

# Welcome to the Lehigh Valley Region of the D&L Trail

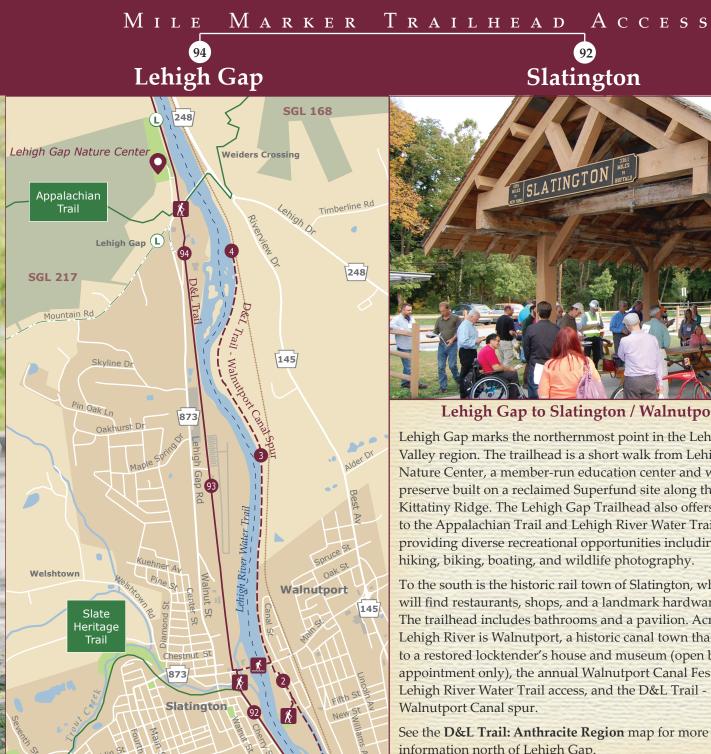
Use this guide to explore the Lehigh Valley region of the D&L Trail as it travels from Lehigh Gap through Allentown and Bethlehem on the way to Easton. The D&L Trail is a multi-use path that follows the routes of three historic transportation systems that carried coal and iron from mine to market: the Lehigh Canal, the Delaware Canal, and the Lehigh Valley Railroad. Stretching 165 miles through eastern Pennsylvania from Wilkes-Barre to Bristol, the D&L Trail is the spine of the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor, one of 55 National Heritage Areas in the United States.

The Lehigh Valley is the most urbanized of the three D&L regions as it travels through the cities of Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton. The Valley was a world leader in iron, steel, cement, and slate production, due largely to the rich mineral resources and infrastructure provided by the Lehigh Canal and, later, the Lehigh Valley and New Jersey Central Railroads. Today, visitors can enjoy arts, nature, culture, history, sports, and the National Canal Museum. The D&L Trail is also the spine of THE LINK, Lehigh Valley's growing network of multi-use trails.

For more adventure and history, pick up our other two maps and explore the Anthracite and Delaware Canal regions of

> For additional information, please visit: delawareandlehigh.org.



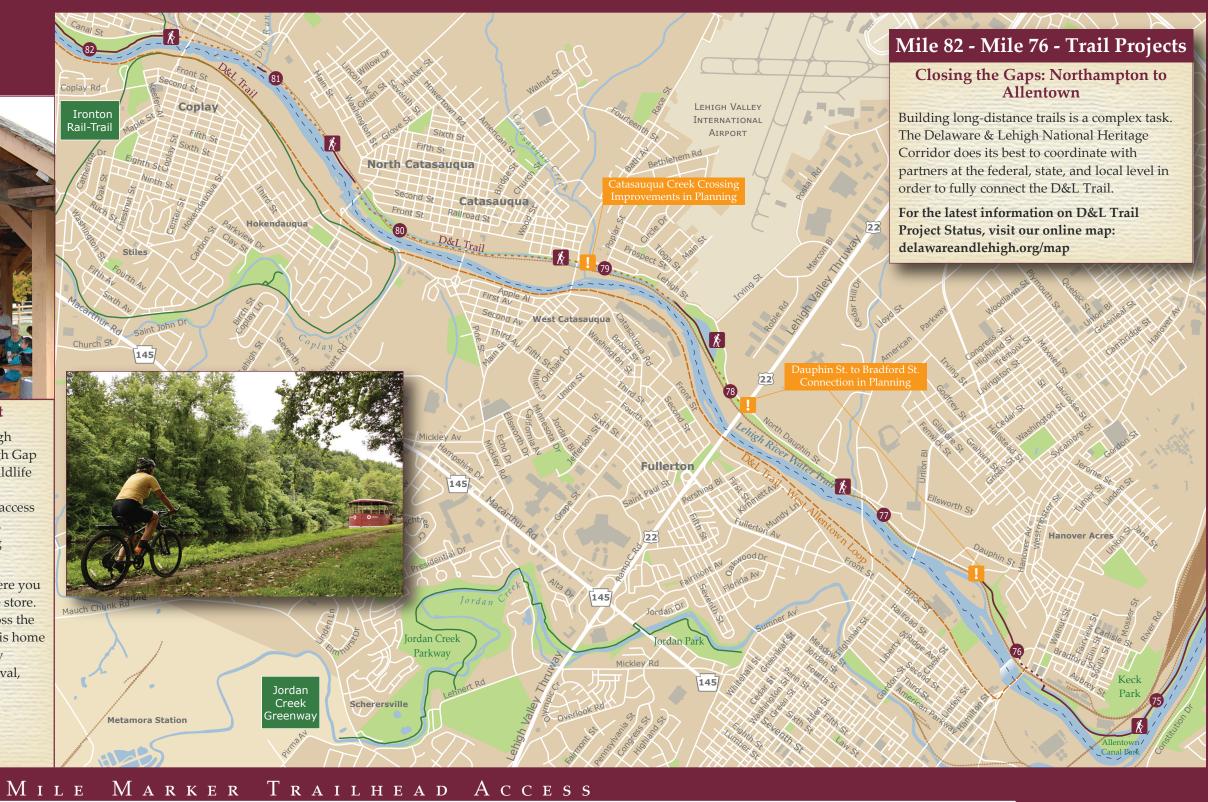


# Slatington Lehigh Gap to Slatington / Walnutport Lehigh Gap marks the northernmost point in the Lehigh

Valley region. The trailhead is a short walk from Lehigh Gap Nature Center, a member-run education center and wildlife preserve built on a reclaimed Superfund site along the Kittatiny Ridge. The Lehigh Gap Trailhead also offers access to the Appalachian Trail and Lehigh River Water Trail, providing diverse recreational opportunities including hiking, biking, boating, and wildlife photography.

To the south is the historic rail town of Slatington, where you will find restaurants, shops, and a landmark hardware store. The trailhead includes bathrooms and a pavilion. Across the Lehigh River is Walnutport, a historic canal town that is home to a restored locktender's house and museum (open by appointment only), the annual Walnutport Canal Festival, Lehigh River Water Trail access, and the D&L Trail -Walnutport Canal spur.

See the D&L Trail: Anthracite Region map for more information north of Lehigh Gap.





# Bethlehem Sand Island

# **Bethlehem to Freemansburg**

Heading east from Allentown Canal Park, you arrive in Bethlehem, former home of Bethlehem Steel, an American industrial icon. In Bethlehem, the D&L Trail follows the owpath through Sand Island Park, where you will see the conic Bethlehem Steel blast furnaces. Access is available to Main Street and the South Side (via the New Street Bridge) with ample shops and restaurants on both sides of the Lehigh River. Both Allentown Canal Park and Bethlehem Sand Island are Lehigh River Water Trail access points.

Continue east on the D&L Trail to visit the canal town of Freemansburg and the City of Easton.

Freemansburg

# **Hugh Moore Park**

# Hugh Moore Park & National Canal Museum

After crossing the Lehigh River on the one-lane bridge, the D&L Trail travels through Easton's Hugh Moore Park. The main trail turns northeast passing a bike skills course, while a D&L Trail spur takes visitors upriver to the National Canal Museum and Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor headquarters. Here you can explore the history of the Lehigh and Delaware Canals through interactive exhibits in the museum, tour the Locktender's House, and ride on the Josiah White II, one of the last mule-drawn canal boats in the country. Stop into the Welcome Center June through September to refuel with drinks and snacks or to rent bikes, paddleboats, and canoes. And don't forget to say hello to the mules, Hank and George. The park also features picnic pavilions, restrooms, and an exciting new playground.

For National Canal Museum information and hours:

# Easton

Easton & Forks of the Delaware

## Easton & Forks of the Delaware

Downtown Easton is just across the Third Street Bridge from the D&L Trail and the Forks of the Delaware. Here, the Lehigh River flows into the Delaware River and the D&L Trail enters Delaware Canal State Park. Visit downtown to see museums, theaters, shops, restaurants and America's oldest continuously operating farmer's market. See the D&L Trail: Delaware Canal Region map for more information along the Delaware Canal.





Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor - delawareandlehigh.org

