

Montour Trail Council
304 Hickman Street, Suite #3
Bridgeville, PA 15017

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**MONTOUR TRAIL AMONG HARD-HIT FLOOD AREAS;
NEARLY 10 MILES OF TRAIL CLOSED; TRAIL LEADERS
DETERMINED TO REPAIR QUICKLY, BUT HELP NEEDED**

Floodwaters from Hurricane Ivan have heavily damaged some sections of the Montour Trail. For the safety of the public, the Montour Trail has been closed from Mile 0 (at Montour Road and Route 51 in Moon Township) to Mile 9.5 at North Star Road in North Fayette Township. The trail is open from mile 9.5 to mile 29 at Hendersonville in Cecil Township except for a 0.4-mile road detour at mile 22. Also open are the previously completed sections in Peters Township, Bethel Park and South Park Township. The inspection of the Large to Clairton section will be completed today.

Volunteer crews spent the weekend assessing damage to the trail. The worst devastation occurred in the lower sections along the Trail's namesake Montour Run. In Moon, Robinson, and Findlay Townships numerous washouts of several feet deep extend for hundreds of yards. Fortunately, all of the bridges survived, but several cannot be crossed due to large washouts adjacent to them. Damage estimates are being compiled and funding sources are being investigated. Repairs will begin as funding becomes available.

It is hoped that some less damaged sections can be restored and re-opened within a few weeks. Trail re-openings will be announced on the Trail's website.

"Numerous offers of help have been received from volunteers," said Dennis Pfeiffer, President of the Montour Trail Council. "Information on volunteer work parties will be posted on the trail website (www.montourtrail.org). Also, monetary donations can be sent to the Montour Trail Council at 304 Hickman St, Suite #3, Bridgeville, PA 15017."

The second annual Tour the Montour bike ride will be held as scheduled on September 25th. However, the start of the ride has been moved to the Boggs Trailhead at trail mile 11.5. Please see the Trail's website for more details.

The Montour Trail is one of Western PA's most heavily used recreational resources, with 39 miles of active trail in use in Allegheny and Washington Counties. When complete, it will extend from Coraopolis to Clairton. It is part of the Great Allegheny Passage network of trails that will connect the Pittsburgh area to Washington, D.C. Additional information about the Montour Trail can be found at www.montourtrail.org or (412) 257-3011.