

PATAPSCO HERITAGE GREENWAY'S

Family Day

on the Trolley Trail

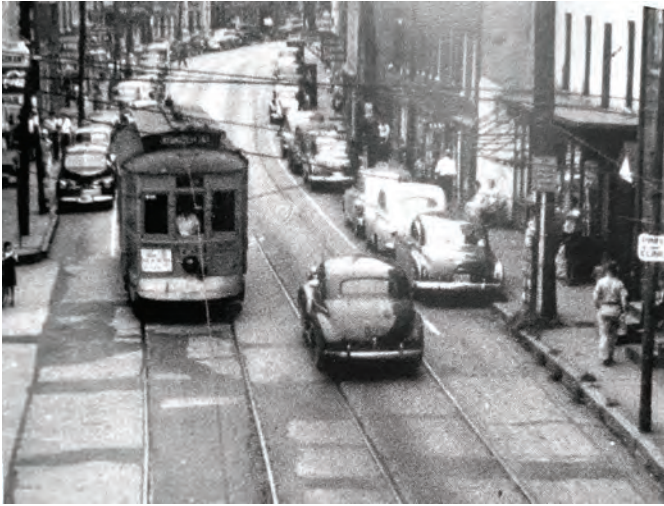
Activity Book



Storybook Walk
created by:



Trolley Line #9 Trail: A Brief History



Did you know that Trolley Trails can be found all over the country? In the late 19th century, trolleys and electric streetcars helped transform cities across America and helped spur on the growth of suburban neighborhoods as these new transportation opportunities allowed more people to live further away from city centers. In the 1960s, a new movement to transform abandoned and unused rail lines into trails began to spread from the Midwest throughout the rest of the country. By the 1980s unprofitable rail lines were divesting themselves of thousands of miles of rail lines per year, prompting Congress to amend the National Trails Systems Act to encourage “railbanking”. Railbanking is meant to be a tool to preserve inactive corridors for future rail use, while providing for interim trail use. The official Rails to Trails Conservancy grew out of these efforts and have influenced trail building communities nationwide.

In the DMV area, the growth of the Rails to Trails movement served as an inspiration for the establishing Trolley Trails throughout the 1990s to today. In the Patapsco Valley Heritage Area, the Trolley Line #9 Trail is a popular Trolley Trail where



families and trail enthusiasts alike can find a scenic path connecting the two historic communities of Ellicott City and Catonsville.

Located within walking distance of the Ellicott City Historic District, the Trolley Line # 9 Trail is the boardwalk that curves between the bluffs of massive rock. The granite was hand cut in the 1890s when the electric streetcar rails were built from Ellicott City to Catonsville. Today these 100-foot-high walls create a striking gateway to the trail from historic Ellicott City just across the Patapsco River from Oella. As you get farther along on the paved trail, you can see the Cooper Branch, a small Patapsco River tributary winding alongside the path. Soon, you reach several trail connections, with multiple options to extend your trip into the Benjamin Banneker Historic Park and Museum. This trail is suitable for walking, running, and cycling and is accessible year round.

Left Photo: Main Street and Maryland Avenue from Remembering Ellicott City: Stories from the Patapsco River Valley by Janet Kusterer & Victoria Goeller **Right Photo: Aerial View of Patapsco from Remembering Ellicott City: Stories from the Patapsco River Valley by Janet Kusterer & Victoria Goeller**

Photo Scavenger Hunt

Instructions

Find the sites mentioned below along/near the Trolley Trail. Take a photo. If you would like to participate in PHG's PaSNAPsco Photo Contest, submit your photos from the scavenger hunt at patapsco.org/attraction/pasnapsco

Wood Boardwalk

The granite you see surrounding the boardwalk was hand cut in the 1890s when electric streetcar rails were built to connect Ellicott City and Catonsville. Today these 100-foot-high walls create a striking gateway to the trail from historic Ellicott City just across the Patapsco River from Oella.

Cooper Branch

In 2019, Baltimore County completed a stream restoration project at Cooper Branch. The project addressed issues of widespread stream degradation, protecting private properties and sanitary sewer and storm drain infrastructure that had been damaged by erosion.

Benjamin Banneker Sign

The Benjamin Banneker Museum and Historical Park is a 142-acre site commemorating Benjamin Banneker, often considered the first African American man of science. Banneker was involved in surveying the boundary for Washington, DC and published six almanacs, beginning in 1792.

Additional Places to See and Visit Near the Trolley Trail

- Oella/Ellicott City Entrance Garden
- B&O Ellicott City Station Museum
- Wilkins Rogers Mill
- The Cycle Mill
- Ellicott City Bridge
- The Breadery

paSNAPsco
photo contest

ENTRY DEADLINE:
NOVEMBER 1

Submit your photos of the Patapsco Valley Heritage Area at
patapsco.org/attraction/pasnapsco



DIY Nature Bookmark Craft



Materials:

- Nature Stamps
- Stamp pads
- Colored Pencils
- Leaf rubbing plastic cutouts
- White paper bookmarks
- Cleaning wipes

Directions:

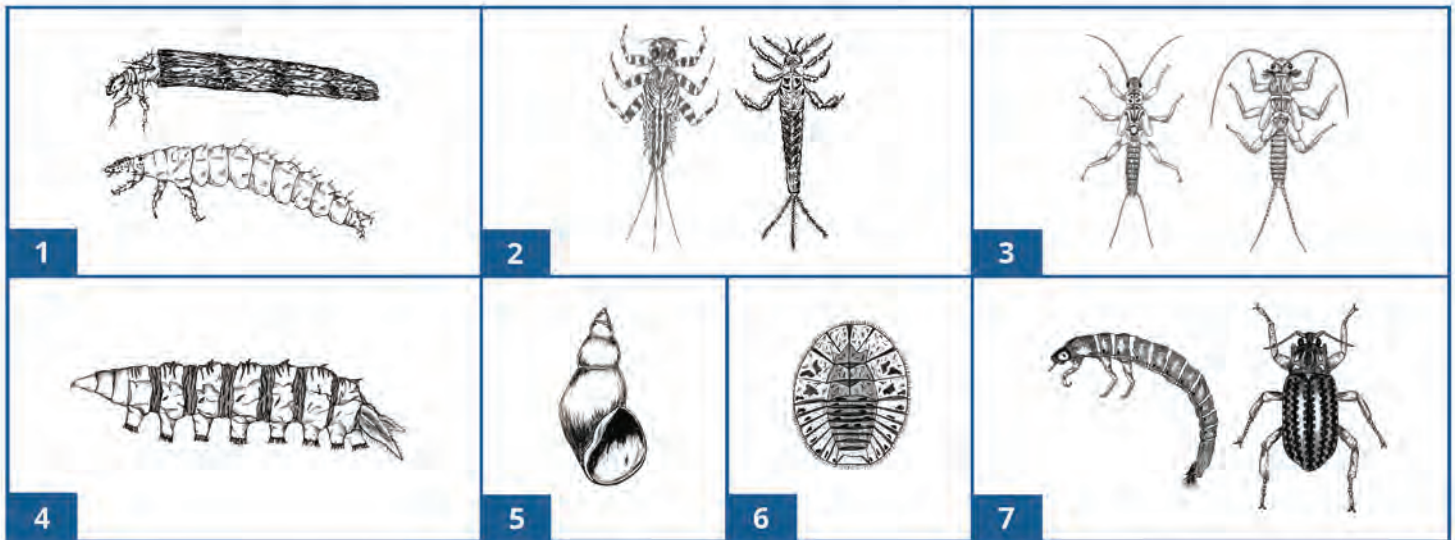
1. Choose one white paper bookmark.
2. Use stamps and stamp pads to design your bookmark. Please clean each stamp between use to avoid ink transfers between stamp pads.
3. Use plastic leaf rubbing cutouts to create leaf rubbing design on bookmark. Place cutout underneath the bookmark and press firmly against the leaf cutout.
4. Use colored pencil (your choice of color) to rub paper bookmark and create leaf rubbing design on the bookmark.
5. Place tassel inside precut hole at the top of the bookmark and write your name on the back of the bookmark if desired.

Macroinvertebrate Identification

Identifying aquatic insects that live in our waterways can help assess the health of the stream or river. Some insects can live in poor water quality, while others can only thrive in healthy waters. If pollution-sensitive organisms are discovered, this indicates that the stream or river has good water quality.

SENSITIVE TO POLLUTION

These organisms are sensitive to pollution and indicate good water quality.



1. Caddisflies: 6 hooked legs on upper part of body, may be in stick, rock, or leaf case, no gill tufts on abdomen.

2. Mayfly: Gills on abdomen, 6 hooked legs, 2 or 3 long hair-like tails.

3. Stonefly: 6 legs with hooked tips, antennae, 2 hair-like tails, no gills on abdomen.

4. Watersnipe Fly: Body plump and maggot-like, caterpillar-like "legs" along body, feathery "horns" on end.

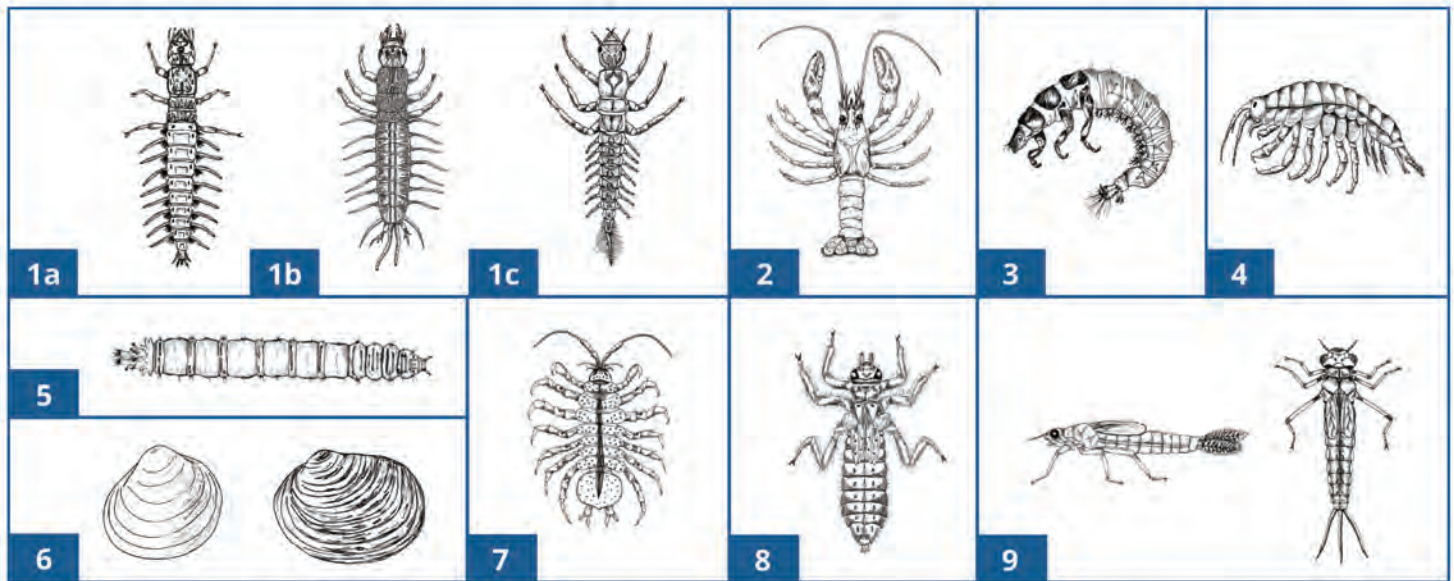
5. Gilled Snails: Shell opening covered by a thin plate, with helix pointed up shell opens to the right.

6. Water Penny: Disk-like oval body with 6 small legs and gill tufts on underside.

7. Riffle Beetle: Small black beetle crawling on streambed OR comma-like brown "crunchy" body with 6 legs on upper third and possibly gill tuft on back end.

LESS SENSITIVE TO POLLUTION

These organisms are somewhat sensitive to pollution and indicate fair water quality.



1. Hellgrammite, Fishfly, and Alderfly: 6 legs, large pinching jaws.

2. Crayfish: 2 large claws, 8 legs, resembles a small lobster.

3. Common Netspinner: 6 legs on upper body, 2 hooks at back end, white gill tufts.

4. Scud: Body higher than wide, swims sideways, more than 6 legs, resembles small shrimp.

5. Crane Fly: Body plump and maggot-like, four lobes on end.

6. Clams and Mussels: Fleishy body enclosed between two clamped together shells.

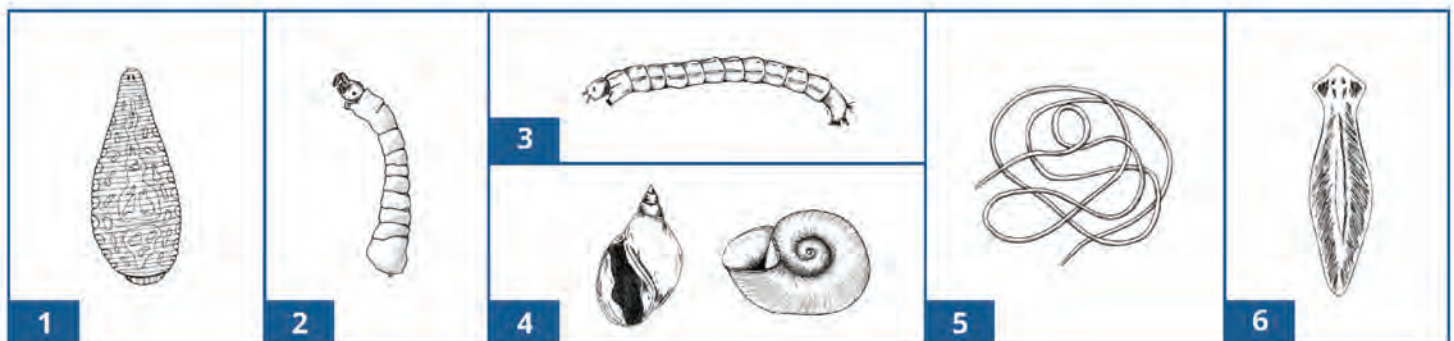
7. Sowbug: Gray oblong body wider than it is high, more than 6 legs, long antennae.

8. Damselfly: Large eyes, 6 hooked legs, large lower jaw, 3 oar-shaped tails.

9. Dragonfly: Large eyes, 6 hooked legs, large lower jaw, wide oval to round abdomen.

POLLUTION TOLERANT

These organisms are tolerant to pollution and indicate poor water quality.



1. Leech: Segmented body, suction cups on both ends.

2. Black Fly: Very small, end of body wider (like bowling pin), distinctive head, sucker on end.

3. Midges: Usually very small, distinct head, worm-like segmented body, 2 leg-like projections on each side, often whitish to clear, occasionally bright red.

4. Lunged Snails: With helix pointed up shell opens to the left.

5. Aquatic Worm: Can be very tiny, thin worm-like body.

6. Flat Worm: Usually very small, soft body, may have distinct head with eyespots.

Nature Scavenger Hunt

Flower



Yellow, Red, or Orange Leaf



Water



Grass



Tree



Green Leaf



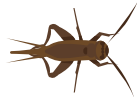
Spiderweb



Fern



Bug



Nut or Berries



Rocks



Scat



Bird



Native Plant



Tree Bark



Sand/Dirt

