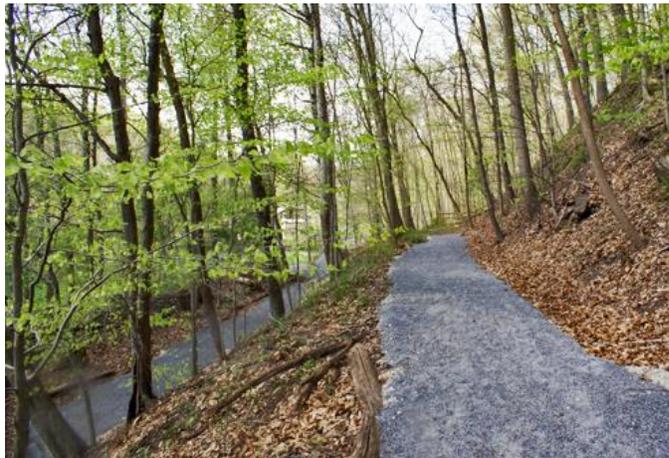




## Landenberg Junction Trail

By Chris Robinson



Looking north on part of the Landenberg Junction Trail. The Lower path is the former Pomeroy & Newark RR. The upper path is the former Wilmington & Western RR. Landenberg Village located center left.

On June 27<sup>th</sup> and after more than two years of work the Friends of the New Garden Trails<sup>1</sup> will open the Landenberg Junction Trail, the third trail of the expanding greenways corridors in New Garden Township. Though the shortest of the three trails the Landenberg Junction Trail offers the most historically rooted “walk through the woods.”

The trail is located in a Township preserve which itself is located in an exceptional natural area known for its rich bio-diversity of plants<sup>2</sup> and animal life. Situated on a steep eastern hillside along the White Clay Creek National Wild and Scenic River it descends to a flat habitat garden of native plants<sup>3</sup> marking the former Hendrickson’s house.

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Three short paths totaling less than a mile comprise the trail. Walking them conveys a sense of area’s history, the mills, the railroads and the former resident, the Hendrickson family<sup>4</sup>. Two parallel paths offer a feel for what it was like “to be there” when two railroads serviced Landenberg, the Pomeroy & Newark RR and the Wilmington & Western RR. A raised platform with an interpretive sign provides a visual perspective of the bustling mill town of Landenberg and its railroads<sup>5</sup> during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.



The habitat garden located at the southern end of the trail. Dozens of native grasses, flowers, shrubs and trees can be viewed while walking through the garden or sitting on a bench. A nearby table by the White Clay Creek (left) provides a picnic area. The easy access to the creek is a popular fishing opportunity during the springtime. Landenberg Village is seen in the background.

There are several manmade features found along the paths. At the entrance there’s a kiosk mapping the paths and a plaque honoring the Hendrickson Family who lived here for generations<sup>3</sup>. A system of ponds collect hillside spring water eventually draining into the creek. A table by the creek side provides a quiet opportunity for a picnic. A rain barrel collects rain from the storage building’s roof and used to irrigate the habitat garden. Benches are placed to view the ponds and garden. A staircase

connects the lower RR path to the upper parallel RR paths where one can get a feel of the White Clay canyon and hear the creek drain south to the adjacent Bone Mill dam.



Landenberg viewed from the widest path connecting the trail entrance to the habitat garden, picnic table and fishing area.



The amphibian pond that Mr. Hendrickson built. Situated on the lower RR track/path it has and continues to provide an enjoyable interaction with the trail's varied and lively frog population. The pond is spring fed and overflows to two lower ponds. The steps provide access between the lower and upper path.



Picnic table by the White Clay Creek.



Stone benches centered in the habitat garden. All plants are native to the White Clay watershed.

**Property Donated or Purchased with funds from the Following:**

- Landenberg Village, LCC (William A. Skalish)
- New Garden Township Board of Supervisors Open Space Fund
- White Clay Creek Watershed Steering Committee (US National Park Service)
- Municipal Grants Program, Commissioners of Chester County, Pennsylvania

**Property Improvements and Trail Construction with Grants from:**

- Green Region PECO Open Space Funds
- E. Kneale Dockstader Foundation

**Volunteer In Kind Contributions:**

- Shane Morgan and Claudia West, Planning and Planting Design Consultants
- V.P. Electrical Contracting
- Laurel Valley Farms, Inc. Soil Division
- David Rickerman, Tree Services Inc.
- Friends of New Garden Trails and the White Clay Watershed Association
- Members of the New Garden Township Open Space Review Board

1. For more information about the Township trails visit the [Friends of the New Garden Trails](#) website.
2. For more information about the Township botanical study [read its report](#).
3. See below for listing of native plants in the habitat garden.
4. Read about Mr. “Nick” Hendrickson from the Lyceum newsletter, [“A Profile of Courage and Community Spirit”](#).
5. For more information about the railroads in Landenberg railroads read the Lyceum article [“Railroads of Landenberg”](#).

## LANDENBERG JUNCTION TRAIL PLANTING 9.13.14

**Latin Name**

**LANDSCAPE PLUGS**

- Aster divaricatus
- Aster n-a 'Purple Dome'
- Carex emoryi
- Carex vulpinoidea
- Chelone glabra
- Elymus glabriflorus
- Eupatorium coelestinum
- Iris versicolor
- Packera aurea
- Physostegia v. 'Pink Manners'
- Tradescantia ohioensis
- Asclepias incarnata
- Lobelia siphilitica
- Monarda didyma

**Common Name**

**(Click to see image)**

- [White wood aster](#)
- [Aster purple dome](#)
- [Emory's sedge](#)
- [Fox sedge](#)
- [White turtle head](#)
- [South eastern wild rye](#)
- [Blue mist flower](#)
- [Blueflag Iris](#)
- [Golden groundsel](#)
- [Obedient plant](#)
- [Ohio spiderwort](#)
- [Swamp milkweed](#)
- [Blue lobelia](#)
- [Bee balm](#)

**SEED MIX (1lb)**

- Desmodium canadense
- Lobelia cardinalis
- Eupatorium perfoliatum
- Mimulus ringens
- Solidago caesia

- [Showy Tick Trefoil](#)
- [Cardinal Flower](#)
- [Boneset](#)
- [Monkey Flower](#)
- [Blue stem godenrod](#)

Vernonia noveboracensis  
Veronicastrum virginicum  
Zizia aurea  
chelone glabra  
Bidens cernua  
Aster novae-angliae  
(Symphyotrichum)  
Tradescantia ohiensis  
Panicum rigidulum  
Onoclea sensibilis  
Panicum clandestinum  
Juncus tenuis  
Chasmanthium latifolium  
Carex vulpinoidea  
Carex scoparia  
Carex lurida  
Carex grayii

#### **SHRUBS/TREES**

Hamamelis virginiana  
Viburnum dentatum  
Quercus bicolor  
Cornus alternifolia

[NY Ironweed](#)  
[Culver's Root](#)  
[Golden Alexander](#)  
[white turtlehead](#)  
[Nodding bur marigold](#)  
  
[New england aster](#)  
[Ohio spiderwort](#)  
[Redtop panic grass](#)  
[Sensative Fern](#)  
[Deer Tongue](#)  
[path rush](#)  
[River Oats](#)  
[fox sedge](#)  
[Blunt broom sedge](#)  
[Lurid sedge](#)  
[Gray's sedge](#)

[Witch Hazel](#)  
[Arrow wood](#)  
[Swamp white oak](#)  
[Alternate leaved dogwood](#)