



The Pennsy Trails of Hancock County, Inc.
P.O. Box 214, New Palestine IN 46163
<http://www.pennsytrailsofhancockcounty.org>

Sugar Creek Watershed 400 W Trail Head Project Volunteers, Students, and Scout needed.

Hancock County is home to the Pennsy Trails along the National Road Heritage Trail. The Pennsy Trails will cross the Sugar Creek WaterShed. This watershed covers more than one half of the county and provides a home to critical wildlife, including the American Bald Eagle and 31 species of fish. The following Sugar Creek WaterShed project at 400 West with the Pennsy Trails of Hancock County Inc. will provide support for watershed education, protect wildlife in the watershed, and provide a comfort station for trail users.

The Pennsy Trails of Hancock County, Inc. is a 501c3 organization working to acquire land and create a paved walkable/bikeable trail through Hancock County along the National Road Heritage Trail, from Hancock County's east border to west border. The Pennsy Trail helps people by encouraging exercise to improve health, enjoy nature to reduce stress, expose children to trees, plants and wildlife. For businesses, the Pennsy Trail promotes economic development and increased quality of life for residents who live, shop, and dine in Hancock County.

This project will be staged over the next 3 years. Students and volunteers may engage with the following organizations to support this project. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Hancock County Department of Transportation (INDOT), United States Geological Society (USGS), Hancock County Soil and Water District, Indiana National Plant and Wildlife Society (INPAWS), Central Indiana Land Trust (CILTI), National Wildlife Federation (NWF), Hancock County Master Gardeners, Sugar Creek Firestation, and Indiana Master Naturalist.

Protect Wildlife, Plants, Trees

- American Bald Eagles, cranes, woodpeckers, owls
- 31 species of fish identified by USGS.gov
- Mallard Ducks, river otters, salamanders, frogs
- Oak, Maple, American Beech, American Elm
- Basswood, Sycamore, Shagbark Hickory, evergreens
- Flowering dogwood, Pawpaw, Spicebush
- Spring beauties, Trillium, MayApples, Jack in Pulpit
- Wood Nettle, White snakeroot, Solomon's Seal
- Ferns, grasses, sedges, woody vines
- Wild ginger, milkweed, violets, Jacob's ladder
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Provide environmental leadership

- Soil and water conservation best practices
- Control and manage wildlife, plants, trees
- Consult with different environmental groups
- Learn methods of environmental sustainability

Provide education about the Sugar Creek Watershed

- Water flows through and covers one half of the county
- Watersheds protects wildlife, trees, and plants
- Clear water in water sheds protects property values
- Reduce soil erosion that can lead to poor water quality
- Watershed is at risk with growth of the county population

Pennsy Trail Water Shed 400 W Trail Project

- Provide educational signs about the watershed
- Plant trees, shrubs, plants and wildflowers along this section
- Arrange education and playground materials
- Use equipment to control invasive honeysuckle
- Develop a water source for trail users
- Write letters to different organizations
- Organize a trail event
- Assist with trail surveys
- Provide community service

Interested student and scout volunteers should write a letter to the Pennsy Trails of Hancock County Inc to include name, contact information, age and grade level, school or scout troop, and interest in how this project may help your future career or education. Thank you for your consideration in support of the Pennsy Trails of Hancock County, Inc.

Sincerely,

Mary Ann Wietbrock, Board President
The Pennsy Trails of Hancock County, Inc.
P.O. Box 214, New Palestine IN 46163
PennsyTrailsofHancockCounty.org
317-620-1006