



Lumber Heritage Region

# Indian Park Nature Trail

- Montoursville, Lycoming County

## THIS PROJECT AT A GLANCE

### Type of Project—

Created three Interpretive panels and their aluminum pedestals, as well as three nature trail blaze signs with links to on-line information and resources through QR Code technology. The signage was designed within the context of design guidelines established by the LHR's Interpretive Plan, as well as working within the design guidelines established by the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership.

### Funding —

The LHR contributed \$5K toward this Project. With a total project cost of over \$200K. With funds also provided DCNR, DCED, First Community Foundation of PA, Montoursville Borough, Rotary Club, Kiwanis Club, and Lycoming County.

The Nature Trail will attract many existing users of Indian Park, as well as attracting visits from those using the Williamsport Bikeway. The project is an excellent example of asset based development, using the park's existing natural and cultural features to enhance recreation and improve the community's quality of life. The building is staffed by volunteers through out the summer season to assist with the needs of travelers.

The Nature Trail will create a unique recreational amenity for the region, providing ADA parking and accessible trail around the periphery of the pond. The project will lead to improved recreation, human health, and water quality.

The Nature Trail will support LHR's effort to build community connections and connect people to the region's natural and cultural heritage. The extent of interagency cooperation and organizational support for the project is best illustrated below by the list of partners providing cash and in-kind contributions.

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## Indian Park Nature Trail

### NATIVE PLANTS



## History of Recreation

**A Lumberman's Getaway:**  
This area of Montoursville, at the end of the Park Century, was called Starr Island Park. The park was a refuge for Lumbermen and their families seeking to escape the crowded towns of Williamsport. Starr Island Park offered a chance to reconnect with nature, fish in Mill Creek and Lake, take the Williamsport Trolley for larger numbers of visitors to enjoy the attractions of Indian Amusement Park.

The Indian Park Nature Trail is part of the on-going process of changing recreational needs. The trail provides improved access to the pond for people of all ages and abilities and helps reconnect residents to the natural world, as well as providing a glimpse into Montoursville's rich history.

**Williamsport Trolley: 1895**

The trolley provided convenient way for people living in Williamsport to access Starr Island Park. Look for the remains of the concrete trolley platforms, now used as a venue for shuffleboard games.

**Ferris Wheel & Theatre: early 1920's**

In the early 1920s, Indian Amusement Park represented the next era of recreation for residents and visitors. A variety of different attractions were present including a Ferris Wheel, Theatre, Laughing Gallery, Carousel, and a Miniature Railway.

**Roller Coaster: early 1920's**

This Indian Amusement Park roller coaster, known as the Exp-The-Dips, was similar in design to one shown above, attracted thrill seekers from all over Pennsylvania. The wooden roller coaster was closed in 1924 due to the cost of annual repairs caused by spring flooding.

**The Tabernacle: early 1930's**

The Great Depression, recurring flooding, and the rise of the automobile contributed to the decline of Indian Amusement Park. The park was the site of a religious camp in the 30's. The Tabernacle, an important gathering space in the camp, was relocated to Luster in 1947.

Thanks. Photos provided by the General Electric Historical Society of Montoursville.

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# PENN COLLEGE KILN PROJECT

- Williamsport, Lycoming County

## THIS PROJECT AT A GLANCE

### Type of Project—

The purchase of a new lumber dry kiln chamber and consumables for Forest technology.

### Funding —

The LHR contributed \$5K toward this Project through the 2016 Mini-Grant Program. Other funding was supplied by KWPA and Penn College.

The kiln project — aided financially by other related industry groups, wood products companies, and Penn College and Williamsport Area Community College alumni and friends — will augment the hands-on curriculum for students in Penn College's two-year forest technology major. The kiln project — aided financially by other related industry groups, wood products companies, and Penn College and Williamsport Area Community College alumni and friends — will augment the hands-on curriculum

for students in Penn College's two-year forest technology major. The forest technology major has historically provided quality education for students at Penn College and its WACC predecessor, including the theory and practice of kiln drying, products and career opportunities. The new chamber will provide 90 inches of inside kiln width, more than 140 square feet of interior space, two kiln carts and a combination track, as well as other features that will complement the student learning experience.



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