Morris County Trail Construction Grant Program
2026 Advisory Committee

Morris County Planning Board

Nita Galate, Mount Arlington
Greg Johnsen, Randolph

Morris County Park Commission

Betty Cass-Schmidt, Pequannock
Doug Gabel, Denville
Stuart Lasser, Morris Township
Mohamed Seyam, Madison

At-Large

Tom Malinousky, Long Hill
Mary Orloff, Florham Park
Kevin Sullivan, Chatham Twp.

** Thank you Tom Malinousky, a founding member of the Advisory Committee, who will be retiring from the Trails Program at the end of this year.

2026 PROGRAM SUMMARY

MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL PROGRAM

13-Municipalities had Pre-Application Meetings requesting $ 3,282,605.11
- 2-Design & Permitting, 10-Major Construction, 1-Minor Construction

11-Municipalities Submitted Initial Applications Requesting $2,542,478.90
- 1-Municipality deemed incomplete
- 1-Municipality changed to Major Construction

10-Projects are Recommended for Funding at $ 2,290,808.45
- 9-Major Construction, 1 Design & Permitting
- **7 of the 9 Construction Projects resulted from Design Grants**

Review Process
- Initial Applications were submitted by June 19th .
- Technical Reviews were completed by the Consulting Engineers
- Technical review meetings were held with each applicant
- All applicants had the opportunity to revise material and submit their final applications by September 11th .

Program Changes approved by County Commissioners
- Rule changes regarding amenity funding reductions and/or eliminations (examples: number of benches, no garden planting, and number of receptacles, etc.) saved the program $ 221,160.00, allowing that money to be used for actual trail construction.

2026 Funding Recommendations

MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL PROGRAM

2026 Morris County Trail Construction Grant Program

Advisory Committee Recommendations to County Commissioners for Funding

Applicant	Submitted Category	Project Name	Miles	Project Cost	Match	Funds Requested	Status
Denville Township	Major Construction	Muriel Heppner Trail Expansion Phase-1	0.38	$ 431,293.50	$ 86,258.70	$ 345,034.80	Eligible
Jefferson Township	Major Construction	Compton Gobel Trail Extension Phase-3	0.51	$ 212,608.00	$ 18,321.60	$ 194,286.40	Eligible
Lincoln Park Borough	Major Construction	Morris Canal Trail	0.29	$ 365,416.70	$ 73,083.34	$ 292,333.36	Eligible
Mendham Borough	Major Construction	Mendham Borough Park & Arboretum Trail	0.52	$ 340,318.00	$ 68,063.60	$ 272,254.40	Eligible
Mendham Township	Major Construction	Buck Hill Trail Reconstruction Project	0.21	$ 355,679.50	$ 71,135.90	$ 284,543.60	Eligible
Morris Plains Borough	Major Construction	Morris Plains Community Park Trail Construction	0.36	$ 167,216.50	$ 33,443.30	$ 133,773.20	Eligible
Mount Arlington Borough	Major Construction	McGregor Trails Construction	1.12	$ 322,885.09	$ 64,577.02	$ 258,308.07	Eligible
Pequannock Township	Major Construction	Foothills Park Trail – Phase-2	0.15	$ 76,065.00	$ 15,213.00	$ 76,065.00	Eligible
Riverdale Borough	Major Construction	Independence Park Walking Trail - Construction	0.42	$ 489,172.50	$ 97,834.50	$ 391,338.00	Eligible
Washington Township	Design & Permitting	Patriot's Path	0.96	$ 53,589.53	$ 10,717.91	$ 42,871.62	Eligible
		Totals	**4.92**	**$ 2,814,244.32**	**$ 538,648.87**	**$ 2,290,808.45**	**9-Construction 1-Design & Permitting**
							2026 FUNDING AVAILABLE $2,650,000.00

MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL PROGRAM

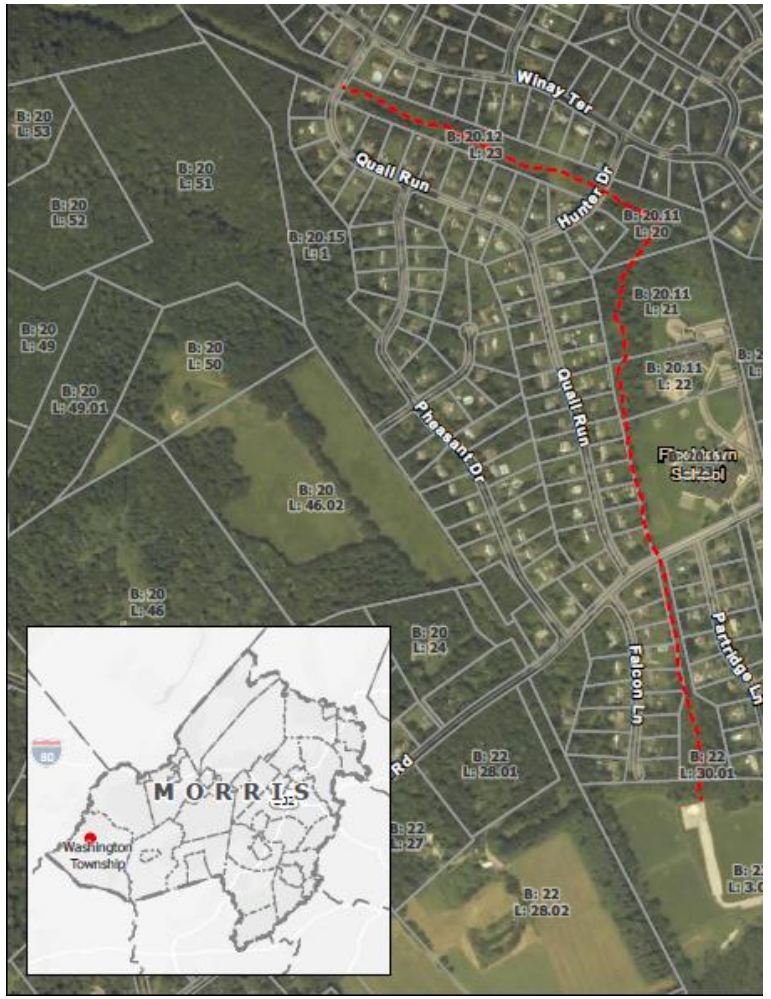
Design & Permitting

Washington Township

Patriot's Path at Flocktown - Design & Permitting

MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL PROGRAM

The current trail is an unimproved portion of Patriot's Path on property that is owned by Washington Township with a MCPC Trail Easement. The trail would become owned and maintained by Washington Township in the future.







Proposed Trail to be Designed
5,050' Gravel / Stone Dust /Boardwalk
5,050' Total linear feet or 0.96 miles
8' Trail Width
$ 10.61/linear foot to design

Design Proposal includes 3 Tasks

Task 1 - Survey & Mapping =	$ 14,750.53
Task 2 - Design & Plans =	$ 13,839.00
Task 3 - Permitting =	$ 25,000.00
Total Design Fee =	$ 53,589.53
Matching Funds	$ 10,717.91
Grant Request	$ 42,871.62

Prior Grants
2016 South Branch-Drakestown Trail
2017 Rock Spring Park Trail
2018 Harrington Park Nature Trail
2021 Rock Spring Park Phase-2

MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL PROGRAM

Construction

Denville

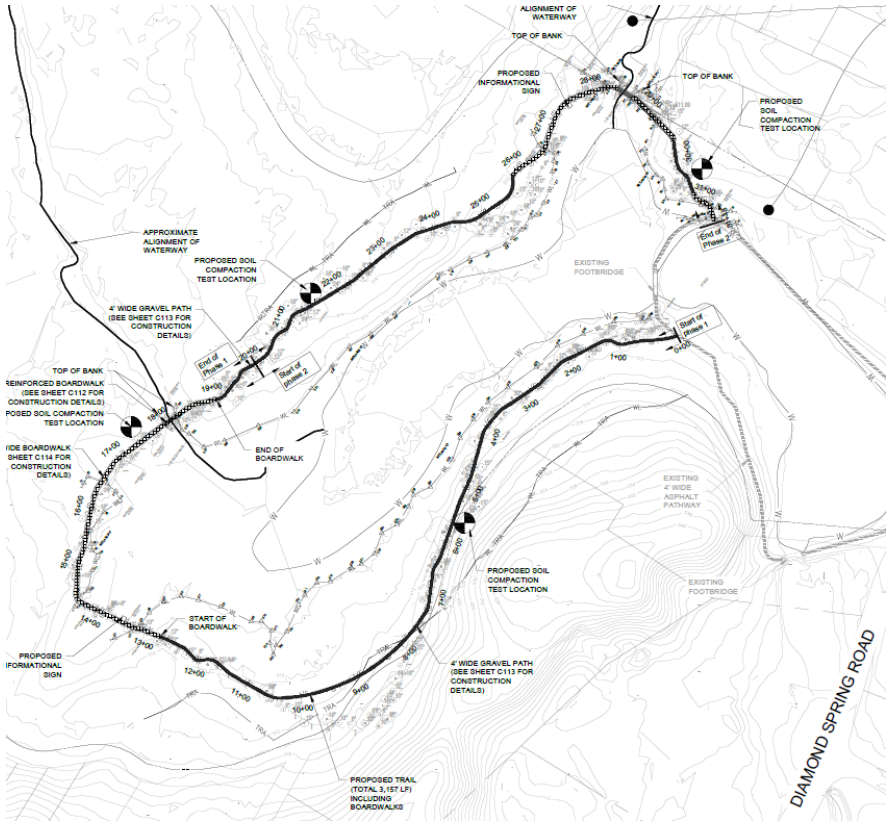
Muriel Hepner Phase-1 - Major Construction

The first of a two part project that will traverse through fresh water wetlands and would ultimately create 0.59 miles of walking trail.

Trail Length & Surface
650’ Boardwalk
1350’ Gravel / Stone Dust
2000’ Total linear feet or 0.38 miles
$ 215.65/linear foot

Total Construction Costs	**$ 431,293.50**
Matching Funds	**$ 86,258.70**
Grant Request	**$ 345,034.80**

Prior Grants
2016 Muriel Hepner Bridge
2019 Den Brook Park Trail Phase-1
2021 Den Brook Park Trail Phase-2
2022 Knuth Fields Phase-1
2024 Knuth Fields Phase-2





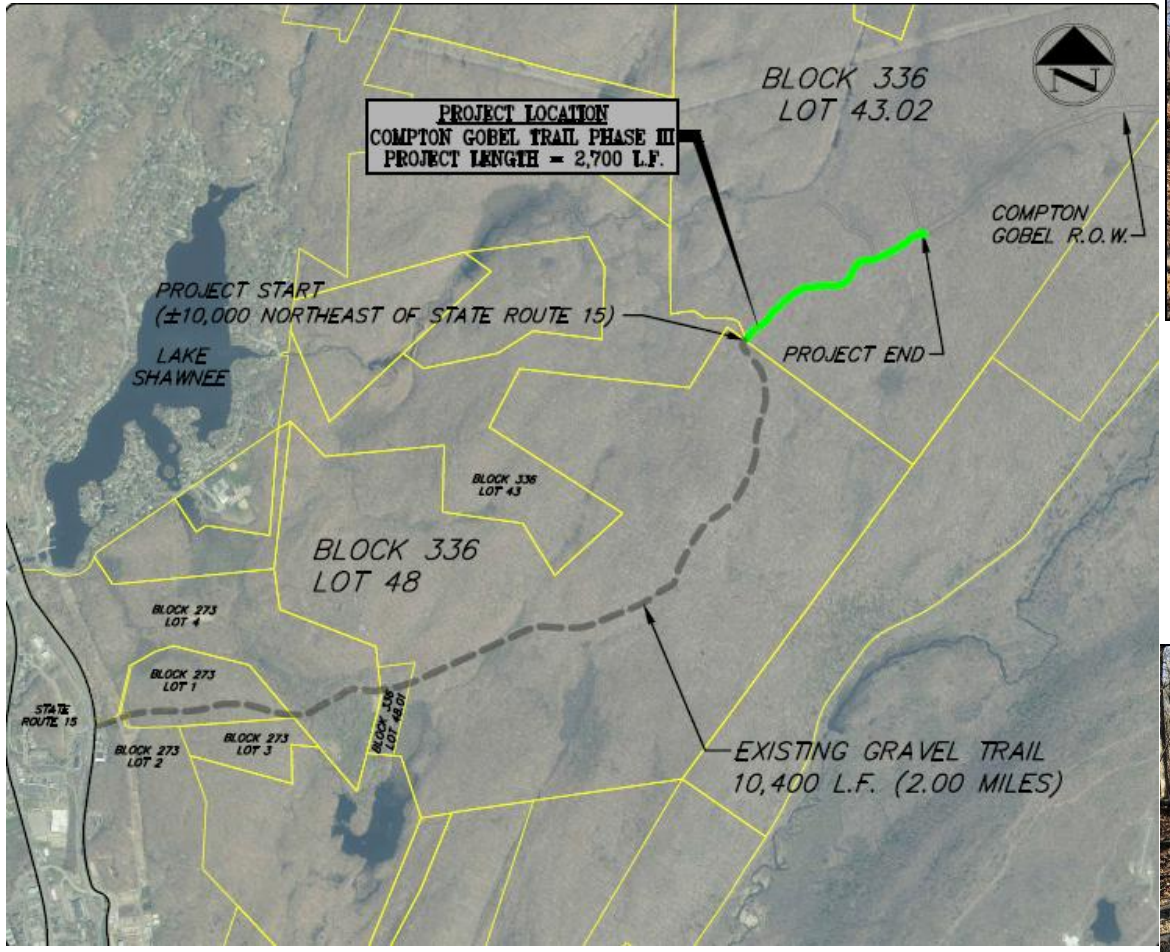


Jefferson

Compton Gobel Trail Phase-3 - Major Construction

MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL PROGRAM

A multi-phase project with the goal to bring access from the Jefferson Township Recreational Complex at Route 15 to the Mahlon Dickerson Reservation. At the conclusion of this phase, approximately 3 miles will have been constructed.







Trail Length & Surface
2700’ Gravel / Stone Dust
2700’ Total linear feet or 0.51 miles
10’ Trail Width
$ 78.74/linear foot

Total Construction Costs	$ 212,608.00
Matching Funds	$ 18,321.60
Grant Request	$ 194,286.40

Prior Grants
2017 Liffy Island Bridge
2025 Compton Gobel Trail - Phase-2

Lincoln Park

Morris Canal Trail - Major Construction

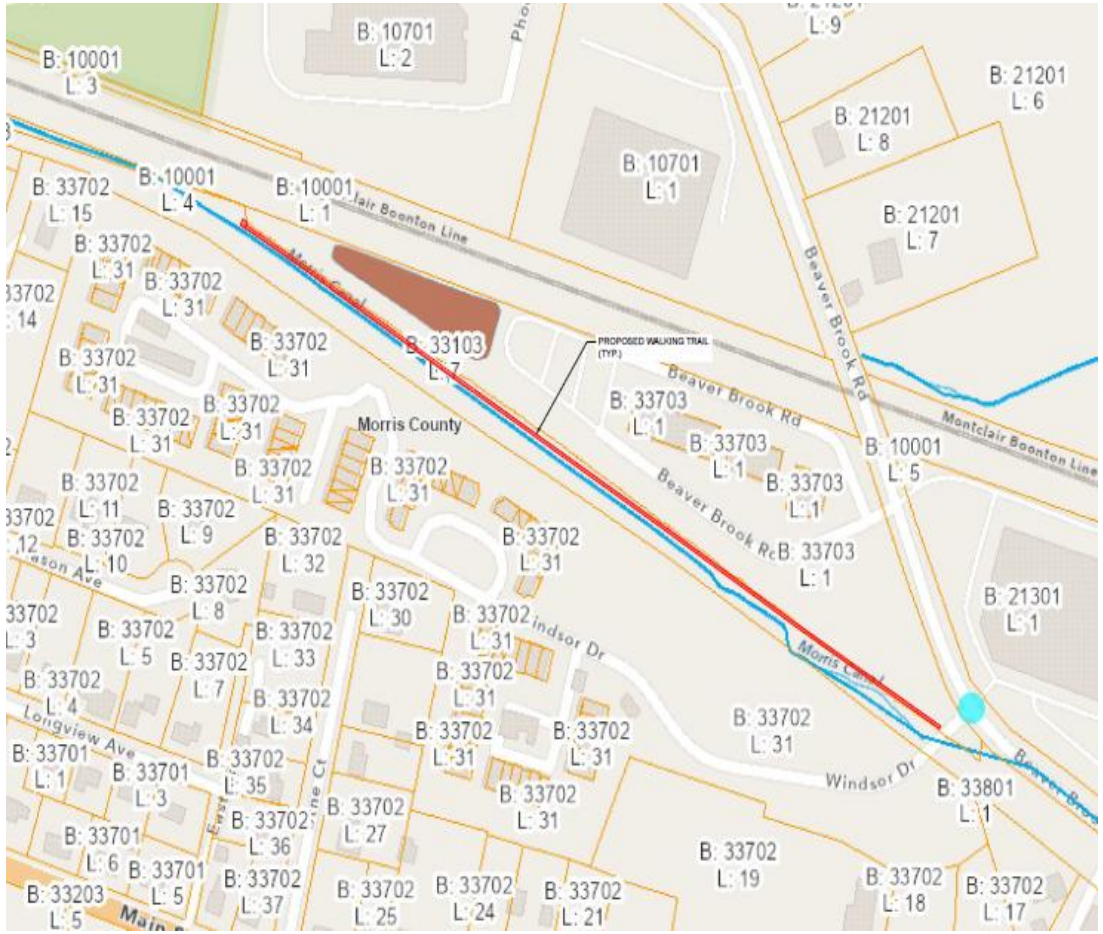
MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL PROGRAM

This Construction Project is the result of a 2021 Design Grant and creates a 0.29 mile "out & back" trail with handicap parking access.

<u>Trail Length & Surface</u>
1522' Gravel / Stone Dust
40' Asphalt
28' Boardwalk
1590' Total linear feet or 0.29 miles
5' Trail Width
1,000 sq ft Parking Stall
$ 229.82/linear foot

<u>Total Construction Costs</u>	$ 365,416.70
<u>Matching Funds</u>	$ 73,083.34
<u>Grant Request</u>	$ 292,333.36

<u>Prior Grants</u>
2021 Design Grant Morris Canal Trail







Mendham Borough

Borough Park & Arboretum Trail - Major Construction

MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL PROGRAM

This Construction Project is the result of a 2024 Design Grant. The project is centrally located to the historic district.







Trail Length & Surface
120’ Gravel / Stone Dust
2597’ Porous Pavement
2717’ Total linear feet or 0.52 miles
8’ Trail Width
$ 125.26/linear foot

Total Construction Costs	**$ 340,318.00**
Matching Funds	**$ 68,063.60**
Grant Request	**$ 272,254.40**

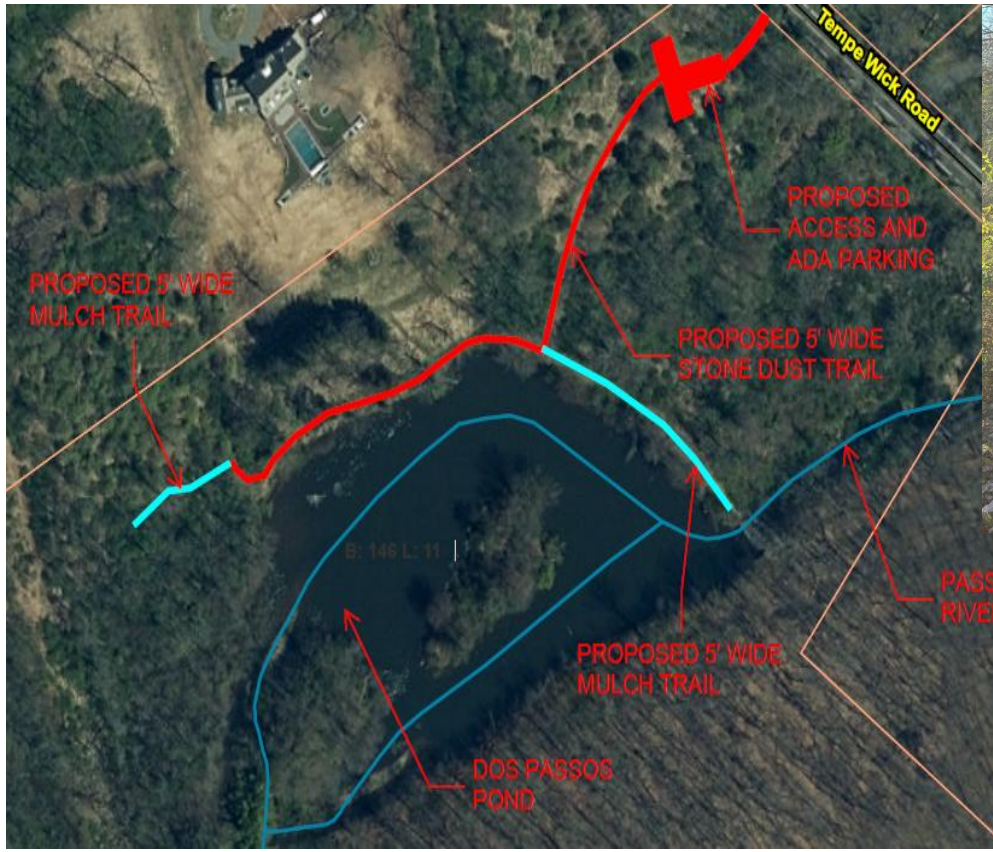
Prior Grants
2024 Design - Borough Park Arboretum Trail

Mendham Township

Buck Hill Nature Trail - Major Construction

MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL PROGRAM

This Construction Project is the result of a 2022 Design Grant. The project creates a distinct entrance off Tempe Wick Road and defines undeveloped trails.







Trail Length & Surface
676’ Gravel / Stone Dust
410’ Wood Chips
1,086’ Total linear feet or 0.21 miles
7’ Trail Width
4,421 Sq Ft ADA Parking
$ 327.51/linear foot

Total Construction Costs	$ 355,679.50
Matching Funds	$ 71,135.90
Grant Request	$ 284,543.60

Prior Grants
2019 Pitney Park Trail
2022 Design - Buck Hill Nature Trail

Morris Plains

Community Park Trail - Major Construction

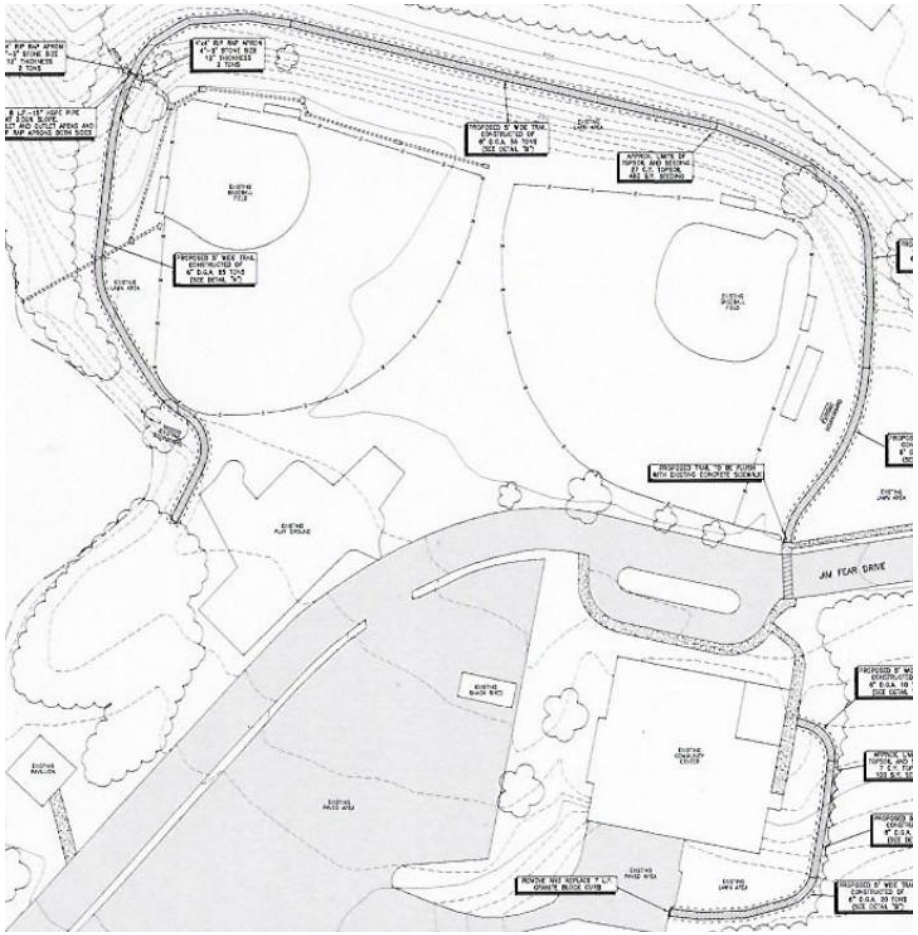
MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL PROGRAM

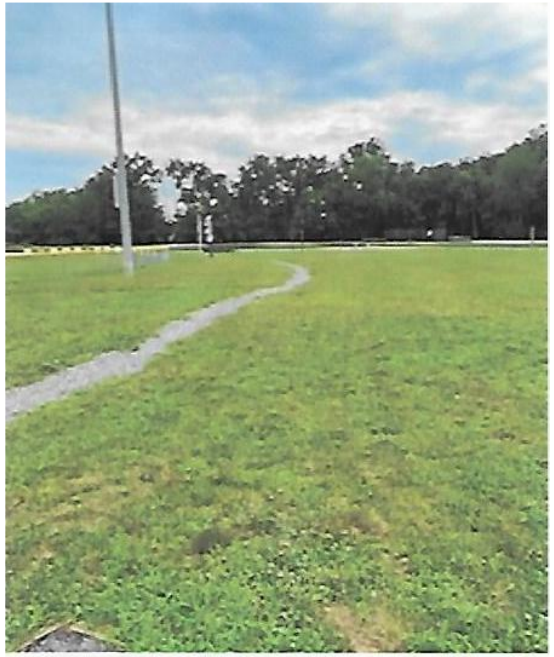
This Construction Project is the result of a 2024 Design Grant. Traverses Community Park, connecting recreational and cultural facilities.

Trail Length & Surface
1,900' Gravel / Stone Dust
1,900' Total linear feet or 0.36 miles
5' Trail Width
$ 88.01/linear foot

Total Construction Costs	$ 167,216.50
Matching Funds	$ 33,443.30
Grant Request	$ 133,733.20

Prior Grants
2024 Design Grant - Community Park Trail





Mount Arlington

McGregor Trails - Major Construction

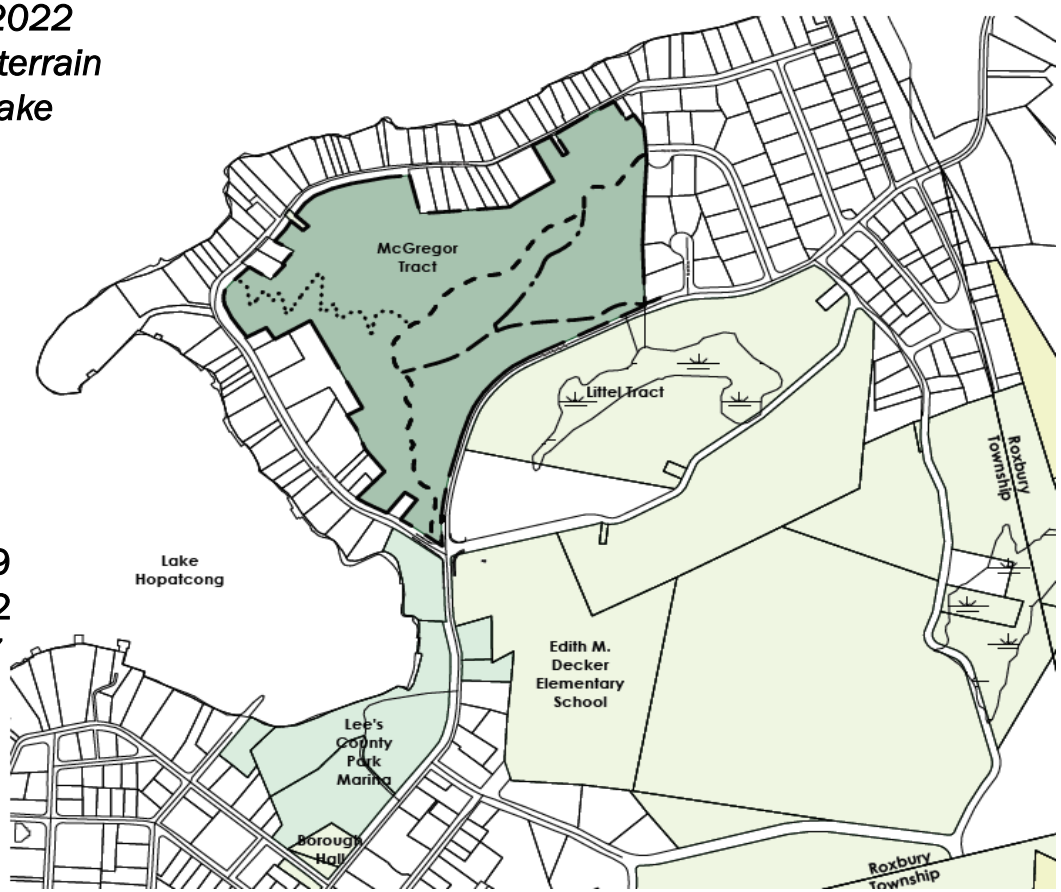
MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL PROGRAM

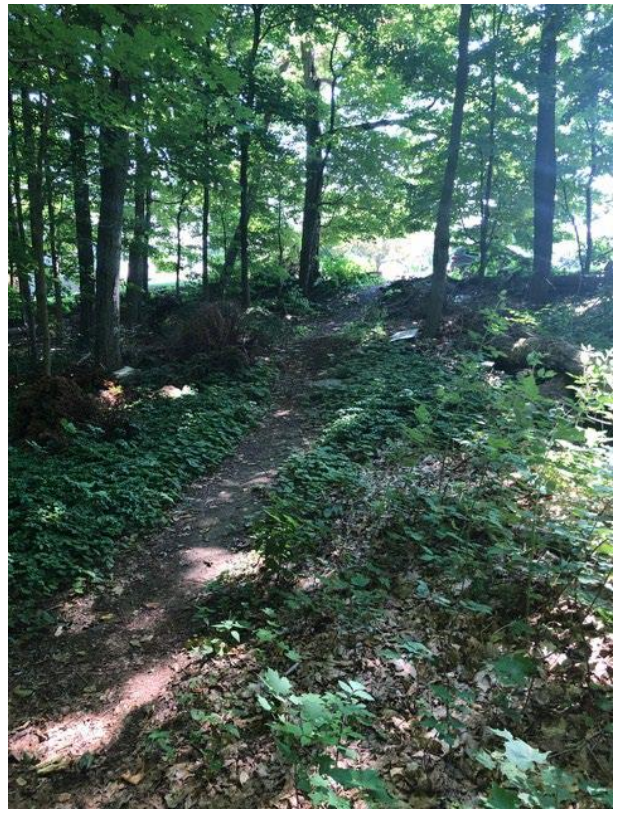
This Construction Project is the result of a 2022 Design Grant. Provides access to a diverse terrain as well as multiple mine ruins and a great lake vista..

<u>Trail Length & Surface</u>
5,880' Native Soil
95' Asphalt
5,975' Total linear feet or 1.12 miles
2' Trail Width
10' Clearing
$ 54.04/linear foot

<u>Total Construction Costs</u>	$ 322,885.09
<u>Matching Funds</u>	$ 64,577.02
<u>Grant Request</u>	$ 258,308.07

<u>Prior Grants</u>
2018 Lake Rogerene Trail Construction
2022 Design - McGregor Trails





Pequannock

Foothills Park Trail Phase-2 - Major Construction

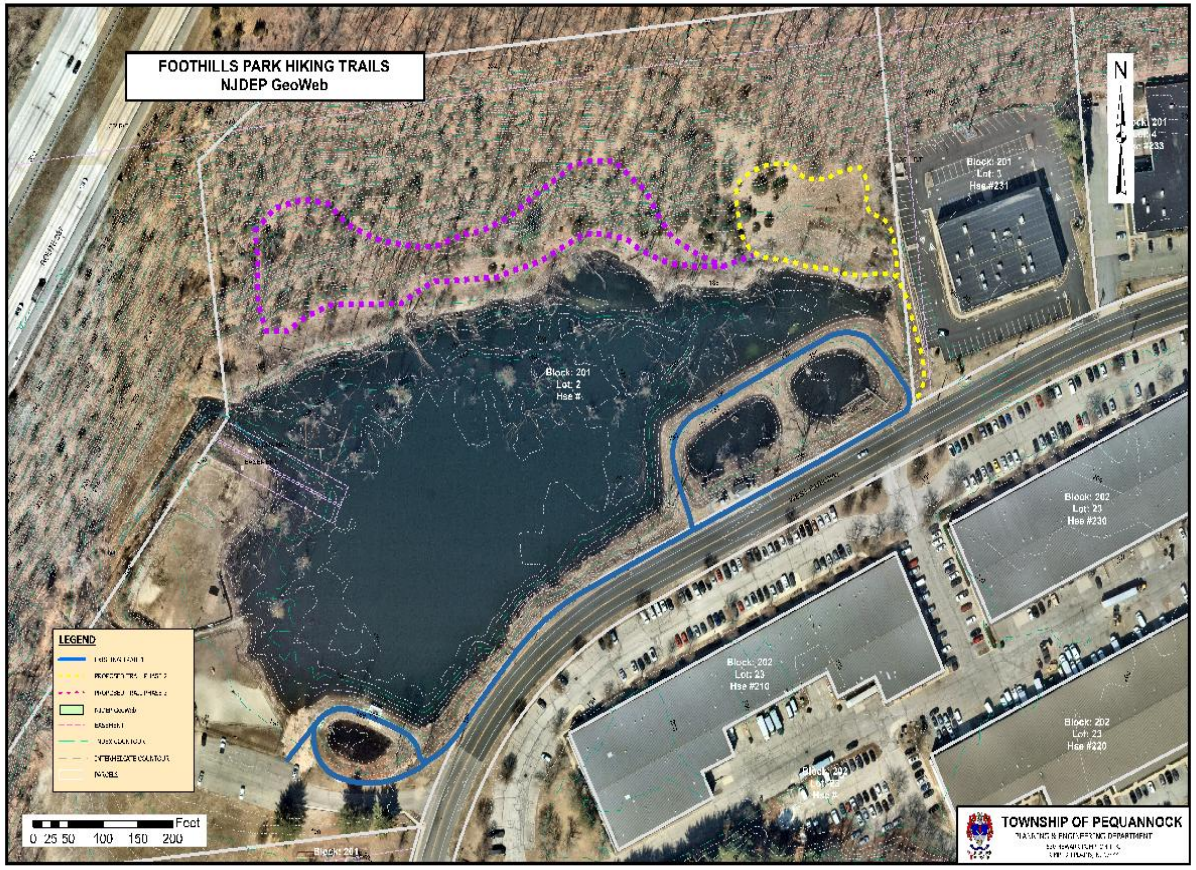
MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL PROGRAM

Phase-1 Construction was funded through the program in 2022. This work will also be done by the Pequannock DPW employees.

Trail Length & Surface
800’ Gravel / Stone Dust
800’ Total linear feet or 0.15 miles
10’ Trail Width
$ 95.08/linear foot

Total Construction Costs	$ 76,065.00
Matching Funds	$ 0.00
Grant Request	$ 76,065.00

Prior Grants
2022 Foothills Park - Phase-1 Construction







Riverdale

Independence Park Walking Trail - Major Construction

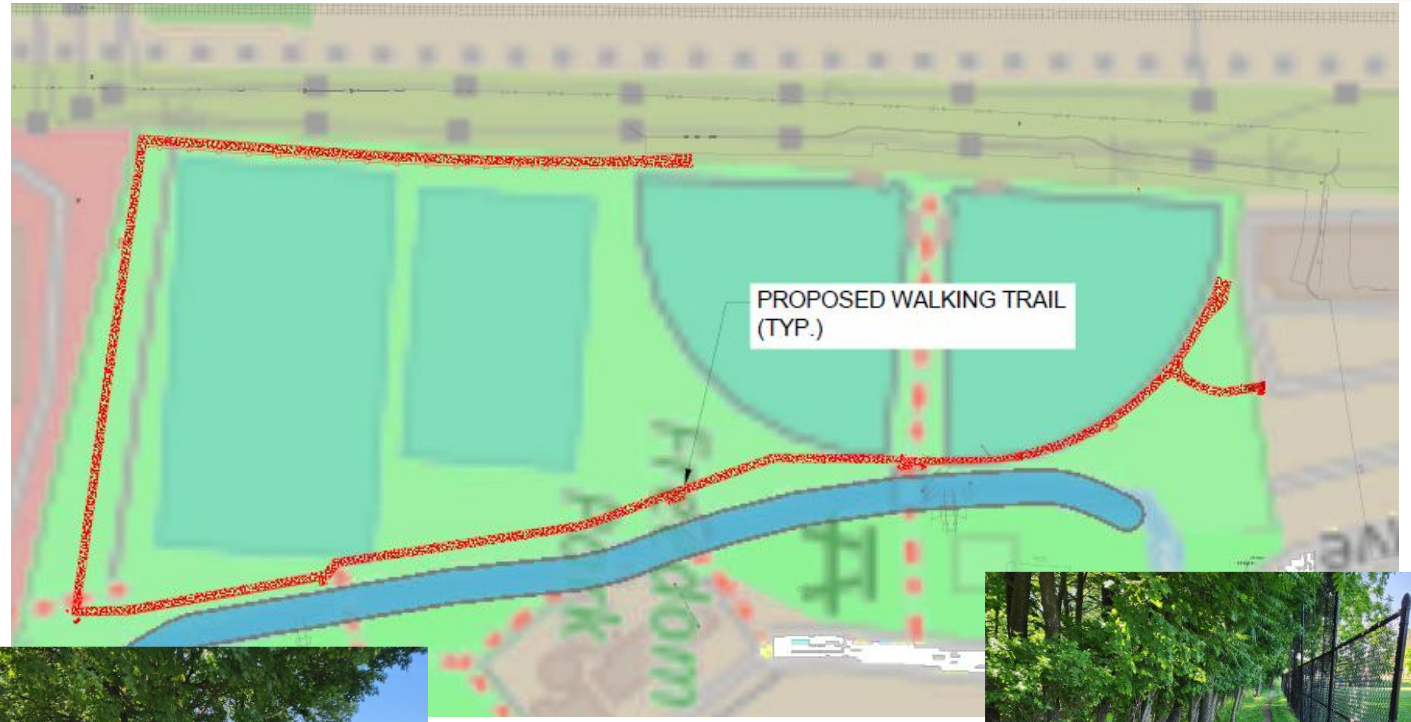
MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL PROGRAM

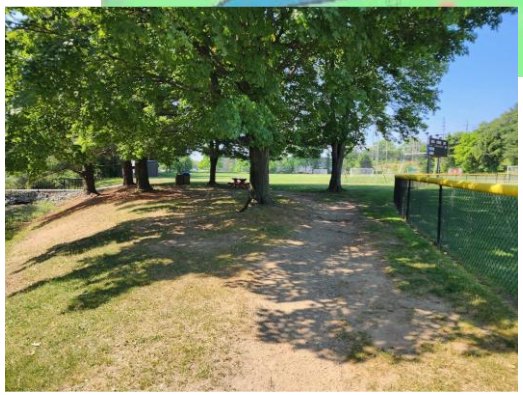
This Construction Project is the result of a 2021 Design Grant creating a walking path around an existing municipal recreation complex.

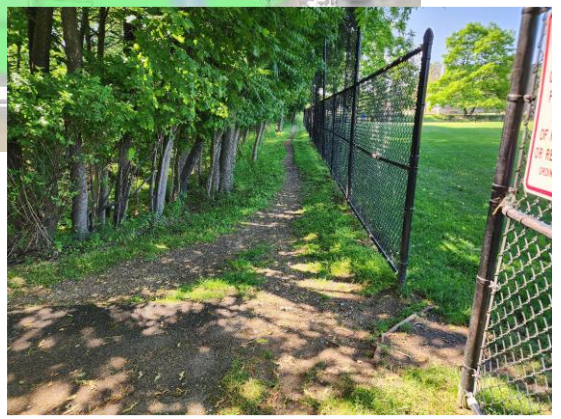
Trail Length & Surface
2,200' Porous Pavement
2,200 Total linear feet or 0.42 miles
6' Trail Width
$ 222.35/linear foot

Total Construction Costs	$ 489,172.50
Matching Funds	$ 97,834.50
Grant Request	$ 391,338.00

Prior Grants
2021 Design - Independence Park Walking Trail







Grant Program Statistics

Trail Construction Grant Program Statistics - Grants

MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL PROGRAM

Year	Construction Grants Awarded	Design Grants Awarded	Construction Grants Returned	Design Grants Returned	Construction Grants Completed	Design Grants Completed	Construction Grants In-Progress	Design Grants In-Progress
2016	13	0	6	0	7	0	0	0
2017	6	0	1	0	5	0	0	0
2018	6	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
2019	6	0	0	0	6	0	0	0
2020	3	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
2021	4	6	0	1	4	4	0	1
2022	3	5	0	1	3	2	0	2
2023	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
2024	3	4	0	0	0	0	3	4
2025	2	6	0	0	0	0	2	6
Totals	**48**	**21**	**8**	**2**	**34**	**6**	**6**	**13**
	69 Grants Awarded		**10 Grants Returned**		**40 Grants Completed**		**19 Grants In-Progress**	

Trail Construction Grant Program Statistics - Miles

MORRIS COUNTY TRAIL PROGRAM

Grant Year	Awarded Construction Miles	Returned Construction Grant Miles	Construction Miles Built Less Than Awarded	Construction Miles In-Progress Not Built	Total Miles Constructed	Awarded Design Miles	Returned Design Grant Miles	Design Miles Designed Less Than Awarded	Design Miles In-Progress	Total Miles Designed
2016	7.05	3.49	0	0	3.56	0	0	0	0	0
2017	3.93	0.17	0.38	0	3.38	0	0	0	0	0
2018	3.09	0	0	0	3.09	0	0	0	0	0
2019	2.77	0	0	0	2.77	0	0	0	0	0
2020	2.83	0.95	0	0	1.88	0	0	0	0	0
2021	2.02	0	0	0	2.02	4.35	0.81	0.5	1	2.04
2022	1.33	0	0.61	0	0.72	3.5	0.55	0	1.26	1.69
2023	0.87	0	0	0.6	0.27	0	0	0	0	0
2024	2.97	0	0	2.97	0	3.47	0	0	3.47	0
2025	2.43	0	0	2.43	0	5.37	0	0	5.37	0
2026	3.96	0	0	3.96	0	0.96	0	0	0.96	0
Sub-Totals	**33.25**	**4.61**	**0.99**	**9.96**	**17.69**	**17.65**	**1.36**	**0.5**	**12.06**	**3.73**
In-Progress/Completed	**27.65**					**15.79**				
2026 Request	**4.92**									
Program Total (2026)	**43.44**									

Trail Construction Grant Program Statistics - Funds

Grant Year	Total Grant Funds Requested	Total Grant Funds Awarded	Total Returned Grants Unused	Reduced Grant Reimbursement	Reimbursed Funds YTD	Encumbered Not Yet Reimbursed
2016	$ 1,013,478.22	$ 660,998.22	$ 205,319.72	$ 8,247.71	$ 447,430.79	$ -
2017	$ 1,155,923.57	$ 578,899.57	$ 63,984.37	$ 48,000.00	$ 466,915.20	$ -
2018	$ 797,713.35	$ 797,713.35	$ -	$ 67,664.15	$ 730,049.20	$ -
2019	$ 827,412.73	$ 827,412.73	$ -	$ 100,139.82	$ 727,272.91	$ -
2020	$ 1,382,874.53	$ 619,058.53	$ 239,820.40	$ 56,963.97	$ 322,274.16	$ -
2021	$ 1,173,788.07	$ 926,498.08	$ 34,081.08	$ 101,503.86	$ 758,913.14	$ 32,000.00
2022	$ 644,564.80	$ 528,264.80	$ 7,760.00	$ 89,805.60	$ 359,911.20	$ 70,788.00
2023	$ 1,458,021.84	$ 304,041.84	$ -	$ 32,793.24	$ 102,045.60	$ 169,203.00
2024	$ 1,389,029.14	$ 1,313,509.14	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,313,509.14
2025	$ 1,240,945.81	$ 1,240,945.81	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,240,865.81
2026	$ 2,290,808.45	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Grand Total	**$ 13,374,560.51**	**$ 7,797,342.07**	**$ 550,965.57**	**$ 505,118.35**	**$ 3,914,812.20**	**$ 2,826,365.95**

*** Total Returned Grants = the Grant was cancelled by the municipality and never completed

*** Reduced Grant Reimbursement = represents projects that came in under bid or were not completed to the full extent of the project scope

*** Enumbered Not Yet Reimbursed = Awarded Projects that are still in progress and not reimbursed