

April 29, 2005 - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ALLEGHENY COUNTY REGIONAL ASSET DISTRICT AWARDS MONTOUR TRAIL \$50,000 FOR FLOOD REPAIR; FINDLAY TOWNSHIP COMPLETES TRAIL RESTORATION WITHIN ITS BOUNDARIES

The Montour Trail Council (MTC) is pleased to announce two major developments in repairs of the flood-damaged Montour Trail.

The Allegheny County Regional Asset District (ARAD) has awarded the Montour Trail Council \$50,000 from a special storm emergency grant program created in November 2004 following Hurricane Ivan's impact.

Funds will be used primarily to restore a section of trail in Robinson Township, between Old Beaver Grade Road (mile 3.1) and Park Manor Drive (mile 4.1), which remains impassable and closed to all trail traffic. Extensive sub-base repairs are needed in this section. The estimated cost is over \$41,000 just to complete the sub-base repair and stream bank restoration near Old Beaver Grade Road.

"We would like to thank ARAD for their generous support," said MTC President Dennis Pfeiffer. "These funds will enable the MTC to give our contractor the notice to continue sub-base repairs in the most severely damaged section of the trail in Robinson Township."

Farther south, the Findlay Township Road Department has completed restoration of the trail in Findlay Township by laying the final limestone surface material. This project, from the Parkway West overpass at trail mile 5.1 to the Findlay Activity Center (mile 8.5) was led by department manager John O'Neil using material purchased by the MTC. The Findlay Township road crew had previously restored the base with asphalt millings donated by Allegheny County.

The MTC thanks the Findlay Township Road Department and John O'Neil for their efforts, as well as the township supervisors (Chairperson Tom Gallant, Vice-Chair Janet L. Craig, and Raymond L. Chappell) for approving the project.

The MTC is now focusing on continued reconstruction needs from mile 0 to mile 5.1. As funding becomes available, it is hoped that Moon and Robinson Townships will be able to assist with the restoration of this section.

The MTC is very thankful for the many generous monetary and in-kind contributions it has received. Donations for flood repair can be sent to the Montour Trail Council at 304 Hickman St, Suite #3, Bridgeville, PA 15017.

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.