



WEST BRADFORD TOWNSHIP

"Between the Brandywines"

EAST BRANCH BRANDYWINE TRAIL

After six years of planning, design, and construction, a 1.6-mile portion of the multi-use East Branch Brandywine Trail is now open.

The trail is located in the northwest portion of East Bradford Township and in the northeast portion of West Bradford Township. A new pedestrian bridge spans the scenic East Branch Brandywine Creek and marks the municipal boundary between the two Townships.

The north end of the trail begins in the Brandywine Meadow Preserve in West Bradford Township. This is located on Route 322 across from the Brandywine Ridge development, with the entrance/parking area across from Bradford Avenue. The trail proceeds south along the west side of the East Branch Brandywine Creek for approximately one mile. It then crosses the new pedestrian bridge into East Bradford's Harmony Hill Nature Area. From there the trail follows the abandoned West Chester Street Railway Trolley bed south along the east side of the Creek to Harmony Hill Road. The paved trail is approximately 10 feet wide and designed to accommodate pedestrians, cyclists, and similar passive recreation uses.

In addition to the parking, benches and trash receptacles already provided, future plans include a canoe launch and kiosk. At the southern trail head, East Bradford Township will be expanding and improving the Harmony Hill Road parking area and providing additional trash receptacles and signage.

This segment of the trail is part of a much larger trail corridor that extends from the Delaware State line, up the Brandywine Creek (Main stem and East Branch) to the northern boundary of Chester County. This regional corridor includes the Struble Trail in Downingtown and bisects the Chester Valley Trail. When these trail corridors are someday fully implemented, a connection between Philadelphia, Norristown, King of Prussia, Downingtown, and West Chester will exist.

The next phase of this trail corridor will extend from Harmony Hill Road south to Route 322, just east of the Sugar's Bridge Road intersection. Work on this phase will begin this month and should be completed by the end of 2010. Once complete, the two segments combined will total approximately 2.4 miles.