

**OUR FAVORITE HIKES - NO 33 - WATER TANK TRAIL**

This is an historic area, where we hike along the abandoned Schuykill & Susquehanna Railroad bed, past remnants of an old saw mill, to Water Tank Station, so called because here the engines took on water.

At Water Tank was an inclined plane tramway, where cable cars operated by a stationary engine on top of the mountain, that transported coal and timber across and down the mountain to the railroad.

On the ridge was the old stage coach road, from Harrisburg to Pine Grove. It began climbing the mountain at the village of Ellendale, on a much gentler grade than the present day Access Road, but is now largely overgrown by trees.

For round trip to the fire tower, add 1.18 m.  
For round trip to radio tower, add 0.62 m.

**TRAIL DATA IS AS FOLLOWS:**

Park at Ellendale Gate	0.00 m.
Pass old saw mill site	0.95 m.
At Water Tank Station, turn left on trail	2.28 m.
1,000 ft level, trail gets much steeper & rougher	2.62 m.
1,500 ft level, trail levels out and becomes gentler.	3.04 m.
Reach Access Road	3.19 m.
Turn left, reach vye	4.13 m.
Bear left, begin descent	4.36 m.
Almost U-bend in road	6.66 m.
Cross pipe line	6.93 m.
Reach railroad bed	6.94 m.
Return to parking lot	7.90 m.

