

= Pennsylvania Route 343 =

Pennsylvania Route 343 (PA 343) is an 8 @.@ 16 @-@ mile (13 @.@ 13 km) route between Lebanon and Fredericksburg in Lebanon County , Pennsylvania . It begins at PA 72 and ends at Exit 6 of Interstate 78 (I @-@ 78) . PA 343 heads mostly through urbanized areas near Lebanon before continuing into rural areas further north . There is a concurrency with U.S. Route 22 (US 22) near the northern terminus .

PA 343 has had a number of different realignments , most of them relating to the northern terminus of the highway . The highway originally terminated at an intersection with PA 443 in Lickdale , moved to end in the community of Bordnersville soon after . The highway was then extended along the local continuation to end at US 22 in Harper Tavern . In 1963 , PA 343 was moved back to Lickdale , and seven years after , moved to its northern terminus , thirteen years after the construction of I @-@ 78 .

= = Route description = =

PA 343 begins at an intersection with PA 72 , near the Northwest Elementary School , in the city of Lebanon in Lebanon County . PA 343 heads eastward along Maple Street , a two @-@ lane undivided street maintained by the city , past urbanized homes and businesses . The route turns north onto North 7th Street and passes more development . PA 343 leaves Lebanon for North Lebanon Township , where it becomes state @-@ maintained and passes through the residential community of Reindeldville . The road runs north @-@ northeast past more homes and businesses as it heads through the community of Eustontown . The route leaves the urbanized areas and heads into agricultural areas with some trees and homes . PA 343 turns northwest at the Heffelfinger Road intersection and enters Bethel Township , where it heads north as South Pine Grove Street through a patch of woods before running through more farmland . The road runs to the west of Little Swatara Creek and passes to the east of Pine Meadows Golf Course before it crosses the creek . The route continues through rural areas and passes through the residential community of Shirksville . PA 343 heads north through more farmland before it comes to an intersection with US 22 (William Penn Highway) south of the community of Fredericksburg .

At this point , South Pine Grove Street continues to Fredericksburg and PA 343 turns northeast to become concurrent with US 22 on four @-@ lane divided William Penn Highway . The road runs through agricultural areas with some commercial development , passing to the south of a warehouse . PA 343 splits from US 22 by heading north on two @-@ lane undivided Pine Grove Road , passing to the west of a park . The route continues near rural commercial development before it reaches its northern terminus at a partial interchange with I @-@ 78 , with access to westbound I @-@ 78 and access from eastbound I @-@ 78 . Past this interchange , Pine Grove Road continues north as SR 1007 toward the Berks County line .

= = History = =

PA 343 was assigned in the numbering of state routes in Pennsylvania during 1928 . The highway then ran from the southern terminus in Lebanon , which was at the time , an intersection with US 22 (now US 422) . At Fredericksburg , the route reached an intersection with PA 43 (now US 22) . At Fredericksburg , highway turned to the northwest and headed to Lickdale . There it terminated at an intersection with PA 443 . The highway stayed intact for two years , until 1930 , when the highway was extended a few miles to the community of Bordnersville , where the road then continued as a local highway .

The highway was paved from Fredericksburg to an intersection with Lancaster Street and from Lickdale to Bordnersville in 1932 . In 1936 , the Pennsylvania Department of Highways extended PA 343 past Bordnersville and Lickdale , along the local road . This changed the northern terminus to an intersection with US 22 (formerly the alignment of PA 43) in Harper Tavern . This alignment remained intact for more than two decades . In 1963 , even with the construction of I @-@ 78 six

years prior , PA 343 was realigned once again by the Department of Highways . This time , the northern terminus was cut back to the PA 72 intersection in Lickdale , with an extended PA 934 replacing the route between Harper Tavern and Lickdale . This change was made to provide the same route number on both sides of the I @-@ 81 interchange north of Harper Tavern . The highway remained intact for another seven years , and in 1970 , PA 343 was realigned for the final time , this time onto its current alignment . The northern terminus is now at a partial interchange with I @-@ 78 .

= = Major intersections = =

The entire route is in Lebanon County .