

Welcome to the BUTLER-FREEPORT COMMUNITY TRAIL

In 1871, Butler County welcomed the Western Pennsylvania Railroad. It was the first railroad in the county. Construction of the new line opened up the entire region to growth and travel. Small communities such as Sarver, Cabot and Great Belt sprang up along the line. Great Belt was known throughout the world as The Great Oil Belt.

Remnants of several industries that flourished along the Butler Branch in the 19th and 20th centuries are still visible today. Keep a sharp eye out for old foundations, brick kilns and small dams. In 2009, the BFT established a Historic GeoTrail. All the information you need to learn about Geocaching is available at www.geocaching.com. A trackable, custom GeoCoin is available for purchase after you have completed the Historic GeoTrail.



We are an all volunteer maintained trail. To report any maintenance issues, please e-mail maintenance@butlerfreeporttrail.org. The Trail Council holds meetings the first Monday of each month (except if a holiday, the second Monday) at Concordia Lutheran Ministries Board Room, 134 Marwood Rd, Entrance 4, Cabot, PA 16023. Meeting starts at 7 PM.

The 20 mile rail trail has a crushed limestone surface. It is suitable to all forms of non-motorized recreation such as, walking, bicycling, hiking, jogging, geocaching and cross country skiing. It is handicapped accessible for all to enjoy regardless of physical ability. Scooters are welcome.

In 1992 the first section was opened, in 2011 the trail reached 20 miles. The final 0.6 mile of trail, including a bridge into Father Marinaro Park within Butler City limits is complete connecting you to a city-wide bike route.

Courtesy and Safety on the Trail

As a walker or jogger, have you ever been frightened or startled by a bicyclist on the trail? As a bicyclist, have you ever worried about what that trail user up ahead is going to do or if there will be space on the trail for you to get by? Everyone can better enjoy the trail if each of us knows what is expected of ourselves and the other guy on the trail. Here are some basic "rules of the trail" which if followed can increase the safety and pleasure of all trail users.

Walkers, joggers and riders...Please announce your presence by saying "passing on your left", check behind you often. Stopping on the trail...please move to the side. Do not block the trail, park your bike off to the side.

Helmets are required by Pennsylvania State Law for all riders age 12 and under. Helmets are recommended for all riders over the age of 12.

Dogs, according to Pennsylvania State Law are to be leashed and kept under control. The Dog Officer does patrol the trail and citations will be issued. Horses are permitted but NOT on the trail surface, please ride on the right side in the grass. NO horses between Bonniebrook and Brinker Roads. Please clean up after your animals.

Trail News...

Hundreds of runners look forward to the Buffalo Creek Half Marathon each year on the third Saturday in October. The BCHM is a premiere race on the east coast largely because of its beautiful downhill course, with many folks achieving their personal record and the dozens of volunteers and spectators whose smiling faces you see as the runners cross the finish line.

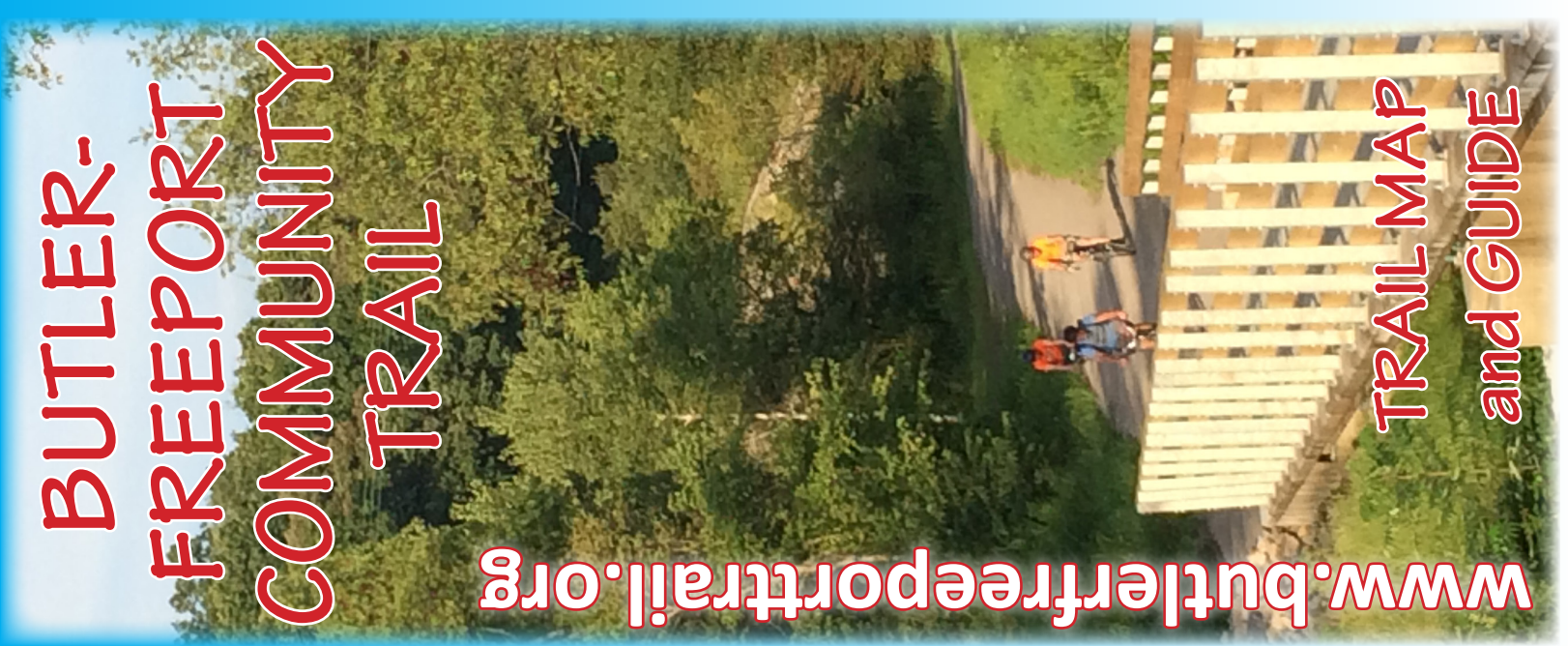
The BCHM is the Councils major fundraiser for the year; all funds are used for the maintenance, promotion and construction of the BFCT. In the first nine years of the race, \$190,000 has been raised. The number of runners is limited to 1,250. Always register early, this race does sell out.

What does it take to maintain, promote and construct a trail? In a 12 year period the BFCTC has raised and spent over a half a million dollars. Ninety-nine percent of that is NOT grant money. Most folks are under the impression that grant money grows on trees, that is not the case. Even if they did there is still match money, most being 40% grant, 60% cash and sometimes volunteer labor and in kind donations.

How do we raise money? Our half marathon (profit for 2014 was \$45,000), our membership drive and our capital campaign. If you enjoy the trail, please become a member today.

What does maintaining/constructing a trail cost? Port o John's cost us just under \$3,000 a year, brochures \$3,500 for a two year supply, the final four miles to Butler \$150,000 for labor (materials not included) and the Fellowship Crossing Bridge \$150,000. Washouts cost \$17,000 and are not quick fixes. The surface fails because there is a problem. We are proactive not reactive. If you see a washout please know we are working on a solution and raising funds to fix it. The problem is not just being ignored. Remember this is a community trail, get out there and give a hand.

For information on events and activities such as monthly end to end rides, group walks and work days check out our website or our Facebook page.

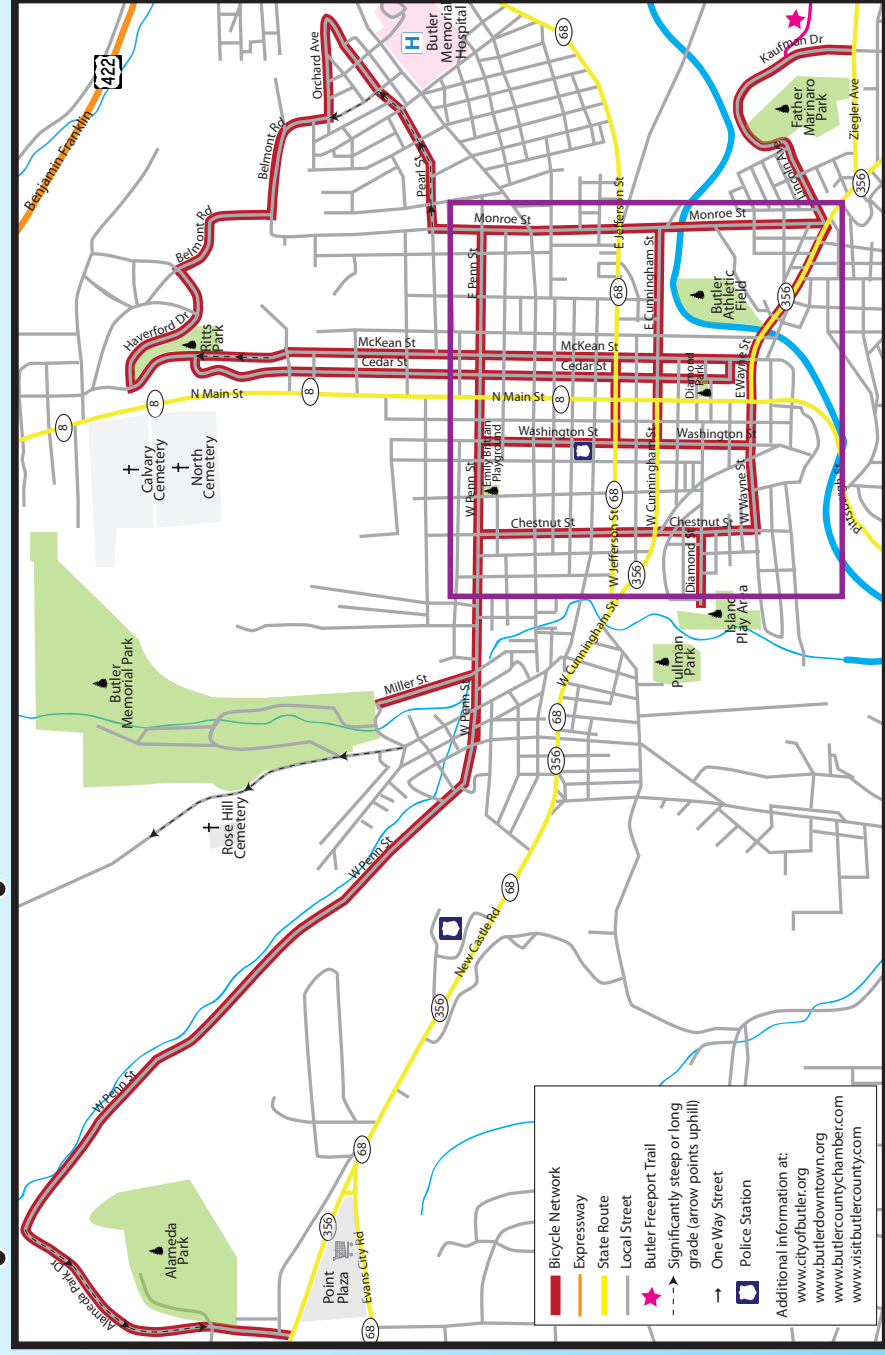


BUTLER-FREEPORT COMMUNITY TRAIL

www.butlerfreeporttrail.org

TRAIL MAP and GUIDE

City of Butler Bicycle Route



Come Ride with Us



Starting within sight of the Allegheny River near Freeport, the trail winds up a gentle grade towards Butler, through the scenic and isolated Buffalo Creek Gorge. This is designated as an Important Bird Area by the Western Pennsylvania Audubon Society.

The proposed routes shown on this map were developed by experienced cyclists familiar with riding in downtown Butler. This map will assist in advocating for improvements to the street network that these routes utilize. Cyclists, you may use this map as a tool, but do not substitute it for your own common sense. The individuals who developed this map assume no liability for the safety of the cyclists using these routes. Reference map from Google Maps 2011.

After passing far beneath the massive Route 28 expressway bridge the trail turns into the valley of Little Buffalo Creek, which will be your companion for the next 7 miles. In those 7 miles you will cross the creek 7 times!

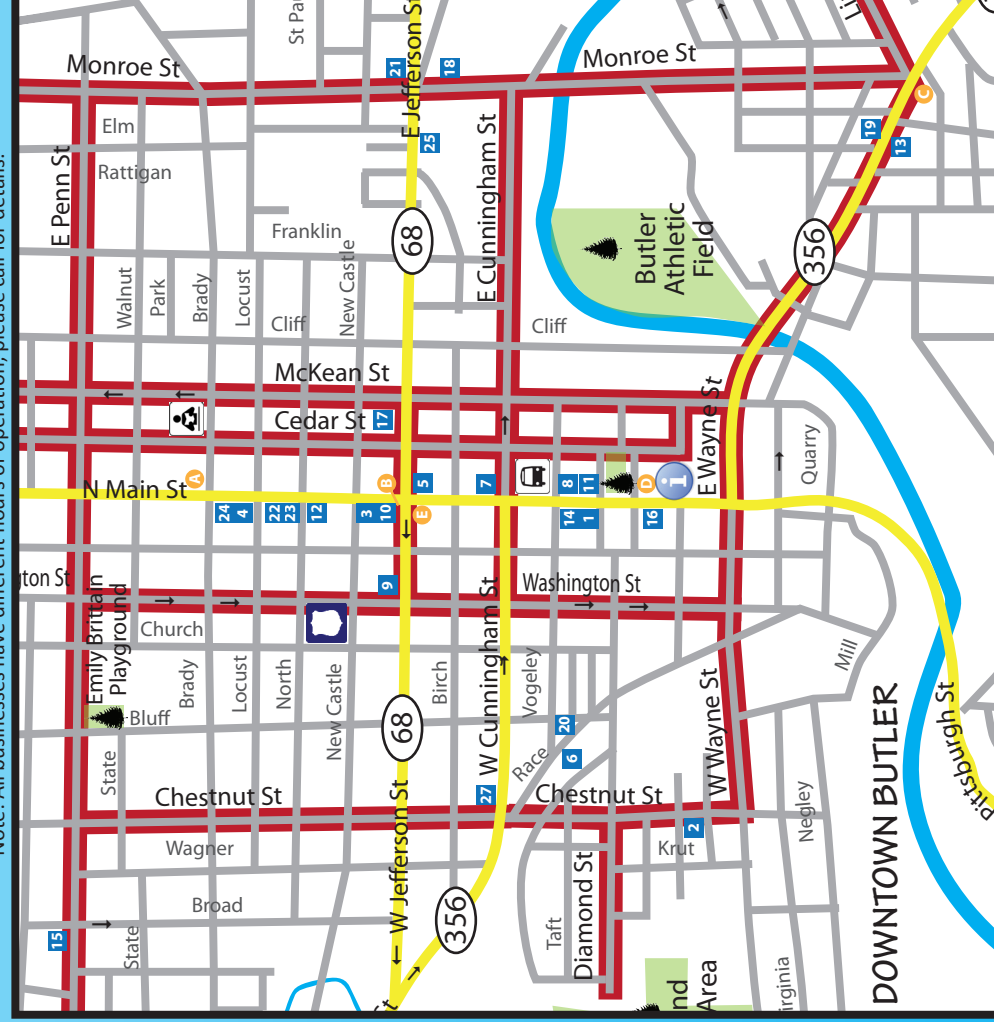
The wooded valley widens as you pass through the villages of Sarver, Cabot and Marwood. Farmland greets you as you continue to the highest elevation on the trail just south of Great Belt.

Soon you enter the village of Herman and work your way down through wooded hills and farmland as you approach the city of Butler.

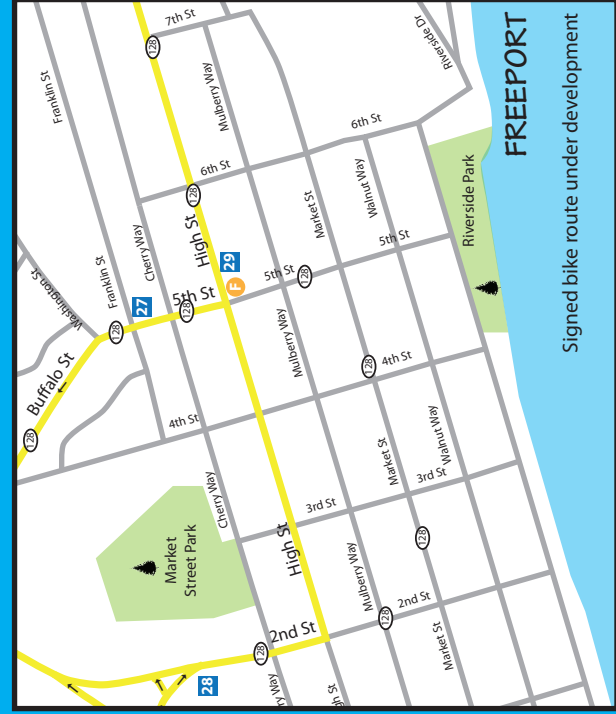
But whether it is rolling farmland, quaint villages or quiet valleys, the Butler Freeport Community Trail promises you a great experience!

Downtown Butler & Freeport Restaurants and Banks

Note: All businesses have different hours of operation, please call for details.



1. Anderson's Common Court
236 S. Main St. Butler
724-283-1781
2. Birch BBQ
438 S. Chestnut St. Butler
3. Brickhouse
118 N. Main St. Butler
724-284-1159
4. Burger Hut
222 N. Main St. Butler
724-283-4222
5. Butler Brew Works
101 S. Main St. Butler
724-264-KEGS
6. Butler City Farmer's Market
Shore/Bluff/Chestnut
Butler Pennne Co.
201 S. Main St. Butler
8. Café on Main
235 S. Main St. Butler
724-283-0120
9. China Palace
140 W. Jefferson St. Butler
724-283-4811
10. Chop Shop
108 N. Main St. Butler
724-256-9959
11. City Subs
251 S. Main St. Butler
724-282-9769
12. Cumming's Coffee & Candy
146 N. Main St. Butler
724-287-3287
13. Donut Connection
330 Center Ave. Butler
724-282-6214
14. Elements Café
232 S. Main St. Butler
724-654-6851
15. Fox's Pizza
500 W. Penn St. Butler
724-285-7200
16. Great Wall
326 S. Main St. Butler
724-214-1734
17. Hoagie Shop
110 N. McKean St. Butler
724-285-3678
18. Hot Dog Shoppe
129 S. Monroe St. Butler
724-287-5416
19. Hutch's Diner
339 Center Ave. Butler
724-285-5592
20. Mickey's Pizza
92 Race St. Butler
724-256-9099
21. Monroe Hotel
400 E. Jefferson St. Butler
724-287-5529
22. Natil's North
204 N. Main St. Butler
724-283-2149
23. Natil's Pizza
200 N. Main St. Butler
724-285-5592
24. Pizza Joe's
226 N. Main St. Butler
724-284-0045
25. Snack N Pack
353 E. Jefferson St. Butler
724-287-6722
26. When Pigs Fly
Chestnut at
W. Cunningham Butler
412-443-4516
27. Nan C Deli
322 1/2 5th St. Freeport
724-295-5288
28. Rainbow
323 2nd St. Freeport
724-295-0130
29. Riverside Cafe
510 High St. Freeport
724-525-8690
30. Wolfie's Pizza
211 5th St. Freeport
724-295-3380
- A. Citizen's Bank
301 N. Main St.
724-282-8912
- B. First Commonwealth Bank
100 N. Main St. Butler
724-287-1704
- C. First Niagara Bank
364 Center Ave. Butler
724-287-0766
- D. Nextier Bank
101 E. Diamond St. Butler
724-287-3791
- E. PNC Bank
106 S. Main St. Butler
724-287-1733
- F. PNC Bank
236 5th St. Freeport
724-295-2161



Signed bike route under development

I want to join the BUTLER FREEPORT TRAIL COUNCIL!

- Individual \$20
- Family \$30
- Supporting \$50
- Sustaining \$100
- Other Donation \$

Join online using PayPal at www.butlerfreeporttrail.org OR mail this form along with checks payable to

Butler Freeport Trail Council
PO Box 533, Saxonburg, PA 16056

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE (Day) _____

PHONE (Evening) _____

TOWNSHIP _____

EMAIL _____

Yes, I would like to volunteer to assist with trail maintenance projects.

Yes, I would like to assist with

The Butler Freeport Community Trail Council, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. All donations are tax-deductible. A copy of the Butler Freeport Trail Council's official registration and financial information may be obtained (at no charge) from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling (toll free within Pennsylvania) 800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

A partnership between Butler Downtown, the Butler Freeport Trail Council and the City of Butler formed the Butler Bike/Ped Commission in 2010. The commission and partnership sponsor weekly Friday Night Group Rides/Walks meeting at 6pm, city parking lot on N. Main Street across from Pizza Joe's. For more information check the Butler Bikes & Unicycles Facebook page. They are also responsible for creating a system of signed bike routes in the City. The BFCT and the City route systems are part of a larger planned route toward New Castle and Ohio.