

Oil Region Alliance

Report for the January 2018 EPTA Meeting

- The Oil Region Alliance has ordered a very good supply of the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail logo signs for marking trail not on state owned roadways. In 2018, ORA will work with partners to continue marking trail within the Oil Heritage Region.
- Several kiosks will be developed and installed in 2018 using the guidelines prepared and adopted by the EPTA. Kiosks will be installed at the Oil Creek Memorial Landing, Franklin trailhead, and the Oil City Marina.
- The Oil Region Alliance will be working with a new trail group (ARTinC) forming in the Foxburg/Emlenton area to move forward with the potential trail between Emlenton and Foxburg. It appears that after a year of negotiations a deal has been reached with the one major property owner is prepared to provide a right-of-way through his property large enough for the trail and an access road. Two additional property owners have been in ongoing conversations with representatives from the newly forming trail, these conversations have been moving along in a positive direction.
- The Oil Region Alliance will be offering recreational mini-grants for education and development type projects. Funding for this mini-grant project is through a DCNR grant. Eligible projects must be in the Oil Heritage Region, and applicants are a non-profit with a certificate from the Bureau of Charitable organizations. We will encourage those that are not non-profits to partner with non-profits organizations. The maximum mini-grant award will be \$2,000 and must be matched dollar for dollar.
- The Oil Region Cycling Classic a three day cycling event will take place again this year on June 6,7,8. The three day event will be three different ride itineraries within the Oil Region Heritage Area. Day One will be Franklin to Titusville, Day 2 takes riders on the Allegheny River Trail from Franklin to Emlenton and day three riders will ride from Franklin on the Allegheny River Trail and get on the Sandy Creek Trail to ride this scenic trail, or paddle the Allegheny River to Fisherman's Cove and then cycle back to Franklin. This is a fundraising event for the Allegheny Valley Trails Association. Details for the event will be sent out as they become available.
- Oil City is working on top coating the now open 1.2 mile section of trail between the Marina and the Justus Trail. This section was tarred and chipped last year, this year they will put a smooth top coat down, and install bollards and signage. In addition, the City will be constructing several primitive campsites in the marina area, one of which will be ADA compliant. The City is continuing to look for ways to move trail off the street, and/or mark the street segments more clearly.