

History Along the Trail

Ferries Across the Susquehanna

Before one could take the bridges across the Susquehanna one had to take a ferry. There were many ferries, usually named after the operator or location. When the owner changed, the name of the ferry was changed. Before the dams, the river varied in depth through out the year. Some of the ferries could only operate when the water was up. The following is a partial list of the ferries starting at the mouth of the river. There may be ferries that are missed. The renaming of ferries when ownership changed makes it confusing. Also, due to the dams, a lot of the original locations are under water.



LOWER SUSQUEHANNA FERRY

Was established in 1695 and ran from Stockett's Town (Havre de Grace) to Perryville near the Rogers Tavern. Operated for 170 years connecting the post road on both sides of the river. The post road was the major road between Baltimore and Philadelphia in colonial times.

UPPER FERRY

Also known as Bell's Ferry, Smith's Ferry and Creswell's Ferry—started in 1727, ran from Lapidum to Port Deposit.

RAILROAD FERRY

Operated 1837 to 1866 between Havre de Grace and Perryville to haul railroad cars of the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore Railroad.

BALD FRY'S FERRY

Also known as Friar's and started in 1695 near Conowingo Dam at a ford. Both Lafayette and Comte de Rochambeau used the ford and ferry to move troops to Virginia during the Revolutionary War.

PEACH BOTTOM FERRY

Was located near where the nuclear power plant is. Started around 1738. Used by the Mason and Dixon survey team on Nov 7, 1765.

OLSON'S FERRY

One end was near Muddy Creek.

MCCALLS FERRY

Also known as Ashmore's / Stevenson's / Nelson's / McMillen's / White's. Started about 1740 with one end at McCall's Ferry Road.

REED'S FERRY

Also known as Fulton's, ran from above Otter Creek to Pequea.

BURKHOLDER'S/SHANKS FERRY

Operated from 1762 to 1920's. A small village was on the York side with a post office that operated between 1892 and 1908.

BLUE ROCK FERRY

Ran from Dritt Mansion to Blue Rock Road. Originally Thomas Cresap's ferry in 1730. Became Myers then Dritt Ferry.

WRIGHTS FERRY

Operated from 1730 to 1901. Wrightsville was named after John Wright. There is a Wright mansion in Columbia, PA (originally called Wright's Ferry).

ANDERSON'S FERRY

Also known as Coyle's or Glatz's, ran from Accomac Inn to Marietta. Granted an official charter in Nov 1742. In 1825, the first metal hulled steamboat named "Codorus" was operated in this area.

VINEGAR FERRY

Ran from Marietta to Conowingo Creek. Corruption of Christian Winiker's name.

LOWES FERRY

Lowes (Logan's or Wilke's) from Bainbridge to the Gut/Brunner Island).

Image shows a ferry scene on the Susquehanna at Wright's Ferry, near Havre de Grace. Pavel Petrovich Svinin (1787/88-1839), 1811-13.

<http://columbiahistory.net/history-2/wrights-ferry/>

Mason-Dixon Quarterly Hike and Meeting

Quarterly Hike and Meeting

Sat, Nov 14, 2015

Hike: 9:00 am

Meeting: 1:00 pm

Hike/Trail Marking: 9:00 am White Clay Creek State Park (Delaware) Nature Center Parking Area.

Meeting: 1:00 pm Newark Free Library Community Room

Go to page 2 for more details.

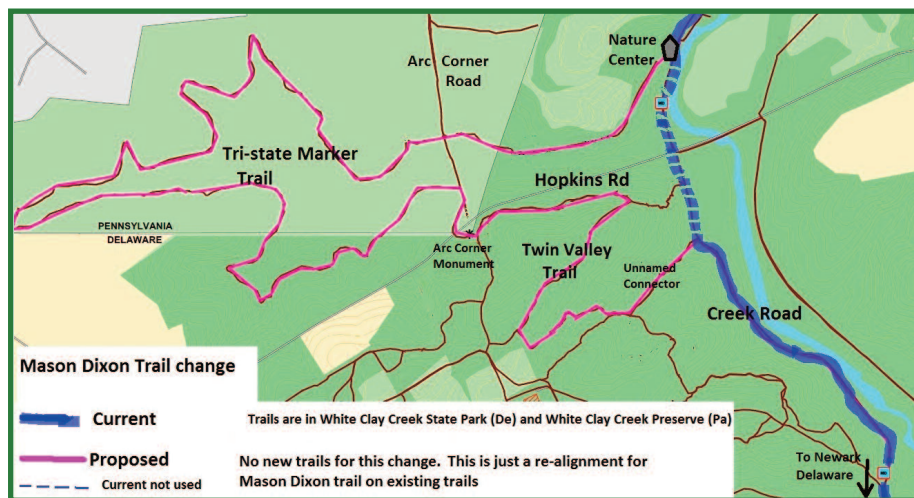
Quarterly Hike and Meeting

HIKE/TRAIL MARKING – 9:00 AM

White Clay Creek State Park (Delaware) Nature Center Parking Area. There is an \$8 charge for out-of-staters. Mike has limited number of free parking passes for the boardmembers, so please car pool with one of them.

MEETING – 1:00 PM

Newark Free Library Community Room (750 Library Ave), at intersection of Main Street and Rt 72 (Library Ave). Access is only from Main Street (1-way street) westbound. Follow signs for library.



DIRECTIONS TO HIKE/TRAIL MARKING

Lancaster-Strasburg Area:

Traveling south on Rt-896 (about 9 miles past Rt 1) you will enter Delaware. About 1/2 mile further, turn left onto Hopkins Road. Go about 0.8 miles, then turn left onto gravel road, (just before the bridge over White Clay Creek) following signs for the Nature Center. In about 0.3 miles the parking area will be on the left

Maryland Area:

Either I-95 or Rt-273 to Newark Delaware. Take Rt-896 north out of Newark. Just after passing Carpenter Area of White Clay Creek State park on the right, turn right onto Hopkins Road. Go about 0.8 miles, then turn left onto gravel road, (just before the bridge over White Clay Creek) following signs for the Nature Center. In about 0.3 miles the parking area will be on the left.

THE HIKE/TRAIL MARKING

The objective will be to officially open a new section of the Mason Dixon Trail that is being re-designated onto the newly completed Tri State Trail and existing trails in Carpenter area of White Clay Creek State Park. Ironical that parts of trails being used in Carpenter are where the Mason Dixon trail was routed 10 years ago.

The trails in the White Clay Creek (both Pa and De) are marked by newest style of posts that have 4 x 4 wood post with a slip over PVC square tube and cap. Decals applied to the side of post are used to mark the trails. NO BLAZING IS USED, and any possible trail intersection is clearly marked. The purpose of the hike is to apply Mason Dixon trail decals to the posts. This will also be an opportunity to hike the newly completed Tri-State trail. The hike starts at Delaware Nature Center and trailhead for Tri State Trail. The hike covers:

- 3.0 miles Tri-State trail segment
- 1.2 miles connector and Carpenter trails that M-D trail will use
- 0.4 miles return on Creek Road Trail (replaced part of M-D trail)

The net addition to Mason Dixon Trail System is 3.9 miles.

President's Message

This will be my last President's Message since we will elect new officers at the end of the year and I am stepping down as president. The nominations for positions will go out after the November board meeting. We are still in need of someone for the Eastern Section Trail Coordinator.

MAINTAINERS

We fell behind on our trail maintenance this year because the Thursday work crew was tied up with building the Apollo Park Shelter. Also, we have lost a couple of key maintainers. One of them, Dave Linthicum, maintained the Broad Creek to Conowingo Dam section for 31 years! His doctor said he had to quit due to a back problem.

MAINTAINING

We need to get out with weed whackers in late May or early June. Many sections grew closed this year due to the rain we got in June. If you need to borrow a weed whacker please let me know.

FURNACE RUN

Tim and I met with the Game Commission land manager about the culvert at the junction of Furnace Run and Saw Mill Run. They do not have any equipment big enough to remove the culvert so we have to look at another solution to crossing Furnace Run.

M-DT Articles and Videos Wanted

We are always looking for articles and videos that are somehow related to the Mason-Dixon Trail that we can either link to or serve directly. If you have a story about a great hike, a video that features the Mason-Dixon Trail, are a service provider of some sort along the M-DT and want to talk about it or know of some great history along the M-DT, we would like to hear from you.

Please use our Contact Us form at the link below and tell us about what you would like to submit. You will be contacted with further instructions. If approved by our Board of Directors we can either link to or serve an article or video that you have created. The article or video would appear on either our web site, our Facebook site, or our newsletter. Web site articles are rotated every 2 to 4 weeks.

http://www.mason-dixontrail.org/request_info1.php

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Vacant

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Check Out Our Website!

Check out our website for trail updates, news, suggested hikes, information about the trail, and much more!

www.mason-dixontrail.org

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The Mason-Dixon Trail System

The Mason-Dixon Trail connects the Appalachian Trail with the Brandywine Trail. This 196 mile long trail starts at Whiskey Springs on the Appalachian Trail, in Cumberland County, PA and heads east towards the Susquehanna River, passing through Gifford Pinchot State Park en route. The trail then follows the west bank of the Susquehanna River south to Havre de Grace in Maryland. Across the river, the M-DT continues east, passes through Elk Neck State Forest, then on to Iron Hill Park in Delaware, north along the Christina River and White Clay Creek to the White Clay Creek Preserve. The trail then heads northeast to its eastern terminus at Chadds Ford, PA on the banks of the Brandywine River.



Special Message: Updated: 11/08/2015 16:22:57

The next work hike/quarterly meeting of the M-DTS will be Saturday, November 14, 2015 at White Clay Creek State Park, DE. All are welcome to attend. Here are the details:
The hike is at 9:00 AM; The quarterly meeting is at 1:00 PM.
Hike/Trail Marking: 9:00 AM at White Clay Creek State Park, DE Nature Center Parking Area. There is an \$8 charge for

[Click/Tap Here for Additional Details...](#)

NEWS:

[PA Waterfalls: Mill Creek in York County](#)

[M-DT Trail Maintenance Sections Available](#)

The M-DTS Newsletter is published about four weeks in advance of each of the four M-DTS board meetings held annually. Submissions are welcomed.

The Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc. is a non-profit all-volunteer, service-oriented association of trail clubs and individual hikers that has as its purpose the use and conservation of the backcountry through the development of new trails in the mid-Atlantic states. The nucleus of M-DTS is the 193-mile Mason-Dixon Trail which passes through historic and scenic areas of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware.

New members are welcome. To join, send \$25 (which covers cost of M-DT maps and patch) to:

Mason-Dixon Trail System

Frank Kempf, 2174 Esbenshade Road, York, PA 17408

Thereafter, the annual fee is \$7. Life membership is available for \$250.

Visit the Mason-Dixon Trail web site at: www.mason-dixontrail.org