

GET INVOLVED!

For more information about the Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership, or to volunteer your time, talent or expertise, please contact:

Robert Skulsky, *Executive Director*
Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership
Citiscap, 20 W Broad Street
Hazleton, PA 18201-6418

Phone: (570) 455-1509
CELL: (570) 436-3853
Fax: (570) 450-2013
Email: civic@hazletonchamber.org



Major sponsors include the PA Dept. of Conservation and National Resources, Luzerne County and the Delaware and Lehigh National Heritage Corridor.

***Show your community spirit
and volunteer!***

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL TRAIL!

Show your support for the local Rails to Trails Project. Contact the Civic Partnership to find out when the next hike is planned or send a tax-deductible contribution to:

Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership
"Rails to Trails Fund"
Citiscap, 20 W Broad Street
Hazleton PA 18201-6418

Mail In Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Donation:

_____ \$5 _____ \$10 _____ \$25

_____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ Other

Volunteer _____



A project of
*The Greater Hazleton Area
Civic Partnership & Mountain
Council of Governments*

in conjunction with
*The Greater Hazleton
Chamber of Commerce*





Greater Hazleton Rails to Trails

The Greater Hazleton Rails to Trails is one of the connecting links to the spine of the Delaware Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Trails system. After a hunter discovered coal in the 1820's, supposedly when digging for ground hogs, mining operations began in and around Hazleton. As coal was beginning to be mined in such places as Hazleton, Beaver Meadows, Colerain and Tresckow, the need for a railroad to carry the coal down the mountain to Mauch Chunk, now Jim Thorpe, was paramount. In 1833, a young man by the name of Ario Pardee, employed by the Engineering Corps of the Delaware and Railroad Canal Co., was sent to Beaver Meadows for surveying to develop the Beaver Meadows Railroad to carry coal to Mauch Chunk on the Lehigh River. As the coal industry grew in the area, so did the village of Hazleton and the number of railroad tracks and lines. Other areas outside of Hazleton, including Beaver Brook, Jeansville, Ebervale, Jeddo, Freeland, Upper Lehigh, Tresckow, Harleigh, and Filmore (Eckley) had spurs to the main line.



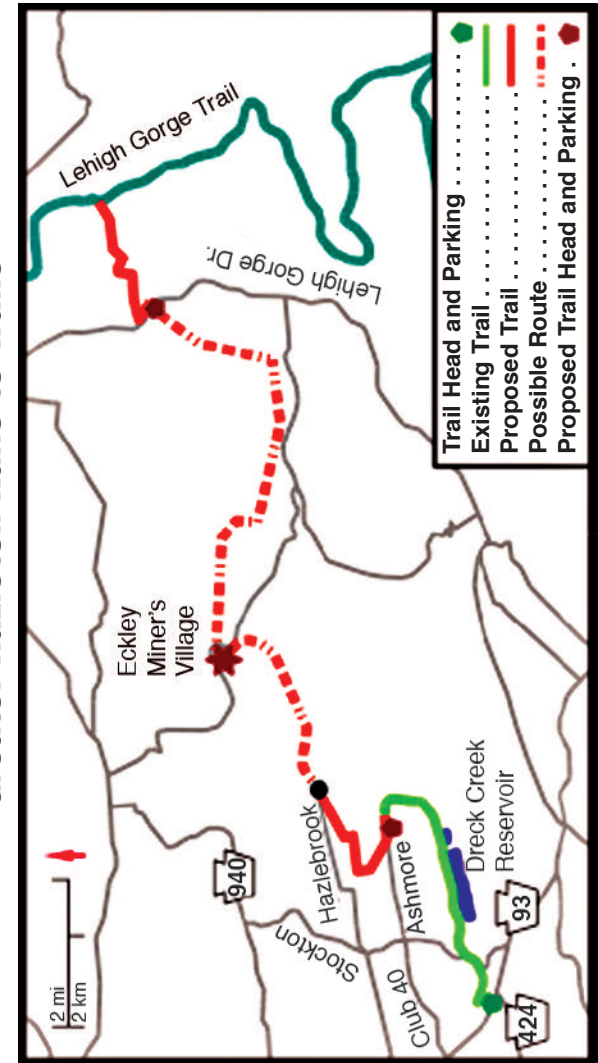
Eckley is now listed on the National Register as the Eckley Miners' Village and is administered by the PA Historical and Museum Commission as a living museum. The main street of Eckley will eventually become part of the Greater Hazleton Rails to Trails as it follows railroad beds from Hazleton to Eckley and eventually to the Lehigh River.

The first seven miles of the Greater Hazleton Rails to Trails follows the abandoned rail bed of the Delaware Susquehanna and Schuylkill (DS&S) line started in 1842. In the early 1900's, the DS&S became the Lehigh Valley Railroad. When completed, the 16 mile trail will pass the Hazleton City Reservoir through pitch pine barrens and offers the user a multitude of experiences including spectacular scenery, unique environmental areas, rare vegetation, scars of past strip mining, green fields brought back from the ravages of the past, active on-going strip mining and Eckley Miners' Village, where the visitor can experience life as it was in a coal mining patch town in the 1800's. The trail user will also experience many types of wild life along the trail including deer, bear, ruffed grouse, wild turkeys, fox, coyote, just to mention a few.

The main trailhead is located at the intersection of SR 93 & 424 in Hazleton. To reach the trailhead from Interstate 81, take exit 141, The Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce Beltway exit, and travel east until it ends at SR 93. Make a left at the traffic light and travel 111 yards to the entrance to the Greater Hazleton Rails to Trails.



Greater Hazleton Rails to Trails



Location:	Luzerne County
Miles:	4
Endpoints:	SR 93 to Beryllium Rd
Surface:	Crushed Limestone
Contact:	Bob Skulsky Greater Hazleton Area Civic Partnership Citiscapc, 20 W. Broad St. Hazleton PA 18201
Coordinates:	Hazleton: N40° 56.480' W75° 56.860'
TrailLink ID:	6123113