



Hanover Reservoir

Photo by Earth Conservancy Staff

STATS

- 1,400 acres of forest
- 16 acre Hanover Reservoir
- 20 miles of existing trails
- 3 perennial cold water streams

North Branch Land Trust, working with regional conservation partners Earth Conservancy and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation of Natural Resources (DCNR) Bureaus of Forestry and Recreation and Conservation, have finalized the conservation of 1,400 acres in Hanover and

President/CEO Terence J. Ostrowski. “This project – totaling 1,400 acres – will preserve the undisturbed ridgeline of the Wilkes-Barre Mountains between Sugar Notch Gap and Alden Mountain Road and protect the gem in those woods – the Hanover Reservoir. All will now be part of the Pinchot State Forest. The project also supports Earth Conservancy’s mission of allocating 10,000 of its original 16,000 acres of former Blue Coal land for greenspace and recreation. We now are within a few hundred acres of that goal. Wild areas like these are integral to the character of Lower South Valley. By transferring ownership to the Commonwealth, we help safeguard the region’s natural beauty and its ecosystems and improve its quality of life.”

Newport Township, including the Hanover Reservoir.

Now under the stewardship of DCNR’s Bureau of Forestry, the Hanover Reservoir has officially joined the Pinchot State Forest System and will provide natural connectivity in perpetuity. The project area also joins a greenway corridor that spans approximately eighty miles! This corridor running northeast from Luzerne and Carbon Counties to Pike County and the Delaware River is an important flyway for migratory species in addition to providing natural habitat.

“As the steward of Pennsylvania’s public lands, we are excited to join our partners in acquiring this land for conservation within Pinchot State Forest,” said Pinchot District Forester Nicholas Lylo. “This partnership gives us the opportunity to sustain healthy forests, protect important wildlife habitats and expand recreation opportunities for locals and visitors to the region looking to experience the majesty of Penn’s Woods.”

“North Branch Land Trust is thrilled to have a hand in conserving this stunning ridgeline,” said Executive Director Ellen Ferretti. “We have been working in collaboration with Earth Conservancy and DCNR since about 2019 to realize this conservation success. The diversity of habitats, wildlife, and plants in this tract is a wonderful representation of magnificent Northeastern Pennsylvania’s natural resources. The Hanover Reservoir is an area of adventure and nostalgia for many members of the local community. We are overjoyed to see these lands and waters conserved in perpetuity for the benefit of the natural resources and future generations.”

“Earth Conservancy is pleased to continue its partnership with the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and North Branch Land Trust in conserving local forests for public benefit,” said



Tamarack

Great Spangled Fritillary

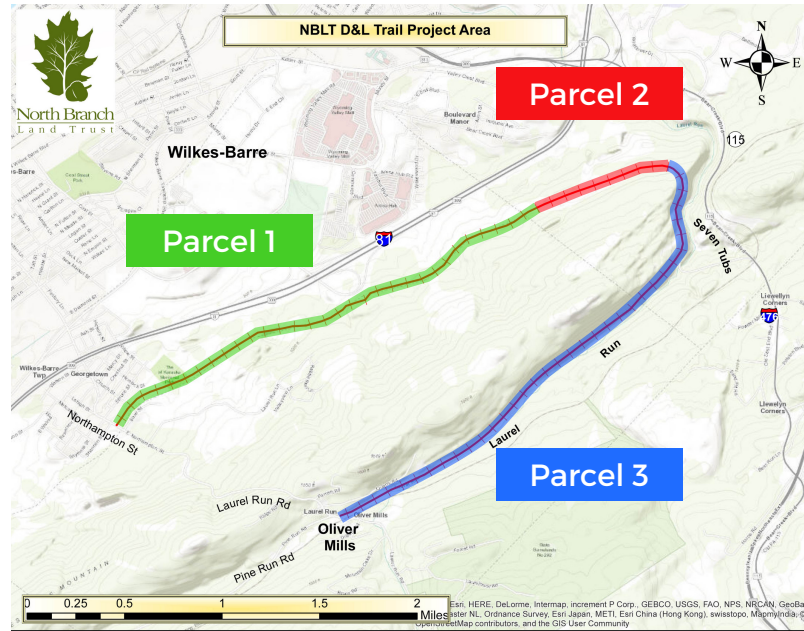


D&L TRAIL

CLOSED TO PUBLIC ACCESS

North Branch Land Trust completed construction on 2.8 miles of D&L Trail (Parcels 1 & 2) and transferred ownership of this part of the trail to the PA Department of Conservation of Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry Pinchot District for future public access that will ultimately provide an important connection within the Delaware & Lehigh (D&L) National Heritage Corridor.

The Trail will remain closed to public access while the remaining connected two miles of trail are being constructed by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (Parcel 3).



This map has been prepared for contextual purposes only. Lines are approximate and not intended for survey, engineering or other formal data gathering.

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Project partners include D&L National Heritage Corridor; Laurel Run Borough; Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development - Greenways, Trails and Recreation Grant Program; Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), Bureau of Forestry; PA DCNR Bureau of Recreation and Conservation - Community Conservation Partnership Program; Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation - Grant Program; Pennsylvania Department of Transportation; Plains Township; Wilkes-Barre Township; anonymous donors from The Luzerne Foundation and other private grantors.



North Branch Land Trust's
**Mary Louise &
Eberhard Faber
Conservation
Scholarship Fund**
at the Luzerne Foundation

2024 Conservation Outreach Intern

Learn significant hands-on insight into a fast-paced role, as well as invaluable learning about conservation, outreach, marketing and more through this PAID resume-building internship.

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Internship timeline: Flexible work environment 4-6hrs per week for 12 weeks with opportunities to work in the office and in the field.

Compensation: \$14/hr. not to exceed 10 hrs./week and 100 hours over the course of the internship

How to apply

Visit luzfdn.org and search "FABER" or nblt.org/faberfund and click "Apply Today"

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before 31 January, 2024



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HUNTSVILLE RESERVOIR

Facts & Figures

North Branch Land Trust will acquire a 220-acre conservation easement on lands around the Huntsville Reservoir in Dallas Borough and Lehman Township. Access to the site also lies within Dallas Township. Conservation of this land will protect an existing greenway in a heavily developed area, will help protect drinking water quality, will protect stream tributaries, and will provide safe public recreation opportunities.

Pennsylvania American Water's Huntsville Reservoir is a high-quality water source that supplies drinking water to all or parts of the following municipalities in Luzerne County: Courtdale; Forty Fort; Kingston; Luzerne; Pringle; Shavertown; Swoyersville; Trucksville; and West Wyoming. The company serves approximately 12,000 customers in those communities, or a population of approximately 30,000 people.

With this conservation easement, the project area will receive the highest degree of conservation protection and prevent permanent structures from being built in the floodplain and buffer zone.

Limited public access trails and parking will be constructed of porous materials that will increase and maintain permeability as part of green stormwater management and promote the aesthetics of native flora and landscapes.

Funding assistance has been provided by the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Bureau of Recreation and Conservation, Environmental Stewardship Fund, a very generous donation from Pennsylvania American Water, and the American Rescue Plan Act funds from Luzerne County.

Thank you,


Ellen Ferretti
Executive Director

220 +/- ACRES
of riparian buffer forest conserved

42 ACRES
of public access for passive recreation

1 MILE
of natural unimproved trail

7 TRIBUTARIES
connect at the Reservoir

30,000 PEOPLE
serviced by the Reservoir

