Who's on the Trail

The 2017 Canalway Trail User Count

December 2017

PARKS & TRAILS
NEW YORK

NEW YORK
STATE OF
OPPORTUNITY. | Canal
Corporation

Table of Contents

Executive Summary

The 524-mile Canalway Trail system is one of New York State's premier outdoor destinations. The trail gives millions of New Yorkers in more than 200 canalside communities a dedicated place to walk, jog, and bike right from their doorsteps. Since 2005, Parks & Trails New York and the New York State Canal Corporation have been at the forefront of quantifying the trail's popularity through annual Canalway Trail counts.

The Canalway Trail counts analyzed in the *Who's on the Trail* reports give trail managers, municipalities, planners, and members of the public answers to four important questions: how many people are using the trail, who's using the trail, when is use occurring, and how are people using the trail? Over the years, the answers to these questions have helped to justify millions of dollars in public investment for maintenance and construction across the Canalway Trail system.

The Canalway Trail counts have also been used to help assess the impact of trail usage on New York's economy. According to PTNY's 2014 *Economic Impact Study of the Erie Canalway Trail*, more than 1.6 million visits to the trail support more than 3,400 jobs and create $250 million in economic impact. Since then, subsequent *Who's on the Trail* reports have demonstrated that the popularity of the Erie Canalway Trail remains high.

In 2017, PTNY measured usage at six locations along the Erie Canalway and Feeder Canal Trails. Counts along the 360-mile Erie Canalway Trail measured usage at Pendleton (Niagara County), Spencerport (Monroe County), Camillus (Onondaga County), DeWitt (Onondaga County), and Niskayuna (Schenectady County). An additional count in Glens Falls (Warren County) measured usage along the seven-mile Feeder Canal Trail.

The 2017 *Who's on the Trail* report reveals some impressive usage trends across the corridor. The counts ranged from just over 50,000 annual visits in Pendleton to more than 180,000 visits in Niskayuna. The Niskayuna figure is the second highest figure ever recorded using a full year's worth of count data. Locations in DeWitt and Camillus also show strong usage levels, with more than 100,000 visits occurring during the 12-month count period. Usage at all locations is strongest on weekends and holidays, suggesting the trail is very popular for recreational activities. Peak usage for all locations occurs between June and September, though the busiest month varies by location.

The 2017 counts mark the first time that 12 months' worth of count data could be analyzed across multiple locations. This large amount of data not only provides unprecedented insight into Canalway Trail usage, but it will also allow PTNY to make more accurate usage estimates in the future.

Background

Decisions regarding design, funding, operation, maintenance, and promotion of the Canalway Trail system are based in large part on understanding the level and type of trail usage. Estimates of annual trail traffic volume inform current and future expenditures for construction and maintenance; they also demonstrate the economic impact of the Canalway Trail system on the counties, towns, villages, and cities along its length.

Parks & Trails New York (PTNY) and the New York State Canal Corporation (NYSCC) began using trail counts in 2005 to support anecdotal claims of the Erie Canalway Trail's popularity among walkers and cyclists with more objective evidence.

The trail count protocol has changed twice since 2005, with the first two years of counts employing non-standardized methodology that limited the ability to accurately estimate weekly, monthly, and annual trail usage levels. In 2007, however, an effort to generate data with greater validity and predictive value was undertaken using the nascent methodology (referred to as the Lindsay et al. Model) and equations developed by researchers at Indiana University. This new methodology used electronic counters and volunteers to easily deliver a more accurate estimation of annual trail usage volume.

In 2010, PTNY and the NYSCC began using the current protocol and methodology developed for the National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project (NBPD). The NBPD is a nationwide effort designed to provide consistent data collection and adjustment factors to estimate annual trail usage. The adjustment factors account for season (April to September or October to March), type of facility (multi-use path or high-density pedestrian and entertainment area), day of the week and month when the count was conducted, and type of climate. In addition to the introduction of adjustment factors, the NBPD also differs from the Lindsay et al. Model by relying on both weekend and weekday hourly counts. Since NBPD methodology is becoming the national standard for trail count studies, it allows the Canalway Trail data to be compared with annual usage estimates from trails across the country. Appendix E includes all of the adjustment factors PTNY and NYSCC use for the Canalway Trail.

Since 2005, Canalway Trail counts have been conducted by volunteers in Erie, Orleans, Monroe, Wayne, Cayuga, Onondaga, Madison, Oneida, Herkimer, Montgomery, Schenectady, Albany, Saratoga, Washington, and Warren Counties. Observational counts were conducted on the Champlain Canalway and Feeder Canalway Trails in 2012, which was the first year when counts were conducted on a segment of the Canalway Trail system other than the Erie.

2014 marked the first year that an electronic trail counter was installed for a full year at a location to obtain trail use data for the annual count. PTNY and the NYSCC also began using trail user surveys in 2014 in tandem with the count, with volunteers surveying trail users regarding manner and frequency of trail use, demographic information, and general feelings about the Canalway Trail.

Since 2014, PTNY and the NYSCC have continued to use electronic counters and in-person surveys. In 2017 electronic counters recorded trail usage at five locations along the Erie Canalway Trail (ECT) and

one location along the Feeder Canalway Trail (FCT). Observational counts and trail user surveys were conducted at three locations along the ECT. In a departure from previous counts, the observational count data collected in 2017 primarily serves to estimate trail user mode breakdown.

In January 2017, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced the creation of the Empire State Trail, which when completed in 2020, will result in a 750-mile trail network that incorporates the Erie and Champlain Canalway Trails and the Hudson River Valley Greenway. The Empire State Trail will also connect to regional trails, including the Feeder Canalway Trail. The Canalway Trail user counts will serve as a reliable measure of usage both before and after the development of the Empire State Trail.

Methodology

Data Collection

Appendices C and D contain all count data collected for the 2017 *Who's on the Trail* report.

Location

Electronic counters measured trail usage along the Erie Canalway Trail in Pendleton (Niagara County), Spencerport (Monroe County), Camillus (Onondaga County), DeWitt (Onondaga County), and Niskayuna (Schenectady County). An electronic counter measured trail usage along the Feeder Canalway Trail in Glens Falls (Warren County). The 2017 *Who's on the Trail* report analyzes 365 continuous days of trail usage for Pendleton, Camillus, DeWitt, and Niskayuna. Pendleton, Camillus, and DeWitt were analyzed in the 2016 *Who's on the Trail* report, however, a full year's worth of data was not yet available. Partial data measured over several months is included for Spencerport and Glens Falls. Observational counts occurred at three adjacent locations in Camillus, including the same location where an electronic counter measured usage.

The 2017 Canalway Trail count locations represent geographic and environmental diversity. Pendleton and Spencerport are located in Western New York, Camillus and DeWitt are located in Central New York, Niskayuna is located in Eastern New York, and Glens Falls is located in the Southern Adirondacks. The Pendleton count location is rural while Camillus, DeWitt, and Niskayuna are suburban, suggesting that many trail users at these four locations will arrive by car. The Glens Falls and Spencerport trail count locations are integrated into communities where many users can access the trail by foot or bicycle.

FIGURE 1 - 2017 CANALWAY TRAIL COUNT LOCATIONS
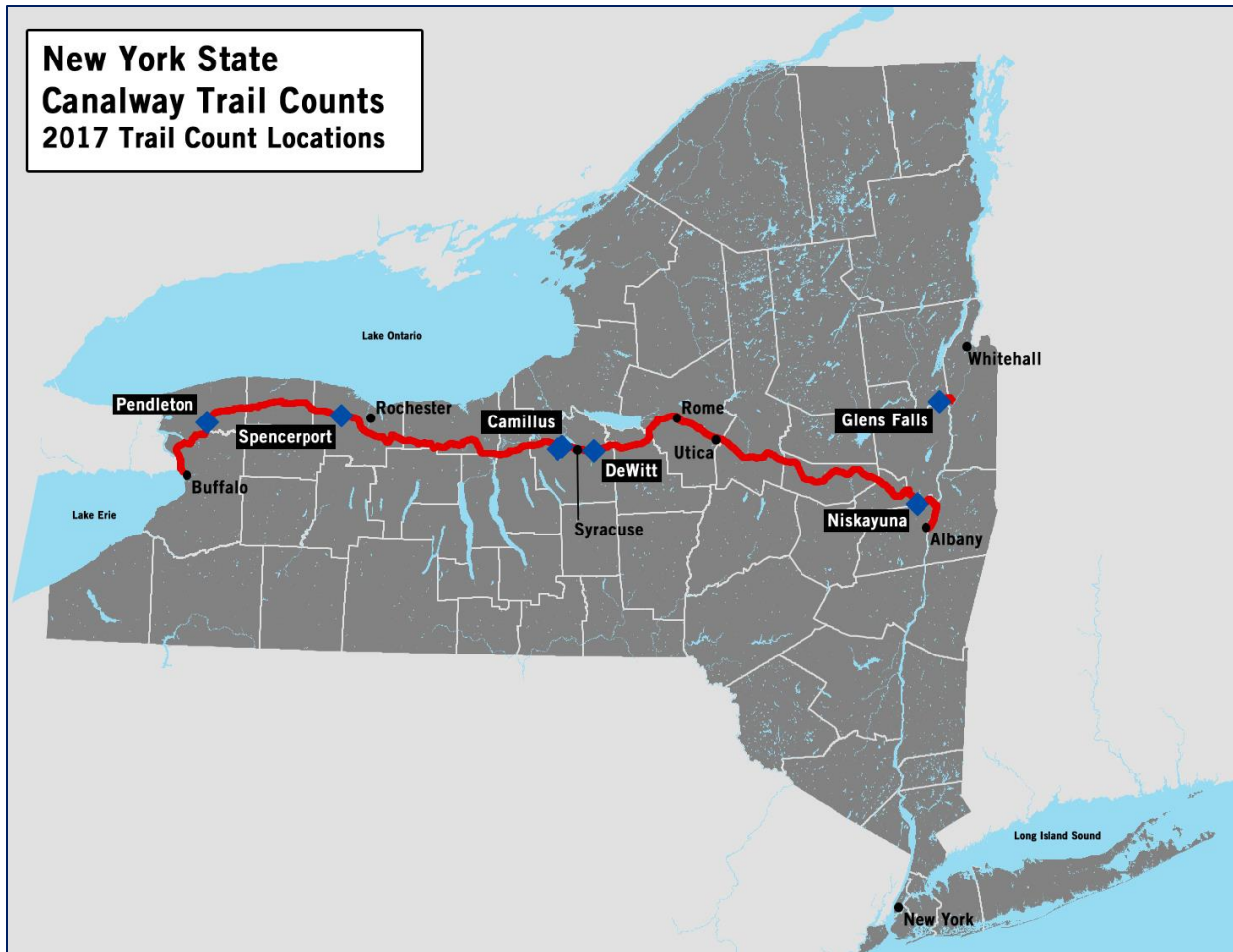
Pendleton

In June 2016, PTNY installed an electronic counter on a newly-constructed segment of the Erie Canalway Trail in the Niagara County town of Pendleton. The counter was installed near a major trail access point that features a parking lot, benches, and a kiosk. The Pendleton trail segment surface is asphalt and connects Lockport and the Tonawandas, communities with many trail user amenities such as bike shops, restaurants, and bed and breakfasts. While the surrounding area is largely rural, the nearby communities of North Tonawanda, Amherst, and Lockport likely generate a significant amount of usage.

The counter remained in Pendleton for a full year and the data reflects usage between June 22, 2016 and June 21, 2017. PTNY estimated annual usage using four months' worth of data at this location in last year's *Who's on the Trail* report.

FIGURE 2 - PENDLETON ELECTRONIC TRAIL COUNTER LOCATION

Spencerport

In July 2017, PTNY installed an electronic counter along the Erie Canalway Trail in the village of Spencerport in Monroe County. The counter is located near the Spencerport village center and Towpath Park, which features a picnic shelter and visitor information for trail and Canal users. The counter was installed just east of these amenities, however, to ensure that trail user traffic and not park visitation was measured. The Spencerport count location lies within a segment of stonedust trail that is part of a long stretch of uninterrupted trail that extends approximately 50 miles to the west to Lockport and 47 miles east to Newark.

The counter will remain in Spencerport for a full year; however, the data analyzed in this report reflects 141 days' worth of usage. Full-year data will be analyzed in next year's report.

FIGURE 3 - SPENCERPORT ELECTRONIC TRAIL COUNTER LOCATION
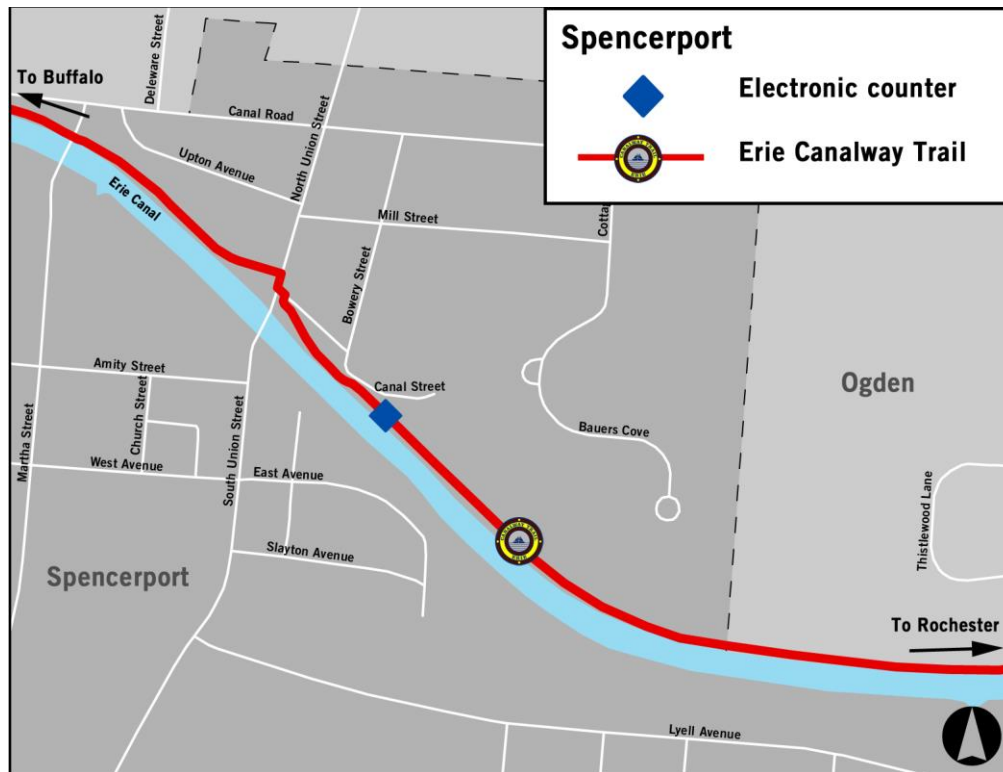
Camillus

PTNY installed an electronic counter at the Erie Canal Historical Park in the Onondaga County town of Camillus in June 2016. The Erie Canal Historical Park is home to the Sims Store, a popular museum that recreates a general store from the mid-19th-century heyday of the original Erie Canal. The Sims Store also serves as a visitor's center and comfort station for the Erie Canalway Trail. The trail surface at Camillus is stonedust.

Positioned to the immediate west of Syracuse, where no off-road Canalway Trail currently exists, the Erie Canal Historical Park serves as an important trailhead and anchor for the 20 miles of trail stretching to Port Byron in Cayuga County. The fact that it is located almost exactly midway between Buffalo and Albany also suggests it is a significant stopping point for long-distance trail travelers.

The electronic counter remained in Camillus for a full year and the data reflects usage between June 2, 2016 and June 1, 2017, the same period during which the data was collected in nearby DeWitt. PTNY previously estimated usage at this location in 2016, 2011, and 2010.

In addition to the data collected from the electronic counter, volunteers from the Erie Canal Historical Park conducted observational counts at the Sims Store, the Nine-Mile Creek Aqueduct, and the western terminus of the trail west of Syracuse at Warners Road (Route 173) near Reed Webster Park. These counts were conducted on October 25, 26, 28 and November 1, 2, 4. PTNY previously estimated usage at the Warners Road location in 2010 and at the Nine-Mile Creek Aqueduct in 2011.

FIGURE 4 - CAMILLUS ELECTRONIC COUNTER AND OBSERVATIONAL COUNT LOCATIONS
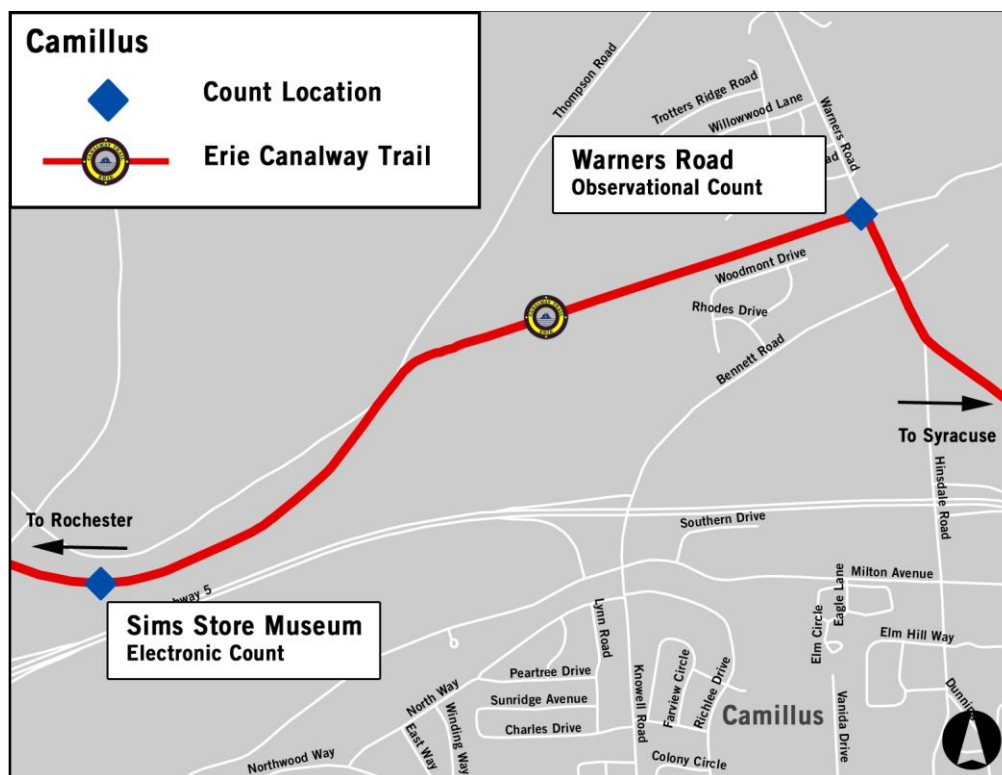
DeWitt

PTNY installed an electronic counter at the eastern side of Syracuse Erie Canalway Trail gap at Cedar Bay Park in the Onondaga County town of DeWitt. The counter location is at the westernmost stretch of a 23-mile uninterrupted stretch of Erie Canalway Trail in Old Erie Canal State Park between DeWitt and Durhamville, where after a brief on-road gap, the trail continues for another 12 miles to Rome. The trail surface is asphalt for approximately three miles.

DeWitt is one of the largest suburbs of Syracuse, and as already discussed, is at the eastern end of a major gap in the trail that exists between the two count locations in Camillus and DeWitt, running almost entirely within the city of Syracuse. The on-road section of the Erie Canalway Trail that constitutes the gap includes an approximately 6.5-mile signed route that is widely seen as a temporary alternative to a combination of more accommodating treatments such as bike lanes, cycle tracks, and a separated multi-use trail where possible. The availability of parking and proximity of several large suburban-style developments make DeWitt's Cedar Bay Park trailhead popular among Onondaga County residents.

Moreover, the next dedicated parking area for trail users is located about four miles east, at Lakeport Road, the site of the Chittenango Landing Canal Boat Museum.

The electronic counter remained in DeWitt for a full year and the data reflects usage between June 2, 2016 and June 1, 2017, the same period during which the data was collected in nearby Camillus. PTNY previously estimated usage at this location in 2016 and 2015.

FIGURE 5 - DEWITT ELECTRONIC TRAIL COUNTER LOCATION
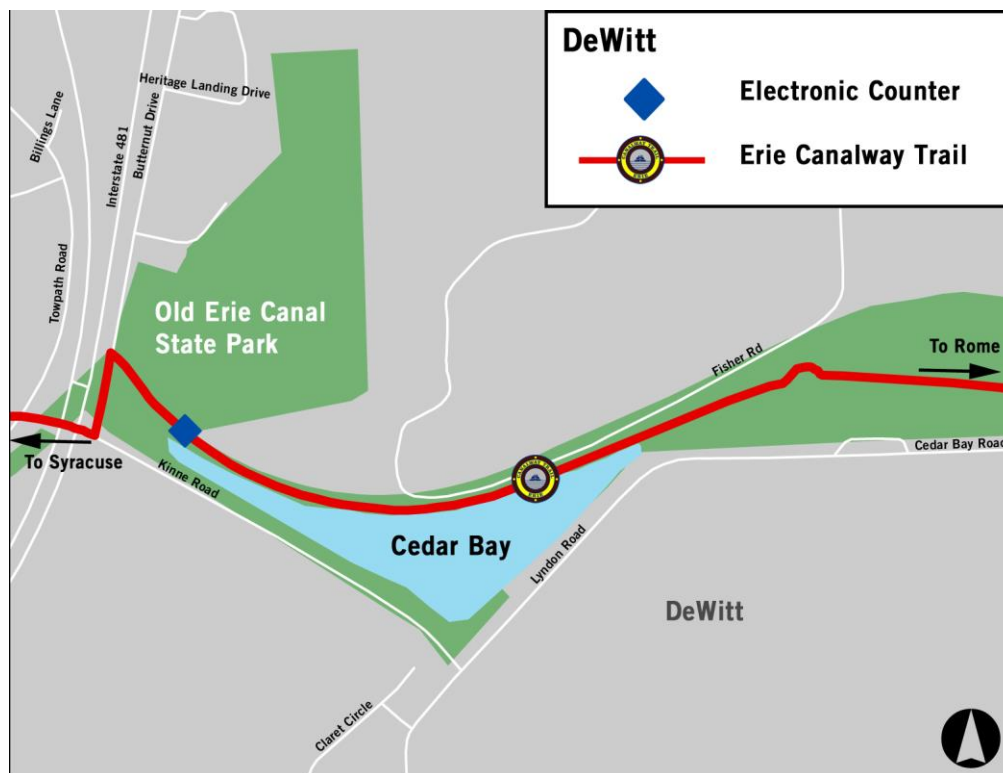
Niskayuna

PTNY installed an electronic counter at Lions Park in Niskayuna, Schenectady County in December 2016. Lions Park is one of the most prominent trailheads for the Erie Canalway Trail in the Capital District, where the trail is locally referred to as the Mohawk-Hudson Bike Hike trail. The counter was installed near the western end of Lions Park. This section of Erie Canalway Trail is a rail trail and the former train station located at Lions Park is now an art gallery and visitor center. The park also contains a large parking lot and restroom facilities, making it a popular starting/ending point for trail running, biking, and dog walking for residents of this suburban community. Several major employment centers are located along the trail between Lions Park and Schenectady, and two large town parks for Niskayuna and Colonie are located within a few miles along the trail in both directions.

The Town of Niskayuna continues to connect nearby neighborhoods to the Erie Canalway Trail through short extensions and intersection safety improvements, providing local residents with improved access to the trail and Lions Park.

The electronic counter remained in Niskayuna for a full year and the data reflects usage between December 21, 2016 and December 20, 2017. PTNY previously estimated usage at this location in 2009. PTNY also conducted counts at this location in September 2016 for the Capital District Transportation Committee's 2016 *Regional Trail Perspectives* update when it was estimated to have the highest annual usage among the 22 locations across the region counted.

FIGURE 6 - NISKAYUNA ELECTRONIC TRAIL COUNTER LOCATION

Glens Falls

In May 2017 PTNY installed an electronic trail counter at Haviland Cove Park in Glens Falls along the Feeder Canal Trail. At seven miles, the Feeder Canal Trail is one of the shorter NYS Canalway Trails, however, it is an important connection between the Champlain Canalway Trail and the Warren County Bikeway, two other trails important to the Southern Adirondacks region. The trail surface at Haviland Cove Park is stonedust. The counter was installed along the trail to the west of the park entrance near Bush Street. In addition to hosting an important trailhead, the Haviland Cove Park is home to a public beach and restrooms. This location is also easily accessible by walking or biking from nearby neighborhoods.

The counter will remain in Glens Falls for a full year, however, the data analyzed in this report reflects six months' worth of usage. Full-year data will be analyzed in next year's report. PTNY previously estimated usage at this location in 2012.

FIGURE 7 - GLENS FALLS ELECTRONIC TRAIL COUNTER LOCATION
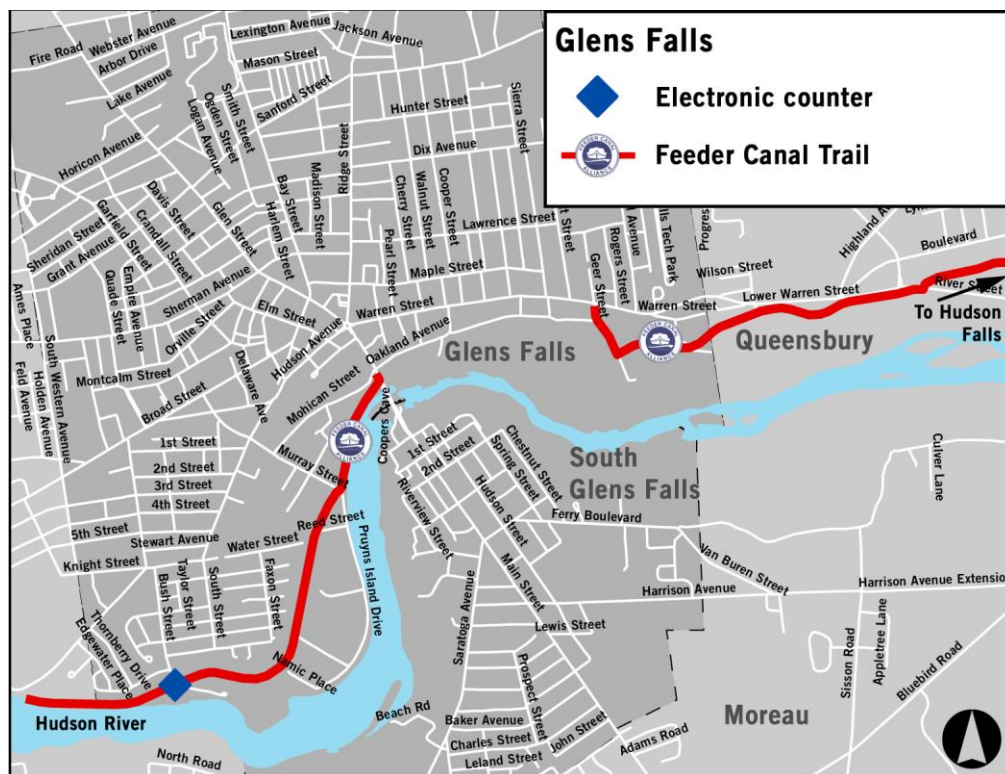
Month

Observational counts were conducted during the months of October and November, later in the year than previous years' counts. Electronic count data was obtained for a full year between June 22, 2016 and June 21, 2017 for Pendleton; June 2, 2016 and June 1, 2017 for Camillus and DeWitt; and December 21, 2016 and December 20, 2017 for Niskayuna. The electronic counter at Spencerport recorded data for the months of July, August, September, and November 2017 while the electronic counter at Glens Falls recorded data for the months of May, June, July, August, September, October, and November 2017.

Day of the Week

For the Sims Store and Warners Road locations in Camillus, observational counts occurred during two-hour periods over the course of two Wednesdays, two Thursdays, and two Saturdays, for a total of twelve observational count hours at each location. Observational counts occurred for two hours on one Wednesday and one Thursday at the Nine-Mile Creek Aqueduct location in Camillus.

Observational Count Process

Local volunteers conducted the observational counts in Camillus. All volunteers received a count protocol sheet prepared by PTNY based on the NBPD methodology (see Appendix A). Volunteers received training in the form of a webinar hosted by PTNY. Slides from the webinar were also distributed to volunteers unable to attend.

Volunteers were asked to conduct at least three counts on successive weekdays during the same week or on the same days in at least three successive weeks. The protocol stipulated that weekday counts were to be conducted on Tuesday, Wednesday, and/or Thursday, and not on a holiday, Monday, or Friday. Weekend counts could be taken on either day.

In accordance with NBPD methodology, observational counts were conducted during the two-hour period that represents peak trail usage for that specific location. Peak usage periods are determined by volunteers. NBPD methodology recommends two-hour periods to help eliminate some of the variability that a single hour of counting may encounter.

A detailed counting form (see Appendix B), developed by PTNY and similar to the one used in previous years, was employed to standardize data collection and classify various types of users.

Trail Traffic Estimation

PTNY used the following steps, outlined by the NBPD, to derive the annual trail usage estimates.

1. **Calculate average weekday and weekend peak counts.**
   The NBPD methodology strongly recommends that all estimates be based on an average of at least two and preferably three counts during the same two-hour period and week, especially for lower volume areas. As Table 2 indicates, this year's trail counts achieved the minimum number of counts at two locations: Sims Store and Warners Road.

   Peak period selections
   PTNY instructed volunteers to select the two-hour period they felt best represented the time of peak usage.[*]

2. **Estimate average weekday and weekend daily traffic.**
   The average weekday peak hourly counts were divided by the percentage of total daily traffic represented by the two-hour period when the counts were conducted. The NBDP-derived hourly adjustment factors represent percentages of daily traffic for hourly intervals between 6:00 AM and 9:00 PM, which may vary by type of trail and season. The methodology has been tailored to calculate estimates for two very different areas: multi-use paths and high-density

---

[*] Once the respective weekdays and weekend average counts are determined, NBDP recommends multiplying the average counts by 1.05 if the trail is used between 11:00 PM and 6:00 AM. PTNY omitted this step to remain consistent with methodology used in previous Canalway Trail counts. Omitting this step also ensures that estimates are as conservative as possible because it is unlikely that 5% of Canalway Trail use occurs during these hours.

pedestrian or entertainment districts. Each hour is proportional to the total daily usage, with these proportions varying between weekdays and weekends. Once the percentage of daily use was determined, the average two-hour weekday count was divided by this percentage to determine an estimate for a typical weekday.

3. **Estimate average weekly traffic volumes.**
   The daily weekday estimate calculated above is used to calculate an average weekly estimate by dividing each number by an average of the NBPD daily adjustment factors (see Appendix D: Table Two) for the days included in the weekday count calculation. PTNY averaged the adjustment factors for each day for locations where observational counts occurred on separate weekdays.

4. **Estimate average monthly traffic volumes.**
   The average weekday volume was multiplied by the number of weeks in the month in which the count occurred to obtain the estimated monthly trail traffic volume.

5. **Estimate average annual traffic volumes.**
   To calculate an estimated annual usage volume using the NBPD methodology, the average monthly volume calculated above was divided by the monthly adjustment factor (see Appendix D: Table 3) for "Long Winter, Short Summer" climate region and the corresponding month during which the count was conducted. PTNY calculated an average of this monthly adjustment factor for locations where counts occurred during more than one month.

Electronic Count Process

PTNY took the following approach for estimating annual counts at the six locations where electronic counters were installed, depending upon how much data the counter collected. See Table 2 for a breakdown of how much data each electronic counter collected for the 2017 *Who's on the Trail* report.

Electronic Count Process – Spencerport and Glens Falls
The counters installed at Spencerport and Glens Falls operated for less than a year at the time of this report's writing. The data from the Spencerport count reflects 141 days' (about 4.5 months') worth of usage. The Glens Falls counter data reflects 6 months' worth of usage.

In contrast to the NBPD estimation process, which uses extrapolation and adjustment factors as outlined above, the counters provided monthly count totals. To calculate the annual usage estimate for Spencerport and Glens Falls, PTNY divided the total usage for the period for which each counter's data is available by the sum of the NBPD monthly adjustment factor for the "Long Winter, Short Summer" climate region for the corresponding months. When data is only available for a part of a month, PTNY calculated the proportional adjustment factor for the corresponding month. Since the counters collected

such a large amount of data for the two locations, it wasn't necessary to determine peak usage periods or use hourly adjustment factors similar to the process taken for each observational count.

Electronic Count Process – Pendleton, Camillus, DeWitt, and Niskayuna
Since the electronic counters installed at Pendleton, Camillus, DeWitt, and Niskayuna collected a full year's worth of data, no calculations were necessary. PTNY simply reviewed the data to ensure there were no unexplainable anomalies with the data.

Canalway Trail User Survey

For the fourth year, PTNY administered a trail user survey in conjunction with the volunteer trail count. Volunteers surveyed a small number of trail users in Camillus. The Sims Store was the only location where both surveys and electronic counts occurred.

PTNY provided volunteers with a Survey Protocol as well as a form with survey questions for each trail user they encountered to complete (see Appendix E for the protocol and Appendix F for the questionnaire). PTNY discussed the survey protocol during the pre-count webinar and the slides from the webinar were sent upon request to any volunteer not able to participate.

Results
Trail Usage Volume Estimates

PTNY's estimation of trail usage volume at each location is presented in Figure 8 and Table 1. For the observational counts conducted at Warners Road / Route 173 the estimates in Table 1 also include two-hour weekday, two-hour weekend day, daily, and monthly volumes PTNY calculated using the five steps outlined in the previous section of the *Who's on the Trail* report and outlined by the NBPD methodology. Due to incomplete data, PTNY excluded the Nine-Mile Creek Aqueduct location from the estimates. PTNY also did not calculate an annual estimate using the observational data for the Sims Store since an electronic counter was installed there for a full year.

The results from the electronic counts ranged from 52,454 visits in Pendleton (Erie Canalway Trail) to 182,325 visits in Niskayuna (Erie Canalway Trail). PTNY calculated the annual estimate for Warners Road in Camillus (Erie Canalway Trail) to be 233,090 visits.

FIGURE 8 - ESTIMATED ANNUAL USAGE ACROSS THE CANALWAY TRAIL, 2017
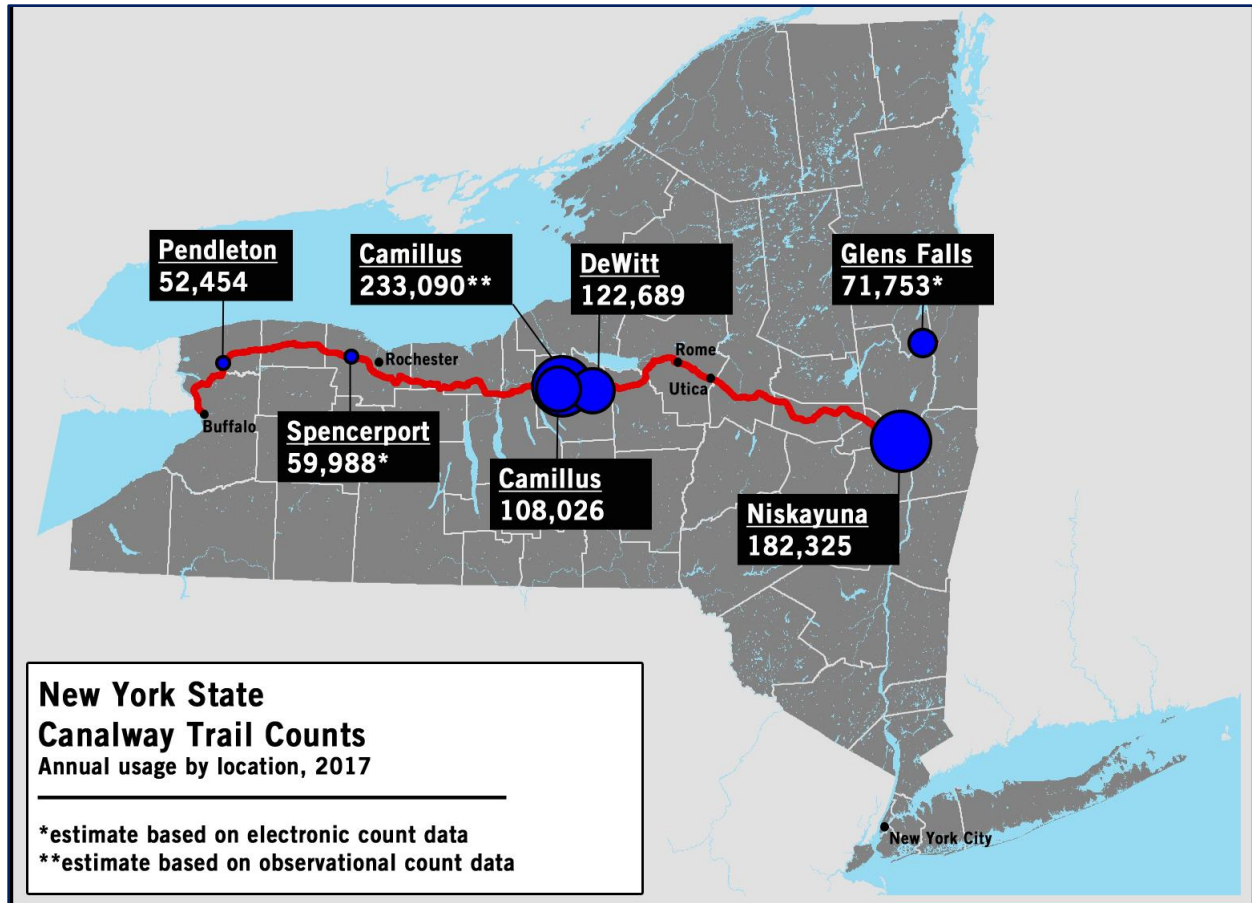
TABLE 1 - ESTIMATE OF WEEKLY, MONTHLY, AND ANNUAL USE, 2017

	Average weekday two-hour count	Average weekend two-hour count	Estimated daily volume	Estimated weekly volume	Estimated monthly volume	Estimated annual volume
Pendleton	-	-	-	-	-	52,454
Spencerport	-	-	-	-	-	59,988
Sims Store, Camillus (electronic)	-	-	-	-	-	108,026
Sims Store (observational)	69	140	700	3,889	16,956	-
Warners Road, Camillus	65	106	469	3,208	13,985	233,090
DeWitt	-	-	-	-	-	122,689
Niskayuna	-	-	-	-	-	182,325
Glens Falls	-	-	-	-	-	71,753

Modes of Use

The observational counts at the three Camillus locations measured the modal split. Except for the Sims Store in Camillus, modal split is unavailable for the electronic count locations. Table 2 displays the modes of use for the locations where the data is available.

TABLE 2 – MODE SPLIT BY TYPE AND LOCATION

	Cyclists	Walkers	Joggers	In-line skaters	Baby carriages	Equestrians	Wheelchair users	Other
Sims Store, Camillus	4%	66%	28%	0%	1%	0%	0%	1%
Aqueduct, Camillus	4%	64%	29%	0%	3%	0%	0%	0%
Warners Rd, Camillus	5%	65%	28%	0%	2%	0%	0%	<1%
All locations	4%	65%	28%	0%	2%	0%	0%	1%

Across the three locations where mode split is available, walkers comprise 65% of trail users. Joggers make up the next largest share of users at 28%. Cyclists are the third largest share of users, though relative to other locations counted in previous years they comprise a very small share at 4% compared to a 12-year average of 42%. This remarkably low percentage of cyclists may be a result of the observational counts occurring during late October and early November, when many people have stopped recreationally cycling. In 2016, volunteers conducting trail counts at the same time of the year observed a similar trend farther east along the Erie Canalway Trail in Amsterdam. Unsurprisingly, the shares of joggers and walkers is higher than the 12-year average. The other category includes people fishing counted at the Sims Store and Warners Road.

Table 3 compares the mode split from 2017 with the mode split from every Canalway Trail count since 2005.

TABLE 3 – CANALWAY TRAIL MODE SPLIT, 2005-2017

Year	Cyclists[†]	Walkers	Joggers	In-line skaters	Baby carriages	Wheelchair users	Equestrians	Scooters	Other[‡]
2005	64%	24%	8%	2%	2%	-	0%	-	-
2006	43%	36%	20%	0%	2%	0%	0%	-	-
2007	49%	38%	8%	2%	3%	0%	0%	-	-
2008	52%	35%	9%	2%	2%	0.1%	<0.1%	0.1%	-

[†] Cyclists category for 2009-2017 includes all cyclists, including bicyclists, tri-cyclists, tandem cyclists, and bicyclists with a child seat or trailer
[‡] "other" trail users may include people using the trail to fish, put in a kayak, view wildlife, or using trailside exercise stations, among others

Year	Cyclists	Walkers	Joggers	In-line skaters	Baby carriages	Wheelchair users	Equestrians	Scooters	Other
2009	53%	30%	12%	4%	0.3%	0.1%	0%	-	0.9%
2010	21%	55%	22%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
2011	30%	56%	10%	2%	2%	0%	0%	0%	<0.1
2012	33%	55%	8%	0%	3%	1%	0%	0%	0%
2013	40.38%	47.28%	8.79%	0%	2.09%	0%	0%	0%	0.84%
2014	53.01%	40.69%	4.01%	0%	0.57%	0%	0.57%	0%	1.15%
2015	34.6%	41.3%	21.9%	0.06%	1.06%	0%	0%	0%	0.83%
2016	30%	44%	20%	1%	1%	0.3%	0%	-[§]	3%
2017	4%	65%	28%	0%	2%	0%	0%	-	1%

Bicyclists

All bicyclists recorded by volunteers were riding standard two-wheel bicycles. No recumbent, trike, or tandem bicycles were recorded.

PTNY has been recording helmet usage along the Canalway Trail since 2009. New York State law requires anyone under the age of 14 to wear a helmet, and most outdoor recreation health and safety advocates strongly encourage everyone else to wear one. Volunteers observed almost three quarters of all cyclists were wearing a helmet. Among the three locations, the Sims Store had the highest percentage of cyclists wearing a helmet at 96% while Warners Road had the lowest percentage at 43%; 88% of cyclists at the Aqueduct were observed wearing a helmet. Nationally, 46% of bicyclists reported using a helmet during at least some rides.[**] The nine-year average of observed helmet usage across the Canalway Trail is 61%. Figure 9 compares helmet usage observed during the Canalway Trail counts between 2009 and 2017.

FIGURE 9 - CANALWAY TRAIL HELMET USAGE, 2009-2017
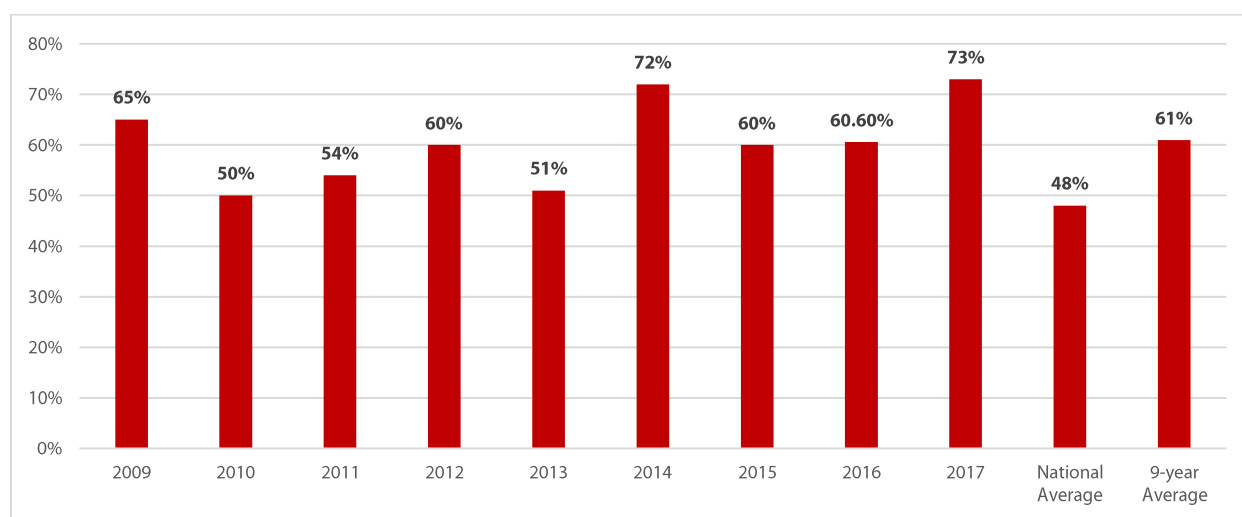
[§] Included in "other" since 2016

[**] Schroeder, 2013

Observational Count Comparisons by Location

Warners Road (Route 173), Camillus

The annual usage estimate for Warners Road is 233,090 visits. This estimate places Warners Road among the higher usage locations along the Erie Canalway Trail. PTNY last calculated usage at this location to be 165,333 in 2010. The 2017 estimate is a 41% increase over the 2010 estimate. While it's hard to pinpoint the exact cause for such a large increase since 2010, it's important to continue to do trail user counts more regularly than two weeks once every seven years to ensure that accurate usage trends exist for this well-used location.

Weekend usage over the observed time period at Warners Road was 40% higher than weekday usage.

Among trail users recorded at Warners Road, walkers accounted for 65% of visitors, the highest share at this location. Joggers accounted for 28% of users while bicyclists only accounted for 5% of total usage. Occasional baby carriages and people fishing from the trail were also observed. The presence of a large parking lot at nearby Reed Webster Park makes this location very accessible.

Compared to the other two locations in Camillus, cyclists made up a slightly larger share of overall use, though compared to historic count locations, the percentage is still significantly lower. Compared to the Nine-Mile Creek Aqueduct and Sims Store locations helmet usage was substantially lower, however, with only 43% of cyclists observed wearing a helmet. In 2016, Waterford on the Champlain Canalway Trail reported a similar level of helmet usage (44%), while nearby DeWitt reported about 60% of users wearing helmets.

The observational counts recorded at Warners Road are the only observational counts PTNY used to calculate an annual usage estimate. As the report previously mentions, the counts at the Nine-Mile Creek Aqueduct were incomplete according to NBPD methodology and the full-year estimate from the Sims Store is based on the full-years' worth of data recorded by the electronic counter.

FIGURE 10 – OBSERVED TRAIL USER BY TYPE, WARNERS ROAD, CAMILLUS (2017)
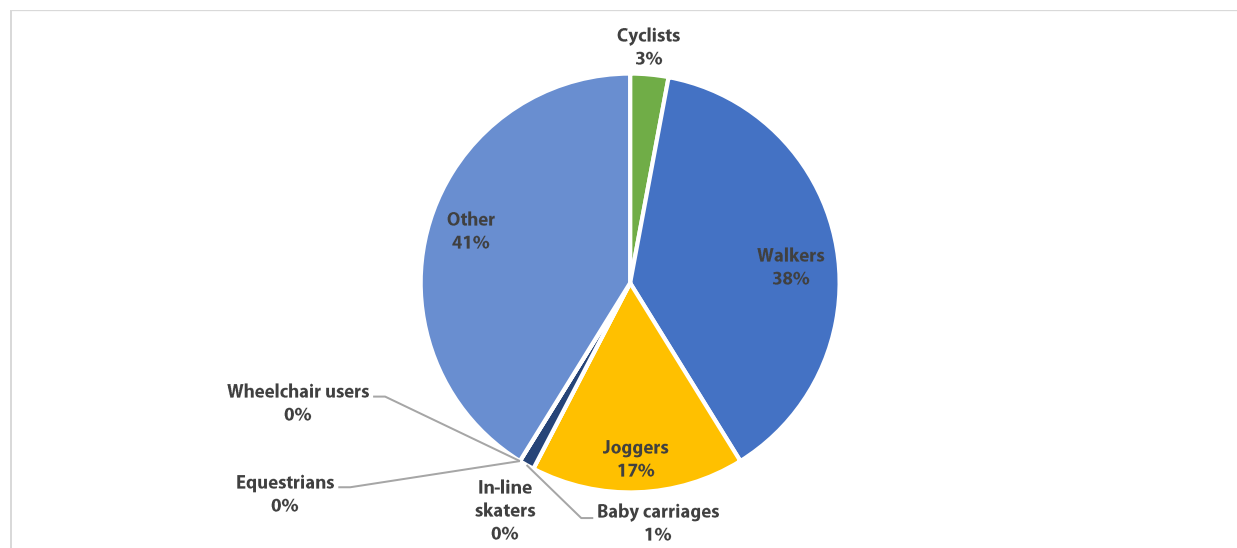
Sims Store, Camillus

Observed usage on weekends was double weekday usage at the Sims Store in Camillus. 66% of observed users were walkers, 28% were joggers, and 4% were cyclists. On the weekend day when weather conditions were sunny and temperatures were in the 60s, cyclists made up 10% of all users, the highest percentage at this location. Helmet usage at this location was also the highest, with 96% of cyclists observed wearing one. Baby carriages only comprised 1% of the overall usage at this location, the lowest among the three observational count locations.

FIGURE 11 – OBSERVED TRAIL USER BY TYPE, SIMS STORE, CAMILLUS (2017)
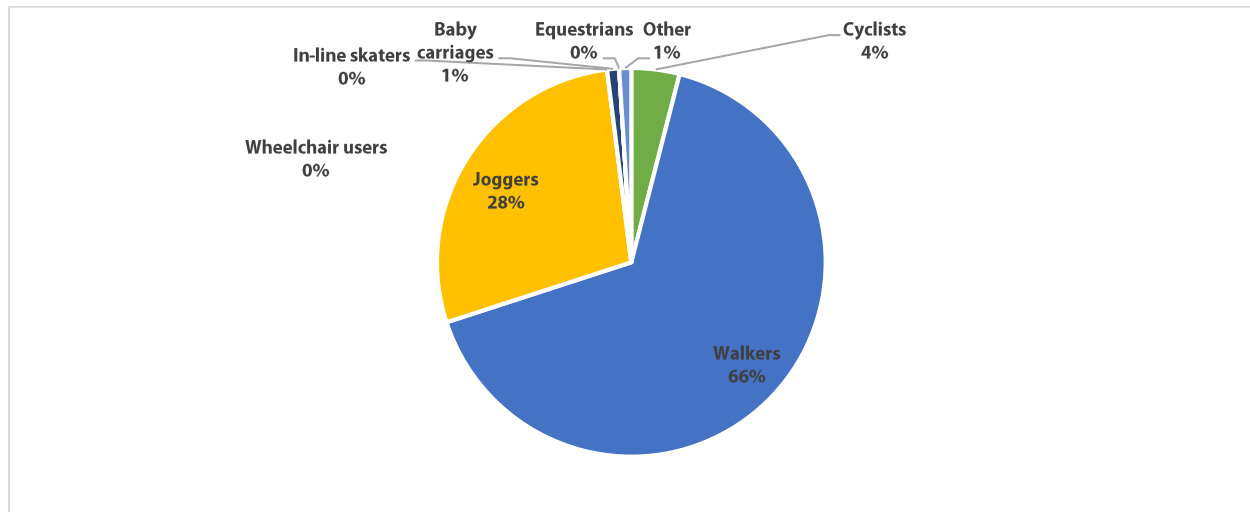
Nine-Mile Creek Aqueduct, Camillus

The observational count data collected at the Nine-Mile Creek Aqueduct is incomplete due to the fact that counts only occurred on two consecutive weekdays. While there is not enough data to demonstrate any usage characteristics or calculate annual estimates, it should be noted that the mode breakdown at this location does not differ significantly from the two locations to the east and west. Moreover, 88% of bicyclists were observed wearing a helmet, which is higher than Warners Road and the Canalway Trail average, but lower than the 96% observed at the Sims Store.

FIGURE 12 – OBSERVED TRAIL USERS BY TYPE, NINE-MILE CREEK AQUEDUCT, CAMILLUS (2017)
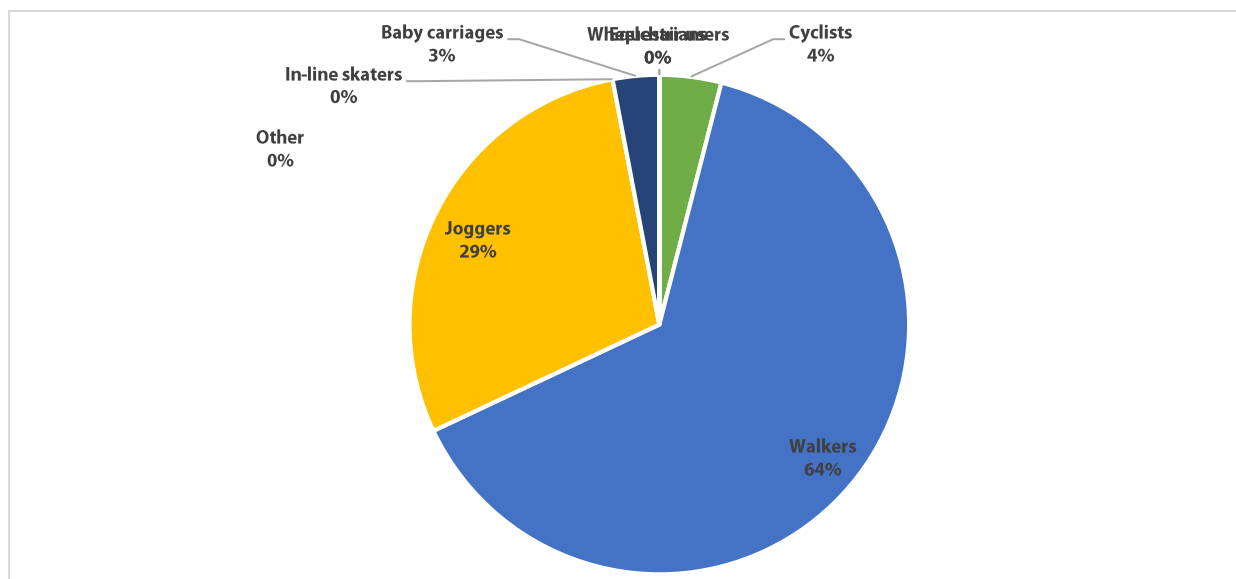
Electronic Count Comparisons by Location

Pendleton

An electronic counter measured usage along the Erie Canalway Trail in Pendleton from June 22, 2016 through June 21, 2017. Over the course of 12 months, the counter measured 52,454 visits at Pendleton[††]. This level of usage is the lowest measured along the Erie Canalway Trail included in the 2017 *Who's on the Trail* report. Among historic count locations, usage at Pendleton is in the bottom-quarter, though it sees similar usage to other locations in less populated areas and small villages such as Spencerport (59,988), Lakeport Road, Chittenango (52,021), and Lock 20 Canal Park, Marcy (49,424).

As Table 4 demonstrates, usage varies substantially throughout the year, with the highest levels of usage occurring between July and September. The month with the highest usage, 9,293 visits, was September.

TABLE 4 – TRAIL USAGE RECORDED IN PENDLETON, NIAGARA COUNTY, JUNE 2016-JUNE 2017

Month	Visits
June, 2016 (part)	2,195
July, 2016	7,909
August, 2016	6,559
September, 2016	9,293
October, 2016	3,733
November, 2016	2,275
December, 2016	924
January, 2017	1,320

[††] PTNY used the NBPD methodology to calculate an estimated annual total usage for Pendleton in the 2016 *Who's on the Trail* report. Using the available data for June – November 2016, PTNY estimated that annual usage for Pendleton would be 50,727, only 1,727 or 3% off from the actual one-year usage total of 52,454.

February, 2017	2,439
March, 2017	1,660
April, 2017	5,300
May, 2017	4,796
June, 2017 (part)	4,051
12-month total	52,454

The busiest day the counter recorded was Sunday, July 10, 2016, when 906 visits were recorded. This day coincided with PTNY's Cycle the Erie Canal tour, which annually brings more than 650 cyclists to the trail, so it is likely the increased usage on that day can be attributed to the tour. Monday, August 29, 2016 and Labor Day (September 5), 2016 were the second and third highest usage days. Overall, Sundays were the busiest day of the week, when over 20% of usage occurs. Weekday usage averages are lower than weekend usage averages.

Table 5 demonstrates usage characteristics over the course of the year and compares it to summer (June-September) usage. During the summer, the peak usage periods on both weekdays and weekends occur earlier than during the rest of the year.

TABLE 5 – TRAIL USAGE CHARACTERISTCS FOR PENDLETON, NIAGARA COUNTY, JUNE 2016-JUNE 2017

October 2016-May 2017	
Weekday average	82
Weekend average	117
Busiest day of the week	Sunday
Peak weekday period	3 – 5 PM
Peak weekend period	1 – 3 PM
June 2016 (part) - September 2016	
Weekday average	240
Weekend average	302
Busiest day of the week	Sunday
Peak weekday period	10 AM – 12 PM
Peak weekend period	10 AM – 12 PM

Spencerport

PTNY installed the electronic counter in Spencerport in July 2017. The data from the counter used in the *Who's on the Trail* report is from the period consisting of July 11, 2017 – November 28, 2017, approximately 4.5 months and 45% of the annual usage according to NBPD methodology for the Long Winter, Short Summer climate region. Based on the data obtained from the counter and the calculation PTNY made using the adjustment factors and methodology described earlier in this report, the estimated annual usage for Spencerport is 59,988, which is higher than Pendleton, but lower than Glens Falls, Camillus, DeWitt, and Niskayuna. This estimate is similar to estimates from 2013 Canalway Trail counts for nearby Brockport, which is similar in size and geography to Spencerport.

Based on the data the counter recorded, August is the busiest month along the Erie Canalway Trail at Spencerport, though a more complete look at the data in next year's *Who's on the Trail* report may reveal a different finding. Table 6 breaks out usage at Spencerport by month for the available data. A closer look at the data collected in August is located in Table 16.

TABLE 6 – TRAIL USAGE CHARACTERISTCS FOR SPENCERPORT, MONROE COUNTY, JULY 2017-NOVEMBER 2017

Month	Visits
July, 2017 (part)	5,568
August, 2017	7,671
September, 2017	6,287
October, 2017	6,094
November, 2017 (part)	1,252
4.5-month total	26,872
12-month estimate	59,988

Similar to other locations along the Erie Canalway Trail, on average, usage at Spencerport is higher on weekends than on weekdays. Sunday is the busiest day of the week, with almost a quarter of usage occurring on that day.

TABLE 7 – TRAIL USAGE RECORDED BY ELECTRONIC COUNTER, AUGUST 2017, SPENCERPORT

	2017
Monthly count total (August)	7,671
Daily average (August)	247
Weekday average (August)	213
Weekend average (August)	346
Estimated annual total	59,988

Camillus

The electronic counter at the Sims Store, Camillus measured usage along the Erie Canalway Trail from June 2, 2016 through June 1, 2017. During this period, the counter measured 108,025 visits at Camillus[‡‡]. The 108,025 recorded uses place the Sims Store, Camillus near the middle of usage along the Erie Canalway Trail. The usage level at Camillus is lower than the count total for nearby DeWitt (122,689) but close to similarly situated suburban areas such as Henpeck Park in Greece, Monroe County (106,073) and Schenectady County Community College in Rotterdam, Schenectady County (105,869).

[‡‡] PTNY used the NBPD methodology to calculate an estimated annual total usage for Camillus in the 2016 *Who's on the Trail* report. Using the available data for June – September 2016, PTNY estimated that annual usage for Camillus would be 113,728, only 5,703 or 5% higher than the actual one-year usage total of 108,025.

July and August had similarly high levels of usage, with more than 16,000 visits occurring during those months. December and March see the lowest levels of usage at just over 3,000 visits occurring then. Table 8 details the monthly usage for the 12-month period the counter collected data in Camillus.

TABLE 8 – TRAIL USAGE RECORDED IN CAMILLUS, ONONDAGA COUNTY, JUNE 2016-MAY 2017

Month	Visits
June, 2016	10,827
July, 2016	16,263
August, 2016	16,352
September, 2016	13,422
October, 2016	9,208
November, 2016	6,442
December, 2016	3,018
January, 2017	4,345
February, 2017	5,160
March, 2017	3,759
April, 2017	10,181
May, 2017	9,048
12-month total	108,025

The busiest day of the year at Camillus was Sunday, August 7, 2016 when the counter recorded 1,088 visits. Wednesday, July 13, 2016, the day when the Cycle the Erie Canal tour passed through Camillus, was the second busiest day of the year (909 visits). The third busiest day came on Sunday, April 9, 2017 (852 visits; see note under DeWitt analysis). Overall, Sundays accounted for 19% of weekly usage, the highest share. Similar to the other Canalway Trail count locations, weekend usage was higher on average than weekday usage.

Table 9 compares daily usage characteristics for Camillus during the summer months (June – September) to the rest of the year. During the summer, peak usage on weekdays and occurs later, and on weekends, peak usage occurs in the morning unlike the rest of the year when it occurs during the afternoon.

TABLE 9 – TRAIL USAGE CHARACTERISTICS FOR CAMILLUS, ONONDAGA COUNTY, JUNE 2016-MAY 2017

October 2016 – May 2017	
Weekday average	187
Weekend average	268
Busiest day of the week	Sunday
Peak weekday period	4 – 6 PM
Peak weekend period	2 – 4 PM
June 2016 – September 2016	
Weekday average	449
Weekend average	515
Busiest day of the week	Sunday
Peak weekday period	6 – 8 PM
Peak weekend period	10 AM – 12 PM

DeWitt

The Cedar Bay Park counter in DeWitt measured usage along the Erie Canalway Trail during the same period as the counter 17 miles to the west in Camillus, June 2, 2016 through June 1, 2017. During that 12-month period, the electronic counter recorded 122,689 visits, placing DeWitt among the top count locations measured by an electronic counter along the Erie Canalway Trail.[§§] The count total for DeWitt is higher than all locations counted by an electronic counter for the 2017 Canalway Trail counts except for Lions Park in Niskayuna. It sees a similar level of usage, however, to popular suburban Erie Canalway Trail trailheads such as Schoen Place, Pittsford, Monroe County, Bushnell's Basin, Perinton, Monroe County, and nearby Camillus.

Usage is highest in July, when the counter recorded more than 17,000 visits. The lowest level of usage occurred in December when only 2,625 visits were recorded. A monthly usage breakdown for DeWitt is available in Table 10.

TABLE 10 – TRAIL USAGE RECORDED IN DEWITT, ONONDAGA COUNTY, JUNE 2016-MAY 2017

Month	Visits
June, 2016	14,914
July, 2016	17,108
August, 2016	15,234
September, 2016	14,573
October, 2016	10,244
November, 2016	7,102
December, 2016	2,625
January, 2017	5,222
February, 2017	5,267
March, 2017	3,742
April, 2017	14,407
May, 2017	11,983
12-month total	122,689[***]

The busiest day of the year, with 1,107 visits, was Sunday, April 9, 2017, which was the third busiest day of the year for the Camillus location. A possible explanation for this date being such as high usage day at both locations could be that the recorded high temperature was 15 degrees higher than the average

---

[§§] PTNY used the NBPD methodology to calculate an estimated annual total usage for DeWitt in the 2016 *Who's on the Trail* report. Using the available data for June – September 2016, PTNY estimated that annual usage for DeWitt would be 123,658, only 969 or 0.7% higher than the actual one-year usage total of 122,689.

[***] Includes June 1, 2017 – 248 visits

temperature for early April[†††]. Moreover, Sunday is the busiest day of the week for both locations. The day with the second highest usage was less than two weeks later, Tuesday, April 18, 2017 when 1,099 visits to the trail were counted. This date fell within the local school district's spring break, making it likely that families were using the trail more often on that date.[‡‡‡] The third busiest day, Sunday, September 11, 2016 saw more than 1,049 visits recorded. Sundays accounted for almost 20% of weekly usage at DeWitt, a share similar to other Canalway Trail count locations. Like the other Canalway Trail count locations, weekend usage was slightly higher at DeWitt than weekday usage.

Table 11 compares usage during the higher-use summer months (June-September) to the rest of the year. Similar to the other Canalway Trail count locations, longer daylight hours leads to later peak usage times on weekdays during summer months. Weekend peak usage only changes to an hour later during the summer, though there is a second, less intense peak later in the day between 2 and 4 PM that doesn't exist during the rest of the year.

TABLE 11 – TRAIL USAGE CHARACTERISTICS FOR DEWITT, ONONDAGA COUNTY, JUNE 2016-MAY 2017

October 2016 – May 2017	
Weekday average	218
Weekend average	326
Busiest day of the week	Sunday
Peak weekday period	4 – 6 PM
Peak weekend period	8 – 10 AM
June 2016 – September 2016	
Weekday average	483
Weekend average	572
Busiest day of the week	Sunday
Peak weekday period	6 – 8 PM
Peak weekend period	9 – 11 AM

Niskayuna

The counter PTNY installed at Lions Park in Niskayuna recorded usage along the Erie Canalway Trail between December 21, 2016 and December 20, 2017. During this 12-month period, the counter measured 182,325 visits – the highest number for all locations electronically counted in the 2017 *Who's on the Trail* report. Among all locations counted uses electronic counters, only Niawanda Park in Tonawanda, Erie County saw a higher level of usage (183,419 visits in 2015). Among other previous estimates PTNY calculated, Niskayuna ranks among the top quarter of locations, and sees similar levels of usage to suburban communities that have incorporated the Erie Canalway Trail into their network of community parks.

[†††]

https://www.wunderground.com/history/airport/KSYR/2017/4/9/DailyHistory.html?req_city=&req_state=&req_statename=&reqdb.zip=&reqdb.magic=&reqdb.wmo=
[‡‡‡] http://www.jamesvilledewitt.org/tfiles/folder300/2016_2017_SchoolCalendar-3.pdf

In September 2016, PTNY measured usage this location for a week to estimate that 263,757 visits would occur at this location during a year for the CDTC *Regional Trail Perspectives* update, the highest number among the 22 locations counted across the Capital District. While the full-year number recorded between December 2016 and December 2017 is lower than the CDTC estimate, it's still worth noting that relative to other locations across the Canalway Trail corridor, usage at Niskayuna is high. Though as the report previously explained, high usage at Lions Park has much to do with the amenities available on site and proximity to some of the Capital District's largest employers and suburban communities.

Usage at Niskayuna is highest during July and August, when more than 25,000 visits to the trail occur. The lowest level of usage occurred during December (combined 2016 and 2017) when less than 5,000 visits were recorded. Table 12 shows the monthly breakdown for Niskayuna between December 2016 and December 2017.

TABLE 12 – TRAIL USAGE RECORDED IN NISKAYUNA, SCHENECTADY COUNTY, DEC 2016-DEC 2017

Month	Visits
December, 2016 (part)	2,088
January, 2017	5,815
February, 2017	9,382
March, 2017	7,279
April, 2017	19,167
May, 2017	17,421
June, 2017	21,754
July, 2017	25,887
August, 2017	25,353
September, 2017	20,702
October, 2017	17,609
November, 2017	7,043
December, 2017 (part)	2,825
12-month total	182,325

Similar to Pendleton and Camillus, the busiest day of the year at Niskayuna was the day the Cycle the Erie Canal tour passed by the counter location, Sunday, July 16, 2017 when 1,811 uses were recorded. The second busiest day of the year was Labor Day, Monday, September 4, 2017 when 1,654 uses occurred. Sunday, April 9, 2017, the warm spring day that accompanied high usage levels at Camillus and DeWitt, was the third highest day of use, with 1,637 visits occurring. Sunday usage accounted for almost 23% of weekly usage, which is higher than the other Canalway Trail locations. Additionally, Saturday usage was the second highest, which is unlike the other 2017 *Who's on the Trail* report full-year electronic count locations where Monday was the second highest share of weekly usage.

Table 13 compares usage during summer months (June – September) to the rest of the year. Similar to the other locations, weekend days averaged higher usage levels than weekdays throughout the year. Peak weekday periods begin an hour later in the evening during the non-summer months than the other 2017 Canalway Trail count locations, but they do not change very much during the summer months when

daylight hours increase. Peak weekend periods begin occur earlier in the morning during throughout the year. Similar to DeWitt, during the non-summer months, usage is steady throughout the day on weekends, with early morning and early evening peaks recorded.

TABLE 13 – TRAIL USAGE CHARACTERISTICS FOR NISKAYUNA, SCHENECTADY COUNTY, DEC 2016-DEC 2017

October 2017-December 2017, December 2016-May 2017	
Weekday average	296
Weekend average	538
Busiest day of the week	Sunday
Peak weekday period	5 – 7 PM
Peak weekend period	8 – 10 AM
June 2017 – September 2017	
Weekday average	645
Weekend average	1,075
Busiest day of the week	Sunday
Peak weekday period	6 – 8 PM
Peak weekend period	9 – 11 AM

Glens Falls

The Glens Falls counter was installed at Haviland Cove Park along the Feeder Canal Trail on May 26, 2017; the counter will remain at that location for a full year. The data analyzed in the 2017 *Who's on the Trail* report was recorded during the six-month period between May 26, 2017 and November 26, 2017. This period represents 64% of annual trail usage according to NBPD methodology for the Long Winter, Short Summer climate region. Based on the data obtained from the counter and the calculation PTNY made using the adjustment factors, the estimated annual usage for Glens Falls is 71,753, which is higher than Spencerport and Pendleton, but lower than Niskayuna, DeWitt, and Camillus. This estimate is also 40% higher than the previous estimate for this location PTNY calculated in 2012. Table 14 details the breakdown of usage recorded in Glens Falls between May 26, 2017 and November 26, 2017.

TABLE 14 – TRAIL USAGE CHARACTERISTCS FOR GLENS FALLS, WARREN COUNTY, MAY 2017-NOV 2017

Month	Visits
May, 2017 (part)	723
June, 2017	6,773
July, 2017	17,025
August, 2017	12,602
September, 2017	3,887
October, 2017	3,236
November, 2017 (part)	1,614
6-month total	45,860
12-month estimate	71,753

Since the 12-month data is incomplete at this time and usage during July and August surges, it's possible that using NBPD methodology inaccurately estimates annual trail usage at Glens Falls. To demonstrate this possibility, PTNY compared usage obtained by the counter as a percentage of the annual usage estimate with the NBPD adjustment factors for the Long Winter, Short Summer climate region. July usage according to the counter data accounts for 24% of the estimate, however, the NBPD adjustment factor for July is 13%. For August, the counter data accounts for 18% of the estimate, while the NBPD adjustment factor for August is 14%. This does not mean the counter recorded inaccurate data; on the contrary, these anomalies seem to demonstrate why 12-month counts are more accurate for some locations where usage does not follow the NBPD estimation methodology. The surge in usage during July and August at the Haviland Cove Park likely results from the fact that access to the park is more restricted during the non-summer months when the beach and park facilities are closed, therefore fewer people are using the Feeder Canal Trail as part of a visit to Haviland Cove Park.

TABLE 15 – TRAIL USAGE RECORDED BY ELECTRONIC COUNTER, JULY 2017, GLENS FALLS

	2017
Monthly count total (July)	17,025
Daily average (July)	549
Weekday average (July)	462
Weekend average (July)	733
Estimated annual total	71,753

During July, the weekday daily average at Glens Falls was 462 visits while the weekend daily average was 733 visits. The increase in usage on weekends is similar to the other Canalway Trail count locations. Sundays account for almost 24% of usage along at Glens Falls, similar to the other locations. Peak weekday and weekend usage in July occurred between 3 and 5 PM.

Survey Findings

The Sims Store in Camillus was the only location where surveys were collected in 2017. Since only two surveys were collected, the sample size is too small to draw any meaningful conclusions for the *Who's on the Trail* report. These results are included in Appendix H.

Conclusions

The 2017 *Who's on the Trail* report is the eleventh edition of this report. The results of this report demonstrate that while trail usage levels vary widely across the 524-mile Canalway Trail corridor, there are similar usage trends among the locations. For example, every location saw higher usage occur on the weekends, with Sunday being the most popular day. Among the electronic count locations, at least 20% of usage occurred on Sunday alone. Similarly, peak usage on weekdays tended to occur during the early evening. Days with the highest recorded usage tended to be either during major trail-oriented events or holidays. These findings suggest that a majority of Canalway Trail users enjoy the trail for its recreational and health benefits. Another conclusion this report draws is the fact that at all locations where 12-month

data is available, usage occurs throughout the year, proving that the Canalway Trail is a four-season destination for the more than 200 Canalside communities.

Canalway Trail Usage Estimates

Table 16 shows trail use estimates for locations counted in 2017.

TABLE 16 – ESTIMATED ANNUAL TRAIL USE, ALL CANALWAY TRAIL LOCATIONS, 2017

Location	Estimated annual usage
Pendleton	52,454
Spencerport	59,988
Warners Road, Camillus (observational count)	233,090
Sims Store, Camillus	108,026
DeWitt	122,689
Niskayuna	182,325
Glens Falls	71,753

Among all locations counted in 2017, the observational count at Warners Road led to the highest estimated annual trail usage. For locations where a full year of data was recorded, Niskayuna had the highest usage level.

Niskayuna, Camillus, and DeWitt trail count locations are surrounded by community recreational assets and major population centers, making the Erie Canalway Trail in those communities a popular place to bicycle, jog, or walk. In Glens Falls it's possible that many Feeder Canalway Trail users combine a visit to the trail with a visit to Haviland Cove Park. These conclusions suggest that it's important to continue to ensure that these recreational facilities and the trails that connect them are well cared for.

TABLE 17 – ESTIMATED ANNUAL CANALWAY TRAIL USE BY LOCATION, 2007-2016

Annual usage based on 12-months of electronic data

Location and Year	Annual Usage
Lock 20 Canal Park, Marcy, Oneida County, 2015	49,424
Lockport and Robinson Roads, Pendleton, Niagara County, 2017	52,454
Sims Store Museum, Camillus, Onondaga County, 2017	108,026
Cedar Bay Park, DeWitt, Onondaga County, 2017	122,689
Lions Park, Niskayuna, Schenectady County, 2017	182,325
Niawanda Park, Tonawanda, Erie County, 2014	183,419

Annual usage estimates based on calculations

Location and Year	Estimated Annual Usage
Lake Road, Oneida, Madison County, 2014	8,063
Rause Road, Ft. Plain, Montgomery County, 2015	15,607*
Centerport, Brutus, Cayuga County, 2010	19,453
The Silos, Hudson Falls, Washington County, 2012	25,246

Albion Canal Park, Albion, Orleans County, 2013	31,024
Erie Canal Marina, Palmyra, Wayne County, 2015	31,711
Division Street, Waterford, Saratoga County, 2016	33,080
The Five Combines, Kingsbury, Washington County, 2012	38,610
South Chuctanunda Creek, Amsterdam, Montgomery County, 2016	51,077
Haviland Cove Park, Glens Falls, Warren County, 2012	51,209
Lakeport Road, Chittenango, Madison County, 2014	52,021
Kiwanis Park, Rotterdam, Schenectady County, 2009	56,715
148 Lyman Street, Brockport, Monroe County, 2013	62,700
Park Avenue Bridge, Brockport, Monroe County, 2013	63,874
Newport Road (Warners), Camillus, Onondaga County, 2010	68,264
Main Street Bridge, Brockport, Monroe County, 2013	72,390
Colonie Town Park, Colonie, Albany County, 2009	95,471
Genesee Valley Park, Rochester, Monroe County, 2007	98,240
Schenectady County Community College, Rotterdam, Schenectady County, 2009	105,869
Genesee Valley Park, Rochester, Monroe County, 2008	106,073
Henpeck Park, Greece, Monroe County, 2011	107,143
Schoen Place, Pittsford, Monroe County, 2007	145,520
Bushnell's Basin, Perinton, Monroe County, 2015	145,650*
Cedar Bay Park, DeWitt, Onondaga County, 2015	155,602
Perinton Park, Perinton, Monroe County, 2008	156,565
Corning Preserve, Albany, Albany County, 2015	156,714
Perinton Park, Perinton, Monroe County, 2007	158,144
JCC/Lock 33, Brighton, Monroe County, 2008	163,654
Route 173, Camillus, Onondaga County, 2010	165,333
Train Station, Niskayuna, Schenectady County, 2009	173,927
Sims Store, Camillus, Onondaga County, 2010	174,663
Schoen Place, Pittsford, Monroe County, 2008	184,281
JCC/Lock 33, Brighton, Monroe County, 2007	190,591
Nine Mile Creek Aqueduct, Camillus, Onondaga County, 2011	198,270
Sims Store, Camillus, Onondaga County, 2011	207,381
Old Erie Canal State Park, DeWitt-Manlius, Onondaga County, 2010	233,732
Nine Mile Creek Aqueduct, Camillus, Onondaga County, 2010	237,834
Bushnell's Basin, Perinton, Monroe County, 2016	280,403*
Cedar Bay Park – East, DeWitt, Onondaga County, 2016	454,643
Niawanda Park, Tonawanda, Erie County, 2011	605,033

* Indicates count by electronic counter

Appendix A: Trail Count Protocol

Who's On the Trail
Canalway Trail User Count & Survey
2017
Count Protocol

Timing

1. At least three, but preferably four, counts should be taken at each location – two to three weekdays and one weekend.
2. If possible, repeat the counts, using the same weekday and weekend times, in another week.
3. Weekday counts should always be done on Tuesday, Wednesday, and/ or Thursday, and never on a holiday, Monday, or Friday.
4. Weekend counts can be done on either day.
5. Counts should be conducted in August and/or September.

Conducting Counts

1. Count for at least two full hours at a time that you judge to be the time of peak activity. You can determine the time of peak activity from your experience or that of others who are familiar with the trail. It is expected that the weekend day hour of peak activity will be different from that during the week. ***Contact Parks & Trails New York with questions regarding hours of peak activity.***
2. Counts can be conducted on consecutive weekdays (Tuesday through Thursday) during the same week and at the peak time on the Saturday or Sunday of that week. **OR**

Counts can be conducted on the same week day in at least three consecutive weeks in addition to one weekend day. Each count must be taken during the time of peak usage for weekdays and weekend days.

3. Do not worry if you count someone twice because they pass you going in both directions. The formulas used at the end will take that into consideration.

Personnel Required

1. One person can conduct the counting. If you are counting at a location with significant trail traffic, it may be advisable to have two people conduct counts and average their results.

Conducting the count

1. Use a new sheet each time you count.
2. Make a tick in the boxes for the type of trail user that passes by. For a tandem, make a tic for each rider. For someone pushing a baby carriage or stroller, make a tic for each child. Record the person pushing the carriage or stroller as a walker.
3. Stand where you do not block the trail but can easily observe users as they pass.
4. Please send pictures (500 KB in size or larger) of volunteers taking the count and persons using the trail that we can include in publications and presentations.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!!!!

Please mail all forms to:
Canalway Trail User Count 2017
Parks & Trails New York
29 Elk Street
Albany, NY 12207
518-434-1583
gfrancese@ptny.org
Or FAX to 518-427-0067

Appendix B: Trail Count Form

Surveyor Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Date: _____ **Time conducted:** _____ to_____ p.m. **Location:** _____ **Town/Village:** _____

Trail surface: asphalt☐ stone dust ☐   **Weather Conditions**: sunny ☐ partly cloudy ☐ cloudy ☐ partly rainy ☐ rain ☐   **Approximate temperature:** _____

Make one "tic mark" for each person passing by in either direction engaged in each activity.

User Type	Counts	
	With helmets	Without helmets
Bicyclists		
Human passenger in bicycle seat or trailer One tic for each person		
Tandem cyclists One tic for each person		

Recumbent cyclists				
Tricyclists				
Hand-powered cyclists				
Walkers Includes those pushing strollers or walking dogs				
In-line skaters			Joggers	
Passenger in Baby carriages/Strollers			Wheelchair users	
Equestrians			Other specify	

Thanks for you help!!! Please return the form(s) to:

Canalway Trail User Count 2017, Parks & Trails New York, 29 Elk Street, Albany, NY, 12207, 518-434-1583, FAX 518-427-0067

Appendix C: Observational Count Data

Sims Store, Camillus

Date	Wednesday, October 25, 2017					Date	Thursday, October 26, 2017				
Time	4:30-6:30					Time	4:15-6:15				
Weather	58, partly cloudy					Weather	50, partly rainy				

Bicyclists						Bicyclists					
	Helmet	No Helmet	Total	% Overall Total	% Wearing Helmet		Helmet	No Helmet	Total	% Overall Total	% Wearing Helmet
Bicyclists	1	1	2	3%	50%	Bicyclists	1	0	1	1%	100%
Trailer	0	0	0	0%	0	Trailer	0	0	0	0%	0
Tandem	0	0	0	0%	0	Tandem	0	0	0	0%	0
Recumbent	0	0	0	0%	0	Recumbent	0	0	0	0%	0
Trike	0	0	0	0%	0	Trike	0	0	0	0%	0
Hand-powered	0	0	0	0%	0	Hand-powered	0	0	0	0%	0
Total	1	1	2	3%	50%	Total	1	0	1	1%	100%

	Number	% Total		Number	% Total
Walkers	53	77%	Walkers	45	63%

	Number	% Total		Number	% Total
Joggers	12	17%	Joggers	23	32%

	Number	% Total
In-line skaters	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Passenger in baby carriage/stroller	2	3%

	Number	% Total
Wheelchairs	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Equestrian	0	0%

Other		
Type	Number	% Total
	0	0%
Total	0	0%

2 HR COUNT TOTAL	69

	Number	% Total
In-line skaters	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Passenger in baby carriage/stroller	2	3%

	Number	% Total
Wheelchairs	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Equestrian	0	0%

Other		
Type	Number	% Total
	0	0%
Total	0	0%

2 HR COUNT TOTAL	71

Date	Wednesday, November 1
Time	4:15-6:15
Weather	40, rain

Bicyclists

	Helmet	No Helmet	Total	% Overall Total	% Wearing Helmet
Bicyclists	0	0	0	0%	0
Trailer	0	0	0	0%	0
Tandem	0	0	0	0%	0
Recumbent	0	0	0	0%	0
Trike	0	0	0	0%	0
Hand-powered	0	0	0	0%	0
Total	0	0	0	0%	0

	Number	% Total
Walkers	10	59%

	Number	% Total
Joggers	7	41%

	Number	% Total
In-line skaters	0	0%

Date	Thursday, November 2
Time	4:15-6:15
Weather	67, cloudy

Bicyclists

	Helmet	No Helmet	Total	% Overall Total	% Wearing Helmet
Bicyclists	2	0	2	2%	100%
Trailer	0	0	0	0%	0
Tandem	0	0	0	0%	0
Recumbent	0	0	0	0%	0
Trike	0	0	0	0%	0
Hand-powered	0	0	0	0%	0
Total	2	0	2	2%	100%

	Number	% Total
Walkers	85	71%

	Number	% Total
Joggers	31	26%

	Number	% Total
In-line skaters	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Passenger in baby carriage/stroller	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Wheelchairs	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Equestrian	0	0%

Other		
Type	Number	% Total
	0	0%
Total	0	0%

2 HR COUNT TOTAL	17

	Number	% Total
Passenger in baby carriage/stroller	2	2%

	Number	% Total
Wheelchairs	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Equestrian	0	0%

Other		
Type	Number	% Total
	0	0%
Total	0	0%

2 HR COUNT TOTAL	120

Date	Saturday, October 28, 2017
Time	10:00-12:00
Weather	61, sunny

Bicyclists

	Helmet	No Helmet	Total	% Overall Total	% Wearing Helmet
Bicyclists	17	0	17	10%	100%
Trailer	0	0	0	0%	0
Tandem	0	0	0	0%	0
Recumbent	0	0	0	0%	0
Trike	0	0	0	0%	0
Hand-powered	0	0	0	0%	0
Total	17	0	17	10%	100%

	Number	% Total
Walkers	105	63%

	Number	% Total
Joggers	45	27%

	Number	% Total
In-line skaters	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Passenger in baby carriage/stroller	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Wheelchairs	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Equestrian	0	0%

Other

	Number	% Total
Type		
	0	0%
Total	0	0%

2 HR COUNT TOTAL	167

Date	Saturday, November 4, 2017
Time	10:00-12:00
Weather	37, partly cloudy

Bicyclists

	Helmet	No Helmet	Total	% Overall Total	% Wearing Helmet
Bicyclists	2	0	2	2%	100%
Trailer	0	0	0	0%	0
Tandem	0	0	0	0%	0
Recumbent	0	0	0	0%	0
Trike	0	0	0	0%	0
Hand-powered	0	0	0	0%	0
Total	2	0	2	2%	100%

	Number	% Total
Walkers	70	62%

	Number	% Total
Joggers	37	33%

	Number	% Total
In-line skaters	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Passenger in baby carriage/stroller	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Wheelchairs	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Equestrian	0	0%

Other		
Type	Number	% Total
People fishing	4	4%
Total	4	4%

2 HR COUNT TOTAL	113

Warners Road, Camillus

Date	Wednesday, October 25, 2017					Date	Thursday, October 26, 2017				
Time	4:30-6:30					Time	4:15-6:15				
Weather	59, partly cloudy					Weather	48, partly rainy				

Bicyclists						Bicyclists					
	Helmet	No Helmet	Total	% Overall Total	% Wearing Helmet		Helmet	No Helmet	Total	% Overall Total	% Wearing Helmet
Bicyclists	1	4	5	5%	20%	Bicyclists	2	5	7	7%	29%
Trailer	0	0	0	0%	0%	Trailer	0	0	0	0%	0%
Tandem	0	0	0	0%	0%	Tandem	0	0	0	0%	0%
Recumbent	0	0	0	0%	0%	Recumbent	0	0	0	0%	0%
Trike	0	0	0	0%	0%	Trike	0	0	0	0%	0%
Hand-powered	0	0	0	0%	0%	Hand-powered	0	0	0	0%	0%
Total	1	4	5	5%	20%	Total	2	5	7	7%	29%

	Number	% Total		Number	% Total
Walkers	55	60%	Walkers	66	62%

	Number	% Total		Number	% Total
Joggers	29	32%	Joggers	30	28%

	Number	% Total		Number	% Total
In-line skaters	0	0%	In-line skaters	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Passenger in baby carriage/stroller	2	2%

	Number	% Total
Wheelchairs	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Equestrian	0	0%

Other		
Type	Number	% Total
	0	0%
Total	0	0%

2 HR COUNT TOTAL	91

	Number	% Total
Passenger in baby carriage/stroller	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Wheelchairs	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Equestrian	0	0%

Other		
Type	Number	% Total
People fishing	4	4%
Total	4	4%

2 HR COUNT TOTAL	107

Date	Saturday, October 28, 2017
Time	10:00-12:00
Weather	61, partly cloudy

Date	Wednesday, November 1, 2017
Time	4:15-6:15
Weather	40, rain

Bicyclists	Helmet	No Helmet	Total	% Overall Total	% Wearing Helmet	Bicyclists	Helmet	No Helmet	Total	% Overall Total	% Wearing Helmet
Bicyclists	5	1	6	5%	83%	Bicyclists	0	0	0	0%	0%
Trailer	0	0	0	0%	0%	Trailer	0	0	0	0%	0%
Tandem	0	0	0	0%	0%	Tandem	0	0	0	0%	0%
Recumbent	0	0	0	0%	0%	Recumbent	0	0	0	0%	0%
Trike	0	0	0	0%	0%	Trike	0	0	0	0%	0%
Hand-powered	0	0	0	0%	0%	Hand-powered	0	0	0	0%	0%
Total	5	1	6	5%	83%	Total	0	0	0	0%	0%

	Number	% Total		Number	% Total
Walkers	87	71%	Walkers	7	64%

	Number	% Total		Number	% Total
Joggers	21	17%	Joggers	4	36%

	Number	% Total		Number	% Total
In-line skaters	0	0%	In-line skaters	0	0%

	Number	% Total		Number	% Total
Passenger in baby carriage/stroller	8	7%	Passenger in baby carriage/stroller	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Wheelchairs	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Equestrian	0	0%

Other		
Type	Number	% Total
		0%
Total	0	0%

2 HR COUNT TOTAL	122

	Number	% Total
Wheelchairs	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Equestrian	0	0%

Other		
Type	Number	% Total
		0%
Total	0	0%

2 HR COUNT TOTAL	11

Date	Thursday, November 2
Time	4:15-6:15
Weather	67, cloudy

Bicyclists					
	Helmet	No Helmet	Total	% Overall Total	% Wearing Helmet
Bicyclists	2	3	5	10%	40%
Trailer	0	0	0	0%	0%

Date	Saturday, November 4
Time	10:00-12:00
Weather	37, partly cloudy

Bicyclists					
	Helmet	No Helmet	Total	% Overall Total	% Wearing Helmet
Bicyclists	0	0	0	0%	0%
Trailer	0	0	0	0%	0%

Tandem	0	0	0	0%	0%
Recumbent	0	0	0	0%	0%
Trike	0	0	0	0%	0%
Hand-powered	0	0	0	0%	0%
Total	2	3	5	10%	40%

Tandem	0	0	0	0%	0%
Recumbent	0	0	0	0%	0%
Trike	0	0	0	0%	0%
Hand-powered	0	0	0	0%	0%
Total	0	0	0	0%	0%

	Number	% Total
Walkers	30	59%

	Number	% Total
Joggers	16	31%

	Number	% Total
In-line skaters	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Passenger in baby carriage/stroller	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Wheelchairs	0	0%

	Number	% Total

	Number	% Total
Walkers	60	67%

	Number	% Total
Joggers	30	33%

	Number	% Total
In-line skaters	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Passenger in baby carriage/stroller	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Wheelchairs	0	0%

	Number	% Total

Equestrian	0	0%

Other		
Type	Number	% Total
		0%
Total	0	0%

2 HR COUNT TOTAL	51

Equestrian	0	0%

Other		
Type	Number	% Total
		0%
Total	0	0%

2 HR COUNT TOTAL	90

Nine-Mile Creek Aqueduct, Camillus

Date	Wednesday, October 25					Date	Thursday, October 26				
Time	4:30-6:30					Time	4:15-6:15				
Weather	59, partly cloudy					Weather	48, rain				

Bicyclists						Bicyclists					
	Helmet	No Helmet	Total	% Overall Total	% Wearing Helmet		Helmet	No Helmet	Total	% Overall Total	% Wearing Helmet
Bicyclists	7	0	7	6%	100%	Bicyclists	0	1	1	1%	0%
Trailer	0	0	0	0%	0%	Trailer	0	0	0	0%	0%
Tandem	0	0	0	0%	0%	Tandem	0	0	0	0%	0%
Recumbent	0	0	0	0%	0%	Recumbent	0	0	0	0%	0%
Trike	0	0	0	0%	0%	Trike	0	0	0	0%	0%
Hand-powered	0	0	0	0%	0%	Hand-powered	0	0	0	0%	0%
Total	7	0	7	6%	100%	Total	0	1	1	1%	0%

	Number	% Total			Number	% Total
Walkers	80	64%		Walkers	49	63%

	Number	% Total			Number	% Total
Joggers	34	27%		Joggers	25	32%

	Number	% Total			Number	% Total
In-line skaters	0	0%		In-line skaters	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Passenger in baby carriage/stroller	4	3%

	Number	% Total
Wheelchairs	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Equestrian	0	0%
Other		
Type	Number	% Total
	0	0%
Total	0	0%
2 HR TOTAL	125	

	Number	% Total
Passenger in baby carriage/stroller	3	4%

	Number	% Total
Wheelchairs	0	0%

	Number	% Total
Equestrian	0	0%
Other		
Type	Number	% Total
	0	0%
Total	0	0%
2 HR TOTAL	78	

Appendix D: Electronic Count Data

Month	Pendleton		Spencerport		Camillus		DeWitt		Niskayuna		Glens Falls	
	Total	Daily Avg	Total	Daily Avg	Total	Daily Avg	Total	Daily Avg	Total	Daily Avg	Total	Daily Avg
June 2016	2,195	274	--	--	10,827	361	14,914	497	--	--	--	--
July 2016	7,909	255	--	--	16,263	525	17,108	552	--	--	--	--
Aug 2016	6,559	212	--	--	16,352	527	15,234	491	--	--	--	--
Sep 2016	9,293	310	--	--	13,422	447	14,573	486	--	--	--	--
Oct 2016	3,733	120	--	--	9,208	297	10,244	330	--	--	--	--
Nov 2016	2,275	76	--	--	6,442	215	7,102	234	--	--	--	--
Dec 2016	924	30	--	--	3,018	97	2,625	85	2,088	209	--	--
Jan 2017	1,320	43	--	--	4,345	140	5,222	168	5,815	188	--	--
Feb 2017	2,439	87	--	--	5,160	184	5,267	188	9,382	335	--	--
Mar 2017	1,660	54	--	--	3,759	121	3,742	121	7,279	235	--	--
Apr 2017	5,300	177	--	--	10,181	339	14,407	480	19,167	639	--	--
May 2017	4,796	155	--	--	9,048	292	11,983	387	17,421	562	723	541
June 2017	4,051	184	--	--	--	--	--	--	21,754	725	6,773	226
July 2017	--	--	5,568	278	--	--	--	--	25,887	835	17,025	549
Aug 2017	--	--	7,671	250	--	--	--	--	25,353	818	12,602	407
Sep 2017	--	--	6,287	210	--	--	--	--	20,702	690	3,887	130
Oct 2017	--	--	6,094	197	--	--	--	--	17,609	268	3,236	104
Nov 2017	--	--	1,252	45	--	--	--	--	7,043	235	1,614	58
Dec 2017	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2,825	141	--	--
Total	52,454	144	26,872	191	108,025	296	122,689	336	182,325	500	45,860	252

Appendix E: NBPD Adjustment Factors

Table 1: Hour to Day

| | APR-SEP 6am - 9pm | | | | OCT-MAR 6am - 9pm | | | |
| | ---- Path------ | | -Street/Sidewalk-- | | ---- Path------ | | -Street/Sidewalk- | |
	wkdy	wkend	wkdy	wkend	wkdy	wkend	wkdy	wkend
Hour						X		
600	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	0%	1%	0%
700	4%	3%	2%	1%	4%	2%	2%	1%
800	7%	6%	4%	3%	6%	6%	3%	2%
900	9%	9%	5%	3%	7%	10%	5%	4%
1000	9%	9%	6%	5%	9%	10%	6%	5%
1100	9%	11%	7%	6%	9%	11%	8%	8%
1200	8%	10%	9%	7%	9%	11%	9%	10%
1300	7%	9%	9%	7%	9%	10%	10%	13%
1400	7%	8%	8%	9%	9%	10%	9%	11%
1500	7%	8%	8%	9%	8%	10%	8%	8%
1600	7%	7%	7%	9%	8%	8%	7%	7%
1700	7%	6%	7%	8%	7%	5%	6%	6%
1800	7%	5%	7%	8%	6%	3%	7%	6%
1900	5%	4%	7%	8%	4%	2%	7%	6%
2000	4%	3%	7%	8%	2%	1%	6%	6%
2100	2%	2%	6%	8%	2%	1%	5%	5%

Table 2: Day to Week

DAILY ADJUSTMENT FACTORS

SUN	18%
MON	14%
TUES	13%
WED	12%
THURS	12%
FRI	14%
SAT	18%

Note: Holidays use weekend rates

Table 3: Region and Month

MONTHLY ADJUSTMENT FACTORS

CLIMATE REGION	Long Winter Short Summer	Moderate Climate	Very Hot Summer Mild Winter
JAN	3%	7%	10%
FEB	3%	7%	12%
MAR	7%	8%	10%
APR	11%	8%	9%
MAY	11%	8%	8%
JUN	12%	8%	8%
JUL	13%	12%	7%
AUG	14%	16%	7%
SEP	11%	8%	6%
OCT	6%	6%	7%
NOV	6%	6%	8%
DEC	3%	6%	8%

Who's On the Trail?

Canalway Trail User Count & Survey

2017

Survey Protocol

Survey Purpose

The trail user survey is the qualitative counterpart to the trail count. The main goal of surveying trail users is to gain demographic insights, i.e. who trail users are, and their motivations for using the trail. We also ask questions related to their economic behavior as it relates to their trail use. This information can be very useful when designing programming or planning new sections of trail, considering improvements to trail facilities, or marketing the Canalway Trail.

Survey Positioning & Approach

- If performing the survey in conjunction with the trail user count, position yourself approximately 50 feet from the person conducting the count, i.e. up or down trail
- Make sure you are visible to approaching trail users, in a location that maintains safety for all parties
- Randomly select trail users to survey. Be sure to include those cycling as well as walking.
- Approach cyclists and pedestrians in a friendly and engaging manner. Greet them, introduce yourself, and tell them you are volunteering to help the statewide nonprofit Parks & Trails New York and the New York State Canal Corporation gather information on usage of the Canalway Trail.

For example:

"Hello, do you have time to answer a few questions about your use of the Canalway Trail?"

If yes:

"My name is _____ and I'm a volunteer conducting this survey for Parks & Trails New York and the New York State Canal Corporation. The information will be used to better understand how people use the Canalway Trail. The survey is 100% anonymous -- no names, phone numbers or home addresses will be collected. The survey should take about 10 minutes."

Survey Completion

Hand over the clipboard and let respondents fill in the data themselves, asking questions of you when necessary.

Allowing respondents to read the questions for themselves can eliminate some of the unintentional cues that survey collectors often give when reading questions aloud, called interviewer bias. These cues include such practices as skipping questions or reading questions quickly based on assumed information. If you feel that reading the questions aloud to a specific respondent is necessary, please try to be uniform in reading of all questions, and try not to make assumptions about the answers you'll receive.

Each person should try to obtain surveys from about five persons. However, you are free to conduct more surveys if you like.

Personnel Required

2. One or more people can do surveying simultaneously.
3. It is also possible for one person to administer surveys to more than one person by having multiple clipboards available, and simply handing them out to respondents.

Please mail all forms to: Canalway Trail User Count 2017

Parks & Trails New York

29 Elk Street

Albany, NY 12207

518-434-1583

gfrancese@ptny.org

Or FAX to 518-427-0067

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!!!!

Appendix G: Survey Questionnaire

2017 Canalway Trail User Survey

Thank you for helping the New York State Canal Corporation and Parks & Trails New York learn more about the economic impact of the New York State Canalway Trail system. Completing this questionnaire takes less than 10 minutes. Your participation will be kept 100% anonymous. If you would like more information about the survey, please contact Greg Francese at Parks & Trails New York, gfrancese@ptny.org or (518) 434-1583.

1. Please select the areas of the Canal you have visited and circle the areas you are visiting on this trip.

- ○ Buffalo Waterfront, The Tonawandas, Pendleton
- ○ Downtown Lockport to Albion
- ○ Albion to Rochester (west of the Genesee River)
- ○ Rochester to Newark
- ○ Port Byron to Camillus
- ○ DeWitt to Oneida
- ○ Oneida to Oriskany
- ○ Oriskany to Herkimer
- ○ Herkimer to Canajoharie
- ○ Canajoharie to Amsterdam
- ○ Amsterdam to Schenectady
- ○ Schenectady to Trail-end at Hudson River in Waterford
- ○ Cohoes to Albany
- ○ Waterford to Whitehall (Champlain)
- ○ Fort Edward to Glens Falls (Glens Falls Feeder)

2. Roughly, how many miles from the part of the trail you are visiting today do you live?___

About you

3. Gender ○ Female ○ Male

4. Age ○ 17 and under ○ 18 -29 ○ 30-39 ○ 40-49 ○ 50-59 ○ 60-69 ○ 70-79 ○ 80+

5. What is your zip code? :_____

6. What is your county of residence? : _____

7. What is your highest level of education?

- ○ Less than High School Diploma
- ○ High School Diploma
- ○ Some College

○ 2-year degree
○ 4-year degree
○ Graduate or Professional school

8. How many people are in your group, <u>including yourself</u>? _____

9. Are there any children with you under the age of 15? ○ *Yes* ○ *No*   *How many?*_____

Trail Usage

*10. How did you first find out about the trail? Please choose **all** that apply.*

○ Word of mouth

○ Roadside signage

○ Driving past

○ Live by the trail

○ Trail kiosk

○ Newspaper

○ Magazine

○ Bike shop

○ County tourism office

○ Tourist agency

○ PTNY Cycling the Erie Canal guidebook

○ PTNY website

○ NYS Canal Corporation website

○ Internet search

○ Other: _____

*11. What activities do you engage in along the trail? Please choose **all** that apply and circle your most common activity.*

○ Walking/Hiking

○ Biking

○ Horseback

○ Running

○ Walking a pet

○ Bird Watching

○ Skiing

○ Snowmobiling

○ Rollerblading

○ Boating

○ Other: _____

*12. When do you primarily use the trail? Choose only **one**:* ○*Weekday* ○*Weekend* ○*Both*

*13. How often, on average, do you use the trail? Please choose **only one** of the following:*

○ Daily

○ Between 3-5 times a week

○ 1 or 2 times a week

○ A couple of times a month

○ Once a month

○ Few times a year

14. How much time do you spend on the trail during a typical visit? Please choose *only one*:

⭘ Less than 30 minutes

⭘ 30-60 min

⭘ 60-120 min

⭘ >120 min

15. In what seasons do you make use of the trail? Please choose **all** *that apply.*

⭘ Spring

⭘ Summer

⭘ Fall

⭘ Winter

16. What would you consider your primary use of the trail? Please choose only one:

⭘ Recreation

⭘ Health, exercise and fitness

⭘ Commuting to job, school or somewhere else (If you commute, # of miles one way: _____)

⭘ Tourism

17. How do you generally get to the trail entrance? Please choose only one of the following:

⭘ Car/Truck/Van

⭘ Bike

⭘ Walk

⭘ Horseback

⭘ Other

VACATIONING ON THE TRAIL

18. Are you vacationing in the area, away from your home? ⭘ *Yes* ⭘ *No*

19. Do you ever take overnight or longer trips along the Canalway Trail? ⭘Yes ⭘No

How many nights did you, or do you plan to, stay away from home? _____

20. What is your preferred overnight accommodation for trips to the Canalway Trail? Please choose **only one** *of the following:*

⭘ Bed and breakfast/inn

⭘ Hotel/motel

⭘ Campground

⭘ Staying with friends in the area

21. What resources did you use to plan your trip? Please choose all that apply.

○ Map

○ Roadside signage

○ County tourism office

○ Tourist agency

○ PTNY Guidebook

○ PTNY website map

○ Canal Corporation website

○ Internet search

○ Other: _____

SPENDING

22. Please fill out the following questions with the amount of money you spend in each category during a typical day on the Canalway Trail. If you are on a multi-day trip, please provide the average spending values for a single day for each category. For example, if you are on a 7-day trip and spend about $100 per day on a hotel room please report $100 not $700. Please only include spending for yourself, not the rest of your party. For example, if you split a $100 hotel room with another user, report the amount of spending attributed to you as $50.

Total expenditures within one typical day on the trail:

Motel, hotel, cabin or B&B	_____
Camping fees	_____
Restaurants & bars	_____
Groceries, take-out food/drinks	_____
Gas & oil	_____
Other vehicle expenses	_____
Local transportation	_____
Admissions & fees (amusement parks, state park entrance fees, etc.)	_____
Clothing	_____
Sporting goods	_____
Gambling	_____
Souvenirs and other expenses	_____

INTERESTS

Please tell us how much each statement describes your experiences, preferences and/or views using the following 4-point answer scale:

23. Overall, outdoor activities along the trail have had a very positive effect on me.

○ Definitely Does

○ Does Somewhat

○ Not Very Well

○ Not at all

24. I am interested in the history of the Erie Canal and specific historical spots along the trail.

○ Definitely Does

○ Does Somewhat

○ Not Very Well

○ Not at all

25. How interested would you be in biking along a significant (greater than 50 miles) portion of the trail?

○ Definitely Does

○ Does Somewhat

○ Not Very Well

○ Not at all

FINAL QUESTIONS

26. My current work status is: Please choose *only one* **of the following:**

○ I work full-time

○ I work part-time

○ I am looking for work

○ I am retired

○ I am a student

27. My approximate annual household income is: Please choose **only one** *of the following:*

○ Less than $10,000

○ $10,000 to $24,999

○ $25,000 to $34,999

○ $35,000 to $49,999

○ $50,000 to $74,999

○ $75,000 to $99,999

○ $100,000 to $149,999

○ $150,000 to $199,999

○ $200,000 or more

Thank you for completing this survey

If you would like more information about Parks & Trails New York or the Canalway Trail system visit www.ptny.org and www.CycletheErieCanal.com; also visit Facebook and Twitter.

Surveyor Name: _____

Date: _____ Time conducted: _____ Location: _____

Appendix H: Completed Survey Responses

1. Please select the areas of the Canal you have visited and circle the areas you are visiting on this trip.
   a. Buffalo Waterfront, The Tonawandas, Pendleton (1)
   b. Downtown Lockport to Albion (1)
   c. Albion to Rochester (west of the Genesee River) (1)
   d. Rochester to Newark (1)
   e. Port Byron to Camillus (2) – Both surveys were completed at the Sims Store in Camillus
   f. DeWitt to Oneida (1)
   g. Oneida to Oriskany (1)
   h. Oriskany to Herkimer (1)
   i. Herkimer to Canajoharie (1)
   j. Canajoharie to Amsterdam (1)
   k. Amsterdam to Schenectady (1)
   l. Schenectady to Trail-end at Hudson River in Waterford (1)
   m. Cohoes to Albany (1)
   n. Waterford to Whitehall (Champlain) (1)
   o. Fort Edward to Glens Falls (Glens Falls Feeder) (1)
2. Roughly, how many miles from the part of the trail you are visiting today do you live? *Blank*
3. Gender: Female (2)
4. Age: 70-79 (1), 80+ (1)
5. What is your zip code: 13215 - Syracuse (1), 13031 – Camillus (1)
6. What is your county of residence? Onondaga (2)
7. What is your highest level of education?
   a. 4-year degree (2)
8. How many people are in your group, including yourself: 2 and 1
9. Are there any children with you under the age of 15: No (2)
10. How did you first find out about the trail? Please check all that apply
    a. Word of mouth (2)
    b. Roadside signage (1)
    c. Driving past (1)
    d. Trail kiosk (1)
    e. Newspaper (2)
    f. Magazine (1)
    g. PTNY Cycling the Erie Canal guidebook (1)
    h. PTNY website (1)
    i. NYS Canal Corporation website (1)
11. What activities do you engage in along the trail?
    a. Walking/hiking (2)
    b. Biking (2)
    c. Running (1)
    d. Bird Watching (1)
    e. Skiing (1)

f. Boating (1)

12. When do you primarily use the trail?
    a. Weekday (1)
    b. Both (1)

13. How often, on average, do you use the trail?
    a. Daily (1)
    b. Between 3-5 times a week (1)

14. How much time do you spend on the trail during a typical visit?
    a. >120 minutes (2)

15. In what seasons do you make use of the trail?
    a. Spring (2)
    b. Summer (2)
    c. Fall (2)
    d. Winter (1)

16. What would you consider your primary use of the trail? Please choose only one:
    a. Recreation (2)

17. How do you generally get to the trail entrance? Please choose only one:
    a. Car/truck/van (2)

18. Are you vacationing in the area, away from your home?   No (2)

19. Do you ever take overnight or longer trips along the Canalway Trail? Yes (1), No (1)

20. What is your preferred overnight accommodation for trips to the Canalway Trail?
    a. Bed and breakfast/inn (1)

21. What resources did you use to plan your trip?
    a. Map (2)
    b. Roadside signage (1)
    c. PTNY guidebook (1)
    d. PTNY website map (2)
    e. Canal Corporation website (1)

22. Typical daily spending by category (average)
    a. Camping fees: $25
    b. Restaurants and bars: $28
    c. Groceries, take-out food/drinks: $10
    d. Gas & oil: $15
    e. Other vehicle expenses: $15
    f. Admission and fees: $25
    g. Souvenirs and other expenses: $10

23. Overall, outdoor activities along the trail have had a very positive effect on me.
    a. Definitely does (2)

24. I am interested in the history of the Erie Canal and specific historical spots along the trail.
    a. Definitely does (2)

25. How interested would you be in biking along a significant (greater than 50 miles) portion of the trail?
    a. Definitely does (1)
    b. Not very well (1)

26. My current work status is:
    a.   I am retired (2)
27. My approximate annual household income is:
    a. $35,000-$49,999 (2)

Works Cited

Lindsay, Greg, Jeff Wilson, Elena Rubchinskaya, Jihui Yang, Yuling Han. (2007). Estimating urban trail traffic: Methods for Existing and Proposed Trails. *Landscape Urban Planning*, 299-325.

National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project Count Adjustment Factors. (2009, March). Retrieved December 1, 2017, from National Bicycle & Pedestrian Document Project Count: http://bikepeddocumentation.org/

Acknowledgements