

Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape SUCCESS STORY

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Tally the Trails Phase I (2013)

SUMMARY

Tally the Trails aimed to measure use of trails in Luzerne County in order to understand who is using the trail and how people are using them. This Phase focused on the completed section of the D&L Trail from Mountaintop to White Haven North trailhead. This involved placing trail counters on the trail section, as well as an intercept survey of Black Diamond Trail users.



CHALLENGE

Information gathered by trail counters and surveys can be shared with the D&L Trail and other stakeholders to increase the understanding of the current trail use and to provide that information to decision makers and funding sources in order to garner public support for the trail's completion in Luzerne County. As the trail continues to extend North into Luzerne County, a greater understanding of the ways in which county residents prefer to use and interact with the trail is necessary in order to make the most informed decisions as more sections of trail are planned and constructed.

FUNDING

Grant Award:
\$3,310

Match:
\$3,318

Total Project Cost:
\$6,621

PARTNERSHIP IS KEY

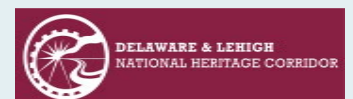
**Delaware & Lehigh National
Heritage Corridor**

**Dr. Michael Polgar, Penn State
Hazleton**

Live Well Luzerne County

**Luzerne County Bikes and
Walks**

Black Diamond Trail Council



SOLUTION

Funds were used to purchase four trail counters and necessary software. The D&L was consulted regarding the best places to station the trail counters. Volunteers were recruited to install and read counters. Black Diamond Trail users were additionally surveyed in order to improve comparability to find out more about trail use and economic impact of the trail.

RESULTS

A variety of information was gathered using the trail counters and surveys. This includes findings such as:

- Measured trailhead use is greatest at Tannery Road
- Use in winter months is relatively low; use increases significantly in spring
- 51 trail users completed surveys during the month of May
- Most Black Diamond Trail users are local (38%) but other users from 22 different zip codes in PA
- Black Diamond Trail users reported spending an average of \$17 on that trip

Contact



www.LVgreenways.org

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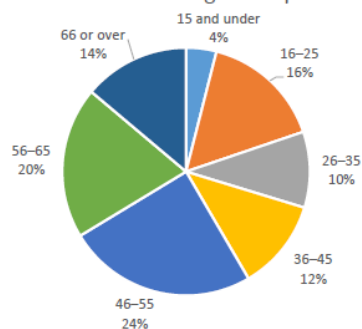
Conservation

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2. Trail User Age Groups



1. D&L Black Diamond Trail Use: Frequency

