

**Canal Basin Park Phase V  
 Hollidaysburg Borough  
 Blair County, PA**

**Project Description:**

Located near a major 19<sup>th</sup> Century terminus point for the Pennsylvania Canal and Allegheny Portage Railroad, the Hollidaysburg Canal Basin Park is steeped in history. It is a place of interest for a wide range of groups – from school aged children to the elderly – looking to learn

about transportation and the exchange of goods prior to the advent of automobiles and aircraft carriers.

With a \$150,000 Keystone grant from DCNR, the Anne Sloan Borland Performing Arts Pavilion was constructed and now provides an ideal space for lectures and other educational programs in the park.

Since the pavilion's completion in the summer of 2007, it also has been a popular venue for outdoor concert series and performances where community members can gather on summer evenings.

Describing the park as a "gem in the community," John Little, Hollidaysburg Borough Manager, enjoys the balance between recreation, education and entertainment provided by Canal Basin Park.



Other improvements to the park funded in part by DCNR include ADA accessibility, landscaping, clearly marked signs, increased parking and the construction of a comfort station. The park originally opened in 2002 and also includes the Reiser House Visitors Center, complete with interactive activities regarding the canal's usage in the 1800s. The park also includes walking/bicycle

trails, the Sylvia Schraff Amphitheater and the Canal Boat Playpark.

It's ability to present its own history through educational lectures at the pavilion, computer facilities in

the visitor center, and visual representation with the Canal Boat Playpark makes Hollidaysburg Canal Basin Park truly unique.

**Quote:** John Little, Hollidaysburg Borough Manager

"The fact that we have some open space enhances the entire experience in the community. We have a public place to exercise, picnic and walk."

**Amount of Keystone funding awarded, year and matching sources:**

2005: \$181,300

Local match: \$181,300