to the Allegheny River. Plans include camping spots, more parking and possibly a concessionaire for snacks, bike and kayak rentals, etc.

Foxburg trailhead – Funding has been awarded to Foxburg Borough to complete a Master Site Plan for the trailhead parking, possible overflow parking area and a bike lane or appropriate mechanism for a safe route through town. They are waiting on the contract paperwork for the funding to begin.

East Brady – A meeting was held April 8 to discuss the Trail Town concept. Will Prince of the Trail Town Program through the Progress Fund and I presented examples and funding sources. The focus for the town will be the connection to the Armstrong Trail and the Redbank Valley Trail and the Allegheny River.

2015 EPT Trail Town & Nature Based Place Making Spring Summit – is scheduled for May 4 from 3:00 – 4:30 at DeBence Antique Music Museum in Franklin. Speakers from DCED, USDA and Farmers National Bank will discuss Business Financing and Grant Opportunities, the Trail Town Certified Network and other networking opportunities. The workshop will be followed by the kick-off of the third Get on the Trail Business Contest sponsored by the Oil Region Alliance.

Council on Greenways & Trails website is now live with local and regional projects and connections. See it at www.nwpagreenways.org.

2015 PA Greenways & Trails Summit – will be September 20-22 in Warren. Proposals have been submitted to present sessions on partnering with local land trusts, projects involving rail-with-trail, the forming and growth of a regional trail groups such as the EPTA and others.

North Country Trail test hike – Two young hikers contacted me for information about the section of the North Country Trail that shares the route of the Sandy Creek Trail and the Allegheny River Trail. They were doing a warm-up, test hike from Spartansburg area to Butler to prepare for a through hike of the Appalachian Trail (AT) from Georgia to Maine. They posted videos of this trip and are now posting videos of the big hike on the AT on YouTube for everyone including a grade school class to follow them.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxjBOSkEFXJ-TT3SnaV06Xg>