



Schuylkill River Trail

[Schuylkill River Greenways NHA](#)

140 College Drive
Pottstown, PA 19464

Schuylkill River Trail project will reopen the Auburn Bridge in Schuylkill County

A former Pennsylvania Railroad bridge in Auburn will be rehabilitated as part of the extension of the Schuylkill River Trail.

The bridge was constructed in 1919 to cross the Schuylkill River and compete with the Reading Railroad for Schuylkill County's anthracite coal. The Auburn Gap Project will reopen the bridge and build a ¾-mile multi-modal trail wide enough for both cyclists and walkers to use comfortably.

The public is invited to attend the official project announcement and celebration happening 1 p.m. on Nov. 16 at the Game of Commission parking lot in Auburn which can be reached by going to the end of Bear Creek Road then following an unnamed road to the lot. Those using GPS, should use the address "[1199 Bear Creek Road, Auburn, PA.](#)" After the announcement, attendees are invited to join a group bike ride for about a mile to the actual Auburn Bridge using the Schuylkill River Trail.

This project closes the last remaining break of the trail in Auburn which is located near the borders of Berks and Schuylkill Counties. Eliminating the gap will create a 9.5-mile segment of the trail that will not only connect the two counties but also the towns of Auburn, Hamburg and Port Clinton. The trail, as an alternative form of transportation, will promote recreation, health, tourism and more in the region. The project is expected to be completed in 2020.

The Schuylkill River Greenways National Heritage Area builds and manages the Schuylkill River Trail in Berks and Schuylkill Counties with the help of several partners. The Auburn Gap Project is made possible through federal funding from the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, the William Penn Foundation and a partnership with Schuylkill County.

In addition to the Auburn Gap Project, Schuylkill River Greenways NHA currently has several ongoing developments that will continue the extension of the John Bartram Trail, a principal section of the Schuylkill River Trail that runs through Schuylkill and Berks Counties. It's built on a former railroad right-of-way. Currently about 10 miles of the Bartram Trail exists in four disconnected pieces.

