

MASON-DIXON TRAIL SYSTEM, Inc.



M-DTS NEWSLETTER May 2002

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Trail relocation at Conowingo; Restrictions at Peach Bottom
See page 2 for details

M-DTS WORK PARTY – 9:00 a.m., Sunday, June 9
M-DTS MEMBERS' MEETING – 2:00 p.m., Sunday, June 9

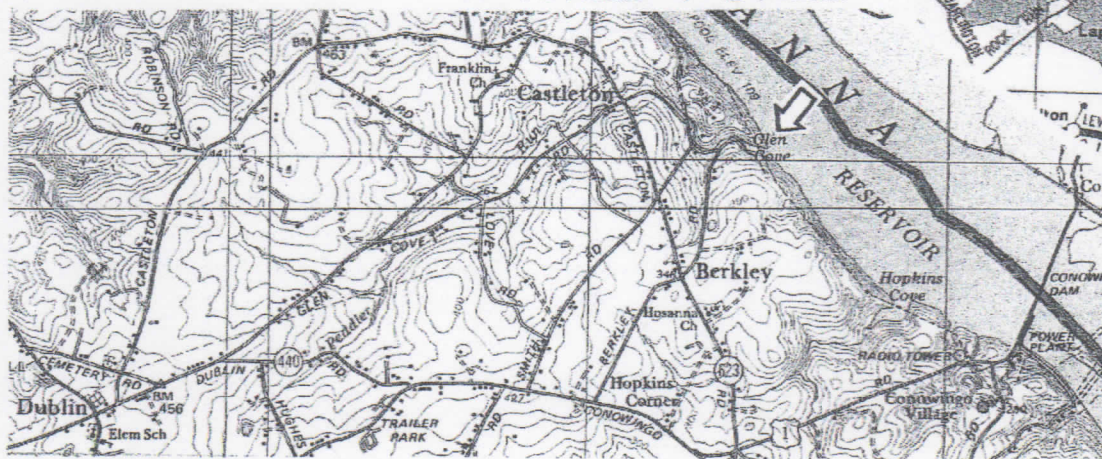
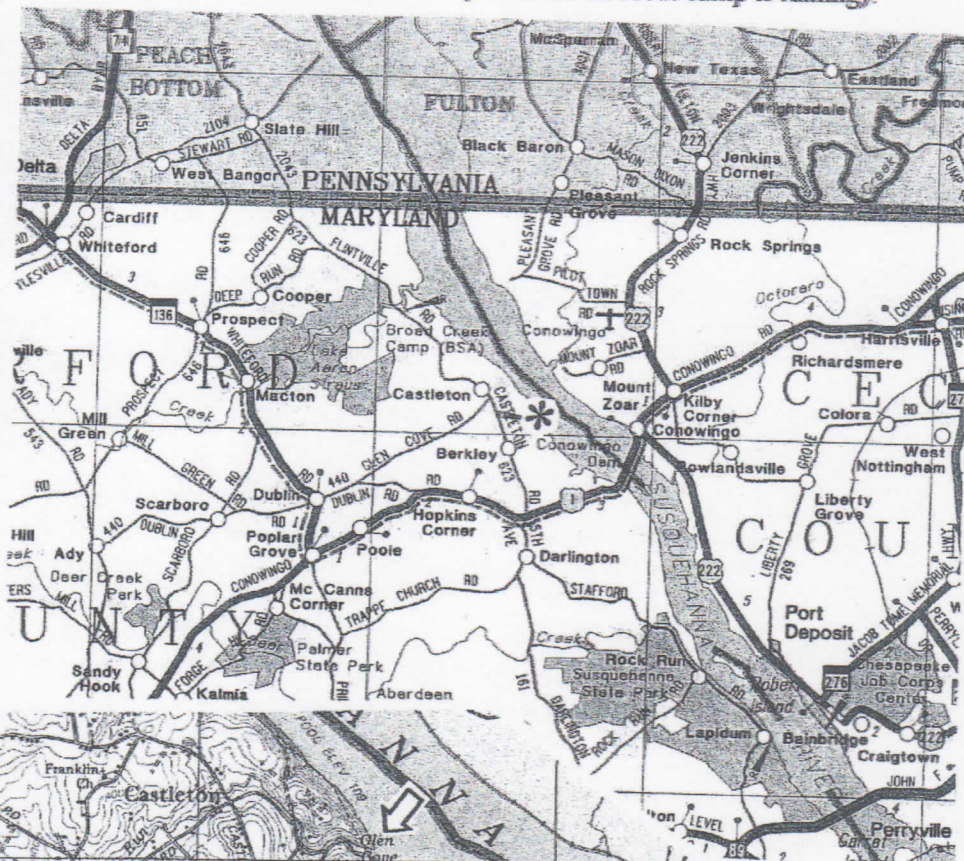
Work Party: Meet at the parking lot at Glen Cove Marina.

We will continue work on a mile-long, off-road relocation of the M-DT north from Glen Cove. There will be rock work, brush clearing, clipping and blaze painting to be done. Equipment needed: mattocks, chain saw, small saws, loppers, clippers, paint set-ups. All workers should bring: work gloves, eye protection, lunch and a beverage.

Members Meeting: Meet at the reserved picnic table at Glen Cove (Broad Creek scout camp if raining).

Directions: From north: come down PA Rte 74. About a mile after crossing into Maryland, turn left on Rte 136. In 5 miles, turn left on Dublin Road, then left on Glen Cove Road and follow it to its terminus at the marina

From south: From Rte 1, west of Conowingo Dam, turn north on MD Rte 623. In just over a mile turn right at the 4-way junction onto Berkley Road. Follow it to its terminus at the marina.



← Detail of roads in Glen Cove area

MASON-DIXON TRAIL SYSTEM INC

President Jim Hooper

Vice President..... Jim Denny

Secretary & Newsletter Editor.... Yvonne Blades

Treasurer..... Mary Bleecker

Director - Pennsylvania Timothy Schmidt

Director - Maryland..... Anthony Belfiglio

Director - Delaware..... Robert Bennett

Trail Coordinators:

Western Section:..... Ron Gray

Central Section..... Pat Wolf

Eastern Section..... volunteer needed

The M-DTS Newsletter is published about four weeks in advance of each of the four M-DTS members' meetings/work parties held annually. Submissions are welcomed. Mail or email to editor. (See address under secretary above).

The Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc. is an all-volunteer, service-oriented association of trail clubs and individual hikers that has as its purpose the use and conservation of the backcountry through the development of new trails in the mid-Atlantic states. The nucleus of M-DTS is the 190-mile Mason-Dixon Trail which passes through historic and scenic areas of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware.

New members are welcome. To join send \$15 (which includes cost of M-DT maps and patch) to

Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc

Mary Bleecker

Thereafter, the annual fee is \$5.

Life membership is available for \$250.

Visit the M-DTS web site at:

MEMBERSHIP DUES REMINDER

Your year 2002 Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc membership dues are now due. A dues form is included with this mailing to those who have not yet renewed their membership for 2002. We hope you will continue to support M-DTS.

TRAIL RELOCATION AND RESTRICTIONS DUE TO SECURITY CONCERNS

1) Relocation at Conowingo dam. (Map 6: West to East: Mile 9.4-10.2). Southbound, the M-DT now crosses Rte 1 into the former site of Conowingo Village, then right on to Shuresville Rd and left at Shures Landing Rd to reach Fisherman's Park by the river. See page 4 for detailed trail description.

2) Restrictions in Peach Bottom area - between Lay Rd and Burk Rd (Map 5: West to East: Mile 24.9-Mile 26.4). Those wishing to hike in this area must call ahead to [REDACTED] 8-5 pm weekdays, at [REDACTED], state time you are going to be there and the number and names of individuals. Hikers must carry photo ID and may be stopped by armed guards or state police.

ADDITIONAL TRAIL UPDATES AND ALERTS

Bypass route north of Holtwood: It is eagle nesting time again - use the yellow blazed, mile-long bypass route that follows the ridge instead of descending along Oakland Run. (Map 5, East to West, starts at Mile 22.6: West to East, at about Mile 6.5)

M-DT route in Whitaker Woods, Cecil Co. MD: The route of the M-DT through this development has now been defined and will be marked by blue blazes where possible. Blazes may be on curbs.

Map 7: East to West

Mile 3.7 Cross paved Red Toad Rd; go through woods between two houses (small pond on right)

“ 3.8 Exit small woods; turn left onto Whitaker Woods cul de sac; follow Forge Court

“ 4.1 Turn left between two houses (#108 and #118) into woods

“ 4.2 Turn right to follow underground cable right of way etc

Map 7: West to East

Mile 7.9 Turn left; go between two houses to enter Whitaker Woods Development

“ 8.0 Turn right onto Forge Court; continue to cul de sac; go straight between houses to a small wooded area

“ 8.3 Turn right into small woods; a small pond will be on your left

“ 8.4 Cross Red Toad Rd and follow underground cable right of way

Those #17& Beaver at Elk Neck State Forest, MD: The sturdy, two-log bridge put in place on the M-DT just over a year ago is now underwater thanks to the busy beaver who have built a new dam downstream from the bridge. A lengthy detour route around the problem area has been marked with blue ribbons. (Map 8: West to East - Mile 5.9)

Message from President Jim: "Remind people to get out and whack weeds and repaint blazes"

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 17, 2002 MEMBERS' MEETING

The meeting took place at the Broad Creek Boy Scout Reservation following the work party. Those present were president Jim Hooper, secretary Yvonne Blades, treasurer Mary Bleecker and Tony Belfiglio, Turner Darden, Ted Sanderson, Mike Calabrese, Tim Schmidt, Ron Gray, Joyce Miller, Neal Watson, Pat Wolf, Dave Linthicum, and Jerry Brown.

The minutes of the November 4, 2001 members' meeting were approved as circulated. (moved by Wolf, seconded by Darden).

Financial Report

Rick Maerker has reviewed the treasurer's records and submitted the following summary of the year 2001 financial activity of Mason-Dixon Trail System, Inc.

	2001	1992-2001 (average)
Income		
Dues/Donations (129 renew, 22 new)	\$2005.00	\$2341.64
Sale of map guides	804.72	593.66
Sale of patches	135.00	48.53
Interest	<u>12.53</u>	<u>42.18</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$2957.25	\$3026.01
Expenses		
Newsletter	515.29	349.84
Administration	400.13	405.98
Patches	0.00	74.20
Map/Guides	0.00	1064.19
Trail Maintenance	135.48	272.61
Capital expense (Grip hoist)	1031.15	103.12
Donations	<u>75.00</u>	<u>62.50</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2157.05	\$2332.44
Opening balance in checking account as of 1/1/01		\$2053.51
Income minus expenses in 2001		<u>800.20</u>
Ending balance in checking account as of 12/31/01		\$2853.71
CD - 30 month @ 6.06%, due 2/12/03		3026.19
CD - 24 month @ 6.81%, due 6/22/02		3671.84
CD - 6 month @ 4.21%, due 4/27/02		<u>3233.91</u>
TOTAL ASSETS OF M-DTS, Inc. as of 12/31/01		\$12785.65

Renewal of memberships in Keystone Trails Association and the Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway at the \$25 level was approved for 2002. Bleecker moved, Blades seconded that M-DTS donate \$50 this year to the Delaware Preservation Coalition. Carried. It was decided not to join the East Coast Greenway at this time nor to continue membership in the Central Pennsylvania Conservancy.

Trail Reports

Western Section - Western Terminus at Whiskey Springs to Lock 12

Coordinator: Ron Gray

- Ron Gray suggests improvement in the climb above Fishing Creek to avoid the large rock.
- Ron has cut blowdowns on Cuffs Run and reports that work is needed on both sides of the Run
- There is a new parking lot at Apollo County Park that will accommodate 6-8 cars. An improved trail is needed from the parking lot to the M-DT. This would make a good scout project.

- Ron will put in posts for M-DT blazes in the Gladfelter tree farm
- The protective railings at the Urey Overlook have been damaged. York Hiking Club will repair them. The climb on the M-DT to the overlook needs improvement.

Central Section - Lock 12 to Havre de Grace Coordinator: Pat Wolf

- Pat Wolf and Neil Watson refreshed blazes between Lock 12 and Muddy Creek and picked up trash on Peavine Island.
- New M-DTS member, James Fuhrmanek, volunteered to maintain the Cold Cabin to Lay Road section of the M-DT. He has refreshed the blazes.
- The Broad Creek Boy Scout Camp has leased land to the Harford County Sheriff's for a firing range. It is close to the M-DT but will not be in use on weekends.
- A very successful work party was held today on the mile-long relocation north from Glen Cove. Much rock removal and digging was necessary. The project is about 60% completed.

Eastern Section - Perryville to Eastern Terminus at Chadds Ford Coordinators: Cecil Co.-Tony Belfiglio Chester & Newcastle Co. - Yvonne Blades

- The developer of Whitaker Woods will meet with Tony to define the route of the M-DT through the development.
- In Elk Neck State Forest, the detour necessitated by beaver activity has been marked with blue ribbons and signs have been placed at both ends. Margit Pruett and her MCC crew have cleared several blowdowns on the M-DT and are mapping the boundaries of the Forest. Yvonne and Herb have marked a potential relocation.
- The City of Newark will relocate and "improve" the M-DT just north of Welsh Tract Rd as part of a park development plan which includes ball fields and reforestation.
- Turner Darden and Warren Davies have reblazed the M-DT between Hockessin and White Clay Creek Preserve.

Other Business

Purchase of Digging Bars: Ron Gray moved, seconded by Mary Bleecker that M-DTS purchase two digging bars. Approved

Next Meeting: June 9, 2002. Meet at Glen Cove Marina at 9:00 am for work party to continue work on the relocation north from the marina. Members' meeting at 2:00 pm at a picnic table at the marina. (Broad Creek Scout camp if weather inclement)

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M-DT Relocation at Conowingo

Map 6: East to West

- Mile 10.0 Leave Greenway at Fisherman's park boat ramp and parking area. Turn left up Shures Landing Rd
- 10.6 Turn right on Shuresville Rd
- 11.0 Turn left on roadway into former site of Conowingo Village which housed workers building Conowingo Dam. Pavement ends. Continue on old roadbed now seeded with grass
- 11.4 Cross Rte 1 (carefully) onto entrance road to Conowingo swimming pool and the Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway Visitor Center. Look for blazes heading left by radio tower, enter woods and go downhill. Etc.

Map 6: West to East

- Mile 9.1 Emerge from woods, cross field by radio tower and turn right onto road leading to Rte 1
- 9.2 Go directly across Rte 1 onto old roadbed, now seeded with grass, that climbs up the hill, curves left, becomes a paved road and passes a house and water tower (former site of Conowingo Village which housed workers building Conowingo Dam)
- 9.6 Turn right on Shuresville Rd
- 10.0 Turn left on Shures Landing Rd
- 10.6 Reach Fishermans's Park by the Susquehanna River. Turn right onto the Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway following an old railroad bed.