

POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS

The Schuylkill Watershed Conservation Plan is intended to help guide funding of local conservation projects within the Schuylkill Watershed. For this reason, the project partners and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (PA DCNR) agreed that the SWCP should include suggestions made by local government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and the public, for potential implementation projects in the watershed. Potential implementation projects are listed in this Plan with the understanding that this may help these projects qualify for future funding from PA DCNR, PA DEP and other Federal or State grant opportunities.

A special effort was made to include municipalities in this request. A letter was sent to each municipality in the watershed requesting suggestions for potential implementation projects. The letter also invited municipal representatives to attend the final round of Public Meetings in March 2001.

As agreed between the PA DCNR and the project partners, there were two ways that watershed stakeholders could provide input or suggest projects for listing in this Plan. These options were included in the public meeting brochures and the letters to municipalities to encourage stakeholders to submit information on potential implementation projects.

1. Watershed stakeholders were encouraged to attend the final Public Meetings held for this Plan in March 2001. People attending the final Public Meetings received a verbal request for potential implementation projects, and it was explained that listing projects in this plan might help these projects qualify for future funding. Through the public meeting brochures and the letters to municipalities, stakeholders were encouraged to submit written suggestions for potential implementation projects at the Public Meetings. Please see Appendix C for more information on the times, dates and notes from these Public Meetings.
2. In the public meetings brochures and the letters to municipalities, stakeholders who could not attend the Public Meetings but wanted to submit a list of potential implementation projects were requested to forward written suggestions by E-mail or fax to the Natural Lands Trust.

Following these requests, some potential implementation projects were submitted in writing, by E-mail and by fax for inclusion in this Plan. The following pages document potential implementation projects as submitted by watershed stakeholders.

PROJECT **Permanent Preservation of the Unami Forest in Salford & Marlborough Townships, Montgomery County, and Milford and West Rockhill Townships in Bucks County**

DESCRIPTION Jeff Walsh of Temple University submitted the following description.

“The mechanism of preservation would be a combination of conservation easements, purchase of development rights, and fee-simple purchase. This project is consistent with many aspects of the draft plan. It also has the possibility of linking up with other major environmental protection/preservation plans to the northeast in Bucks County (for example the Quakertown Swamp) and New Jersey (Highlands Coalition Projects). Furthermore, the Natural Lands Trust has already been active in some portions of the lower Unami Forest. In addition, the Bucks County Parks department has had a plan for a county park in the Butter Creek area of the Unami Forest on its books for many years.”

Jeff Vey, Milford Township Manager (vey@fast.net), submitted the following words of support for this project.

“Milford Township is pleased to lend support to Natural Lands Trust's application to the William Penn Foundation for funding to preserve critical natural areas in Bucks and Montgomery County. The Buck County Natural Areas Inventory has identified numerous sites for preservation in our township along the Unami, Ridge Valley, Butter and Hazelbach Creeks. We look forward to developing a preservation partnership with Natural Lands Trust to protect the ecological integrity of the headwaters of the Unami Creek Watershed.” Mr. Vey added, “I hope this can be listed in both the Schuylkill and Perkiomen Rivers Conservation Plans. There is more need than resources and these contiguous woodlands (which run into northern New Jersey) along with the Great Swamp (Quakertown Swamp) are unique features worthy of our focused attention regardless of political jurisdictions.”

CONTACTS

Jim Walsh	Jeff Vey	Clare Billett
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PROJECT **Towamencin Township Restoration, Recreation and Education Projects**

DESCRIPTION John A. Granger of Towamencin Township submitted the following description.

“In managing for growth, our township (identified as 187 in the plan), anticipates the need to implement projects consistent with the township’s Comprehensive Plan (1989) and which should be noted in your plan.”

“They include:

- Towamencin Village Plan: recreation and environmental components.
- West Branch Towamencin Creek Restoration and Protection Project.
- Kooker’s Mill Reserve Discover and Learn Center in Fischer’s Park.
- Grist Mill Run Park Outdoor Environmental Education pavilion and habitat trails.
- BMP: The use of vegetated swales for stormwater management in Fischer’s Park.”

“We anticipate building partnerships with area schools to carry out the important work of education in preservation and protection of our valuable natural and cultural resources.”

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Township Manager
Towamencin Township
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PROJECT Lock 60 Restoration

DESCRIPTION Elizabeth Daley of The Schuylkill Canal Association submitted the following description.

“The Schuylkill Canal Association was established in the early 1980s with the sole purpose of maintaining and preserving one of the last two remaining watered reaches of the historic Schuylkill Navigation System. The other reach is in Manayunk. We started out as a grassroots community organization with very dedicated volunteers. Over the past twenty years we have grown considerably. Through it all we have remained focused on our task of maintaining this beautiful and unique waterway. We have become a very important piece in the regional plans for the Schuylkill River. Our historic site is becoming one of the major destinations along the Schuylkill River Heritage Corridor as well as complimenting all the revitalization plans happening in Phoenixville. We have played a part in the Conservation Fund’s Schuylkill River Watershed Initiative and have received support from them through their Schuylkill River Watershed Small Grants Program for professional development within our organization. We have developed a partnership with Montgomery County and will be included in the implementation of the management structure for the County’s Schuylkill Loop project being coordinated at the end of this month.”

“Lock 60, a guard lock of the historic Schuylkill Navigation System, located in Mont Clare, will be completely restored. The lock will have operating mitre gates with a bridge constructed over the lock chamber for access to the Locktender’s House. The Locktender’s Shanty will be reproduced on its original foundation still in place. Once the restoration is completed the area immediately surrounding Lock 60 will be as it was at the turn of the century, 1900. The project received TEA-21 funding for the construction phase of the project. Final drawings have been submitted to PennDOT with bids expected to be opened no later than April 2002. Completion of a totally operable lock is anticipated late Fall 2002, early Spring 2003. Additional funding has been provided by the Schuylkill River Heritage Park Program, the William Penn Foundation, Upper Providence Township, and SCA.”

CONTACTS Elizabeth Daley
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PROJECT Locktender’s House Restoration

DESCRIPTION Elizabeth Daley of The Schuylkill Canal Association submitted the following description.

“SCA completed in late 1999, early 2000 the restoration of the exterior surface of the Locktender’s House, circa 1836. Twenty-five new antique glass window sashes were installed as well as the 2 exterior doors repaired and replaced with historically accurate reproductions. A fresh coat of paint was applied on all the exterior wood surfaces, which added the finishing touch. SCA is currently working on the north side of the house by improving the access and enhancing the north wall with native plantings. We are in the process of designing a safer entrance with appropriate lighting and a landscaper has been

asked to submit a proposal with his suggestions on recommended plantings. Eventually this historic house will become our visitors' center once the lock is restored. Funding has been provided by the Schuylkill River Heritage Park Program, the Arcadia Foundation, the Helen G. Beatty Foundation, Phoenixville Community Health Foundation, Upper Providence Township and SCA."

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PROJECT Handicap Accessible Restrooms

DESCRIPTION Elizabeth Daley of The Schuylkill Canal Association submitted the following description.

"Two handicap accessible restrooms will be constructed in a maintenance garage situated about 200 yards from the Locktender's House. Presently there is only a handicap accessible port-a-potty located on site. With the anticipated increase in visitors real restroom facilities will be needed. A handicap parking area will be constructed in the same location as the bathrooms with a walkway built from the garage to the Locktender's House. Funding has been provided by the Arcadia Foundation, the Helen G. Beatty Foundation, Upper Providence Township and SCA."

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PROJECT Wastewater Weir Gate Restoration

DESCRIPTION Elizabeth Daley of The Schuylkill Canal Association submitted the following description.

"A restoration of the wastewater weir gate will be completed this year. These gates are located a few hundred yards downstream of Lock 60 in Mont Clare. Currently the gates in place are temporary and are not able to be opened. Replacing the temporary gates with operating gates that will be able to be opened and closed will enable SCA to have control on the water levels in the canal, for the first time in our history. This will prove to be very instrumental in our Canal Improvements project. Included with this project is the reconstruction of the paved towpath road over the weir and stabilization of the canal and river banks on both sides of the weir. Funding has been provided by the Department of Environmental Protection – Growing Greener Grant Program, Upper Providence Township and SCA."

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PROJECT Canal Improvements Project

DESCRIPTION Elizabeth Daley of The Schuylkill Canal Association submitted the following description.

“The project deals with the waterway itself and the many structures that maintain the water capacity in the canal. It involves four major water inlet/outlet areas – the forebay at Lock 60, a streambed one mile downstream from Lock 60, the outfall and the new spillway, cascading pond and water outlet to the river at the end of the canal in Port Providence.”

“The first priority is to dredge the forebay. Currently the sediment built up in the forebay has created a dam with only a small channel of water getting through to the lock area, which has an opening that feeds the canal. If this is not removed it will completely dam the forebay and prevent water from entering the canal. At the same time we will excavate the sediment deposited by the small stream downstream from the lock. Once this is completed a hydrology study will be done to fully understand the quantity and quality of water entering the canal at various inlet areas. In addition an assessment will be done on the water outlets to the river.”

“In the ravine leading to the forebay we have discussed building a dam structure that would trap the sediment a few yards upstream from the inlet pipe to the forebay. This would eliminate or greatly reduce future deposits of sediment into the forebay and the area behind the dam would be easier to clean out periodically. The possibility of a stream bank restoration and stabilization would address the issue of erosion and sediment deposits in the canal in that area downstream from the lock. An operating gate mechanism, similar to what has been designed for the wastewater weir gate, will be installed on the outfall to provide another water level control. The spillway, pond and water outlet to the river will be repaired and stabilized.”

“Presently we are anticipating proposals from four different engineer groups we have contacted. Once we chose the engineer we will move ahead with this project, which will be done in phases depending on the funding available to us. Currently we have funding for the engineering and enough to address the forebay issues. Funding is being provided by Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission, the Schuylkill River Heritage Park Program, the Phoenixville Community Health Foundation, Upper Providence Township, and SCA.”

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PROJECT Educational Workshops and Materials Development with POPCI

DESCRIPTION Marlene Robinson of The Peopling of Philadelphia Collaborative, Inc. submitted the following descriptions of potential educational projects in the watershed.

“Hire the Pottstown School District webmaster to integrate local museum resources into the School District curriculum on its website. Local museums have worked with Pottstown teachers to relate resources to grade level requirements during last two years.”

“Phase I. Funding for a webmaster and workshops to complete development of a narrative of Schuylkill River Heritage Corridor social and environmental history from

Philadelphia to Pottstown. Phase II would cover the Schuylkill River Heritage Corridor social and environmental history from Pottstown to Pottsville. For teachers and the general public.”

“Fund workshops for teachers and the public on ways to use the POPCI historical narrative in the classroom and for family fun. Workshops in Berks, Bucks, Chester and Montgomery

Counties in Pennsylvania and in Gloucester and Camden New Jersey.”

“Fund workshops for independent schools providing interaction between teachers and POPCI museum educators to develop activity-based curricular materials. (This has already been done in the Philadelphia and Pottstown areas.)”

“Plan an annual fair as a week of fun activities for families to introduce them to the value of the Schuylkill River, the frailty of the Watershed, and the need to take care of it.”

“Fund the annual Urban Ecology teacher workshop, three days learning skills and activities to engage students in watershed studies and understand the cause and effect of human actions on the watershed. Teachers attend sessions at 12 sites, beginning with a sail down the Delaware on a 75' schooner.”

“Funds to hire a consultant to develop a power point presentation for Urban Ecology and the Peopling of Philadelphia programs.”

CONTACTS

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PROJECT

Wetland Re-establishment Demonstration

DESCRIPTION

Bob Gutowski of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania submitted the following description of a 2001-2005 potential implementation project.

“Location: Morris Arboretum, Philadelphia County. Wissahickon and Paper Mill Run watersheds. Restoration management, monitoring, vegetation, habitat enhancement and related education products for a publicly accessible demonstration of BMPs for a re-established wetland in a floodplain area now drained by underground tiles.”

CONTACTS

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PROJECT

Forested Riparian Buffer and Streambank Stabilization Demonstrations

DESCRIPTION

Bob Gutowski of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania submitted the following description of a 2001-2005 potential implementation project.

“Location: Morris Arboretum and possible participating adjacent landowners, Philadelphia and Montgomery Counties. Wissahickon and Paper Mill Run Watersheds. Non-point source pollution and stormwater management BMPs and habitat enhancement demonstration and education projects in publicly accessible sites.”

- CONTACTS** Bob Gutowski
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Website: <http://www.upenn.edu/morris>
- PROJECT** **Non-point Source Pollution and Stormwater Management BMP Demonstration for Floodplain Development**
- DESCRIPTION** Bob Gutowski of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania submitted the following description of a 2001-2005 potential implementation project.

“Location: Morris Arboretum, Philadelphia County. Wissahickon and Paper Mill Run watersheds. A public demonstration, with related education products, of BMPs for developing parking in floodplain areas.”
- CONTACTS** Bob Gutowski
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- PROJECT** **Forested upland and steep slope restoration, non-point source pollution BMP and habitat enhancement demonstrations in the Wissahickon Valley**
- DESCRIPTION** Bob Gutowski of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania submitted the following description of a 2001-2005 potential implementation project.

“Location: Morris Arboretum and Fairmount Park, Philadelphia County. Non-point source pollution and stormwater management BMPs and habitat enhancement management demonstration and education projects in publicly accessible sites.”
- CONTACTS** Bob Gutowski
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- PROJECT** **Wissahickon Riparian Restoration Trail Link Master Plan (1998) Project Implementation**
- DESCRIPTION** Bob Gutowski of the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania submitted the following description of a 2001-2005 potential implementation project.

“Location: Between Fairmount Park in Philadelphia and Fort Washington State Park in Montgomery County. Implement recommendations for a multi-use path and riparian restoration within the riparian corridor.”

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PROJECT **Water Quality Monitoring - Assessing Long-Term Trends**

DESCRIPTION Chari Towne of the Schuylkill Riverkeeper submitted the following description.
“Riverkeeper volunteers monitor sites stream around the Schuylkill Watershed monthly. Under this activity, we would expand the number of long-term trend sites we support from 20 to approximately 35. Parameters monitored include temperature, pH, dissolved oxygen, nitrogen, phosphorus, and turbidity. In addition to chemical data, long-term trend sites would be included in Bug Madness, Riverkeeper's macroinvertebrate sampling program. Estimated cost: \$50,000 annually. [Corresponds to] Recommendation Code: R5.1”

CONTACTS Chari Towne
Director
Schuylkill Riverkeeper
Delaware Riverkeeper Network
E-mail: srk2@worldlynx.net

PROJECT **Water Quality Monitoring - Quality Control Program**

DESCRIPTION Chari Towne of the Schuylkill Riverkeeper submitted the following description.
“Riverkeeper would work with its Monitoring Technical Advisory Committee to establish a data rating system. Schuylkill Watershed volunteer monitoring programs could submit their data for rating according to data quality. Riverkeeper's professional monitoring staff would manage the program and train interns and volunteers to assist with data rating. Estimated cost: \$55,000 during the first year, \$30,000 each year after that. [Corresponds to] Recommendation Code: R5.1.”

CONTACTS Chari Towne
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Delaware Riverkeeper Network
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PROJECT **Fish Passage - Dam Assessment**

DESCRIPTION Chari Towne of the Schuylkill Riverkeeper submitted the following description.
“Riverkeeper would compile data about dams in the Schuylkill Watershed. This data set would be evaluated to determine those dams whose removal or passage would be key to

improving habitat for resident and migratory fishes. This work would be performed over a five year period. Estimated cost per year: \$100,000. [Corresponds to] Recommendation Code: R5.16.”

CONTACTS Chari Towne
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Delaware Riverkeeper Network
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PROJECT Schuylkill Watershed Congress

DESCRIPTION Chari Towne of the Schuylkill Riverkeeper submitted the following description.

“Riverkeeper will organize the Schuylkill Watershed Congress on an annual basis. To be held in March of each year, this event will rotate between two or three sites around the Watershed. The Congress offers training and networking opportunities for river advocates from all walks of life. Estimated annual cost: \$50,000. [Corresponds to] Recommendation Codes: R7.2 and R7.6.”

CONTACTS Chari Towne
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PROJECT West Branch Towamencin Creek Restoration and Protection Project

DESCRIPTION Laura Hardt of Towamencin Township submitted the following description (excerpts below are verbatim).

Project Location

Delaware River Basin, Schuylkill Watershed
(S113) West Branch Towamencin Creek first order streams
USGS 1:24000 Quad Name Telford
USGS 1:24000 Quad Name Lansdale
USGS Cataloging Unit 02040203
Center of Project: Latitude: 40 degrees 15 minutes 30 secs
Longitude: 75 degrees 18 minutes 30 secs

Project Description

The Towamencin Township will partner with the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, the Montgomery County Lands Trust, the Unami Audubon Society, the North Penn Senior Center, the North Penn School District, Boy Scouts Troop, Delaware Valley College, Moravian College and local citizens to restore the riparian stream corridors and to enhance the wetlands and storm water management functions on the upstream tributaries of the West Branch Towamencin Creek. Restoration measures will be completed through a two-phase effort. Phase One will restore the riparian stream corridors and enhance the storm water management functions on Township owned open space. Phase Two will restore the riparian stream corridors on privately owned property within the project limits. The increased non-point source pollution, storm water runoff and stream corridor removed within the developed areas of the project limits, have combined to cause stream and on-stream pond bank erosion,

pond sedimentation and nutrient problems, habitat degradation and native biological diversity loss. Target areas identified within the project limits will be restored or enhanced through several methods:

1. Modified and/or discontinued mowing operations on Township owned open space.
2. Creation of wet pond in on-stream retention basin using best management practices.
3. Stabilization of pond bank through bioengineering and pond edge re-vegetation
4. Mechanical removal of alien invasive plants.
5. Replanting of native species with high wildlife food value (meadow habitat, upper and lower riparian habitat, pond habitat).
6. Establishment of Riparian Corridor and Conservation Easements on privately owned lands.

The environmental results of these restoration and enhancement methods will be:

1. A minimization of the contributory impacts on water quality via non-point source pollution.
2. A minimization of the contributory impacts of erosion and sedimentation on water quality caused by increased storm water runoff.
3. A decrease in the amount of overland flow of water.
4. An increase in the amount and quality of wildlife habitat.
5. A decrease in the nutrient problems of on-stream ponds.
6. An increase in the amount of conserved land.

The township wishes to demonstrate the watershed benefits of stream corridor restoration and protection on parkland open space. Educational Workshops inviting neighboring Hatfield Township residents, the general public and all private landowners within the designated 75-foot corridor of the project will be conducted by the Delaware Riverkeeper Network and the Montgomery County Lands Trust at the Township Building. Target parcels along the corridors will be invited to participate in the Phase II planting efforts with the commitment of protecting the stream corridors by conservation easements held by the Montgomery County Lands Trust.

The township will publicize the project through its township newsletter, published quarterly and on the Township Website. All Workshops, water quality sampling efforts, bird surveys and planting opportunities will be open to the community and volunteers will be welcome and encouraged to participate with identified partners. Construction contracts for the on-stream basin, on-stream pond bank, and invasives removal will be prepared and administered by the township. The township public letting process will be used to select a qualified contractor to perform the work. All planting will be done by volunteers in the spring or fall (see timeline) utilizing township grown native trees and shrubs, purchased warm season grasses and wildflowers, and live, native cuttings collected from the site. Maintenance of the plantings and mowing of the parkland open space will be provided by the township.

CONTACTS

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E-Mail: info@towamencin.org

PROJECT

Priority Sites for Treatment/Remediation in the Schuylkill Headwaters

DESCRIPTION

William Reichert of the Schuylkill Headwaters Association submitted the following description of “priority sites listed in the Upper Schuylkill Watershed Assessment” (excerpts

are verbatim).

- 1) Oak Hill Boreholes, Pine Knot Discharge located on the West Branch of the Schuylkill north of Minersville. Remediation projects planned to correct these discharges include wetlands for passive treatment to remove metals and possibly an anoxic limestone trench.
- 2) Pine Forest Mine outflow located on the Mill Creek near Saint Clair. Treatment projects listed for this discharge are wetlands and a vertical drain system to remove metals.
- 3) Mary D Mine outflow is located near Brockton. Remediation projects planned for this discharge include a wetland and an anoxic trench to remove metals.
- 4) Bell Colliery Drift is located south of Brockton. Remediation project scheduled to address this discharge includes a vertical drain and wetland to remove metals.
- 5) Kaska Mine Outfall is located north of New Philadelphia. Remediation plans include a wetland to remove metals.
- 6) Silver Creek Mine discharge is located north of Middleport. Remediation project planned for this discharge includes a wetland or vertical drain system to remove metals and raise pH levels.
- 7) Middleport Silt Dam is located north of Middleport. Remediation project selected is to contain coal fines with a combination of clay, topsoil, and riprap to prevent further erosion. A second project would be to rebuild the breached slush dam structure and build a wetland for metals removal.
- 8) Eagle Hill Mine outflow is located northeast of Port Carbon. Remediation project planned for this discharge includes constructing a wetland to remove metals.
- 9) Otto Mine Discharge is located near Branchdale on the Muddy Branch of the Schuylkill River. Projects recommended for this site include a vertical drain system, and a series of wetlands for removal of metals and to raise ph levels. Sediment control projects along the Muddy Branch will be undertaken to control coal silt from past mining practices.
- 10) Morea Mine stripping pit outflow is a tributary to Mill Creek located north of Saint Clair. Remediation project scheduled for this outflow is to restore the stream above ground eliminating water entering the mine pool.
- 11) Replier Mine outflow is located northwest of Saint Clair. Remediation projects will eliminate upstream water entering the mine pool.

CONTACTS

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PROJECT

Establishing and Maintaining a Watershed Database

DESCRIPTION

William Reichert of the Schuylkill Headwaters Association submitted the following description.

“A watershed database will be established and located in the Schuylkill County Conservation District Office along route 901 near Cressona. This database will include purchasing a computer and office equipment to allow volunteers to enter monitoring data and continuously update the watershed assessments. This database will include GIS capabilities to allow for optimum impact for remediation efforts.”

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PROJECT Little Schuylkill River AMD and Restoration Projects

DESCRIPTION William Reichert of the Schuylkill Headwaters Association submitted the following description.

“The following projects are being evaluated currently and will be included in SHA work projects. These projects will be listed in the Little Schuylkill River Watershed Assessment scheduled for completion October 2001.

- 1) Acid mine drainage problems along the Panther Creek, a tributary to the Little Schuylkill, located east of Tamaqua. Projects scheduled for this creek include anoxic limestone trenches, wetlands, vertical drain systems and limestone diversion wells.
- 2) Wabash Creek, a tributary to the Little Schuylkill, is located west of Tamaqua. Projects scheduled for this creek include vertical drain systems, wetlands, anoxic limestone trenches, and limestone diversion wells.
- 3) Stream bank restoration along the Little Schuylkill River, at the confluence of the Panther Creek located in Tamaqua. Project includes stream bank restoration, invasive exotic plant removal, and access for canoeists and anglers.”

CONTACTS

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PROJECT Schuylkill Headwaters Association: Various Projects under Evaluation

DESCRIPTION William Reichert of the Schuylkill Headwaters Association submitted the following description.

“Projects listed below are currently under evaluation, [and] while not listed under the assessments are considered important to the watershed:

- 1) Constructing a wetland along the west branch of the Schuylkill north of Cressona. This wetland will help remove metals from the river.

- 2) Eliminating the leaks at Stoyer's Dam located in Schuylkill Haven. This is an important recreation area for the town and needs to be restored.
- 3) Building new and enhancing existing access points located along the main branch of the Schuylkill and the Little Schuylkill Rivers as noted in the Schuylkill Water Trail map.
- 4) Establishing camping areas along the Schuylkill River water trail.
- 5) Restoring Miller's Pond. Miller's Pond is located east of Schuylkill Haven and for many years was an excellent form of recreation from fishing to ice-skating. A project considered for restoring this pond includes a water control device to ensure adequate water levels are maintained.
- 6) Landingville Marsh is located south of Landingville. This marsh is the remains of the Schuylkill canal and is an exceptional area for birds and wildlife. A flow control measure and possibly vegetation control are projects considered for this site.
- 7) Unnamed stream project. Streams without designated names will be researched and named in a project scheduled to include public and student input.
- 8) Watershed education and outreach project. Project includes the distribution of educational material to be presented to schools countywide in an effort to increase watershed knowledge and issues.
- 9) Stream bank stabilization along the main branch of the Schuylkill River as it travels through Pa. Game Commission Game lands #286 south of Schuylkill Haven. This area is a major source of sediment loading.
- 10) Provide training for timber harvesters (Schuylkill County Conservancy would conduct BMP training for Sediment & Erosion control and offer long-term planning guidelines for forest stewardship);
- 11) Provide training/workshops in protection strategies for stream bank protection/wildlife habitat enhancement/backyard conservation practices for those individuals who own property adjacent to streams.
- 12) Promote forest stewardship and implementation strategies in the Schuylkill River Watershed similar to those of the North East Pennsylvania 10th Congressional District (to include a Forest Project to Stewardship Demonstration protect water quality and promote certified 'green' lumber products resulting from forest stewardship plans for local woodlot owners). "

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PROJECT

Formation of Two Grassroots Watershed Groups in Bern Township, Berks County

DESCRIPTION

Irene Reed submitted the following description.

"There is interest in creating two grassroots watershed groups in Bern Twp, Berks Co. They are:

Seifert Run Heritage Conservation (Contact: Irene Reed)

Seifert Run is a tributary of the Schuylkill located near Leesport. We are interested in:

- streambank restoration
- reducing erosion
- establishing riparian buffers
- reducing non source point pollution.
- preservation of the significant archeological, historic and
- cultural artifacts within/near the floodplain.
- educating the public about watershed protection

Friends of Plum Creek (Contact: Susannah Sterling)

We are interested in:

- streambank restoration
- reducing erosion
- establishing riparian buffers
- reducing non source point pollution.
- preservation of the significant archeological, historic and
- cultural artifacts within/near the floodplain.
- educating the public about watershed protection”

CONTACTS

Seifert Run Heritage Conservation:

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Friends of Plum Creek:

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PROJECT

Watershed Collaborative for Greenspace Protection in Upper Manatawny Watershed

DESCRIPTION

Phoebe Hopkins of the Pine Creek Valley Watershed Association submitted the following description.

“Form a watershed collaborative to proactively protect potential greenspace in the Upper Manatawny Watershed by further identifying and prioritizing high ecological value lands that will sustain natural landscape and critical habitats. PCVWA and PODPC will determine priorities for land protection according to ecological value, degree of threat, relationship to neighboring properties, and opportunities for success. This will form the basis for coordinated program of land protection in the watershed, which includes Pine Creek, Oysterville Creek, Bieber Creek, Furnace Creek, Little Manatawny Creek, Furnace Run, Trout Run, and the Upper Manatawny Creek.”

This potential implementation project corresponds to Recommendation R6.1 from *Chapter 6.0 Promoting a Sustainable Landscape*.

CONTACTS

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Ilse Morning, Secretary
Phoebe Hopkins, Project Coordinator
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(PCVWA)
220 Long Lane, Oley, PA 19547
E-mail: Manatawnycreek@aol.com

Jeffrey Gorrin, President
George Kramer, Secretary
Pike Oley District Preservation Coalition
(PODPC)
241 Mine Road, Oley, PA 19547

PROJECT

Proactively Protect PNDI Sites in the Upper Manatawny Watershed

DESCRIPTION Phoebe Hopkins of the Pine Creek Valley Watershed Association submitted the following description.

“This region includes three EV streams and an EV candidate, several PNDI sites and natural communities. The Schuylkill River [Watershed Conservation] Plan gives this subwatershed a #1 priority rating for protecting PNDI Sites. PCVWA, in partnership with other land trusts, will develop a conservation easement and stewardship program to protect these priority lands, including a matching fund for purchase of conservation easement projects. We will apply for matching funds in projects that meet specific PA grant criteria.”

This potential implementation project corresponds to Recommendation R6.4 from *Chapter 6.0 Promoting a Sustainable Landscape*.

CONTACTS

Ingrid Morning, President	Jeffrey Gorrin, President
Ilse Morning, Secretary	George Kramer, Secretary
Phoebe Hopkins, Project Coordinator	Pike Oley District Preservation Coalition (PODPC)
Pine Creek Valley Watershed Association (PCVWA)	241 Mine Road, Oley, PA 19547
220 Long Lane, Oley, PA 19547	
E-mail: Manatawnycreek@aol.com	

PROJECT Proactively Protect Identified Greenspace Nodes in the Upper Manatawny Watershed

DESCRIPTION Phoebe Hopkins of the Pine Creek Valley Watershed Association submitted the following description.

“This region has thousands of acres of contiguous forest cover, constituting the wooded ridges of the Reading Prong. It also has exceptional value streams and wetlands, and scenic open valley habitats. Much of the Oley Valley farmland has been protected with agricultural conservation easements. PCVWA and PODPC will develop a program to protect high priority natural areas by working with property owners and municipalities, and establishing a matching fund for greenspace protection. We will apply for matching funds for purchase of land or conservation easements on a property-by property basis.”

This potential implementation project corresponds to Recommendation R6.5 from *Chapter 6.0 Promoting a Sustainable Landscape*.

CONTACTS

Ingrid Morning, President	Jeffrey Gorrin, President
Ilse Morning, Secretary	George Kramer, Secretary
Phoebe Hopkins, Project Coordinator	Pike Oley District Preservation Coalition (PODPC)
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PROJECT Develop Strategic Protection Plans for Identified Subwatersheds in Habitat Zones

DESCRIPTION Phoebe Hopkins of the Pine Creek Valley Watershed Association submitted the following description.

“The Upper Manatawny Watershed, in the northern section of the Reading Horseshoe Habitat Zone, provides a link to the Highlands Province. If Upper Manatawny is further divided into its subwatersheds (Pine, Oysterville, Bieber, Furnace, Trout Run, etc.), these subwatersheds qualify for high habitat value, >70% forest cover, > 60% first order streams, and high degree of threat from projected population growth of 30% in the region. PCVWA is currently

developing a Strategic Protection Plan for Pine Creek Watershed. If its work in assessing priorities and threats within the greater Upper Manatawny region points to another subwatershed as a priority for this type of concentrated effort, it will seek grant funding for such a project.”

This potential implementation project corresponds to Recommendation R6.7 from *Chapter 6.0 Promoting a Sustainable Landscape*.

CONTACTS

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Jeffrey Gorrin, President
George Kramer, Secretary
Pike Oley District Preservation Coalition
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241 Mine Road, Oley, PA 19547

PROJECT

Develop GIS Map of Protected Lands and Unprotected Parcels in Montgomery County

DESCRIPTION

Dulcie Flaharty of the Montgomery County Lands Trust submitted the following description.

“Montgomery County Lands Trust wishes to develop a current and updateable GIS map of all protected lands along with unprotected parcels in Montgomery County. Presently, there is no map that includes protected open space, municipal parks, permanently protected farmland and land permanently protected through the development process. Montgomery County Lands Trust would work in conjunction with Montgomery County Planning Commission to complete this project and would integrate work already completed by Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission and GreenSpace Alliance, among others. The completed mapping project would provide a planning tool for all agencies involved in open space and natural resource planning. It would be extremely helpful in setting preservation goals and determining and evaluating conservation priorities.”

CONTACTS

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PROJECT

Fund Removal of Structures in the Flood Plain and Established Riparian Buffer Areas

DESCRIPTION

Dulcie Flaharty of the Montgomery County Lands Trust submitted the following description.

“Montgomery County Lands Trust wishes to develop a program that would offer funding for the removal of underutilized and abandoned structures in the flood plain and in established riparian buffer areas. Once permanently preserved, we would like to aid in the development of healthy buffering areas along streams noted in township and county open space plans for greenway and trail development. Removal of abandoned and underutilized structures would reduce run-off and restore the native vegetation.”

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Website: <http://www.mclt.com/>

PROJECT **Establish Fund for Purchase of or Grants for Conservation Easements in Montgomery County**

DESCRIPTION Dulcie Flaharty of the Montgomery County Lands Trust submitted the following description.
“Montgomery County Lands Trust would like to establish a fund to make money available for purchase of conservation easements or to provide grants for supporting cost on donated conservation easements along streams throughout the county. Whether this conservation is on active farmland or vegetated riparian areas, we would like to ensure permanent protection along streams on both public and private land through the use of conservation restrictions and, when necessary through fee simple purchase. In addition, we could promote the implementation of BMPs.”

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Website: <http://www.mclt.com/>

PROJECT **Land Protection Projects of the Montgomery County Lands Trust**

DESCRIPTION Dulcie Flaharty of the Montgomery County Lands Trust submitted the following description.
“*Upper Perkiomen Green Crescent* - Montgomery County Lands Trust is working to complete a greenway and riparian buffer that will connect the Fretz Farm/Mill Hill Preserve along the Perkiomen Creek to Montgomery County’s Green Lane Park. We are actively working with partners from Upper Hanover Township and Montgomery County’s Farmland Preservation Program to facilitate the preservation of significant parcels of land through conservation, trail and access easements or fee simple acquisition where appropriate and desired. The Corridor is located in Upper Hanover Township in the Upper Perkiomen Valley and is identified as a priority in both the County Open Space Plan and the Township Open Space Plan.”
“*Swamp Creek Greenway/Sunrise Trail Project* - Montgomery County Lands Trust is working with the county and several townships to create a riparian greenway and trail along the Swamp Creek. The Swamp Creek originates in Berks County north of Boyertown and flows in an easterly direction into the Perkiomen Creek just above the Borough of Schwenksville. The proposed Swamp Creek Trail would connect the Perkiomen Trail with the proposed West County Trail. Sunrise Mill, a 153-acre county park and historic site, is located within this corridor. The conservation of this riparian corridor is a high priority in both Montgomery County’s and Lower Frederick Township’s Open Space Plans. The Swamp

Creek corridor is located in Lower Frederick, Limerick, Upper Frederick, New Hanover, and Douglas Townships. Through a combination of farmland preservation, conservation easements, and fee simple purchases a greenway could be established from the Borough of Schwenksville to Berks County.”

“Unami Creek Conservation Initiative - Montgomery County Lands Trust along with Natural Lands Trust is in the midst of a conservation initiative to preserve the 1,250 acre Musser Scout Reservation in Marlborough Township. The Unami Creek, protected through Pennsylvania’s Exceptional Waters Program as a “High Quality Stream” flows through the camp. Montgomery County Lands Trust is working to protect upstream riparian areas that are presently in multi-parceled private ownership. These parcels are in a diabase, forested area that is part of the largest contiguous forest in Southeastern Pennsylvania. We are continually meeting with owners and hope to conserve a riparian buffer by conservation easements or fee acquisition. Those properties not preserved through donation will be pursued through purchase.”

“Manor Creek/Miquon Area Urban Fringe Open Land Initiative - Manor Creek is a tributary in Whitemarsh Township that enters the Schuylkill River just above the Philadelphia city limits. This area, known as Miquon, is located right on the urban fringe but still has a surprising amount of open space. Montgomery County Lands Trust already holds a conservation easement on 25 acres of natural woodlands and has a pledge for 33 more acres. Montgomery County Lands Trust is working closely with the neighborhood preservation society to develop a strategy to preserve the Manor Creek corridor and the surrounding open space. Located in the densely populated Whitemarsh Township, this project is a high priority for the township, the residents, and the neighboring Schuylkill Environmental Center.”

“Worcester Farmland Preservation and Zacharias Creek Greenway Project – At the invitation of Worcester Township, Montgomery County Lands Trust is working with them on several land preservation projects. With numerous substantial farms remaining in the township, some along stream valleys, we hope to preserve farms both through the Agricultural Preservation Program, the Montgomery County Open Space Program and through private preservation. The establishment of the Zacharias Greenway is noted in the Township Open Space Plan and will, when completed, connect Evansburg State Park with Peter Wentz Farmstead, a Montgomery County historic site. Montgomery County Lands Trust has been asked by the Township to help with these projects and then to hold the conservation easements that will be placed on the properties.”

“Lower Salford/West Branch of Skippack Creek Farmland Preservation - The West Branch of the Skippack Creek flows through the eastern part of Lower Salford Township. There is an existing greenway along the creek that encompasses most of the immediate riparian corridor. Montgomery County Lands Trust is working in partnership with Lower Salford Township and Montgomery County to complete this greenway and to expand the riparian buffer. The greenway is a priority in the township’s open space plan. It is also on the county’s open space plan and in Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission’s (DVRPC) proposed open space. This area is experiencing heavy development pressure and numerous properties along the creek are vulnerable.”

“Lower Salford and Franconia Townships/Indian Creek & East Branch Conservation Initiative – Lower Salford has completed preservation of a number of parcels along the Indian Creek, a tributary to the East Branch of the Perkiomen. Montgomery County Lands Trust is working with the township and the Farmland Preservation Program to preserve additional parcels to connect this greenway, noted in the township open space plan for future preservation. Montgomery County Lands Trust is also working with landowners in the adjacent land around the village of Morwood in Franconia Township, a quadrant of the township noted in the comprehensive plan and Open Space Plan for farmland preservation. Our initiative aims at the preservation of land through sale of development rights, donation and purchase of conservation easements and where appropriate, the use of fee simple

acquisition.”

“Lower Pottsgrove, Upper Pottsgrove/Sprogels Run Greenway - Montgomery County Lands Trust is working in collaboration with Lower Pottsgrove and Upper Pottsgrove Townships to establish a green riparian corridor along the Sprogels Run Creek. Sprogels Run is a tributary that enters the Schuylkill River just below Pottstown’s borough line. The two townships, located on the east and north of Pottstown have experienced heavy growth over the last decade. Development pressure continues to increase and the townships are working together to establish a greenway along the creek. The greenway would follow Sprogels Run from the Schuylkill River through the western edge of Lower Pottsgrove and then bisecting Upper Pottsgrove from the southeast to the northwest corner of the township. Most of this greenway is included in DVRPC’s proposed open space in their 2025 land use plan.”

“Pottstown Borough Schuylkill Greenway – Montgomery County Lands Trust has been working with Pottstown Borough over the past four years to establish and expand their green infrastructure, with an emphasis in the open space/greenway along the Schuylkill River and its connection with the boroughs Memorial Park. Through a bequest donated to Montgomery County Lands Trust, we have provided matching grants for two open space acquisitions that are keystones to Pottstown’s Schuylkill greenway plans. It is our intention to continue building on Pottstown’s greenway along the river and to integrate this greenway with the Schuylkill River Greenway, which is a priority project for Montgomery County. Pottstown is becoming a “Greenway Community” and thoughtful land preservation, especially in the floodplain, is a priority for Montgomery County Lands Trust, the county, and the community.”

“Montgomery County Schuylkill River Greenway - Montgomery County is energetically pursuing the completion of the Schuylkill Trail and now has a plan to buffer that trail with an innovative greenway. Montgomery County Lands Trust is working with both the County and the individual municipalities to protect designated vulnerable open lands both in townships and boroughs. Montgomery County Lands Trust intends to pursue the donation or acquisition of conservation easements on selected parcels that are unavailable or overlooked by public protection. These parcels will provide additional buffering and enhancement to riparian areas or will provide green infrastructure for the boroughs.”

“Towamencin, Hatfield/Towamencin Creek Conservation & Restoration - Montgomery County Lands Trust has been asked to work with Towamencin Township in their efforts to conserve the West Branch of the Towamencin Creek. A partnership of municipalities, nonprofit conservation organizations, school districts, senior citizens, and boy scouts will collaborate to perform stream bank restoration on the Towamencin Creek from its headwaters in Hatfield Township to the confluence with the East Branch of the Towamencin Creek. The Towamencin is a tributary to the Perkiomen Creek. There are sections of the Towamencin that are already preserved and Montgomery County Lands Trust will work with the township to connect those pieces to form a linear greenway and riparian buffer along the length of the creek. Montgomery County Lands Trust has agreed to partner with Towamencin Township and the Schuylkill River Keepers to conduct educational workshops for property owners and township residents to inform them of the benefits of stream bank restoration and land conservation.”

“Lower Pottsgrove, New Hanover/Sanatoga Creek Greenway & Trail - New Hanover Township and Lower Pottsgrove Township are interested in creating a trail system and green infrastructure along the Sanatoga Creek. The Sanatoga Creek is a Schuylkill tributary that originates in the southeast quadrant of New Hanover Township and flows southeast to its confluence with the Schuylkill River immediately upstream of PECO’s Limerick Nuclear Power Plant. Montgomery County Lands Trust has been advising and working with both townships to craft a strategy to complete this greenway. In addition, Montgomery County Lands Trust is in active conservation planning with a large landowner at the head of this proposed greenway and trail system. Both New Hanover and Lower Pottsgrove have grown

tremendously during the last decade. This trail/greenway would serve the populations of both townships and the general public for recreation use, green infrastructure, and aesthetic view sheds.”

CONTACTS

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PROJECT

Historic RittenhouseTown

DESCRIPTION

Andrew A. Zellers-Frederick submitted the following description.

“At the moment, we have only one environmentally related project for this effort. It is a needed one and could be easily implemented.”

“...we are a National Historic Landmark which is the 1690 site of America’s first paper mill. We are located in the Wissahickon Valley of Philadelphia’s Fairmount Park on the Monoshone Creek. Our organization has been in existence since 1984 and has over 750 memberships in 47 states and several foreign countries.”

“Historic RittenhouseTown consists of 7 original buildings ranging from 1700 to 1845. It is our goal to transform this previously neglected site into an educational center on life in an Early American industrial community to benefit area schools and visitors to the Greater Philadelphia Region. To this end, we already have in place highly successful *hands-on* educational programs which were attended by nearly 7500 individuals last year. These programs historically interpret both the industrial and domestic sides of this village.”

“A project we would like to request support for concerns our work since 1998 with the *Center for the Park’s Senior Environmental Corp* (a part of the *Pennsylvania Environmental Alliance for Senior Involvement*). This nonprofit organization, located within the Germantown Section of Philadelphia, has been testing and monitoring the Monoshone Creek, a tributary of the Wissahickon, for pollutants and other threats to this historic waterway. This group consists of senior citizens who are strongly interested in their local natural environment and want to see it preserved for future generations. They are supervised and assisted by members of the *Center in the Park*, the *Fairmount Park Commission*, and the *Fairmount Park Ranger Corp*. In addition, to involve youth of this area, students of the local Germantown Theodore Roosevelt Middle School became a part of this valuable endeavor. Together, these groups, with the full cooperation of Historic RittenhouseTown, have been working on this project on a regular basis weather permitting. Their efforts help to inform the public of the serious threats to the scenic Wissahickon Valley Watershed which is utilized by so many people for various purposes.”

“However, one of the project’s main concerns is that all of this collected environmental data, information and subsequent conclusions will never reach the general public who utilize this region on a regular basis. A project which was successfully completed at Historic RittenhouseTown was the placement of a large, protected message board/kiosk which provides historical and other relevant information on a regular basis to visitors when the site’s Visitor Center or other facilities are unavailable. This message board is viewed by approximately 25-50 people on any given day and has proved itself a valuable resources for the interpretation of this National Historic Landmark. We would like to propose that a similar message board/kiosk be erected and placed near the Monoshone Creek within

RittenhouseTown where the water testing is conducted. This board would also be able to reach countless people who walk through this site each day and provide environmental messages, water testing results and conclusions, and other materials related to the watershed area. This would be a wonderful daily opportunity to relay information informally and without pressure to many people. This project has already been endorsed by the previously mentioned participating organizations and the Pennsylvania Fish & Wildlife Commission, Historic Germantown Preserved and the Blue Bell Hill Civic Association.”

“The message board would be very similar to the one already in existence at Historic RittenhouseTown and is made by Litchfield Industries. The message board/kiosk would be erected by a professional contractor and could have other support features such as protective bollards, trash receptacles, and a bicycle rack. The total estimate for its completion is between \$3,700 to \$5,465 depending on how many of the support features are desired. Already, we have \$500 towards this project from the Stroud Foundation. Once the funding is secured, the project could be completed and in operation with 6-8 weeks.”

CONTACTS

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PROJECT

Riverbend Environmental Education Center: Education and Outreach Projects

DESCRIPTION

Elizabeth L. Einsig of Riverbend Environmental Education Center submitted the following description.

“In the next 3-5 years, the Riverbend Environmental Education Center intends to implement several major projects on the property we conserve in Lower Merion Township that we would like to have included...Riverbend is located in the Schuylkill River I Subwatershed, which was determined in your nonprofit study to be underserved in all areas of activity, including educational outreach, land preservation, recreation and park/preservation management.”

“Riverbend teaches environmental education in the Lower Merion Township community and beyond. We have a section of Saw Mill Run, a tributary of the Schuylkill River, on our property, and use it in teaching school age children and adults. Activities which focus on watershed education, water quality, and data collection are an important part of your education and outreach programs which serve over 9,000 people each year. ([This potential implementation project refers to Recommendation] Rec. R7.6). It is likely that we will be requesting funding for expansion and improvement of our education and outreach programs, specifically for programs that partner with other nonprofits and municipal agencies ([This potential implementation project refers to Recommendation] Rec. R7.5 and R7.7).”

CONTACTS

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Website: <http://www.gladwyne.com/riverbend>

PROJECT Riverbend Environmental Education Center: Master Site Plan Implementation

DESCRIPTION Elizabeth L. Einsig of Riverbend Environmental Education Center submitted the following description.

“We plan to accomplish a Master Site Plan for our main property over the next two years. The plan itself will include a thorough inventory of the features of the property and include the broad community in an analysis of the needs for signage, trail use, picnic areas and other elements as determined by the process. Implementation of the plan may include, but not necessarily be limited to: work with riparian buffer zone along Saw Mill Run; purchase of tools and equipment; removal of invasive species and replanting native vegetation; installation of boardwalk trails and interpretive signage; an improving access areas to trails. Implementation of our Master Site Plan ties directly to the goal of establishing community-based ecological management plans included in Section 6.8, Rec. R6.14, and rated a ‘high relative priority’ for our region.”

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PROJECT SEPA RC&D: Solar Watering Systems for Farm Operations

DESCRIPTION John Metrick of Southeast Pennsylvania Resource Conservation and Development Council submitted the following description.

“SEPA RC&D would like to see the inclusion of solar watering systems for farm operations as an acceptable project in the Schuylkill River Watershed Plan. SEPA RC&D has been involved in several successful demonstrations on farms and would like to see more installed in the watershed.”

“By using solar watering systems, animals can obtain the necessary drinking water without having direct contact with the water source. This will lead to improve water quality in Schuylkill Watershed.”

CONTACTS John Metrick
SEPA RC&D Coordinator
Southeast Pennsylvania Resource Conservation and Development Council
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Fax: 215-541-7933

PROJECT Restoration/Protection Projects: Acid Mine Drainage

DESCRIPTION Philadelphia Suburban Water Company submitted the following description.

“Address total dissolved solids and metals loading from top priority AMD sites identified in Upper Schuylkill Study.”

CONTACTS Preston Lutweiler
Philadelphia Suburban Water Co.
762 W Lancaster Ave, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
Tel: 610-525-1400

PROJECT Restoration/Protection Projects: Sediment

DESCRIPTION Philadelphia Suburban Water Company submitted the following description (excerpts are verbatim).

1. Stabilize or remove sediment behind breached Felix Dam.
2. Stabilize sediment behind breached Manatawny Dam.
3. Stabilize or remove sediment in process of breaching Collegeville Dam.
4. Ensure that accumulated sediment is removed from Kernersville and other desilting dams.
5. Promote conservation tillage and BMPs on agricultural lands
6. Enforce provisions of conservation plans on farms enrolled in farm preservation and tax abatement programs.

CONTACTS Preston Lutweiler
Philadelphia Suburban Water Co.
762 W Lancaster Ave, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
Tel: 610-525-1400

PROJECT Restoration/Protection Projects: Wastewater

DESCRIPTION Philadelphia Suburban Water Company submitted the following description (excerpts are verbatim).

1. Identify and address wet weather sewage overflows attributable to I & I, undersized collectors and interceptors, or unreliable lift stations
2. Inventory and asses septic systems
3. Develop educational program for septic system management
4. Develop and enact model ordinances and programs for septic system management.

CONTACTS Preston Lutweiler
Philadelphia Suburban Water Co.
762 W Lancaster Ave, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
Tel: 610-525-1400

PROJECT Restoration/Protection Projects: Wildlife

DESCRIPTION Philadelphia Suburban Water Company submitted the following description.

“Manage waterfowl to control overpopulation of non-native, resident Canada geese.”

CONTACTS Preston Lutweiler
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762 W Lancaster Ave, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
Tel: 610-525-1400

PROJECT Restoration/Protection Projects: Agriculture and Livestock

DESCRIPTION Philadelphia Suburban Water Company submitted the following description (excerpts are verbatim).

1. Improve nutrient and manure management practices
2. Promote stream bank fencing, particularly at dairy operations where cows are in streams and trample banks
3. Promote water quality BMPs among equestrians – paddocks and trails
4. Promote conservation tillage and BMPs on agricultural lands
5. Enforce provisions of conservation plans on farms enrolled in farm preservation and tax abatement programs.

CONTACTS Preston Lutweiler
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PROJECT Restoration/Protection Projects: Lake and Reservoir Management

DESCRIPTION Philadelphia Suburban Water Company submitted the following description (excerpts are verbatim).

1. Promote construction of wetlands and sediment traps at head of reservoirs (Blue Marsh, Green Lane, Deep Creek)
2. Install aeration in reservoirs to enhance water quality and fishery

CONTACTS Preston Lutweiler
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762 W Lancaster Ave, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010
Tel: 610-525-1400

PROJECT Riparian and Stream Restoration in the Little Schuylkill Watershed Region

DESCRIPTION Eugene J. Dougherty submitted the following suggestion for a potential implementation project.

Reforest watershed lands and establish high quality riparian buffers with native trees (including American Chestnut) especially along Pine Creek and the historic Catawissa Trail areas. “Pine Creek, which has its beginnings in Delano and finds its way into the Little Schuylkill River at Mintzers, has always been a fishing stream that never saw the coal mining pollution prevalent in other waterways. Today the fertile creek water is an important catalyst in the health of the Little Schuylkill River, as the waters are now being treated vigorously.” The reforestation and conservation of riparian buffers on these lands could be accomplished through an implementation grant with matching funds, for example, from the value of landowner donations of conservation easements. This potential implementation project supports Recommendations R5.7, R5.8 and R6.11.

CONTACTS Eugene J. Dougherty
President
Little Schuylkill Conservation Club
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is made available, throughout the Schuylkill Watershed. Where NLT has already selected a particular geographic location for a certain type of conservation implementation project, the subwatershed or project site/area has been indicated.

R5.1: NLT will coordinate with Riverkeeper and any statewide monitoring network as a participating stakeholder if and/or when opportunities arise.

R5.2, R5.4, R5.5: NLT will coordinate with Conservation Districts & DEP on site-specific projects as the opportunity arises, and incorporate Best Management Practices into municipality ordinance reviews and redrafting on an on-going basis.

R5.6, R6.11: NLT undertakes Forest Management Plans as requested by private landowners throughout the watershed on an on-going basis.

R5.7, R5.8: NLT will undertake riparian, wetland and hydric soil restoration, in coordination with partners such as Riverkeeper and DEP, at important conservation sites as opportunities and funding present themselves. NLT will also incorporate riparian buffer, wetland and hydric soil protection ordinances in municipal planning reviews on an on-going basis.

R5.8, R5.12: NLT is interested in undertaking demonstration projects to show the potential of Living Machines and constructed wetlands as tertiary treatment opportunities at locations as yet to be determined in the watershed. Where space is limited, floating barges may be used to house treatment facilities. NLT will coordinate with other stakeholders and consultants as necessary to complete this task.

R5.16: NLT will work with local watershed groups to conduct inventories, assess impacts and make recommendations regarding dam effects in basins throughout the watershed. In particular, NLT plans on working with MCLT, Upper and Lower Perkiomen watershed groups on a dam assessment and recommendation project in the Perkiomen watershed.

R5.17: NLT is interested in participating in conservation projects to mitigate the impacts of Acid Mine Drainage, if and/or when the opportunity arises.

R5.19: As NLT conducts further detailed conservation studies throughout the watershed, site specific information will be compiled that will inform decisions about removing structures from floodplains. NLT will make applications for specific structure removals as/when appropriate.

R5.22, R5.23, R5.24: NLT anticipates conducting and/or being involved as a consultant with planning teams for both water budget projects and projects assessing point- vs. non-point source pollution impacts - as opportunities arise throughout the watershed.

R6.1, R6.4, R6.5, R6.6, R6.10: NLT would like to be a key stakeholder in establishing a Watershed Land Protection Collaborative in the Schuylkill Watershed and is committed to land protection efforts throughout the watershed, particularly in the 'Habitat Zones' and priority protection subwatersheds; and is also interested in developing natural lands greenways or connecting corridors through the agricultural and suburban/urban zones of the watershed.

R6.2, R6.16, R6.17: NLT is committed to on-going GIS conservation planning research, development and support throughout the Schuylkill Watershed. NLT currently has grant applications pending with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and The William Penn Foundation to continue compiling and refining (in GIS and using *Smart Conservation*) the conservation lands and threat assessment for the entire Schuylkill Watershed. NLT would like to continue expanding this project to develop and incorporate, in conjunction with other conservation entities where possible, any or all of the following new GIS data sets: soil erosion potential; aquifer recharge potential; water budgets; updated land cover (post 1992-4); nonprofit owned protected lands; municipality-owned open space (by type – e.g. ballfields and active recreation vs. passive recreation vs. natural areas); county-

owned open space (by type – e.g. ballfields (active recreation vs. passive recreation vs. natural areas); agricultural easements (both government and nonprofit); historic, cultural, recreational and scenic resources; riparian corridor assessments; detailed Ecological Landscape Unit analysis (to provide a more detailed prediction of habitat type than is available from current land cover assessments); Superfund sites, landfills, quarries, NPDES permitted facilities and other point-source pollution generators, etc; ecological restoration sites/community-based ecological restoration and management sites; environmental education sites; complete tax parcels; complete zoning; ‘threat assessment’ and build-out analysis. NLT would also like to rank these data where possible; and would like to work with DCNR, DEP and PASDA and other organizations to provide this data to other conservation groups in the watershed ideally via the www, or if necessary by CD-ROM; NLT would like to be a key stakeholder in a collaborative effort to ensure that conservation GIS data is updated, upgraded and distributed annually; and would like to undertake new GIS analysis as the opportunity arises to refine conservation planning targets.

R6.3: NLT already produces educational materials to assist landowners with understanding their conservation options. NLT will work with other conservation entities throughout the watershed as a consultant or project partner to continue producing outreach/education materials and programs so that private and corporate landowners have opportunities to learn about their conservation options.

R6.7, R6.8 and R6.18: NLT has the experience, expertise and interest to develop Rivers Conservation Plans as well as Strategic Subwatershed Restoration and/or Protection plans as the opportunity and necessity arises throughout the Schuylkill watershed. NLT will partner with other conservation groups and government entities to accomplish this task where necessary. Specific geographic examples include: Swamp Creek, Unami Creek, Perkiomen Creek, French and Hay Creek (aka ‘Big Woods’ or ‘Wooded Landscapes of Northern Chester and Southern Berks County’).

R6.9: NLT will work with other watershed conservation groups, such as the Lancaster Farmland Trust, NRCS and Berks County Conservancy, to compile GIS data and develop a ranking system for evaluating agricultural land resources in the Schuylkill Watershed.

R6.13, R6.14: NLT develops ecological land management plans for conservation properties in the watershed on an on-going basis. NLT is interested in being a key stakeholder in a collaborative effort to develop ecological land management guidelines for use across the watershed, and will also work to develop demonstration community-based adaptive ecological management and restoration plans as opportunities present themselves. Specific geographic examples include Paunacussing Creek watershed, Unami Creek watershed, as well as French and Hay Creek watersheds.

R6.16: NLT would like to be a key stakeholder in establishing a coalition to build resource capacity to ensure that land protection, restoration, adaptive ecological management and conservation planning is implemented across the watershed at adequate levels of effort.

R6.20: NLT will work throughout the watershed with any municipalities that requests ‘Conservation by Design’ and municipal planning support – putting conservation into municipal codes on an on-going basis.

R6.22: NLT is interested in being part of a team that develops Indicators of change for use in the 37 subwatersheds of the Schuylkill basin so that ‘threat’ and changes in level of threat over time can be monitored on an on-going basis.

R7.1, R7.2, R7.4, R7.5, R7.6, R7.7, R7.11, R7.12, R7.18, R7.19, R7.20: NLT is interested and willing to be a key stakeholder with other conservation groups for any of the above-referenced recommendations regarding coordination and organizational improvement of conservation activities in the Schuylkill Watershed.

CONTACTS

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PROJECT **Implementation of the Spring Mountain Area Conservation Plan**

DESCRIPTION “Spring Mountain, a 528-foot high diabase ridge located along the Perkiomen Creek in Upper Salford Township, is among the highest points in Montgomery County. The Natural Areas Inventory for Montgomery County (1995) identified Spring Mountain as one of the top two sites in the county for protection of significant natural communities and endangered, threatened, or rare species. The study area is approximately 2,100 acres (3.25 square miles) that encompasses parts of Upper Salford, Lower Salford, and Perkiomen Townships and is adjacent to Lower Frederick and Skippack Townships, as well as the Borough of Schwenksville. Within this area can be found agricultural and forested lands with small pockets of residential and recreational development. The primary goal of the Plan is to identify those areas within the study area that are necessary to preserve and protect the core natural area identified by TNC and to link the area with greenways and other conservation resources. Implementation recommendations include land protection strategies, emphasis on making connections for habitat protection and trail corridors, land stewardship techniques for restoring and managing natural areas, inclusion of Best Management Practices into municipal codes and ordinances, sedimentation and erosion control measures, establishing riparian buffers, enhancing and developing environmental education and outreach, and updating zoning and subdivision ordinances to include natural resource protection and open space as part of the development process.”

CONTACTS

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PROJECT **Development of Friends of Mingo Creek Watershed Group**

DESCRIPTION Friends of Mingo Creek is a new watershed group forming to “educate ourselves about our watershed; inspire our community to conserve it’s natural resources; protect and restore the water quality and re-introduce a healthy fish population; and learn from our past history to achieve a peaceful and healthy future. The Friends’ goals are to: collect information about Mingo Creek, it’s history, water quality, native wildlife and plant species; remove trash from

the waterways; establish a nature trail; hike along Mingo and Schuylkill River while meeting new friends and neighbors; help educate our children about the natural environment and how every day activities can impact it; learn about landscaping with native plants. There also are opportunities to learn how to protect streamside habitats in our community, encourage streamside buffers, stabilize stream banks by learning to plant shrubs and trees to anchor the soil and help reduce flooding and property damage from storms and reduce sediment that ends up ultimately in water filtration plants. Planting trees to shade the stream will lower water temperatures and encourage fish and other native animals to flourish, improve bird habitat in our area and beautify our neighborhoods.”

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