



ARTA REPORT TO EPTA JULY 20, 2016

- A Volunteer Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation Grant was received for a resurfacing project behind the treatment plant in East Brady. Work will be completed by the end of July.
- A second Volunteer Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation Grant was received for bike route signage through East Brady. Members of the East Brady Area Development Corporation - Trail Town Initiative Committee will provide the volunteer labor. Work is expected to begin in late summer 2016.
- Trail maintenance in and around Lock and Dam 8 was performed over the past several months utilizing probation volunteers.
- A scout troop cleaned out the pit of the turntable on May 21. Future work entails cleaning the cracks and seams and replacing the rails and ties.
- An Eagle Scout project to paint over graffiti at the Coaling Tower will begin on July 16, 2016.
- Utilizing donated funds a covered picnic table will be built and installed near the Coaling Tower.
- A trail user survey has been distributed. Returned surveys are being tabulated as they come in.
- Two additional trail cameras will be installed over the next few weeks.
- Three Port-A-Potties are in place and are maintained weekly.
- Two new memorial benches were ordered, built and are ready for installation.
- EPTA logo signs will be installed on new mile posts by the AmeriCorp crew.
- ARTA is obtaining quotes for small Armstrong Trail signs to also be placed on mile posts.
- Work continues in Rosston, Manorville and Templeton on grant funded projects.
- The Fifth Annual Eat, Play Ride was held on May 21. A profit of approximately \$3,800.00 was realized. Next year's event will be held on May 20.
- Through the Armstrong Community Foundation Day of Giving campaign ARTA received over \$3,000.00.
- ARTA will participate in the East Brady Riverfest parade on July 15 and host a nature walk on the trail on July 16.

Input from Ron Steffey on work on the Armstrong Trail that is not being directly coordinated by ARTA:

- *The Armstrong Trail has nine (9) active projects that include over 10 miles of trail that has funding secured and being upgraded this summer. Funding includes the Volunteer Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation, DCNR Grants, PennVEST Grants, private donations, municipal workers, and lots of Volunteer work.*
- *Several small gaps are being eliminated, non-point source pollution problems are being solved, and on the road co-use sections are being reduced.*
- *Along with the volunteers, contractors, and engineers; the Conservation Districts of both Clarion and Armstrong County, Ford City Borough, Kittanning Borough, Manor Township, Manorville Borough, East Brady Borough, several municipal authorities, and public officials are involved in the projects*
- *The Armstrong Conservation District is sponsoring an AmeriCorps Crew that is doing projects throughout the county. They have cooperated with ARTA and AVL T to do several tasks along the Armstrong Trail such as installing Mile Markers, clearing invasive vegetation and unwanted vegetation, setting gates, and assisting in trail improvement projects.*
- *CareerTRACK also has partnered with AVL T and has a crew and supervisor that is assisting in laborious trail tasks, such as vegetation controls, repairing tools, and doing equipment maintenance (oil changes, greasing, and cleaning equipment.)*