



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

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Project update for the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Alliance Meeting; October 21, 2015

2015 PA Greenways & Trails Summit – on September 20-22 in Warren was well attended with over 230 people from across the state. The EPT map was featured in several of the educational sessions including the EPT corridor being featured in the Industrial Heartlands Trails Coalition session. Two other sessions presented by Ron Steffey, Kim Harris and myself were well attended and evaluation form tabulations gave favorable reviews. Representatives from the Erie County area approached us for more information about getting involved.

The **Industrial Heartland Trails Coalition** presented a webinar explaining the capabilities of their GoToTrails.com website. The site offers trail groups the functions of planning and managing trail projects and the public a way to plan trips. Please explore the site to get to know how it can benefit your projects and to provide your feedback. Other webinars are planned for the future. The EPT corridor is often used as the example.

The **EPT map** has been updated with a name change to the “Great Lakes Seaway Trail” and the route change through Oil City. A large version with high resolution has been provided for the informational kiosks currently being designed.

I have been getting many phone calls and emails recently asking “How do I get to...” Many of these people are from out of state and the current maps available do not provide enough information.

The Clear Lake Authority continues to meet with landowners to negotiate right-of-way agreements for the **East Branch Trail** extension project between Corry and Spartansburg. Funding is needed for official appraisals as some of these landowners now want to sell the corridor. The DCED GTRP grant application submitted by Impact Corry has been delayed and is now due to be announced in November.

AVTA’s connectivity and ADA accessibility projects continue. **The transition between the Allegheny River Trail and the Sandy Creek Trail** at Belmar has been slowed due to the new asking price from the landowner for the needed parcel of property. The repair and stabilization of a **parking area along the Allegheny River Trail** at Brandon was delayed due to the contractor breaking his arm and not being able to get to the project sooner.

Foxburg Borough has signed the contract with Environmental Planning & Design, LLC to complete the trailhead parking project. A time table to complete the small project is being developed and hopefully will result in a design/layout and cost estimates this year.