

# Westmoreland Heritage Trail Newsletter

Volume 2/Issue 1

January – March 2021



## UPCOMING EVENTS

January 14, 2021

WHT Monthly Board Meeting

February 11, 2021

WHT Monthly Board Meeting

March 11, 2021

WHT Monthly Board Meeting

WHT Monthly Board Meetings will be held via Zoom attended by directors and board members at this time. Public will be invited once again once we see relief from Covid restraints.

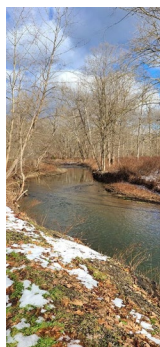
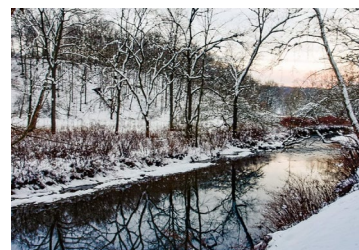


*Face the chill of frozen winter  
To know the warmth of summer  
Falling leaves of pale autumn  
Evokes wish for green spring  
Seasons stay not long  
Cycles through time inevitably  
Like pain following joy  
And gain following loss*

2020 was quite a year for everyone. Expectations for 2021 are uncertain with no end of the Covid 19 virus in sight. Thankfully, we have our trail providing us with a safe way to escape the monotony of quarantines and social distancing. Our membership has increased and we are hoping for new members and volunteers this year. Our fundraisers are in the planning stages and will be scheduled as restrictions are lifted. Stay warm and safe this winter, spring is just around the corner!

### Fundraising for 2021

We hope that our fundraising efforts are not in jeopardy in 2021. As of this issue, Comedy Night has been cancelled, March for Parks in March and Trail Towns Festival are being reviewed.



### Election of Officers

Election of Officers will be held in January along with two openings for at large board members. Also need to review the terms of all community representatives.

# Trail Rules



Each issue of the WHT newsletter in 2021 will highlight parts of the rules that are to be followed on the Westmoreland Heritage Trail.

Before you purchase a motorized bicycle or ride, make sure you know the WHT rules...

No motor vehicles are permitted, except motorized wheelchairs and similar devices built specifically for mobility disabilities. Other power-driven mobility devices (OPDMD's) not specifically designed for disabilities may be used provided the following specifications are met:

- Motors on electric devices are 750 watts or less
- Devices weight less than 100 lbs (43kg)
- Devices are no more than 36" wide
- Devices have fully operating pedals
- Devices with internal combustion engines are NOT permitted

Also, remember the following:

- Speed limit on trail NOT to exceed 15 mph
- Children under the age of 12 are required to wear a helmet



Westmoreland CARES  
Grant Program



## CARES Grants:

WHT applied for the Westmoreland County Cares Grant and was awarded funds which will assist in recovering the revenue loss during 2020 due to Corona virus. Trail Towns Festival, parking cars at Twin Lakes and membership being down affected the trail significantly in 2020.

**Clothing for sale:**

Please support the trail and order your shirts and hats.

We also have nylon backpack bags available.

You can easily order on our website

[www.westmorelandheritagetrail.com](http://www.westmorelandheritagetrail.com) using a

charge card and paying postage OR

if you are live locally within our trailheads

arrangements can be made to meet and

pay for items (cash only).



Watch for a new WHT bike jersey in 2021!



**Did you remember to renew your membership?  
If not, please do. Your dues help to maintain the trail.**

**Texting WHT donations!**

Watch for signs in the future along the trail on how you can support the trail.



# Feasibility Study

The 'Middle Gap' of the WHT is the area of land between Lincoln Avenue in downtown Export and the WHT's Rangos Trailhead in Salem Township. This trail gap is roughly 4 miles long.

## Westmoreland Conservancy supports plan for future WHT Trailhead in Morosini Reserve

At their meeting on October 28, 2020, the Board of the Westmoreland Conservancy voted to support the long-range plan to develop a trailhead for the future 'middle gap' of the Westmoreland Heritage Trail at a location within the Morosini Reserve, as identified below.



This is one piece of the planning puzzle, currently being advanced via a Middle Gap Feasibility Study with Mackin Engineering. While no design or construction is planned to occur at the Morosini Trailhead anytime soon, it is encouraging for trail enthusiasts to see cooperative partnerships like this emerge. It is anticipated that the broader *Middle Gap Feasibility Study Report* will be completed this spring.

Should you have questions on the WHT and planning now underway, contact Jeff Richards, Parks Planning Coordinator, Westmoreland County Bureau of Parks & Recreation (724) 830-3951



  
MURRYSVILLE  
PARKS & RECREATION  
FOUNDATION

  
RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
MURRYSVILLE, PA

**12 Miles**  
**12 Weeks**

**MURRYSVILLE'S 12 FOR 12**

Join Murrysville's 12 for 12 Challenge! You have 12 weeks in the months of January, February, and March to walk, bike, or run 12 miles in Murrysville's Parks or the Westmoreland Heritage Trail.

Visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Murrysville/Murrysville12for12Challenge> to register. All participants will receive a sticker decal and be entered to win a prize at the end of the challenge.



Join Murrysville's 12 for 12 Challenge! You will have 12 weeks in the months of January, February, and March to walk, bike, or run 12 miles in Murrysville's Parks or the Westmoreland Heritage Trail. In this FREE virtual challenge participants are to complete the 12 miles on their own time. If you are an over achiever, you can keep on going and see how much you are able to do over the 3 months of the event.

Sign up below:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Murrysville/Murrysville12for12Challenge?remMeAttempt=>

## **We need articles for future editions of the WHT Newsletter!**

Please consider providing a short item of news, or an article related to the trail for the next edition of the newsletter. We also encourage local communities to forward information about local events.

Newsletter submissions can be sent to [whtpr2017@gmail.com](mailto:whtpr2017@gmail.com).



## **Give Me a V for Volunteer**

**V** Valuable asset to the group  
**O** oil that keeps the “machine” running  
**L** lends a helping hand wherever needed  
**U** tilizes their talents to help the group  
**N** eeds no compensation for their time  
**T** eam player  
**E** nthusiastic  
**E** nergetic  
**R** ighteously awesome person to have around



**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**

For more information, membership and volunteer opportunities, please visit our website at: <https://westmorelandheritagetrail.com/>  
Follow us on Facebook and Twitter



## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

We are always in need of volunteers! There are many opportunities available to help support the trail. These include: trail maintenance and special projects public relations, fundraising events, festivals, clean-ups or by joining one of our committees.

If interested – Attend one of our meetings!

We meet the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Lamplighter in Delmont

The Westmoreland Heritage Trail Chapter (WHTC) is a volunteer organization associated with the Regional Trail Corporation. The Regional Trail Corporation is a non-profit entity within Westmoreland, Fayette and Allegheny Counties, which promotes the conversion of abandoned railroad corridors to recreational trails.

