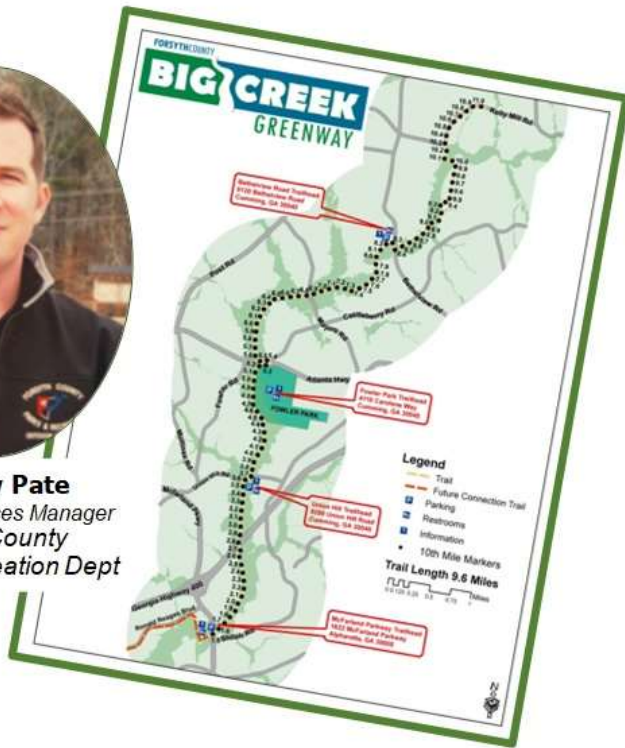


October 2017 Program

"Big Creek Greenway"



Matthew gave our group a thorough overview of Forsyth County's process in building a greenway (a linear park, usually composed of woods and wetlands with a 4-ft. easement). Big Creek Greenway, begun in 2005 with funds from a federal grant, is a 12-ft. wide concrete and boardwalk path meandering through woods along Big Creek - offering an ideal setting for walking, jogging, biking and inline skating. The four completed phases covering 9.6 miles begins at McFarland Parkway and ends at Kelly Mill Road. When the last phase is completed, the park will cover 15 miles, ending at Sawnee Mountain Reserve.

The presentation at our October 10 club meeting included slides of several sections along the Greenway and many answers to member's questions, particularly as it affected residential areas.

- Agreements are made with land owners, or existing easements for power lines and other utilities are used.
 - Parking lots for greenway access are unpaved because of cost and water runoff drainage issues.
 - Additional funds come from the 1% county sales tax or bonds.
 - The Greenway will connect with existing county parks, but will not actually go through them.
 - Areas along the Greenway are maintained by a special five-man crew that keeps the walk free of litter and debris.
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