

CIRCUIT TRAILS

INTRODUCTION

The Circuit Trail System is an expansive, regional network of multi-use trails within the Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey region. Hundreds of miles of Circuit Trails serve as a link between local communities, connecting people with public land, healthy recreation, and active transportation routes. Whether you live in the city or the suburbs, Circuit Trails offer the opportunity to connect with nature, community, and our region’s heritage. The Circuit Trail Network is built and maintained by a variety of public and private entities throughout the greater Philadelphia region.

There are many trails in the Greater Philadelphia region, but not all of them are considered Circuit Trails. Circuit Trails are held to specific structural standards and criteria including:

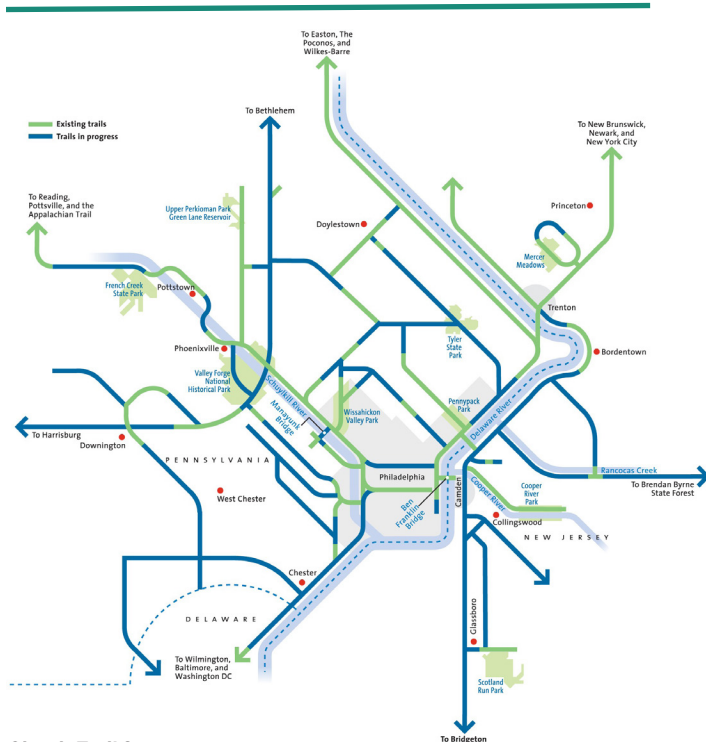
- Paved or Solid Surface
- Multi-purpose; biking and pedestrian use
- Off-road
- 10 feet wide or greater
- Connect to existing Circuit Trails



Cyclists on the Struble Trail (Circuit Trail)

APPLICABILITY TO THE BRANDYWINE CREEK GREENWAY

1. **Recreation:** Expanding access to off-road trails and green spaces fosters hiking, biking, fishing, kayaking and other outdoor related activities.
2. **Connection:** Circuit Trails connect residents to municipal buildings, cultural and historic sites, local businesses, and community-led gatherings.
3. **Transportation:** The Circuit Trail System provides safe, accessible, and alternate transportation routes for residents looking to commute from work or school or run errands.
4. **Stewardship:** Circuit Trails can help highlight the benefits of connectivity and promote stewardship, educational programming, and future capital improvement projects.



Circuit Trail System



IMPLEMENTATION

Adding a Circuit Trail is a collective effort on behalf of the Circuit Trail Coalition, Public Partners, Municipalities and Local Community Members. The Circuit Coalition is a collaboration of non-profit organizations, foundations, and agencies working to advance completion of the Circuit Trail Network:

- Public Engagement and Support
- Coalition and Partner Collaboration
- Securing funding from private, local, State and Federal Government Grants
- Planning and Design for Trails and Connections
- Conduct Feasibility and Environmental Impact Studies
- Acquire Right-of-Ways
- Construction and Connection to the Circuit
- Trail Maintenance and Stewardship



SUCCESSFUL CASE STUDIES

Brandywine Creek Trail:

- Chester County
- Currently 2.5 miles
- Circuit Connections – Struble Trail (Brandywine Creek) and Octoraro Trail (Planned)
- Points of Interest - M. John Johnson Nature Center, Harmony Hill Nature Area, Gibson's Covered Bridge

Perkiomen Trail:

- Chester County
- Currently 20 miles
- Circuit Connections – Schuylkill River Trail, Power Line Trail, and Audubon Loop Trail
- Points of Interest - Green Lane Park, John James Audobon Center, Pennypacker Mills

Chester Valley Trail:

- Chester and Montgomery Counties
- Currently 19.13 miles
- Circuit Connection – Schuylkill River Trail, Brandywine Creek Trail (Planned), Valley Forge Gateway Trail
- Points of Interest - King of Prussia Mall, Valley Forge National Historic Park (via the Schuylkill River Trail), Exton Park

Schuylkill River Trail (SRT):

- Berks, Chester, Montgomery, Philadelphia, and Schuylkill Counties
- Currently 82.4 miles
- Circuit Connections – Cross County Trail, Wissahickon Trail, Chester Valley Trail.
- Points of Interest - Schuylkill River Heritage Area Headquarters, Allegheny Aqueduct Historical Park, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Fairmount Park

For more information on Circuit Trail locations, itineraries, plans and more, visit the Circuit Trail Website at <https://circuittrails.org/>



BRANDYWINE
CONSERVANCY

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