

Having trouble reading this email? [View it on your browser.](#)

A Federal, State and Local Partnership





March 27, 2013

Rails-to-Trails Economic Study Says D&L Trail Generates Millions for Local Economies

To an organization that's building a long-distance trail, quotes like these make all the hard work seem all the more worthwhile:

“It was a breathtaking ride. I enjoyed the scenery, the peace, the quiet; I can't wait to do it again. I enjoyed all of the placards along the way telling the history of the canal.”



Or this:

“The (D&L) Trail influenced where we purchased a home when we moved to Pennsylvania.”

Impressive remarks, to be sure, but just a sampling of the hundreds of comments made by D&L Trail users who took part in a 2012 trail survey conducted by the Northeast Office of the Washington, DC-based Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC). The survey took place between the boroughs of White Haven in Luzerne County and Bristol in Lower Bucks County, and was made possible by a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). The methodology used in the survey was tested previously on Pennsylvania trails and documented in RTC's Trail User Survey Workbook.

An analysis of data gathered from user surveys and infrared counters at key locations along the trail tallied 282,796 user visits during the survey period. The total economic impact to the D&L Corridor from those visitors

was an astounding \$19,075,921, of which an estimated \$16,358,201 was directly spent in local economies. In addition to the trail's corridor-wide impact, the RTC study also segregates visitation and spending data into the trail's three regions. The complete survey can be accessed online at <http://bit.ly/10EWiwm>.

“It's time to sit up and take notice,” said D&L President/Executive Director, Elissa Garofalo. “The D&L Trail added more than \$19 million of direct economic impact to the region last year. The RTC Survey clearly makes the case for completing and sustaining this trail.”

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Forward this email to a friend](#)



Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor

2750 Hugh Moore Park Road
Easton, PA 18042

Phone : 610.923.3548
Fax: 610.923.0537



Our Mission: To enrich the communities within the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor thru actions and partnerships that conserve the resources, tell the stories and enhance the quality of life for residents of the Corridor.