

Montour Trail Council  
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Bridgeville, PA 15017

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## MONTOUR TRAIL'S NEW MUSE-BISHOP BRIDGE TO OPEN OCTOBER 15, 10 DAYS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The Montour Trail Council will celebrate the opening of its new bridge over Muse-Bishop Road in Cecil Township, Washington County on Saturday, October 15, beginning at 2:00 p.m.

The new 190-foot-long bridge, painted in a colorful Aztec gold, was installed to replace a concrete arch tunnel built in 1913 by the Montour Railroad. The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) had determined that the tunnel was unsafe for Muse-Bishop Road vehicle traffic.

The new bridge towers 48 feet above Muse-Bishop Road, which is scheduled to reopen on Friday, October 14--ten days earlier than the original projected opening date of October 24.

Completion of the bridge restores continuity to the Cecil section of the Montour Trail, almost exactly 13 years after it became the first section of Montour Trail mileage to open.

As part of the ceremony, special guest and U.S. Congressman Tim Murphy will present a federal grant award to the Montour Trail Council. Dennis Sims, president of the Cecil Friends of the Montour Trail, will be master of ceremonies.

The ceremony will take place on the east side of the new bridge. As there is no parking in the immediate area, those attending should park at one of four locations along the trail: Cecil Park (1.3 miles west of Muse-Bishop), Cowden Road (3/4 mile west), Kurnick trailhead on Cecil-Henderson Road (1.5 miles east), or Hendersonville (3 miles east). [Detailed directions to each trailhead follow this release.]

Light refreshments will be served at the ceremony, and a picnic will follow in Cecil Park.

"Our general contractor, Carmen Paliotta, Inc., deserves praise for completing this complex job 10 days ahead of schedule," said MTC president Dennis Pfeiffer. The new

bridge was designed by Mackin Engineering of Findlay Township, Allegheny County.

The Montour Trail is one of Western Pennsylvania's most heavily used recreational resources, with 40 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 Allegheny Trail Alliance 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](http://www.montourtrail.org) or (412) 257-3011.

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#### Parking options for Muse-Bishop bridge opening ceremony

##### Cecil Park (1.3 Miles west of Muse-Bishop bridge)

Take I-79 to Route 50 west at Bridgeville. About two miles west of the end of the four-lane portion of Route 50, Cecil Township Park is on the left. Park in western lot (near municipal bldg) and follow signs across creek.

##### Cowden Road (3/4 mile west of Muse-Bishop bridge)

Take I-79 to Route 50 west at Bridgeville. One mile west of the end of the four-lane portion of Route 50 turn left onto Cowden Road. Before crossing trail, turn right and park along road.

##### Cecil-Henderson Road, Kurnick Trailhead (1/5 miles east of Muse-Bishop bridge)

Take I-79 to the Southpointe/Hendersonville exit (exit 48). At the bottom of the exit ramp, turn east towards Hendersonville and go 0.5 miles to a stop sign. Turn left at the stop sign onto Morganza Road, and then go 0.6 miles downhill and turn left onto Cecil-Henderson road. Travel 1.2 miles on Cecil-Henderson to the trail access/parking area on the left directly across from Caley Lane.

##### Hendersonville (3 miles east of Muse-Bishop bridge)

Take I-79 to the Southpointe/Hendersonville exit (exit 48). At the bottom of the exit ramp, turn east towards Hendersonville and go 0.5 miles to a stop sign. Turn left at the stop sign onto Morganza Road, and then go 0.5 miles downhill to the intersection with Oriole Drive. The right turn to the access/parking area is behind the deli building (with the flag pole in front).