

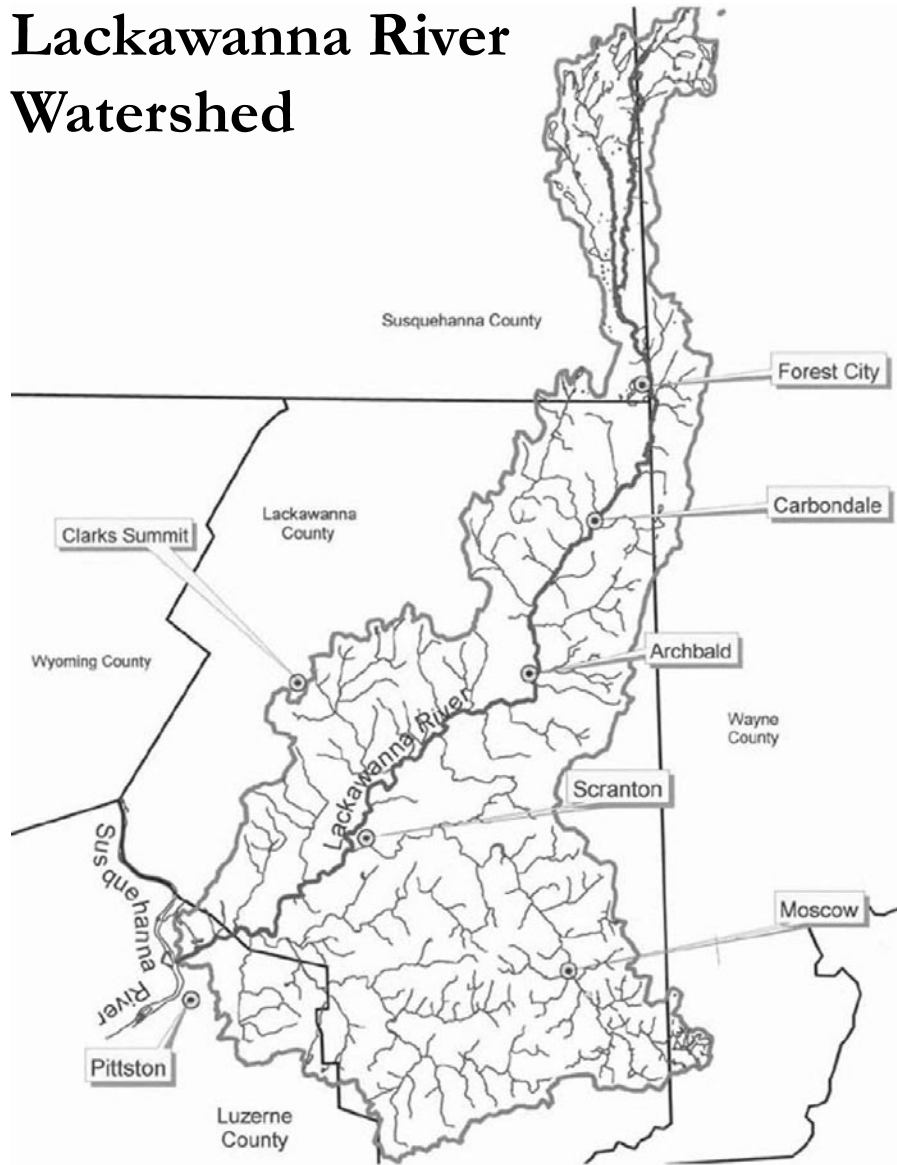


Lackawanna River & Trail Access Points

Fall 2010

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Lackawanna River Watershed



Lackawanna River & Trail Access Points

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Introduction

Welcome to the Lackawanna River Greenway. This river and trail access booklet provides basic information to guide you to locations along the Lackawanna River where you can access the River and lands along the River. The Lackawanna River Corridor Association (LRCA) is working with several other community conservation agencies including the Lackawanna Heritage Valley Authority (LHVA) and the NEPA Rail Trail Council (RTC) to develop a river access, trail and greenway system along forty (40) miles of the Lackawanna River.

The maps and directional information in this booklet will guide you to locations between Duryea in Luzerne County, PA where the Lackawanna River joins with the Susquehanna River and Uniondale in Susquehanna County, PA where the main stem of the Lackawanna begins at Stillwater Dam.

Included are directions to access points in the communities of Old Forge, Taylor, Scranton, Dickson City, Throop, Olyphant, Jessup/Winton, Blakely/Peckville, Archbald, Jermyn, Mayfield, Carbondale and Simpson in Lackawanna County, PA and Forest City in Susquehanna County, PA

Some of these access points will direct you to completed sections of the Lackawanna River Heritage Trail in Scranton, Peckville, Jessup, Winton, Archbald and Mayfield. These trails link to several municipal parks along the River. Other points direct you to flood control levees that can be used as walking trails. (Please note: Unfortunately the levees in Olyphant are not open for public access at this time.)

The Lackawanna Valley Conservancy (LVC), the land trust affiliate of LRCA, owns several properties along the river that are open to the public for open space recreation. This booklet provides directions to several of these preserves including Coxtan Point in Duryea, South Works Preserve in Taylor, Providence Reach in North Scranton, Boulevard Bend in Throop, Powder Mill Dam in Jermyn, and Carbondale Yards in Carbondale.

There are several reaches of river corridor that will soon be acquired and developed as part of the Lackawanna River

Heritage Trail by the LHVA. The D&H and O&W Rail trails operated by the NEPA RTC provide access to the beautiful Upper Lackawanna.

There are other reaches of river that are owned by operating railroads. These railroads are posted and they are dangerous places for the public. Please use discretion and respect posted properties that you may encounter along the river.

You can use this river guide to navigate a passage along the Lackawanna using opened sections of trail, municipal parks, flood levees, and LVC preserves. In between you can route a passage along local streets to the next section of trail or levee that is open. Many of these access points also afford access to the river itself for fishing and paddle sport. Please use caution when going into the river for fishing or boating. We strongly encourage everyone to develop your recreational skills and get to know sections of the river that you intend to use before you go out on uncharted waters.

We hope that you find this guide booklet helpful and informative. Your comments are always welcome. Go out and enjoy our river and let us know what you think about it.

Cautionary Notations

***Warning:** This reach of rail corridor is private property, travel at your own risk, it may be posted to prohibit trespassing.

******This rail corridor is very active. LRCA does not recommend any access to this area.

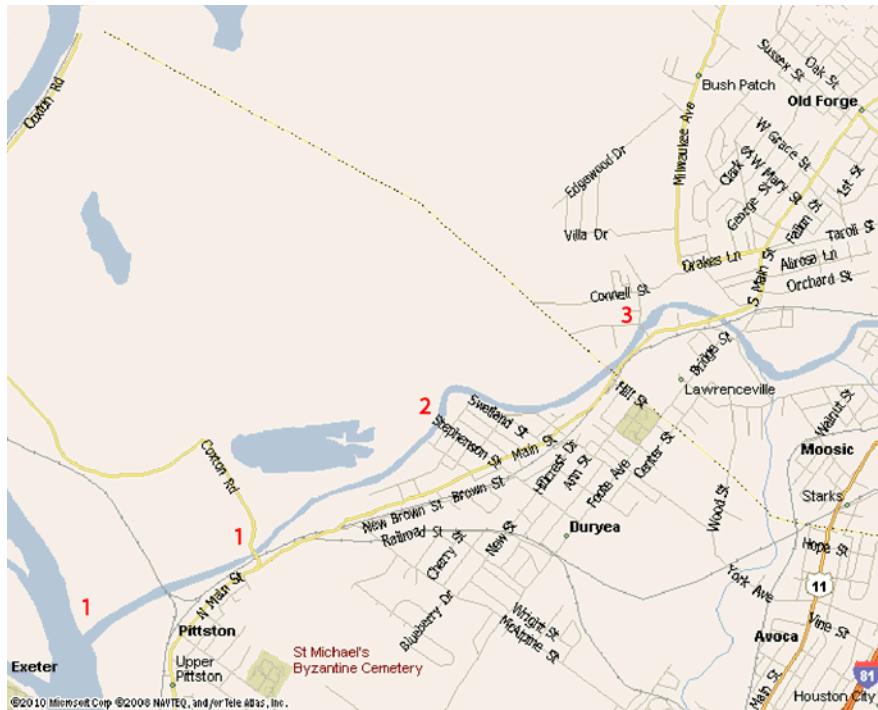
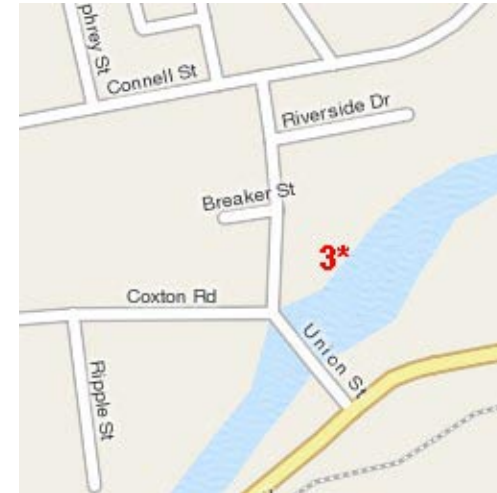
******* Please use caution when walking or bicycling along the Scranton Flood Control Levee System.

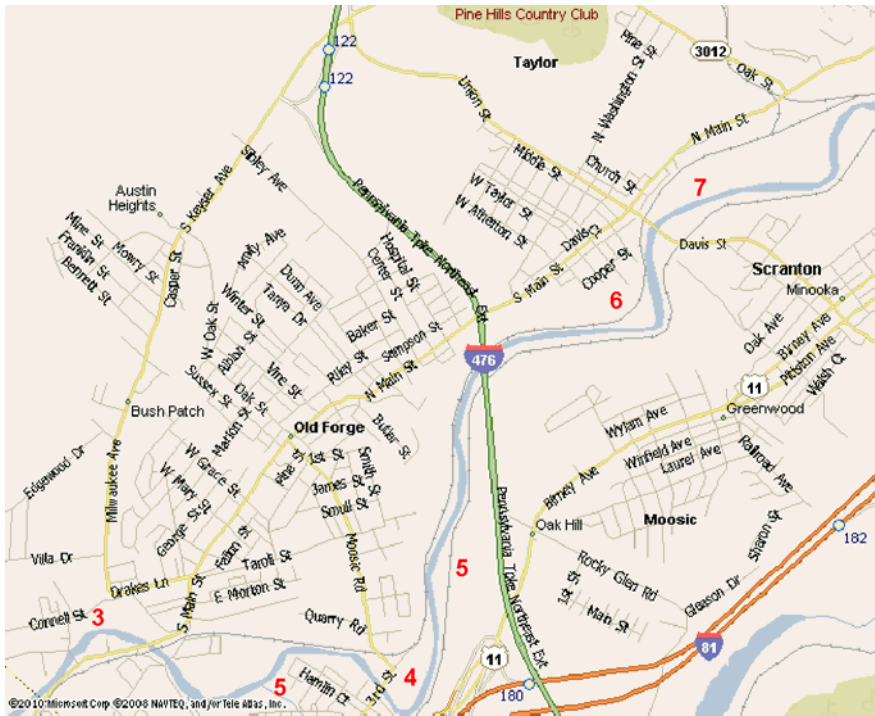


1. Duryea: Turn left on Coxton Rail Yard access road, go one fourth mile to rail bridge, walk through posted gate at the LVC's Coxton Point River Corridor Preserve, walk one fourth mile to the confluence of the Lackawanna and Susquehanna Rivers.

2. Duryea: Access between Stevenson Street and Coxton Road to the south, or Connell's Patch in Old Forge to the north.

3. The Old Forge Bore Hole, where 100 million gallons of water flows out of the underground mines and leaches orange colored iron-oxide sludge into the lower three miles of the Lackawanna River.



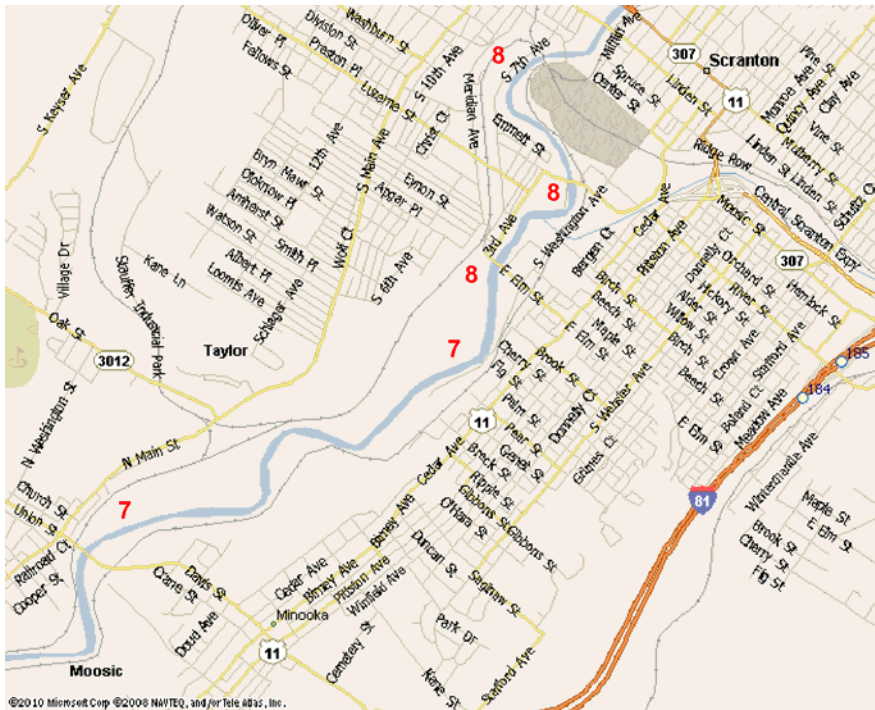


4. Old Forge: Access the River along Lonesome Road in Old Forge and from the Reading and Northern Rail Corridor between Moosic Street in Old Forge and the vicinity of the Taylor Cemetery and the Davis Street Bridge in Taylor.*

5. Moosic: The River is accessible along a flood control levee near Spring Brook off Main Street and Park Street. Access to the east bank of the river north of Moosic is restricted.**

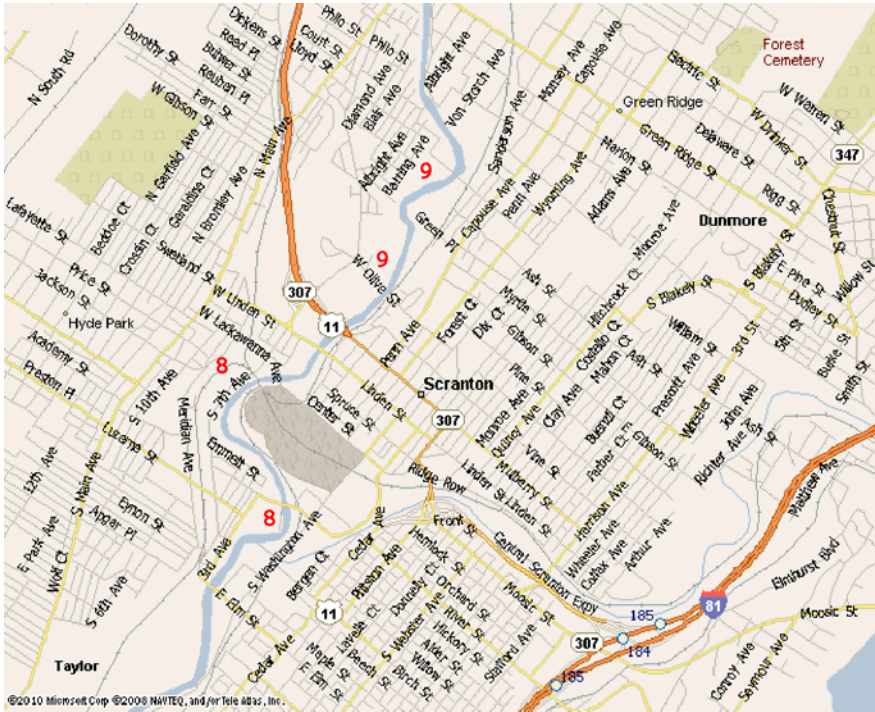
6. Taylor: Access off East Atherton Street and Cooper Street through the Taylor cemetery and the Reading and Northern Railroad along the west bank of the river.*

7. Taylor: The second Taylor site is at the end of Depot Street; turn off Main Street and cross over the Canadian Pacific Railroad tracks. Depot Street goes immediately downhill one eighth mile. At the end of the road there is an iron gate on your left; access to the CNJ and the river corridor north to Elm Street in Scranton is past this locked gate.*



8. Scranton: There are three access points where parking is available. The trailhead at North Seventh Avenue provides parking to access the CNJ Trail south to Elm Street and the newly opened Downtown Riverfront Trail northward to Olive Street and the Scranton Flood Control Levee System; turn off West Lackawanna onto North Seventh Avenue and go under the Steamtown Railroad Bridge. The trailhead is one thousand feet ahead on your left. The CNJ is also accessible at the South Side Complex located on Broadway Street. Access at the Elm Street Bridge, south to Depot Street in Taylor or north to Schmidt Field and Seventh and Lackawanna Avenues.

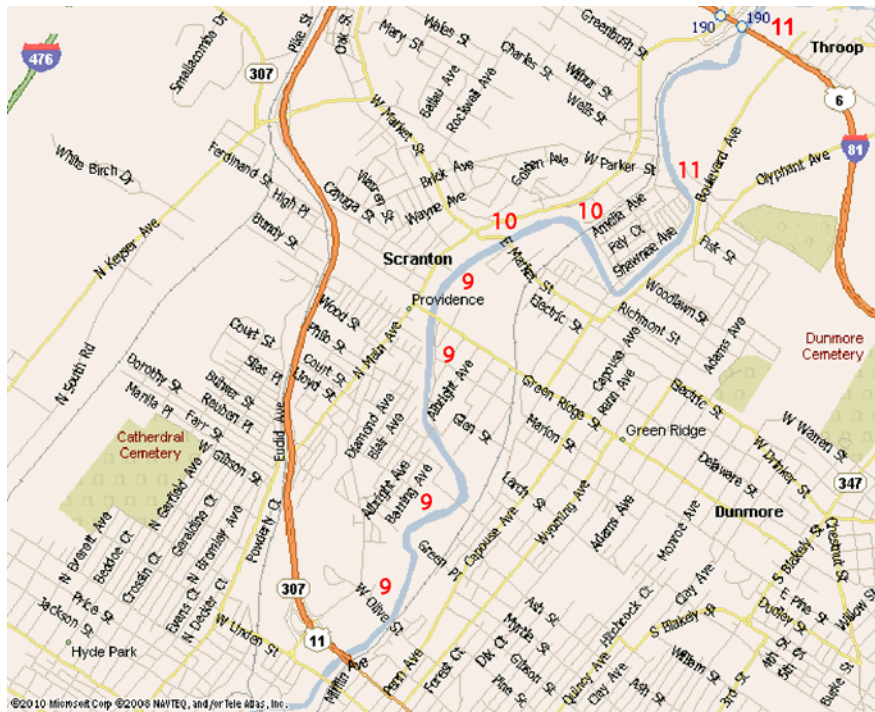
The LVC's South Works Preserve site is accessible 1 mile north of the CNJ Taylor Gate and is one mile south of Elm Street.

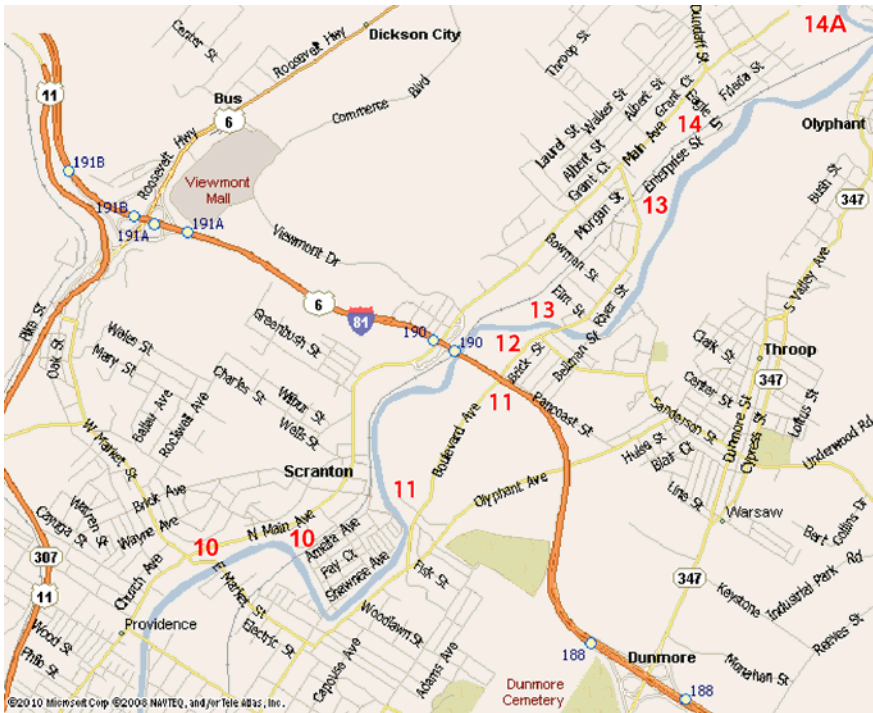


9. Scranton: The River is physically accessible on the west bank for 2 miles along the Flood Control Levee from Olive Street through Poplar Street and Albright Avenue to Wood Street. ***

10. Scranton: The Lackawanna Valley Conservancy (LVC) owns and manages one half mile of river corridor and rail-trail on the west bank of the river from Market Street north to Depot Street and Dean Street in the Plot. This is The Providence Reach of the Lackawanna River Heritage Trail. The trail and river are accessible from the parking lot of the LRCA offices in the Silkman House, 2006 North Main Avenue. The trail is also accessible at street level at Depot Street or Dean Street in the Plot.

11. Scranton: There is one river access point between the Recycling Center and Interstate 81. Park off Boulevard Avenue and walk along the maintenance road and drainage channel one thousand feet to the river. Trail users should follow Parker Street east to Boulevard Avenue and then follow Boulevard Avenue northward for one and one half miles through Throop to the bridge crossing into Dickson City.



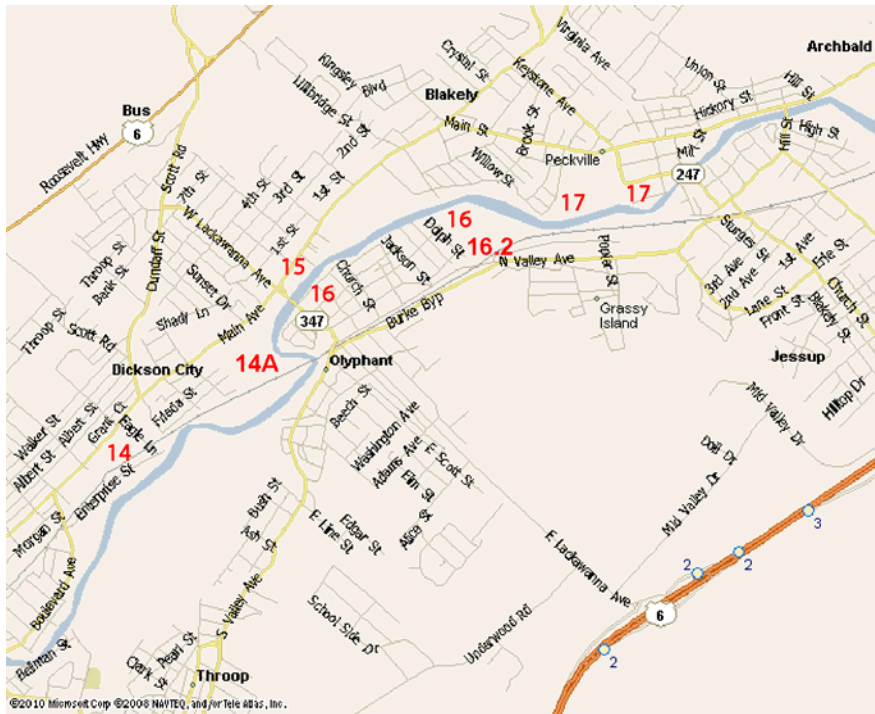


12. Throop: The LVC owns two acres of river corridor between Boulevard Avenue and Bellman Street known as the Boulevard Bend Preserve. Park across the bridge in Dickson City; there is a small parking lot next to the Elm Street Park at the Dickson City end of the Boulevard Avenue Bridge.

13. Dickson City: The west bank of river is accessible along a trail on top of the Dickson City flood control levee for one mile. Access at the downstream end from the small parking lot by the Boulevard Avenue Bridge; to access at the upstream end, turn off Boulevard Avenue on Enterprise Street and off Enterprise into Palonia Park.***

14. Dickson City: Access at Valley Junction, also known as Trestle Hole, located behind the Lackawanna County Services building next to the grade crossing at Eagle Lane and Enterprise Street. Follow the dirt driveway between the County Rail Authority tracks and the service building and park there. The river corridor north of this point contains the abandoned coal mine sites of the Olyphant and Eddy Creek collieries.*

14A. Dickson City: The River is accessible behind the Giant Market Shopping Plaza on Main Avenue. This area is the former Olyphant Colliery site.



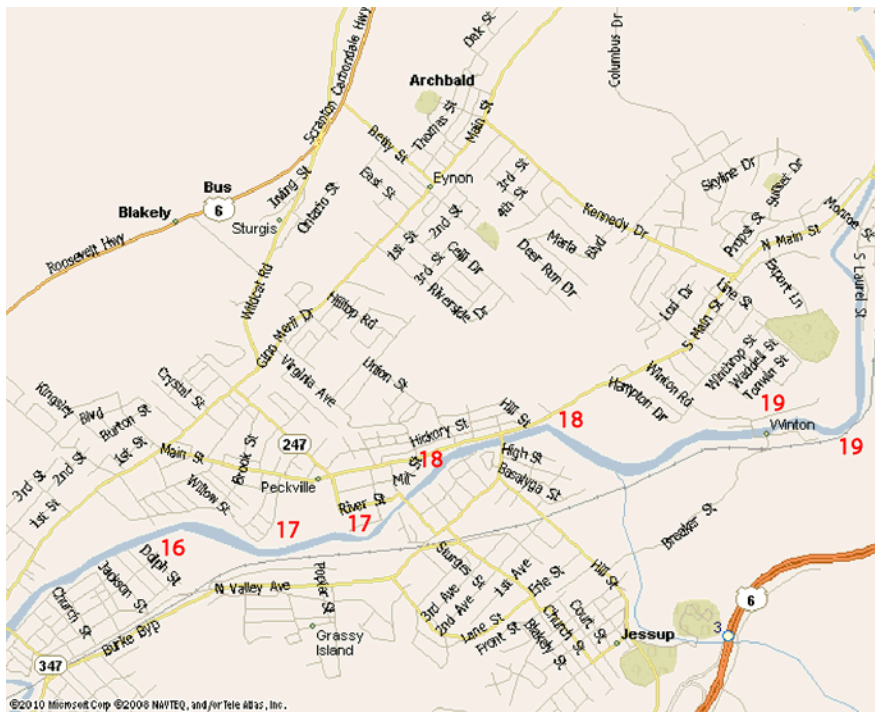
15. **Blakely Corners (The Anchor):** This is a major road intersection where Main Street crosses Lackawanna Avenue. There is a good fishing and canoe launch access adjacent to the Lackawanna Avenue Bridge next to the Rite Aid Pharmacy.

16. **Olyphant:** The Borough of Olyphant does not allow access to its Flood Control levees. Follow either of the following two routes to Condella Park: 1.) Access Condella Park by turning off Lackawanna Avenue in Olyphant onto Susquehanna Avenue and go 12 blocks north to the park. 2.) Follow Lackawanna Avenue east through downtown Olyphant to the Heritage Rail Station and then follow North Valley Avenue for one mile north into Condella Park.

17. **Peckville:** Access to the River is available at Robert Mellow Park, off Main Street and Keystone Avenue (PA Route 247) next to Valley View Football Stadium. The trails in Mellow Park and Condella Park are joined by the Lackawanna River Heritage Crossing footbridge at the lower end of Mellow Park.

18. **Peckville:** The O&W Mid Valley Reach of The Lackawanna River Heritage Trail begins at the corner of PA 247, Depot Street and River Street across from Mid Valley Plumbing Supply. There is a small trailhead parking space at this location.

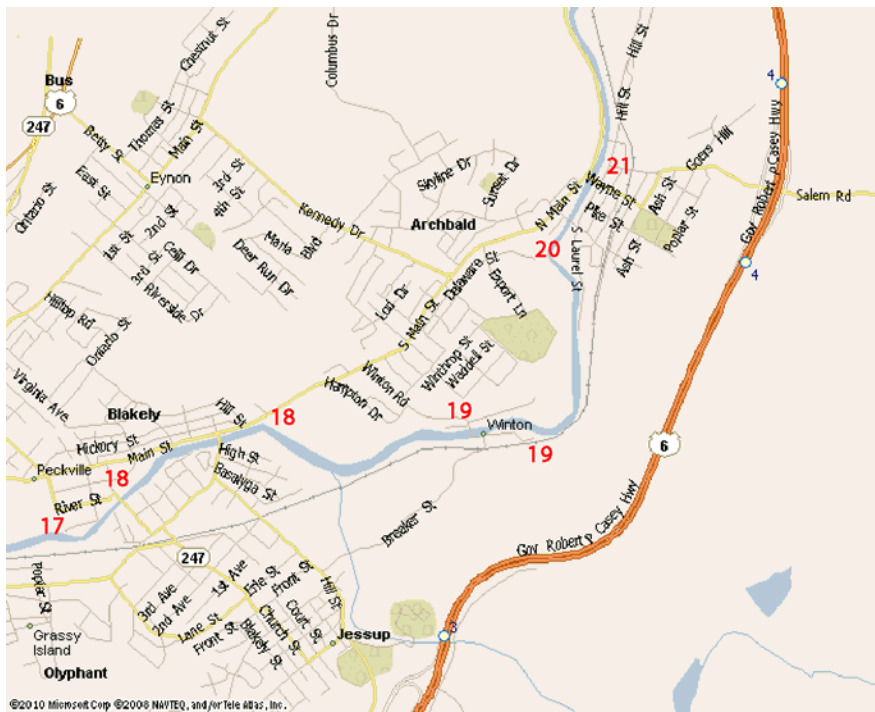
19. **Winton:** To access The Heritage Trail in Winton, turn off Main Avenue onto Winton Street (one-half mile north of Decker's Bridge), follow Winton Street for one-half mile easterly until it intersects with the trail where Winton Street crosses the river.

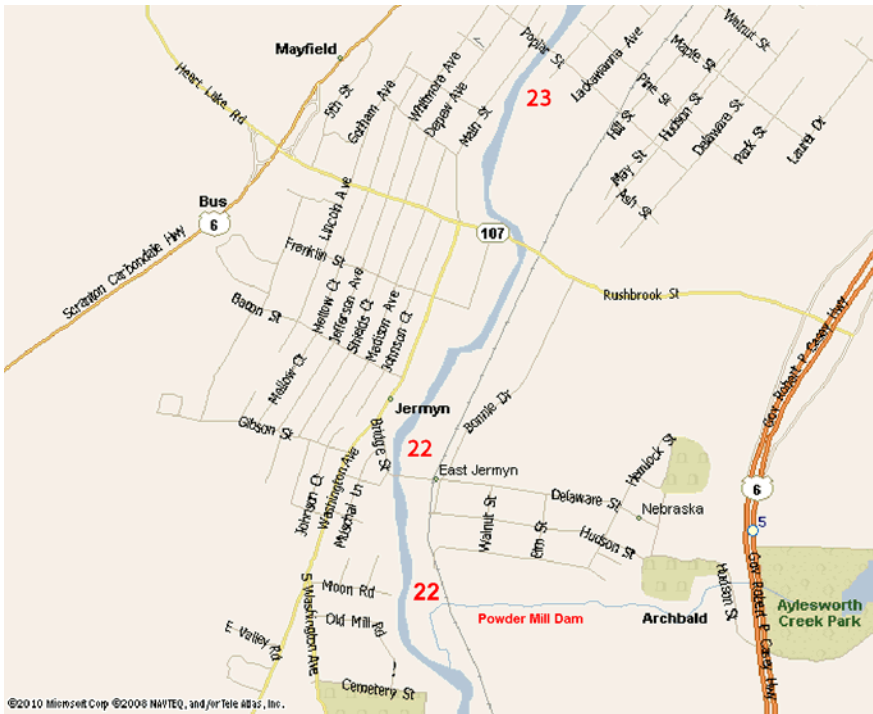




20. Archbald: Laurel Street is the access point for the O&W Blakely to Archbald trail in Archbald. Go one block south to the David Maslyar Park (the location of the Archbald launch for the annual Lackawanna River Canoe-A-Thon).

21. Archbald: To follow the river for the Heritage Trail north from Monroe Street, follow Laurel Street northward. Laurel Street intersects with Wayne Street and it becomes Church Street.





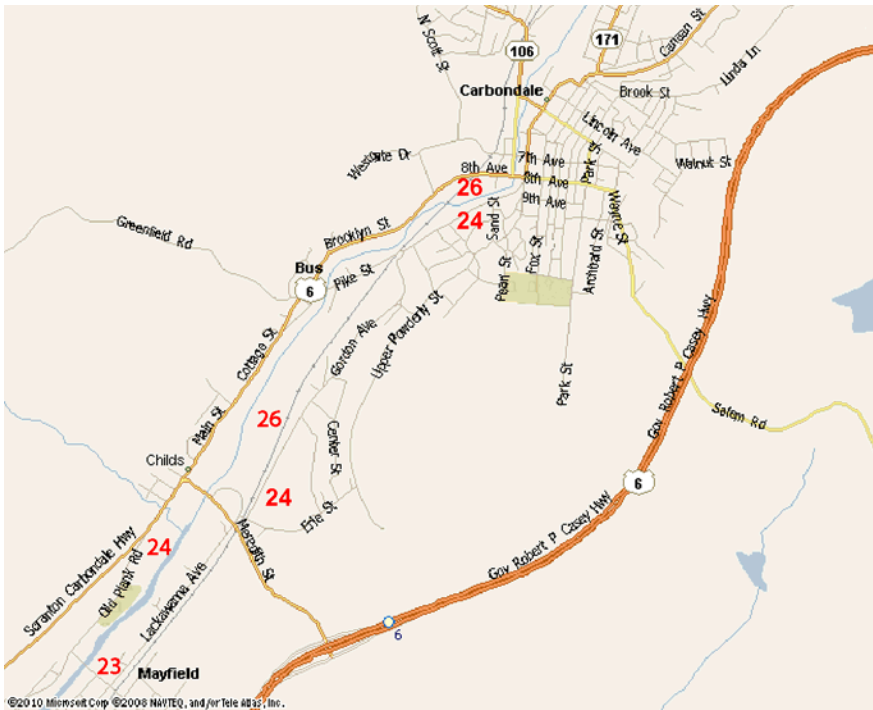
22. Jermyn: Accessible off Delaware Street. From Jermyn, that can be reached by turning off Washington Avenue (Main Street) onto Bridge Street at St. James Episcopal Church. Note: This reach of the O&W south is also the access road to the Archbald Treatment Plant of the LRBSA (See #21.). The Powder Mill Dam Preserve is located along this reach of the O&W, one thousand feet south of the LRBSA gate at Delaware Street.

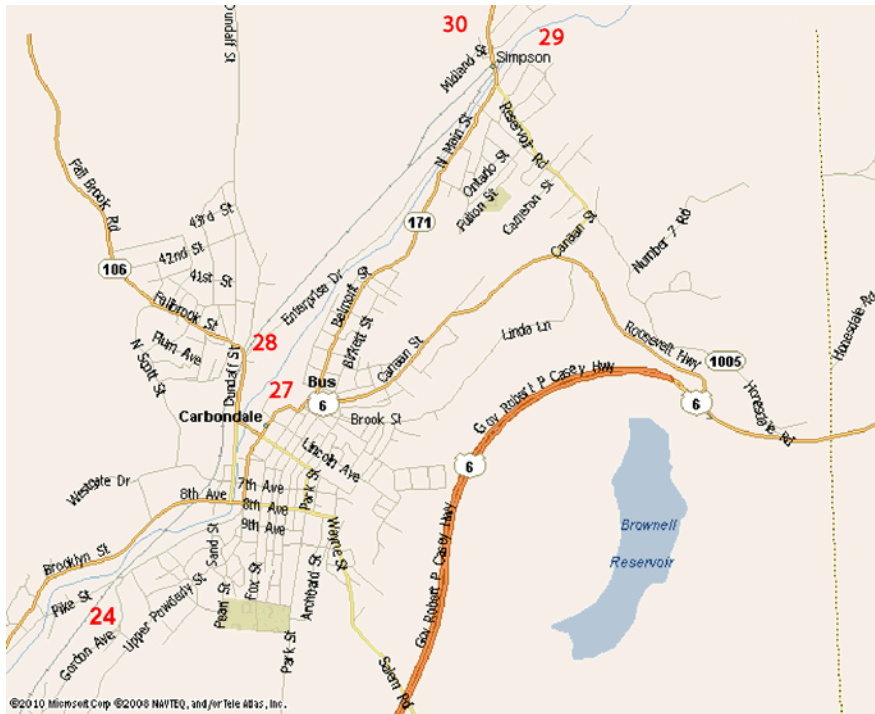
23. Jermyn, Mayfield and Carbondale Townships: The O&W and the River corridor are not readily accessible over long reaches in Mayfield and Carbondale Townships. Use the following streets, roads and highways with extreme caution to transit through these communities: From Rush Brook Street (PA Route 107) in Jermyn (site of the Windsor Inn) follow Washington Avenue north one-half mile to Main Street in Mayfield; at Poplar Street you have two alternatives: Old Plank Road and U.S. Business Route 6 which runs along the west bank of the river to Carbondale, or Lackawanna Avenue to Gordon Avenue and Pike Street to Carbondale along the east bank. (State Bicycle Route L and Y)

24. Jermyn and Mayfield to Carbondale: Use the following route to Carbondale: Follow Washington Avenue north through Jermyn and into Mayfield to Poplar Street. Turn left (west) on Poplar Street; go up hill for one block to Old Plank Road. Turn right (north) on Old Plank Road for a half mile. Pass Cemetery Street Mayfield and look for a one-mile section of the Lackawanna River Heritage Trail. Follow this trail through the Campus of the Saint Rose Academy for one mile to its trailhead parking lot at the intersection of Meredith Street and Business Route 6. From this point, follow Meredith Street eastward across the River and turn left on the exit ramp to The Lower Powderly area. Pass to the left under the Lackawanna Rail Authority rail bridge and turn left to follow Gordon Avenue for three miles north into Carbondale.

25. Mayfield to Carbondale Note: Several alternative trail routes are being investigated between Mayfield and Carbondale.

26. Mayfield to Carbondale: The LRCA does not recommend an alternate Mayfield to Carbondale route by following the Lackawanna County Railroad Authority right-of-way.**

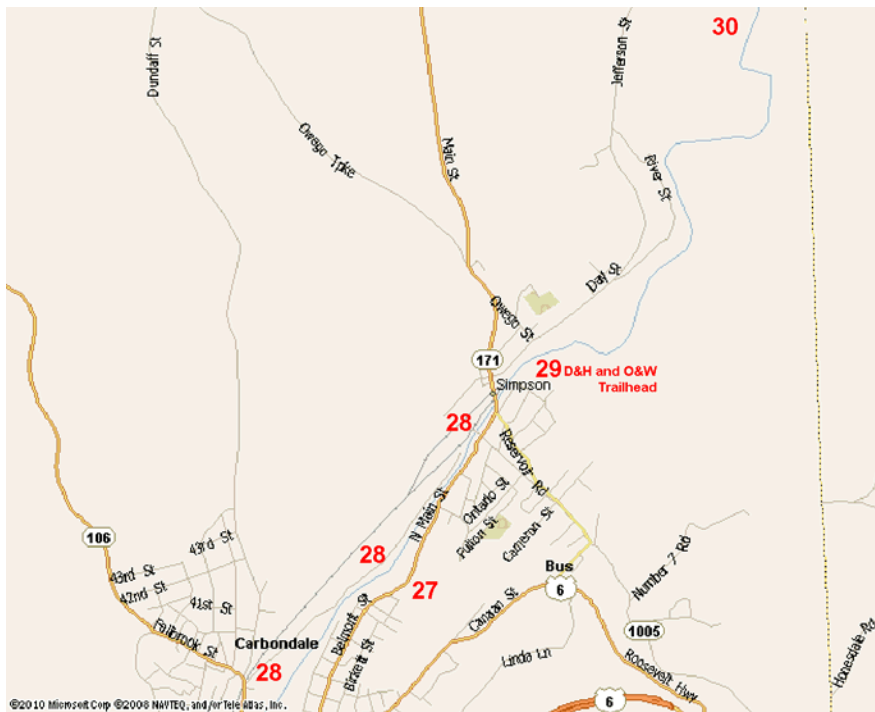




27. Carbondale to Simpson, east bank route: From Main Street (Business Route 6) at Carbondale City Hall, proceed three blocks north to Zazzera's Ben Mar Restaurant. There is no safe access across Racket Brook at this site. Follow PA route 171 along Belmont Street northward to Simpson from this site in Carbondale until further notice.

28. Carbondale to Simpson, west bank route: From City Hall cross 6th Street Bridge or go up Main, turn left on Salem Street and cross the river to Dundaff Street. Follow Dundaff Street past the Post Office to the Carbondale Yards Industrial Park. Follow the Business Park Road north and you will intersect a pedestrian bike path, which runs for one mile parallel to the road and the river. Continue on after the cul-de-sac for another eight hundred feet across a dirt roadway to the Morse Street Bridge (over the River), cross over to PA 171, turn left, and go one thousand feet to O&W trailhead at Simpson (look for O&W and D&H Rail Trail signs).

29. Simpson (PA 171 Bridge) to Forest City and Union Dale: The Rail Trail Council of Northeast Pennsylvania, (570) 679-9300, owns and operates the O&W and D&H Trails. Please note that the Council does not own a 6500-foot section of the D&H one mile north of Simpson. We recommend that you: Contact the Council for current information about conditions on the D&H and O&W north of Simpson. The O&W trailhead at Simpson is the recommended point of departure. Follow the O&W for two miles north to where the trail bears onto the D&H rail trail. There is a crossover path that links the O&W and D&H trails at this point. The D&H and O&W run parallel through Forest City and Browndale to the intersection of PA 171 north of Forest City at Stillwater Cliffs.

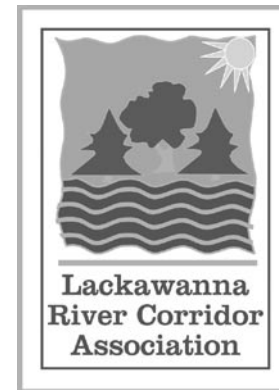


30. Out of the Lackawanna Watershed: The Northeast Pennsylvania Rail-Trail Council has maps and information on current conditions along the forty-mile D&H trail which parallels PA 171 along the West Branch of the Lackawanna River through Herrick and Ararat Townships to Lanesboro and the Starucca Viaduct, before following the Upper North Branch of the Susquehanna towards Windsor, New York and points beyond. Again, please contact the Rail Trail Council, www.nepa-rail-trails.org, for a map and an update on local conditions.

**Record your experiences
traveling along the River and Trails
of the Lackawanna River**

Notes

Notes



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