



Newton Trails

www.newtontrails.org



### Greetings!

The economic and health benefits of trails are well documented. Less known are the ways in which trails celebrate and preserve a community's history. This issue's feature story on Mrs. Loy Summers provides a glimpse into the memories we seek to share as we develop the rail trail in Newton County.

Your financial support of Newton Trails is more important now than ever in helping to build momentum to develop the rail trail. Please join the effort by becoming a member or renewing your membership through our [Georgia Gives Day](#) campaign on or before November 17th. We also invite you to learn more about opportunities for [business sponsorships](#) that will have a lasting impact on our community.

Happy trails!

#### Follow Us



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[www.newtontrails.org](http://www.newtontrails.org)

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#### Join Us

Your membership helps Newton Trails promote, develop and sustain a connected system of greenway trails.

[Become a Member](#)

#### New and Renewing Members

A big High Five to all new and renewing members!

#### Pathfinders

Frances Bailey

Christian & Tammy Camfield

### Feature Story

#### Train Tracks, Peaches and Sweet Potato Pie

Memories linger for Mrs. Loy Summers. A fixture in our Newton County community for many decades, she has wonderful memories of a childhood in Mansfield, Georgia; a childhood that depended on the train.

Mrs. Summers's family owned an enormous peach farm for many years. As a child in the early 1940's, Mrs. Summers remembers seeing many bushels of peaches being loaded onto refrigerated train cars.

[Read more](#)



### News

#### First Section of Primitive Rail Trail Opens to the Public

With over 70 bags of litter collected and the installation of signage during the week prior, Newton Trails' October 15th Rail Trail First Walk marked a soft opening for an

Mike Cooke  
 Christina Dunbar  
 William Harwell  
 Rosmaire Kelly  
 Kevin McLoughlin  
 Jerry Roseberry  
 Sarah Ross  
 James & Penny Windham  
 Claire Vinson

**Trailblazers**

Jami and Frank Berry  
 Mike Besaw  
 Hugh Burnett  
 & Josephine Kelly  
 William Callaway  
 Barbara Danak  
 Walter Davis  
 Cheryl Delk & Fred Franklin  
 Christina Dunbar  
 Penelope England  
 Franz Geppert

Loucy and Sam Hay  
 Andy and Kathleen Irwin  
 Sarah Lanners  
 Hoyt Oliver  
 Carol and Neil Penn  
 James Tudor  
 Connie and David Waller

**Voyagers**

Erin and Steve Mayfield

**Adventurers**

Diane and John Bowers

[Learn about membership levels and become a member!](#)

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Newton Trails thanks the following individuals for in-kind service contributions.

Jim Behning



approximately two-mile section of primitive rail trail in Covington. [Read more](#)

**Community Foundation Awards \$25,000 Grant**



In October, Newton Trails received a grant for \$25,000 from an anonymous donor through the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta. Designated for general support, Newton Trails hopes to raise an additional \$35,000 in order to pave a section of rail trail. [Read more](#)

**Healthy Newton Omnium Donates \$3,000**



A USA Cycling-sanctioned race, the Healthy Newton Omnium was held on June 11 and 12 in Newton County. With participants from across the state, \$3,000 in proceeds were raised and donated to Newton Trails. [Read more](#)

**NT Commits to M&O for Turkey Creek/Yellow River Trail**



To alleviate concerns regarding future maintenance and operation of the proposed Turkey Creek/Yellow River Trail, the Newton Trails board of directors has agreed to take responsibility for M&O in coordination with the county, adjoining cities and the Newton County Water and Sewerage Authority. [Read more](#)

**Trail Rules: Be Safe, Be Kind, Be Helpful**



Overcoming the challenge of drought-hardened ground and layers of ballast, Newton Trails has installed public safety signage, including trail rules signs, along sections of open and soon-to-open rail trail. Underlying the official trail rules are the basic tenets we learned in kindergarten. [Read more](#)

**Help Wanted: Search for Rail Trail Name Ongoing**



One of the most challenging steps in developing the rail trail in Newton County is coming up with a terrific trail name. We invite trail enthusiasts to contribute their ideas for the best trail name. [Read more](#)

Maurice Carter  
Kim Degonia  
Penelope England  
Sam Johnson  
Tamela Mills  
Florian Pohl

[Learn About Service Opportunities](#)

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## Business Sponsors

Newton Trails appreciates in-kind and financial donations from the following businesses

Burrito Loco  
Greenberg Farrow  
Jersey Mike's Subs  
Mystic Grill  
Square Bikes  
Telrite Corporation

We welcome the support of local businesses and corporations.

Host a social, sponsor an event, provide a service, or make a donation.

We'll let people know that your business is trail friendly!

[Become a Sponsor](#)

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## Volunteer

We welcome volunteers for trail work days and special projects, including professional services.

[Become a Volunteer](#)

## Rail Trail Adopt-A-Spot Program Ready to Launch



In addition to holding regular trail work sessions, trail managers across the country have found that adopt-a-spot programs are effective in maintaining and improving trail conditions. Now that a section of Newton County rail trail is officially open to the public and more sections will open shortly, Newton Trails is launching a rail trail adopt-a-spot program. [Read more](#)

## Events

### Second Saturday Rail Trail Work Session



**Saturday, November 12th (9:00 AM-11:00 AM)**  
Join us for a morning work session on the new rail trail. Individuals, families and groups are invited to participate! [Read more](#)

### Georgia Gives Day - Support Newton Trails!



**Thursday, November 17th (All Day)**  
Georgia Gives Day is an online fundraising initiative created for Georgia nonprofits. Newton Trails seeks to raise \$10,000 to pave 1,200 feet of the rail trail from Elm Street to Anderson Avenue. [Read more](#)

### Black Friday Rail Trail Walk, City Hall to Turner Lake Park



**Friday, November 25th (2:00 PM)**  
Skip the crowds at the mall and spend some quality time with family and friends out on the trail. [Read more](#)

### Lantern-Making Workshop in Porterdale



**Thursday, December 1st**  
Following in the tradition of the Atlanta Beltline Lantern Parade, Porterdale will be introducing lanterns into their annual holiday parade and hosting lantern-making workshops in preparation. Proceeds from the workshops will benefit local nonprofits, including Newton Trails. [Read more](#)

### Covington Community Bike Ride and Twilights at Chimney Park

**Sunday, December 4th - Meet at the Newton County Library (4:00 PM)**  
Dress yourself and your bike for the holidays and join us for a ride around town prior to the annual Twilights at Chimney Park. [Read more](#)

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## Holiday Festivities and Parade in Porterdale



**Saturday, December 10th (4:00-8:00 PM)**

Join us in Porterdale for a holiday market, music and parade. Be sure to bring your handcrafted lantern. Festivities will run 4:00-8:00 PM with the parade beginning at 6:00 PM.

[Read more](#)

## Covington Community Bike Ride on New Year's Day



**Sunday, January 1st and Every First Sunday of the Month (3:00 PM) from the Covington Square**

The Community Bike Ride is a monthly, no-drop, family-friendly bicycle ride. It is the perfect way to spend a Sunday afternoon any time of year. [Read more](#)

## Trail Spotlight

### West Virginia's Mon River Trail



A 50-mile trail network spiraling out of Morgantown, West Virginia provides a mix of urban and rural experiences.

[Read more](#)