## THE SCOOP COP

Pittsburgh 1

## **EAST ROUTE (via Boston Bridge)**

•An official "Connecting Trail" to the Great Allegheny

Passage

WEST ROUTE (via 15<sup>TH</sup> Street Bridge) McKeesport • Mostly

Liberty

- Mostly asphalt surface
  - Adjacent to active and inactive industrial sites

Official GAP

Port Vue

15th Street Bridge

•Mostly crushed limestone surface

- Mostly forested environment, with two adjacent factories
- •One-mile share-the-road trail on industrial road
- •Challenging climb with blind curves for 1/4 mile in either direction
- •Good views of the Youghiogheny River for much of the route
- Access to Dead Man's Hollow on nature trail
- Two benches for rest stops
- •The only water and toilets on the LooP are at the Boston Trailhead

•Restaurants, stores, gas stations, bars, drug stores, and ice cream shops along adjacent Walnut Street

Two trailhead parking lots and rain

Bicycle sales and repair shop

•Active railroad crossing with no control gates.

•One-mile share-theroad trail through Versailles

D.C. -

Dead Man's Hollow

Boston

The LooP Section of the Youghlogheny River Trail and Great Allegheny Passage, marked with green "LooP" bike logo signs, goes for exactly 6.2 miles, or 10 kilometers, on both sides of the Youghlogheny River between the 15<sup>th</sup> Street and Boston bridges.

The LooP trail between Versailles and the 15th Street bridge is paved for almost two miles. Great rotter blading! This is the Christy Park Section of McKeesport. We call it the "Feed Zone". There are over ten eaterles along Walnut Street (parallel to the trail) and in the Olympia Shopping Center, offering everything from fast food, loe cream and beer to the best homemade pasta this side of Italy. If you are hungry, you have to come to the "Feed Zone". Two trailheads along this stretch have shelters and idosics with maps. In Versailles, the LooP follows share-the-road streets to the Boston Bridge (walk your bike on the sidewalk across this narrow bridge) and rejoins the Loop at Boston. Turn hard right

after crossing the Boston Bridge and you are back on the timestone path LooP heading back to McKeesport, or, if you wish, go south on the YRT portion of the GAP to West Newton and beyond, all the way to Cumbertand, Maryland.

Boston Briage

If you continue to take the Loop trail to the 15th Street Bridge, you will pass the Dead Man's Hollow Wildlife Preserve. Take a break on a shaded bench just inside the Hollow or a ½ mile cool and shady walk through the Hollow to view an abandoned day pipe factory. From Dead Man's Hollow, the Trail continues on a paved surface up an 8% grade to River Ridge Road, which leads to the 15th Street bridge. Use the sidewalk to cross the bridge and stay on the LooP or continue north on the Great Allegheny Passage to the McKees Point trailhead. From McKees Point, the trail continues northeast for 16 miles to Point State Park in Pittsburgh.