

## History of the Railroad Bed

This property dates back to the 1840's when a group of Genesee Valley investors formed a corporation to construct a railroad from Rochester to Nunda. Constructing railroads in the area offered a major advantage over the existing canals: year round service.

Like many railroad corporations to follow, the group had financial troubles and was forced to sell the property. In 1856 the property was sold to the newly organized Genesee Valley Railroad and in 1859 the first train arrived in Geneseo.

The 1860's were the heyday of the railroad. In 1869 it carried 43,574 passengers and 3,400 tons of freight.

In 1907 overhead electric wires were installed to allow electric powered passenger trains to use the track. Freight continued to be powered by steam.

When gasoline powered cars came into fashion the railroad fell on hard times and on January 21, 1940 the last train passed over the line. In the 1950's, with the demise of the railroad, the right of way was offered for sale. The section north of the Avon town line was acquired by Edward and Jacquelin Harris.

The property, stripped of rails and ties, became a recreational trail used for equestrian and other purposes.

In 1993 Edward and Jacquelin donated their portion of the railroad bed to GVC to ensure the property's important contribution as a trail resource remained available for the community. Their donation ensures that equestrian and other low-impact activities can continue to occur into the future.

## Uses of the Railroad Bed Trail

Enjoy low impact recreation such as; equestrian uses, hiking, running, dog-walking, and bird watching.

### Prohibited Activities

- Gun and bow hunting, discharging firearms, trapping, motorized vehicles, and dumping.
- Adjacent trails traveling east/west from the GVC trail are privately owned, please refrain from traveling on them.
- GVC's property ownership ends at the Avon/Geneseo town line; demarcated by a mowed underground pipeline running east/west. Please do not continue south of this line, as the property is privately owned.

### Hours

The Railroad Bed Trail is open daily between sun-up and sun-down.

### Directions

The Railroad Bed Trail has three access points, please park safely on the side of the road and do not block the trail route.

*Fowlerville Road* - 100 ft west of the intersection with Route 39

*Hogmire Road* - .5 mile west of the intersection with Route 39

*South Avon Road* - 1 mile west of the intersection with Route 39

### Visit us on the web:

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

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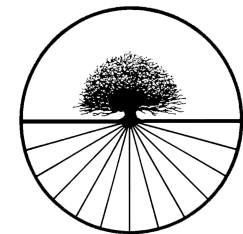
Geneseo, NY 14454

# GENESEE VALLEY CONSERVANCY

## Railroad Bed Trail



*"To protect the habitat, open space and farmland of the Genesee Valley region."*



# Railroad Bed Trail Map

## Trail Users

This is a multi-use trail, please be courteous to all types of trail users. Bikers, we ask that you dismount to allow horses to pass safely.





The mowed gas pipeline marks the end of GVC property; south of this point is privately owned land, please do not trespass.

## Management of the Trail

This property is managed for use as a recreational trail. Occasional mowing is conducted to keep the grass down and to prevent woody species from encroaching onto the railroad bed. Shrub and tree pruning is also necessary to keep the sides of the trail from encroaching over the railroad bed.

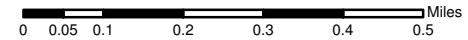
Please respect our neighbors' private property by remaining on the GVC Railroad Bed Trail.  
Thank you.

## Legend

-  GVC Railroad Bed Trail
-  Trees and hedges
-  Town Line
-  House or Barn



North



### Trail Uses



### Prohibited Activities

