

## History

The Union Canal Walking trail is a mile long hike encompassing forest, farmland and three locks of the historic Union Canal.

The Union Walking Trail began with the planting of trees along the Union Canal. Today the trail can be walked in either direction from the parking area. The scenic loop runs along pasture, wooded areas, the canal and farmland.

The Union Canal Walking trail contains three historical locks that are part of the Union canal that was proposed by William Penn in 1690. The Union Canal and tunnel is the oldest existing hand built and engineered transportation tunnel in the United States. The State Legislature granted permission to raise \$400,000 by lottery in 1795.

Work on the Union Canal and tunnel began May 1825 and was completed in June 1827, at a total cost of \$30,404.29. The Union Canal was called the “Golden Link” because it was a critical link in early transportation.

## Points of Interest

- Scenic pastures and farmland.
- Beautiful wooded area.
- The Union Canal and three historical locks.

## Project Background

This brochure and trail map provided as a volunteer public service project by Austen Heller, class of 2007, Cedar Crest High School, fall 2006.

### References:

Taber, Thomas T., III (1987). *Railroads of Pennsylvania Encyclopedia and Atlas*. Thomas T. Taber III.

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