

Buckeye Trail Association's Imhoff Easement

BTA Imhoff Easement Established January 9th, 2015

Status

- Trail Type: Planned
- Buckeye Trail Miles: ½ mile
- Acreage: 100
- County: Perry
- Preservation Tool: Trail Easement
- BT Section: Old Man's Cave

Natural and Cultural Resources

- Rock outcropping and Waterfall
- Crossing of Dan's Run, a tributary of Monday Creek

Significance

- Permanent protection of the trail corridor
- Connects two portions of the Wayne National Forest together via the trail corridor
- Concurrent North Country National Scenic Trail and American Discovery Trail

At the beginning of 2015, Dan and Saundra Imhoff generously provided the Buckeye Trail with a ½ mile section of new trail location in the New Straitsville Section. The Imhoff's live on the property in southern Perry County bordered by two sections of the Wayne National Forest. The easement insures that the trail has a permanent home when developed. Their unique property has mature trees and a beautiful stream running through it. It is one of the most beautiful streams in southeast Ohio, and it's one of the best examples of healthy water quality in the Monday Creek Watershed.

When asked why they value the property, Dan speaks of his love for the property, commenting that "the stream through the property is largely unimpacted by human activity upstream from their portion and is a large riparian corridor with shrubbery and trees". Saundra said she likes the "neat, cool waterfalls and large rocks and boulders with moss growing on them." She adds that they have brought people from foreign counties to the property and they have been astounded by how quiet it is. Dan values, "the diversity of plant species I see every time (he goes) for a walk." He says "I see a new feature that I've not seen in the past every time. Whether it be a fungus, tree features, or wildflowers, it's great!"

When asked why they decided to donate a trail easement to the Buckeye Trail Dan said, "We wanted to share with others and wanted to encourage close contact and appreciation with the natural world." He continued, "it's just good for the soul to get out there." Saundra added on the subject that, "hiking trails should be available to hikers". They both agree that, "people are more likely to protect a resource if they have experienced it personally." The Imhoffs believe the Buckeye Trail is building an essential path, getting people into the woods to hike instead of being on the road.





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