

Sen. James J. Rhoades Nature Trail

Barry Township

BACKGROUND: The first walking trail along the Mahanoy Creek was dedicated May 8, 2010 in honor of the late state Senator James J. Rhoades in recognition of his support of environmental projects in his district. Members of the Mahanoy Creek Watershed Association (MCWA) constructed the trail in Barry Township near Lavelle with a \$5,000 grant from the American Hiking Society and General Mills. The trail is located across Bolich Road from MCWA's Bolich Wetlands Project, a passive wetland treatment area on 1.5 acres that receives about 500 gallons per minute of impaired water from Mahanoy Creek.



INFORMATION: This beautiful trail is paved with stone and allows visitors to walk and ride bicycles along a specially-designed path that extends about a half mile into the property. To access the trail, follow SR 901 to Lavelle and turn onto Dutchtown Road. Continue 1/2 mile and make a right onto Bolich Road. Proceed 1/4 mile to the trail on the right. There are no restrooms available and parking is limited.

CONTACT: Call the Schuylkill Conservation District at 570-622-3742 Ext. 5 for more information.

AREA ATTRACTIONS: Two convenience stores are located on SR 901 in nearby Lavelle. Local attractions include Pioneer Tunnel Coal Mine and Steam Train, Museum of Anthracite Mining, Higher-Up Park, and the Mothers Memorial in Ashland.

EVENTS: The Annual Pioneer Day festival is held every August at Pioneer Tunnel Coal Mine in Ashland, PA with vendors, arts, crafts, live music, and children's activities.

GPS COORDINATES:

Lat 40°45'12.77" N Lon 76°22'37.35" W



RECOMMENDED GEAR: Comfortable walking shoes or hiking boots.