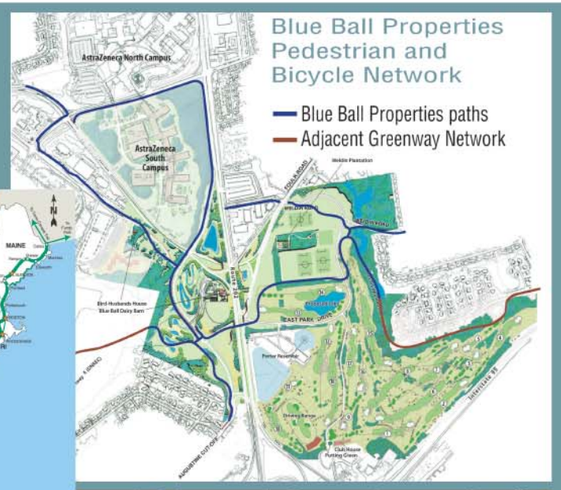
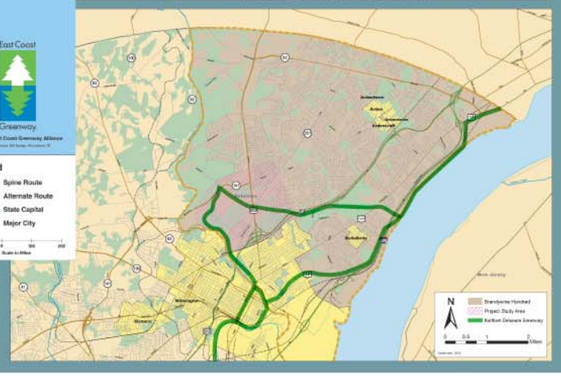
GREENWAY PROMOTES HEALTHY WAY OF LIFE





PRESERVING HISTORY ALONG THE GREENWAY

Parents will leave the car at home and walk with their children to athletic events held on the sports fields in the East Park. Runners and walkers will navigate the network of paths in the East and West Park, appreciating how the connection to the Northern Delaware Greenway expands their recreational opportunities.

The path network through the Blue Ball Properties will provide a perfect mix of pedestrian opportunities that will not only draw local residents to its facilities but will become a regional destination. It will also allow walkers, joggers and cyclists to linger at several of the area's historic attractions, such as the Weldin Ruins. At various points along the path system park-goers will be able to stop, rest and enjoy the park. These areas will provide informational kiosks with orientation maps and other park information.

(below) View of Barn Before Renovations.

Construction in progress.

Dairy Barn

The Blue Ball Dairy Barn is the primary focus of activities in the West Park with its strong visual presence along US Route 202 and with primary access from the West Park Drive. The West Park will reinforce the agricultural history of the land through the protection and restoration of the existing open spaces and the Blue Ball Dairy Barn, which will provide residents with community meeting facilities.

Weldin Ruins

The ruins remain in the existing wooded area north of the Dairy Barn. The woods will be selectively cleared to expose the ruins and "retrieve" this historic built environment from the vegetation that has hidden it for years. The walls will be stabilized to indicate the location of the historic buildings and signage; maps and story boards will tell the history of the site. Park paths will link the park elements.

Washington Inaugural Button & Lincoln Campaign Pin Found At Weldin Ruins

Two rare pieces of presidential memorabilia were recently uncovered during the Blue Ball Properties pre-construction archaeological dig at Weldin farm house off Foulk Road.
The first - a brass button bearing the initials of George Washington and of the original 13 Colonies - was issued to commemorate Washington's 1789 inauguration.
The other find - a gilded tin campaign pin from the 1864 contest between Abraham Lincoln and George McClellan ñ is also an exciting discovery. Unfortunately, the Lincoln image on the pin has deteriorated beyond recognition. Both were found in the farm's kitchen area.

EAST COAST MAINE TO FLORIDA GREENWAY TOUR VISITS DELAWARE

The historic first-ever Maine to Florida tour of the East Coast Greenway started September 12 in Calais Maine, on the Canadian border, with a small band of intrepid bicyclists planning on pedaling the entire distance. They have become the first to travel the entire length of the East Coast Greenway, all the while helping to raise critically-needed funds to help develop and sustain the trail system. This first-ever "end-to-end" tour event traveled along a 2,600-mile route that ended in Key West, Florida on November 3.

This small group pedaled from Canada to Key West along the 20 percent of the ECG now complete, using low-traffic roads in between those trail segments, averaging 60 miles per day. The group passed through the Blue Ball Properties project area on Sunday October 3, on the proposed new, but as-yet uncompleted, link to the ECG that passes through Northern Delaware.

At a stop within the project area, they were hosted by Delaware Department of Transportation, The Northern Delaware Greenway and Washington, and Rochambeau Revolutionary Route Association and treated to an appetizing box lunch. Several events held at significant locations along the route in Northern Delaware highlighted the historic nature of the Northern Delaware Greenway.

Full-ride participants have raised $10,000 for the entire journey while part-time riders raised $3000 per segment if doing less than the entire tour.

Blue Ball Properties