

Mini Grant Awarded Projects



Mystream Pollution Awareness: This pollution awareness education project will be undertaken in Union and Robeson Townships, Birdsboro Borough in Berks County. A non-point source pollution brochure will be created, watershed articles will be written, and 10 new stream name signs at 5 stream road crossings will be installed in the Hay Creek Watershed. Water resource maps will be distributed to municipalities. The mystream naming challenge will be organized in local schools.

Wharton Escherick Museum Trailhead Improvements: A parking lane on the paved segment of the Horseshoe Trail adjacent to the Wharton Escherick Museum was constructed and a walkway created a trail connection to the museum site and parking for both trail and museum users.



Welkinweir Trail Improvements: Green Valleys Association is working on a project that includes renovations to existing trail improvements to the visitor area at Welkinweir in order to increase public use of the Horse-shoe Trail and enhance the Welkinweir visitor experience. These improvements will build on a long term program to increase public access and showcase sustainable land use.

Regional Trail Matrix: The Pennsylvania Environmental Council is gathering trail gap data on certain regional trails to create a trail matrix and a regional color coded map that will summarize trail phasing and needs for the regional trails within the Schuylkill Highlands through the all trails committee.



Antietam Lake Park Trail Amenities: The Berks County Parks and Recreation Department is producing pocket trail maps to promote the use of the trails in this park. In addition, an information Trail Kiosk with an overall trail map poster is being installed at the trailhead in Antietam Lake Park.



Stewardship Plan for Coventry Woods: Natural Lands Trust is preparing a stewardship plan for Coventry Woods, an important eastern boundary of the Hopewell Big Woods. This plan will identify strategies for achieving local and regional conservation priorities, including sustaining the forest health, enhancing wildlife habitat, and promoting passive recreation opportunities throughout the site.



Land Protection at Hopewell: Friends of Hopewell Furnace are evaluating bog turtle habitats at Hopewell Furnace Historic Site to help protect threatened species.



Main Street Gateway: Royersford Borough is making improvements to create strong and safe pedestrian connections between Royersford's Main Street, the Schuylkill River Trail, and Royersford's Riverfront Park and Trail. The improvements include Wayfinding signs, environmental and historical interpretive signs and a traffic calming raised intersection with decorative crosswalks at the very busy 1st Avenue and Main Street Intersection.



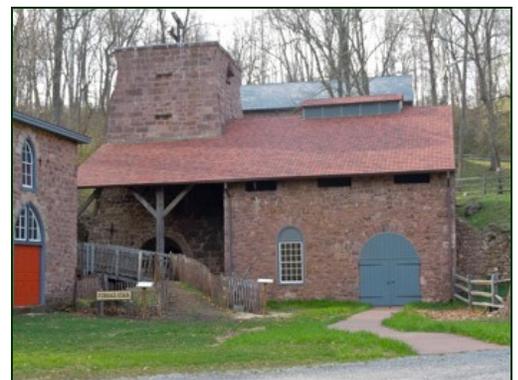
Joint Zoning Project: Alsace Township and Mount Penn Borough identified an urgent need to protect, preserve, and enhance the natural and scenic resources in the Neversink Mountain and Mount Penn areas. The municipalities are preparing a Joint Zoning Ordinance and a comprehensive update of their subdivision and land development ordinances including conservation zoning regulations in concert with the requirements of Berks County Planning Commission's CZIP Grant Program.

Pike Township Baseline Surveys: Larry Lloyd is developing 5 Baseline Documentation Reports necessary for the transaction by the County of Berks and Pike Township to purchase 5 conservation easements on 282 acres of conservation and greenway land in the Oley Hills Project Area.



Horseshoe Trail Road Crossing Signs: The Horse-shoe Trail Conservancy is purchasing and installing advanced trail crossing warning signs at 4 road crossing locations along state roads in Brecknock and Robeson Townships, Berks County and East Nantmeal, and Warwick Township in Chester County.

Iron and Steel Heritage Tours: French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trusts are producing an Iron and Steel Heritage and Recreation tourism brochure and website that will feature four driving tours to the key iron and steel heritage sites in northern Chester County and Southeastern Berks. The brochure identifies biking routes, trailheads, trails, natural and recreation areas, and destinations for food and lodging. It will be available as an insert to the Chester County Town Tours and Village Walks program and at all 15 participating interpretive and visitor service centers featured on the tours.



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.

