The ten-mile D&H Rail-Trail construction project was held up by another worthwhile project in the Forest City area. The Lackawanna River Basin Sewer Authority is replacing a sewer main under the railbed with a much larger pipe. Renovations to nearby Clinton Township Sewer Treatment plant will help to eliminate the problems with combined sewage overflows (CSOs). Installation of the larger sewer main under approximately one mile of railbed should begin this summer. In order to allow this project to get underway and not interfere with our resurfacing, the Rail-Trail Council canceled its planned spring construction.

Trail construction should now begin in the early Fall at the northern end of the railbed in Herrick Center. Plans include work to Route 374 just to the east of the trail crossing. The road will be reduced in height in order to increase the sight distance. Trail users will be able to see in both directions before crossing the road. Trail crossing signs will warn traffic and the pavement will be painted for the trail crossing.

As trail construction heads in a southward direction, drainage improvements, trail grading and resurfacing, gate and sign installation will occur. The project will encompass around ten miles from Herrick Center at Route 374 to just below Forest City at the ‘concrete-deck’ bridge. It is hoped that the construction project will finish up before winter sets in.

Trail plans are available for inspection at the Rail-Trail office in Forest City. Bids will be opened publicly on August 4th at 2:30. The project will be awarded to the lowest qualified bidder at that time.

Please check the Rail-Trail website for updates and trail section closings during construction. See www.nepa-rail-trails.org
The Rail-Trail Council of NE PA honored the volunteer efforts put forth by individuals who have assisted in the growth and development of the D&H Rail-Trail and the Council. This year’s winners were guests of honor at a dinner meeting of the Council at 6 PM, April 28th at The Corner Bistro, Carbondale.

The Member Award was given to Dennis Favello of Union Dale, who has volunteered his graphic design expertise to help redesign the RTC newsletter. The ‘clean and green’ new look of the newsletter has been admired by many.

The Friend of the Trail Award was given to Joe Vargo, of Simpson. Joe has taken care of the Simpson trailhead entrance for many years. He has fixed the broken gate numerous times and keeps the RT office informed of problems in the area.

Another Friend of the Trail Award recognized Dave and Carla Stackhouse of Forest City. They have maintained the Erie Street D&H trail entrance for many years. They have cut the grass around a landscaped area and around the railroad station sign.

Two Special Service Awards were given this year. One is to the Clifford Girl Scout Troop #281, who organized a trail cleanup from start to finish in the Union Dale area. Bethany Zablotsky, Elizabeth Haley, Valerie Maciuska, and Nancy Acker are to be commended for their initiatives.

Another Special Service Award was given to two brothers, who volunteered three consecutive Sundays to assist in the decking of a railroad bridge in the Brandt trail area. Christopher and Gregory Reed of Honesdale are members of the NEPA Sno-Trails who did much of the work on this bridge.

The President’s Award was given to Tom Frost, Jr. of Nicholson, a longtime board member of the RTC and its secretary for the past six years. Tom has been an active volunteer in all RTC events and fundraisers since the inception of the Council in 1991, over fourteen years ago. The Council recognizes Tom’s excellent job at keeping the RT minutes, with his attention to detail. Tom is well known for his dedication to biking and his convictions of biker’s rights.

The Rail-Trail Council truly appreciates all its volunteers and their efforts put forth to help develop the trail system and advance the cause of the Rail-Trail Council.

Thanks to Camp Volunteers!

Campers and counselors from Camp Ramah, Lake Como, Wayne County are taking time from their busy schedules to volunteer on the D&H Trail. Around a dozen youths will assist in the sprucing up of the D&H trailheads for three afternoons this summer. They will also assist the Lackawanna River Corridor Association in various projects.
Join Us at Forest City Old Home Week

For Forest City Old Home Week the Rail-Trail Council will again be serving our specialty: vanilla ice cream topped with fresh picked blueberries. Our booth will be located across from the Borough building, in front of the former Cartree building. This is a new location...closer to the heart of the celebration. We will also have RT maps & brochures, T-shirts, baseball caps and other items. Visit our booth and other vendors, Thursday, Friday, Saturday (August 4, 5, and 6) from noon till dark.

Membership Renewal Form

Please renew! The date on the mailing label on the reverse indicates when your membership expires.

☐ Lifetime/Founding $500
☐ Patron/Sponsor $250
☐ Club/Organization $100
☐ Family $25
☐ Individual $15
☐ Senior/Student $10

☐ Call me to discuss a corporate donation.
☐ Our group would like a slide presentation.
☐ I am available for trail cleanups.
☐ Send me an RTC brochure.

NAME __________________________ PHONE NUMBER __________________________
STREET ADDRESS __________________________ E-MAIL ADDRESS __________________________
CITY __________________________ STATE __________________________ ZIP __________________________

Make checks payable to Rail-Trail Council of Northeast PA
P.O. Box 123, Forest City, PA 18421-0123 Phone: 570-785-7245 E mail: tccrail@epix.net
Volunteers Needed

Blueberry pickers needed
August 2 & 3.
No experience necessary.

Ice Cream servers needed
August 4, 5, 6. Will train.

Please call the office at 570-785-7245 or email tccrail@epix.net if you have any time to spare prior to and during Old Home Week.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Nancy & Bruce Ross, Union Dale PA
Mary Felley, Dalton PA