

Mini Grant Awarded Projects



Forest Stewardship Plan for Monocacy Hill Recreation Area:

Amity Township is implementing an approved Forest Stewardship Plan for Monocacy Hill Recreation Area. The project is focusing on treatment and removal of two invasive plant species in several management areas. Its goal is to improve the health and unique biodiversity of the forest.

Mill Creek Upgrade: The Delaware Riverkeeper Network submitted a stream upgrade petition for Mill Creek in Union Township to the Pennsylvania Environmental Quality Board. They will also monitor macroinvertebrates for other Schuylkill Highlands streams to ensure existing High Quality and Exceptional Value streams are not degraded over time.



Nature Trail Enhancements: Union Township is installing three links to existing regional trails thereby increasing the accessibility of these resources, preserving and making accessible environmentally sensitive and historic areas and promoting the use and appreciation of open space adjoining the Schuylkill River.

Angelica Creek Park: The City of Reading is making capital improvements for green infrastructure in Angelica Creek Park including trail construction, addressing stream bank and trail erosion, storm water issues, rail connections, and the construction of an educational agriculture garden.



HBW Brochure: Friends of Hopewell Furnace is updating the Hopewell Big Woods brochure to reflect enhanced nature-based tourism opportunities and programmatic changes in the landscape. Hopewell Furnace will be the primary distribution site for these brochures.



Hay Creek Pedestrian Bridges: Hay Creek Watershed Association is securing permits for placing prefabricated pedestrian bridges over Hay Creek in two locations to enter Birdsboro Waters, where bridges were washed away in a flood in 2005. This will allow recreational users access to Birdsboro Waters.



Schuylkill River Trail Segment in Phoenixville: The Phoenixville Borough is completing the easements and agreements necessary to complete the one mile Phoenixville Borough section of the trail. This trail gap when completed will connect the Schuylkill River Trail and Mont Clare through Phoenixville.



Perkiomen Watershed Education and Outreach: Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy is working on removing the invasive water chestnut infestation. They will be creating educational materials including a webpage, poster, sign, brochure, and workshops to increase awareness and knowledge and engage these watershed residents in the stewardship of Delmont Lake.

River Road Trail: Berks County Conservancy is realigning the Schuylkill River Trail from its existing location along active railroad tracks to a safer location crossing the Reading Area Community College parking lot and continuing parallel to River Road. The project will include trail surfacing, safety improvements, and signage. This section is between the Penn Street and Buttonwood Street bridges.



Hiester House: Montgomery County Lands Trust is performing a feasibility study and marketing product to advance the protection of the Daniel Hiester House, a historic 1757 brick manor house, and its surrounding 80 acre property aside the Ridge Valley and Unami Creeks. The study will determine possible funding sources, the involved parties, the eventual ownership of the house, and the disposition of the property.

The Schuylkill Highlands Grant Program is a reimbursement grant program funded by the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and the William Penn Foundation and administered by the Schuylkill River Heritage Area and Natural Lands Trust.

