



PA HIGHLANDS TRAIL NETWORK

May 2026



What's Going On?

HORSE-SHOE TRAIL NEWS

The PA Highlands section of the Horse-Shoe Trail got some shiny new signs! At the end of April, the Appalachian Mountain Club and the Horse-Shoe Trail Conservancy installed four new interpretative kiosk signs in Berks, Lancaster, and Lebanon Counties. These signs include a map of the PA Highlands Trail Network as well as information about the two co-aligned trails.

Want to learn more about the PA Highlands Trail and the 61-mile section that co-aligns with the Horse-Shoe Trail? Join us for a presentation in **Brecknock Township on June 23rd at 7pm!** Seats are limited, so **please call** the Brecknock Township Office to register at **(717) 445-6683**. The presentation will be at the **Brecknock Township Building (889 Alleghenyville Rd, Mohnton, PA.**



Learn about the PA Highlands Trail

June 23rd, 2026 | 7pm

Brecknock Township Building, 889
Alleghenyville Rd, Mohnton, PA

Presented by the Appalachian
Mountain Club

The PA Highlands Trail is a 300-mile long-distance trail network located in the 1.9 million-acre, 13-county Pennsylvania Highlands region. It co-aligns with the Horse-Shoe Trail for 61 miles and passes through Brecknock Township. Attend this presentation and learn more about this vast network of trails!

Register for this free presentation by calling the Brecknock Township Office at 717-445-6683. Space is limited, please be sure to register.



What's Going On?

BRICKYARD POND REVAMP UPDATES

This past month, the Brickyard Pond Trailhead in Quakertown, PA saw some major improvements. Richland Township regraded the parking lot, added an ADA compliant parking space, and installed a picnic table and bike racks on the cement pad, which were purchased through Athletic Brewing Two for the Trails grant funding. Additionally, a drainpipe was installed underneath the driveway to ensure this new work is protected for the future. Thank you for taking such great care of this wonderful resource, Richland Township!

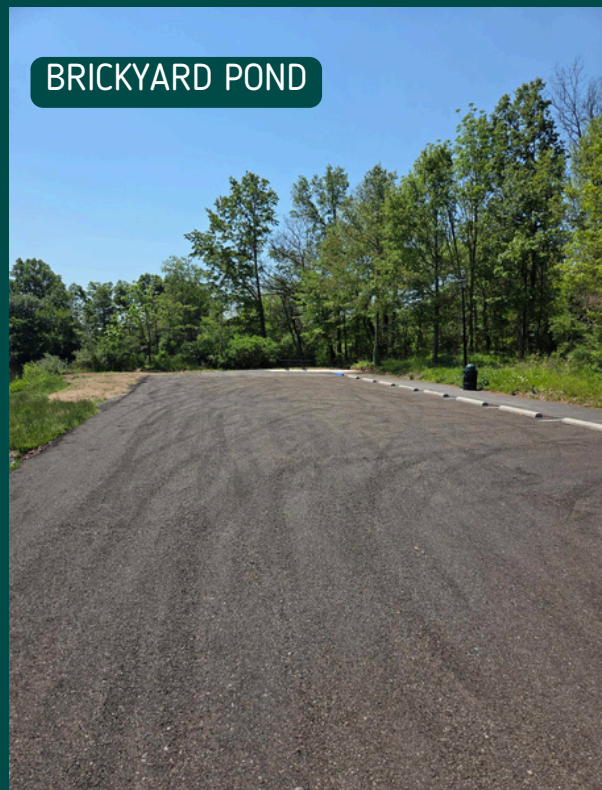
But wait! There's more trash cleanup and vegetation removal to be done. We have two more events at Richland Township this spring/summer. Sign up using the links below:

[Saturday, May 30th](#)

9:30-12:30pm

[Saturday, June 20th](#)

9:30-12:30pm



Events on the PA Highlands Trail

GET OUT WITH AMC

Check out more activities coming up on the Pennsylvania Highlands Trail:

- 5/29 → [Trail Workday at Nockamixon State Park](#)
- 5/30 → [Trail Workday at Brickyard Pond](#)
- 5/31 → [Guided Hike at French Creek State Park](#)
- 6/2 → [Beginner Hiking Series: Bridgeton Nature Preserve](#)
- 6/6 → [Trail Workday at Tollgate Landing in Quakertown](#)
- 6/16 → [Beginner Hiking Series: Upper Bucks Rail Trail](#)
- 6/20 → [Trail Workday at Brickyard Pond](#)
- 7/7 → [Beginner Hiking Series: Bridgeton Nature Preserve](#)

[Find more events here!](#)

Contact Me!

This newsletter is put together by Madison DeGerolamo, the Mid-Atlantic Trails Coordinator at AMC.

Have a question or concern, or want to add something to the next newsletter? Reach out to...

[**mdegerolamo@outdoors.org**](mailto:mdegerolamo@outdoors.org)



Bridgeton Twp Trail

TRAIL RIBBON CUTTING

Join us at the Bridgeton Nature Preserve Trail for an official trail opening ribbon cutting! This two-mile trail was built by dedicated PA Highlands Trail Stewards, so come celebrate their achievement and hear how the trail came to be.

After the ceremony, there will be a group hike along the trail. Those interested can also sign up for a longer hike, which will start at Ringing Rocks, convene at Bridgeton for the ceremony and hike there, and then head back to Ringing Rocks. [Register here](#) to do the long hike, or show up at noon without registering just for the ceremony.

**Bridgeton Nature
Preserve Trail Ribbon
Cutting Ceremony
Wednesday, May 27th,
12:00 PM
[Directions](#)**

Poems for the Trail

“INVITATION” BY MARY OLIVER

Oh do you have time
to linger
for just a little while
out of your busy
and very important day
for the goldfinches
that have gathered
in a field of thistles
for a musical battle,
to see who can sing
the highest note,
or the lowest,
or the most expressive of mirth,
or the most tender?
Their strong, blunt beaks
drink the air
as they strive
melodiously
not for your sake
and not for mine
and not for the sake of winning
but for sheer delight and gratitude –
believe us, they say,
it is a serious thing
just to be alive
on this fresh morning
in the broken world.
I beg of you,
do not walk by
without pausing
to attend to this
rather ridiculous performance.
It could mean something.
It could mean everything.
It could be what Rilke meant, when he
wrote:
You must change your life

Trail Gap Updates

TOLLGATE LANDING TRAIL GAP

Tollgate Landing is a gap between two existing trails, the Barrel Run Trail and the Brayton Garden Trail. Tollgate is currently listed as a Priority Trail Gap for the state of Pennsylvania, and this past summer, an easement was signed to allow for a trail to be built.

As we look into funding opportunities for a paved trail, AMC has decided to develop a temporary, natural surface trail for a mile long section of the gap for the community to enjoy in the meantime. We'll be building this trail through a series of volunteer days, which means anybody is welcome to join in!

The first volunteer workday will be on Saturday, June 6th, from 9:30am to 1:30pm, which is also National Trails Day.

[Sign up here!](#)

Beginner Hiking Series

Are you...

- **New to hiking?**
- **Wanting to hike at a relaxed pace?**
- **Trying to get more comfortable being outdoors?**
- **Looking for a group of people to hike with?**
- **Eager to get outside after your 9-5?**

Then sign up for our beginner-friendly, relaxed pace hikes in the Pennsylvania Highlands Trail Network! All are welcome to join these hikes, which will take place on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at different locations.

[See the lineup of hikes here!](#)