



## Armstrong Rails to Trails Association REPORT TO EPTA January 17, 2018

### Armstrong Trail

- The Armstrong Trail has been named number 10 in the “The 10 Best Places To Visit In Pittsburgh In 2018” by <http://www.onlyinyourstate.com/pennsylvania/pittsburgh/best-places-2018-pittsburgh/> visit: <http://www.onlyinyourstate.com/pennsylvania/pittsburgh/countryside-hike-pgh/> for more details
- “You Are Here” and Trail map signs, have been mounted on mile posts as part of an existing DCNR grant. Also several trailhead kiosks have been installed.
- Portions of the trail have been resurfaced this year including areas in Kittanning, Manorville, Templeton, Redbank toward Rimer and in the Phillipston area. Both Redbank and Phillipston trailhead parking lots now have limestone and a concrete section for Handicap Parking. This also was funded by a DCNR grant submitted by AVLT.
- Phase 1 of the resurfacing project of the trail behind the treatment plant in East Brady was completed. Additional work will be done after storm water issues are resolved. East Brady Boro, with support from the Riverfront Housing Development, and ARTA, has applied for a grant for this work.
- Recent Eagle Scout projects along the trail include: constructing bat boxes & placing them along the trail, cleaning & sealing cracks in the turntable pit, painting at the turntable, landscaping around the turntable, constructing & installing Railroad Heritage Area signs at Redbank & Phillipston, and building a kiosk.
- Work on the restoration project at the turntable at Phillipston is continuing. This spring, the short ties around the outer edge of the pit will be replaced and a picnic pavilion will be constructed in the area. The pavilion is an Eagle Scout project. Grants have been submitted for consideration for the scout project (pavilion) and continued restoration work at the turntable.
- Plans are underway for our annual trail fundraising event (Eat Play Ride), which will be held on June 2, 2018. Plans are for the event to be held from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM with lunch being served at the Nautical Mile Campground in Templeton. Possible changes this year are a name change, a Geocaching activity, more games, and involving a local radio station. We hope to attract a wider range of people, including more people from the Pittsburgh area.
- ARTA will participate in the REI Trail Summit at Settler’s Ridge in Robinson Township on March 31, 2018.
- A new Armstrong Trail Map & User Guide is currently in production and should be available this spring.