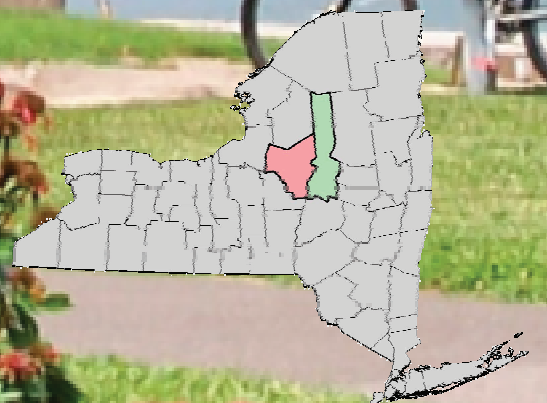


Bicycling Atlas

Herkimer and Oneida Counties

Download and Print
www.hocts.org



This report fulfills the activities outlined in the Unified Planning Work Program and provides support for the HOCTS Long-Range Transportation Plan. Financial assistance for the preparation of this document was provided by the Federal Highway Administration. The Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Study is solely responsible for its content. The views and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the official views or policies of the U.S. Department of Transportation

Interest in bicycling in New York State has increased due to an interest in healthier lifestyles, the development of new bicycle paths and trails, and the promotion of bicycle tourism. The designation of a statewide and regional networks of bicycle routes, the development of the Erie Canalway Trail and numerous local bicycle paths provide a good foundation for further advancing bicycle transportation, recreation and tourism in New York.

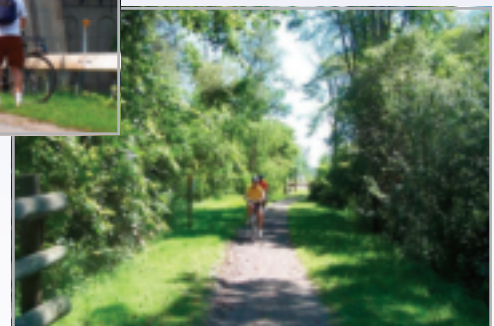
In Herkimer and Oneida Counties, signed State Bike Routes 5, 8, 12, 20, 233 and 365 traverse the landscape. Bicyclists will experience noticeable changes in topography as they ride through Herkimer and Oneida Counties, ranging from flat terrain near the Erie Canal and along the Mohawk River to rolling hills and challenging grades when entering and leaving the numerous river valleys. In addition, the Erie Canalway Trail, when completed, will span the two counties east to west. A popular suburban multi-use trail provides a link between the Towns of New Hartford and Whitestown. The City of Utica has designated an on-road Bike Loop that leads to cultural attractions, and the City of Rome and Town of Kirkland have secured funding for new multi-use trails. Road construction projects throughout the region continue to integrate improvements that result in better conditions for bicycle travel.

In response to growing interest in bicycling, the Herkimer and Oneida Counties Bicycling Atlas was created by the Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Study (HOCTS) with input from the HOCTS Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BAPAC). This atlas is meant to provide useful information to all bicyclists, whether their interest is in bicycling as transportation, recreation or touring; many thanks to members of BAPAC for their assistance.

This Atlas is also available online at www.hocts.org. Hard copies may be obtained free of charge by contacting HOCTS:

Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Study

Boehlert Center @ Union Station, 321 Main Street, Utica, NY 13501, (315) 798-5710



On the cover: Ilion Marina, Herkimer County

Above (clockwise from upper left): Philip A. Rayhill Trailhead, Whitestown; Erie Canalway Trail, Little Falls; Erie Canalway Trail, Marcy; Erie Canalway Trail, Rome; Village of Clinton

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION

Using the Atlas.....	1-2
Terminology	3

SAFETY

Sharing the Road Safely	4
Helmet Fitting / Safe Bicycling Tips	5

MULTI-USE TRAILS

Multi-use Trails Overview	6
Black River Feeder Canal Trail	7
Boonville Black River Canal Trail	8
Chenango Canal Towpath Trail	9
Erie Canalway Trail	10
Philip A. Rayhill Memorial Trail	11
TOBIE Trail	12

MAPS

Regional Overview Map	13
Local Maps	14-44

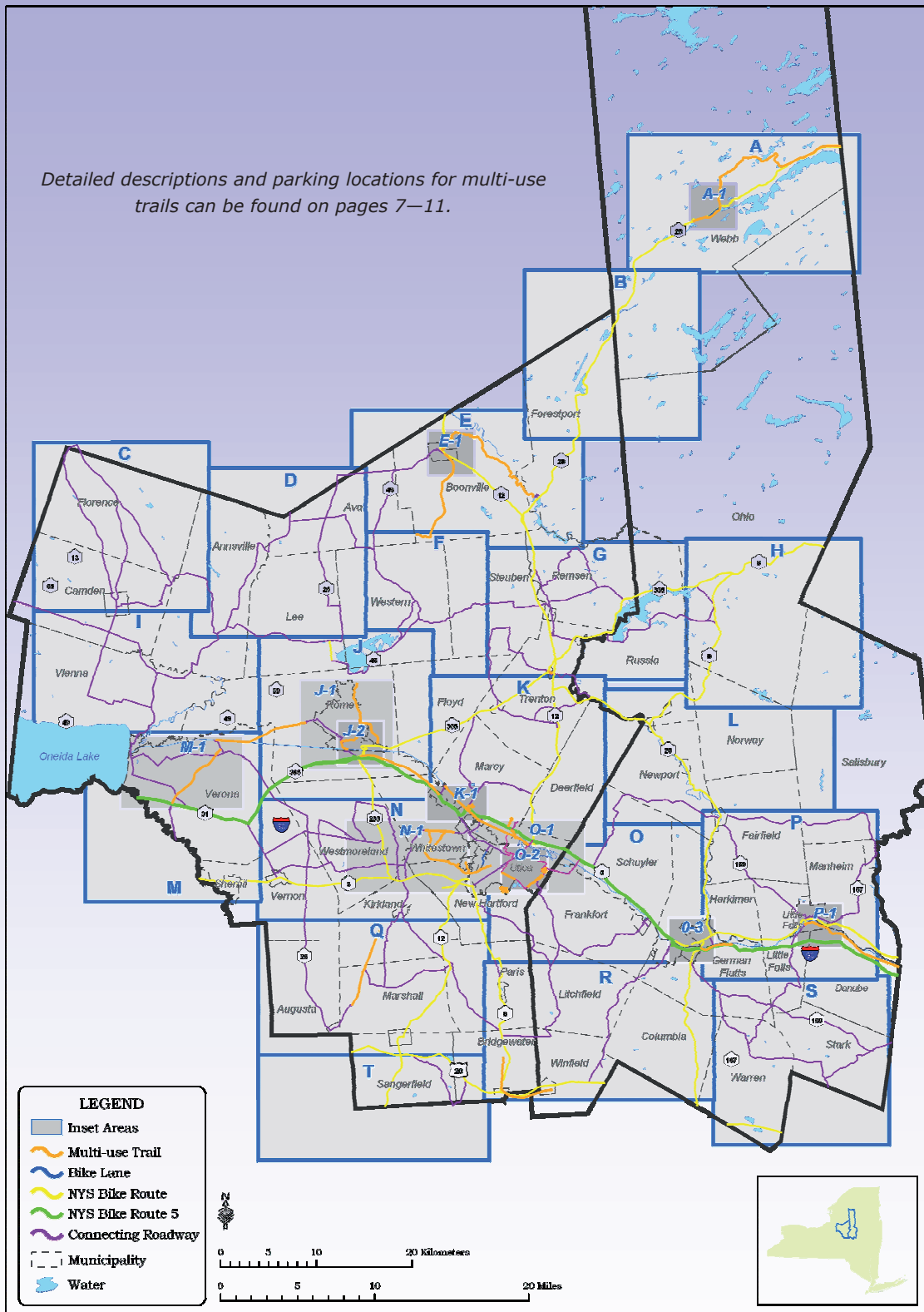
REGIONAL BICYCLING INFORMATION

Bicycling Resources & Bike Shops	45
Calendar of Events	46



Using the Atlas

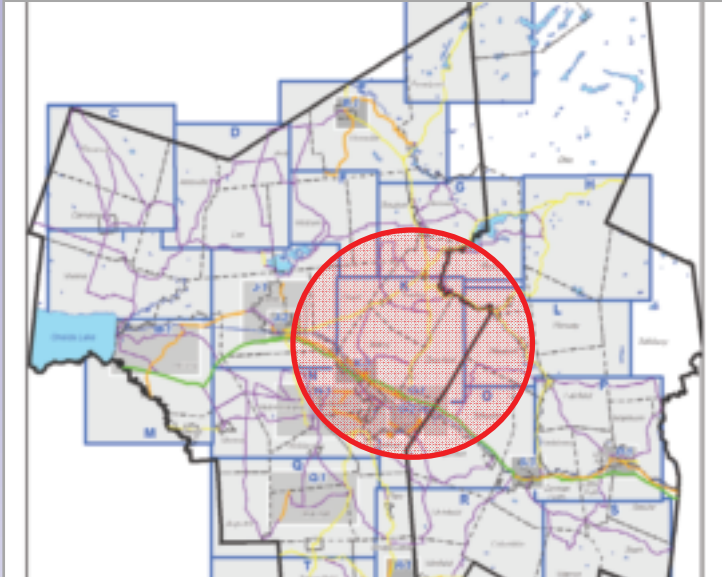
The shaded areas of the map denote locations where there are multi-use trails, state or local bike routes and suggested on-road connections. Each shaded area is marked with a corresponding letter, A-T. The inset maps provide more detailed information for those locations.



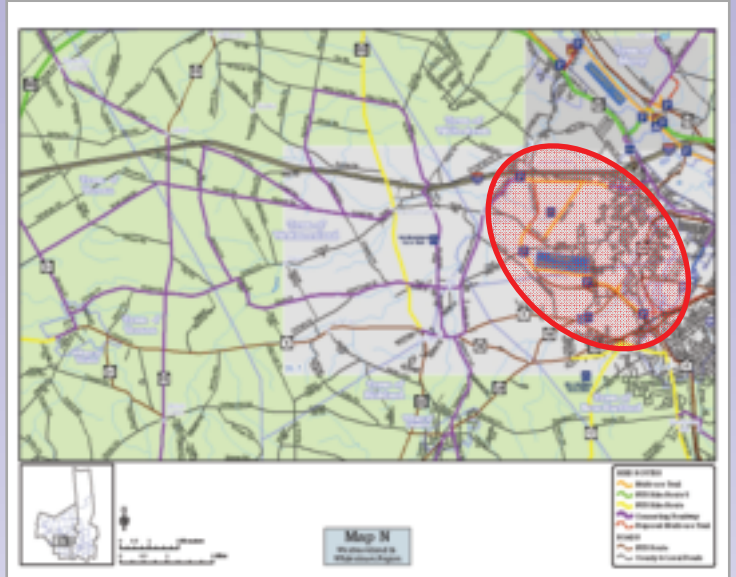
Using the Atlas

Use these simple steps to find your favorite local rides:

Step 1: Find Your Town



Step 2: Find Your Trail




Step 3: Read About Your Ride

Chenango Canal Towpath Trail


See Map Q-1

The Chenango Canal Towpath Trail is located in the Towns of Kirkland. The towpath, which runs parallel to Route 128, is a great opportunity for bicyclists to ride along the banks of Chenango Creek from Deansboro to Kirkland.

The subsequent extension of the trail has become part of the Chenango Canal Corridor Connections trail project to link along the corridor from Utica to Binghamton. Additional information is available at www.chenango canal.org.



Trailhead at the former O & W Railroad Depot
Deansboro



See:

Route: Point to point

Riding Type: Stone Dust

Locations: Route 128/Route 233 Intersection, 1.4 miles south; the former O&W Railroad Depot, Route 315 in Deansboro; Marshall and Van Hynning Road, Marshall.

Step 4: Ride or Drive to Trailhead



Note: Detailed descriptions and parking locations for multi-use trails can be found on pages 7–13

Bike Atlas Legend			
	Bike Shop		Multi-use Trail
	Campground		Proposed Multi-use Trail
	Hamlets		Bike Lane
	Hospital		NYS Bike Route
	Parking/Trailhead		NYS Bike Route 5
	Train Station		Connecting Roadway
	Point of Interest		Utica Loop A
	State & Town Parks		Interstate
	Tourist Info		US Highway
			NYS Highway
			Streams & Creeks
			Water
			Inset
			Municipality
			Roads
			Interstate
			US Highway
			NYS Route
			County & Local Road
			Railroad



Terminology

Bicycle routes and multi-use trails are designed to accommodate bicycle traffic. Bicycle routes are road shoulders along roads. Most road shoulders range from 4' to 12' wide and will vary in condition. Multi-use trails are typically located on exclusive rights-of-way such as abandoned railroad beds, canal towpath, or within parks.

NYS Bicycle Routes

New York State designated Bicycle Routes 8, 12, 28, 233 and 365 are considered shared roadways and are highlighted in **yellow**. The vehicular speed limit on these routes is typically 55 mph. The on-road touring routes are intended for experienced adult cyclists. Please ride with caution!

NYS Bike Route 5

New York State Bike Route 5 is indicated in **green**. This route begins in Albany and ends in Niagara Falls. In Herkimer and Oneida Counties Bike Route 5 generally follows NY State Route 5 but deviates in several locations to follow more suitable roads; the speed limit is 55 mph in rural areas and is reduced in suburban areas and villages. Detailed information on the New York State Bike Route System is available by contacting the NYS Department of Transportation Bicycle & Pedestrian Program, 50 Wolf Road, Albany, NY 12232 (518) 457-8307, www.dot.state.ny.us/pubtrans/bphome.

Connecting Roadways

These roads are practical, and in many cases scenic, connections between designated bicycle routes and paths. The connecting roads are also meant to join urban and suburban areas to designated bicycle routes and multi-use trails. Please note that road shoulder width and surface conditions may vary along these roads. For the purpose of this atlas they are indicated in **purple**.

Existing Multi-Use Trails

Multi-use trails in Herkimer and Oneida Counties typically accommodate bicyclists, pedestrians in-line skaters and other users. Surface types range from concrete and asphalt to stone dust and natural surfaces. Multi-use trails are shown in **orange**.

Proposed Multi-Use Trails

Proposed trails, for the purpose of this atlas, are planned trails that have received funding and have a timeframe established for completion. Proposed trails are shown as a dashed **red** line.



Sharing the Road Safely

Follow the Rules of the Road

Obey Traffic Laws.* Bicyclists in New York have the same rights and responsibilities as drivers.

Ride with Traffic.* Drivers do not expect bicyclists riding on the wrong side of the street.

Use Hand Signals.* Signal in advance of turns.

Share the Road

Be Aware. Make eye contact with drivers and pedestrians and watch for obstructions in your path.

Ride Predictably. Avoid weaving between vehicles and dodging between parked cars.

Be Seen and Heard. Use a bell, horn, or voice warning when passing pedestrians or other bicyclists.

Outfit Your Body

Be Visible. Wear bright-colored clothing with reflective patches or stripes when riding at night.

Be Comfortable. Wear close-fitting, light-colored clothing that is appropriate for the season.

Be Prepared. Carry a first aid kit and know how to use it, pack for unseasonable weather.

Be Healthy. Plan regular rest breaks on long trips, drink plenty of fluids and pack nutritious foods for energy.

Outfit Your Bicycle

Be Visible. Use front and rear lights and side reflectors at night.*

Be Comfortable. Make sure your bicycle fits your body and keep it in good condition.

Be Prepared. Carry a tool kit and learn how to perform basic repairs.

Wear a Helmet

Everyone age 1 through 13 are required to wear an approved helmet when riding. *

Passengers age 1 through 4 must wear a helmet and be fastened in a suitable seat. *

No passengers under age 1 are permitted.*

Some local laws in New York require riders of all ages to wear helmets.

All bicyclists should wear a properly fitting helmet bearing a certification by one of the following:

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

American Society for Testing and materials (ASTM)

Snell Memorial Foundation



www.pedbikeimages.org / © Sara E. Lewis



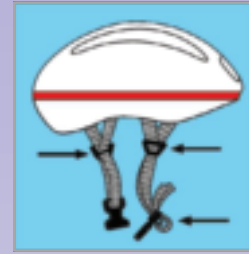
www.trafficsign.us / © Richard C. Moeur



* NYS Vehicle & Traffic Law, Article 34—Operational of Bicycles and Play Devices
Source: NYSDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Program



Quick Tips for Fitting Your Bicycle Helmet



When you look upward the front rim should be barely visible to your eye

The "Y" of the side straps should meet just below your ear

The chin strap should be snug against the chin so that when you open your mouth very wide you feel the helmet pull down a little bit.

Safe Bicycling Tips



Don't Pass on the Right

Motorists may not look for or see a bicycle passing on the right. Do not ride to the right of a line of cars stopping for a signal or traffic light. Stop well back and out far enough to be easily seen.



Use Audible Warning

Bicyclists riding on multi-use trails should use an audible warning when approaching other bicyclists or pedestrians.



Scan the Road Behind

Learn to look back over your shoulder without losing your balance or swerving left. Some riders use rearview mirrors. Also listen constantly for traffic approaching behind you.



Avoid Road Hazards

Watch out for parallel-slat sewer grates, railroad tracks, manhole covers, oily pavement, gravel and ice. Cross railroad tracks carefully at right angles.



BICYCLING RESOURCES & RETAILERS

LOCAL

- Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA), www.adirondack.org
- Bike Adirondacks, www.bikeadirondacks.org/mbtrails
- BREIA (Black River Environmental Improvement Association), www.breiax-countryski.org, (315) 942-2299
- Central New York BMX, www.cnybmx.org
- Herkimer County Chamber of Commerce, (315) 866-7820
- Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Study, www.hocts.org
- International Halls of Fame: Bicycling, Rowing, Canoeing and Kayaking, www.museum4kids.net
- Mohawk Valley Bicycling Club, www.mvbc.us
- NYS DOT-Region 2 (Utica Office) Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator, (315) 793-2433
- Old Forge Mountain Bike Trails, (315) 369-6983, www.oldforgeny.com
- Oneida County Tourism, www.oneidacountytourism.com or www.thegatewayregion.com, 1-800-426-3132
- Tramp N Trail Club of Utica, www.trampntrail.org

STATE

- Adirondack State Park Information, www.adk.com
- New York Bicycling Coalition (NYBC), www.nybc.net
- NYS Campgrounds, 1-800-456-2267
- NYS Tourism, 1-800-CALL NYS
- NYS DOT Bicycle & Pedestrian Program, www.dot.state.ny.us/pubtrans/pubtrans.html
- NYS Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, www.safeny.com
- NYS DMV —"Sharing the Road Safely", www.safeny.com/media/share-road.htm
- NYS Tourism Information (NYS Travel Information Center), www.iloveny.com
- NYS Canal Trail Information, 1-800-4CANAL4
- Parks and Trails New York, www.ptny.org, (518) 434-1583

NATIONAL

- Alliance for Biking & Walking, www.peoplepoweredmovement.org
- FHWA Bicycle & Pedestrian Program, www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bikeped
- League of American Bicyclists, www.bikeleague.org, (202) 822-1333
- National Center for Biking & Walking, www.bikewalk.org, (301) 656-4220
- NHTSA Bicycle Safety Information, www.nhtsa.gov/Bicycles



Utica Police Bicycle Patrol

AAA Welch's Bicycle & Ski Shop

1048 Whitesboro Street
Utica, NY 13502
(315) 724-4728

Big Al's Bikes

2730 State Route 12B
Deansboro, NY 13328
(315) 841-4114
www.bigalsbikes.com

Bikes & Boards

4480 Commercial Drive
New Hartford, NY 13413
(315) 768-1190

Dick Sonne's Cycling & Fitness

4465 Commercial Drive
New Hartford, NY 13413
(315) 736-7106
www.dicksonnes.com

Dick's Wheel Shop

411 Mohawk Street
Herkimer, NY 13350
(315) 866-5571
www.dickswheelshop.com

Guy's Bicycle Shop

(Madison County)
7203 State Route 20
Madison, NY 13402
(315) 893-7231
www.madbikeguy.com

Mike's Cycle & Sport Shop

9094 Turin Road
Rome, NY 13440
(315) 337-1940

Mountainman Outdoor Supply Company

Route 28
Old Forge, NY 13420
(315) 369-6672
www.mountainmanoutdoors.com

Pedals & Petals

(Hamilton County)
NYS Route 28
Inlet, NY 13360
(315) 357-3281
www.pedalsandpetals.com

Precision Automotive & Cycle

286 West Main Street
West Winfield, NY 13491
(315) 822-4481

Schuss Ski & Bike

4610 Commercial Drive
New Hartford, NY 13413
(315) 736-1129
www.schussshop.com



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Bicycling Events in Herkimer and Oneida Counties

APRIL

Build-A-Bike - Annual event hosted by Utica Safe Schools. Volunteers from local businesses, community groups, schools, fire and police departments organize to collect, rebuild and redistribute bicycles to area youth.

MAY

Ride For Missing Children - There are 5 Rides for Missing Children in New York State: Central New York, Rochester, the Finger Lakes, Buffalo and Albany. Each ride is a 100-mile journey completed in one day. The funds which are raised help to support missing child poster distribution, educational programs, case management, and the mission of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. www.therideformissingchildren.com.

JUNE

"Tour De Cure" - A series of fundraising cycling events held in 43 states nationwide to benefit the American Diabetes Association. www.tour.diabetes.org.

National Trails Day - Held annually on the first Saturday in June, American Hiking Society's signature trail awareness program inspires the public and trail enthusiasts nationwide to seek out their favorite trails to discover, learn about, and celebrate trails while participating in educational exhibits, trail dedications, gear demonstrations, instructional workshops and trail work projects. Various locations. www.americanhiking.org.

Black Fly Challenge - Adirondack mountain bike race that takes place every year on the second Saturday in June. The race changes direction every year with the start and finish alternating between Indian Lake and Inlet, NY. Over half the 40-mile course traverses the rugged Moose River Recreation Area on mountain roads composed of dirt, gravel, sand and exposed boulders with several steep elevation changes. www.blackflychallenge.com.

JULY

Cycling the Erie Canal- Sponsored by Parks and Trails New York. A fully supported, eight-day (400-mile) bicycle tour from Buffalo to Albany. www.ptny.org/canaltour.

AUGUST

An Amazing Adirondack Adventure - A non-competitive, 300-mile, seven day tour through the Adirondacks. Start and finish in Old Forge. www.adirondackbicycletour.com.

Brody's Buddy Ride - Annual fundraising event to promote Down Syndrome awareness. www.brodysbuddyride.org.

Canal Classic - 30-mile road race. Open Class. Fundraiser for local scholarship. Contact the Little Falls Family YMCA, 15 Jackson St., Little Falls, NY 13365, (315) 823-1740.

SEPTEMBER

Kirkland Cyclocross Race - USFC sanctioned Cyclocross race held at Kirkland Town Park. Prizes awarded with proceeds to benefit Kirkland Town Park. www.mvbc.us.

ON-GOING RIDES

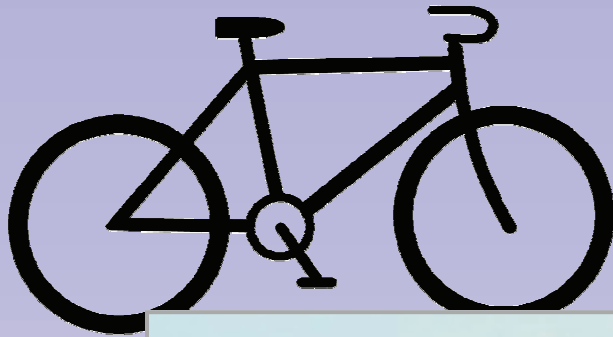
Central New York BMX Racing, Bridgewater - For information and race schedule, see www.cnybmx.org.

Mohawk Valley Bicycling Club - Membership organization hosts weekly group rides and other events throughout the spring, summer and fall, www.mvbc.us

Tramp & Trail Club of Utica - Membership organization hosts various events, www.trampntrail.org



Users of this atlas bear full responsibility for their own safety, assume risks encountered, and are advised to use good judgment and obey traffic laws on all paths/trails and roads, regardless of the designation on this atlas. This atlas is not intended to represent all recreational paths/trails in Herkimer and Oneida Counties; but rather, to serve as a reference for many of the public paths/trails and routes. The developers of this guide do not take responsibility for changes or updates to paths/trails or routes listed, the conditions of the paths/trails or routes, or injuries resulting from their use.



Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Study

Boehlert Center @ Union Station

321 Main Street

Utica, New York 13501

(315) 798-5710

www.hocts.org

