



# SCHUYLKILL RIVER

NATIONAL & STATE HERITAGE AREA



*Conservation*

*Education*

*Recreation*

*Preservation*

*Tourism*



# OUR FRIENDS

## 2013 Congressional Delegation

### United States Senators

Robert P. Casey  
Patrick Toomey

### United States Representatives

Robert Brady	Charlie Dent
Chaka Fattah	James Gerlach
Matthew Cartwright	Joseph R. Pitts
Allyson Schwartz	Patrick Meehan

### Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Governor Thomas Corbett

### PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Richard J. Allan, Secretary  
Ellen Ferretti, Secretary

### Staff

*Executive Director* ..... Kurt D. Zwikl

Dolores Bauman	Tim Fenchel
Laura Catalano	Cindy Kott
Robert Folwell	Dwight R. Powell, P.E.

*Trail Volunteer Coordinator* Greg Marshall  
Jason Stoudt

*Solicitor* Carl J. Engleman, Jr., Esq

*VISTA Volunteer* Anesa Owen

### 2013 Board of Directors

<i>President</i>	Carl Raring
<i>Vice President</i>	William D. Gladden, II
<i>Treasurer</i>	Chrisann Hoehl
<i>Secretary</i>	Donald Moll
Kelly Anderson	Leslie Rebmann
Robert S. Carl, Jr.	William Reichert
Ted Danforth	Mike Stokes
Daniel J. Doran	Susan D. Storb
Tina Fink	Tom Strauss
Nathaniel C. Guest	Kay Sykora
Kay Jones	David Thun
Mark Keener	Alberto Vennettilli
Rob Kuhlman	John A. Koury, Jr. (Past President)

### *Ex-Officio*

David G. Argall, State Senator  
Patricia L. Elkis, DVRPC  
William Hanley, Rep. Holden's Office  
Edward G. Schmid, Rep. Gerlach's Office

### *DCNR Liaisons*

Drew Gilchrist Jeffrey Knowles

### *NPS Liaisons*

Edie Shean-Hammond



**SCHUYLKILL RIVER**  
NATIONAL & STATE HERITAGE AREA

May 2014

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to present the Schuylkill River Heritage Area's 2013 Annual Report. Please take a few moments to look through this document. You will see 2013 was another successful year for us, filled with cycling and paddling events, Schuylkill River Trail projects, book signings, educational programs, grant awards and more. We invest a great deal of time and energy into these projects and programs because we know that the Schuylkill River is important. It provides drinking water to 1.5 million people; its scenic waterfronts bolster the economies of river communities, and its greenways, trails and waters are recreational destinations. The river is a shared commons that links us to our nation's history, and joins together 3.2 million people across five counties who live in its watershed.

With a small staff of six employees and one AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer, the Schuylkill River Heritage Area works tirelessly to promote the region. As you read through our annual report keep in mind that all the programs we manage—the bike rides, the art show, the paddling events, the trail projects—are carefully designed to encourage stewardship of our environment and make this region a better place for everyone who lives and works here.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your help and support in the past, and ask that you consider making a donation in addition to your membership renewal to the organization this year. An increase in your membership donation is also appreciated.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Kurt D. Zwikl.

Kurt D. Zwikl  
Executive Director

Handwritten signature of Carl V. Raring.

Carl V. Raring  
President, Board of Directors

*The Schuylkill River Heritage Area is dedicated to assisting communities, organizations, and citizens of the Schuylkill River region to preserve and sustain their cultural heritage and natural environment for future generations.*

# OUR MEMBERS

JoAnn Aichele  
Donna Allen  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Allender  
Greg Bahney  
Marilyn Bartram  
Chris Bastian  
Richard A. Bauscher  
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Bell  
Daniel S. Bellesfield  
Robert & Carol Blye  
Harvey J. Bomberger  
Albert M. Boscov  
Wayne L. Bowen  
Dan Boyer  
James P. Brazel  
Charlene M. Brod  
Mr. & Mrs. David A. Brown  
Charles Buttz  
Francis Carduff  
Robert S. Carl  
Lucy J. Carroll  
Tom Carroll  
Len Cassidy  
James W. Castellan  
Dr. & Mrs. Joel L. Caves  
Doug Chapman  
Rebecca Cheyney  
Andrew Cholewa  
Mark Cholewa  
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Christ  
Allan & Barbara Cohen  
Belinda Crane  
Dan and Betsy Daley  
Frances Dalton  
Theodore S. Danforth  
David J. Dannenberg  
Charles Day  
Dennis DeFrancesco  
E. Stewart Degler  
Anna Louise Detweiler  
Lynne DiGuglielmo  
Dodson Dietrich  
Mr. & Mrs. John Doering  
John Dolph  
Daniel Doran  
Michael D'Orazio  
Ray Dotter  
Angela Dowd  
Phoebe Driscoll  
Joshua Duenke  
Tina Ehrig

Patty Elkis  
Mr. & Mrs. James B. Elliott  
Denise Ellis  
John Ellis  
Jay Erb  
Brandon Evans  
Johanna C. Fallon  
Stephen Fellman  
Kim Feindt  
Paul M. Felton  
William C. Felton  
George F. Ferris  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Fisher  
Leroy Forney  
Dean & Lisa Foster  
P. Richard Frantz  
Dale Frens  
Regina Gargano  
Mairi C. Gauger  
Diane Gaul  
Andrew Gilchrist  
Mary Ann Gindlesperger  
William D. Gladden  
Sue Goddard  
Susan D. Gottschall  
Mr. & Mrs. Pete Goodman  
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Gould  
Dr. & Mrs. George F. Gowen  
James P. Grimes  
Nathaniel C. Guest  
Theresa Haas  
Nora Haefele  
Robert A. Hand  
Ed Harlin  
Christopher Hartman  
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick K.  
Hatt  
Rina Hayashi  
Mr. & Mrs. Rober Heck  
George Heffner, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank C.  
Henderson  
Steven Henderson  
Douglas Henschel  
Frederick Hipp  
Steve and Michelle Hnath  
Chrisann Hoehl  
David F. Hoeschele  
Neil A. Hoffman  
Robert G. Hoffman  
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard M.  
Hofman  
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Holleran  
Barbara Hove  
Mr. & Mrs. John F. Hunt  
Kay Jones

Peter Joyce  
David T. Karst  
Hugh Kelly  
Kyle Kemp  
Suzanne Kent  
Mr. & Mrs. William A.  
Knight  
Jeff Knowles  
William G. Koch  
David R. Kohler, Capt.,  
USN (Ret)  
John A. Koury, Jr.  
Paul Krepto  
Rob Kulman  
Rodney & Judy Kuhns  
James A. Kurtz  
Paul Kusko  
Steven C. Landes  
Carl Landis  
Arnold Larsen  
Patricia Lasseter  
Nancy Lawson  
Jake & Gretchen Lea  
Judy Vehse  
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Leschik  
David Lewis  
Kelly Jo Lewis  
Richard Lewis  
Robert F. Loeper, Jr.  
Harry F. Lorenz  
Mr. & Mrs. John Lysaght  
Andrew Maier, III  
Dr. & Mrs. Gerald Malick  
Dr. & Mrs. Glen Marino  
Risa Marmontello  
Charles N. Marshall  
Greg & Kathy Marshall  
Peter David Maynard  
Edward McLaughlin  
Steve McManus  
Richard Melsheimer  
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Meyer  
JoAnn Mikulsky  
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur P. Miller  
Don Moll  
Steve Montgomery  
Tom Moslak  
Mr. & Mrs. Barry  
Muhlenberg  
John A. Muhlenberg  
Barbara Myers

Stephen Nazigian  
Mark Nevenglosky  
Hugh O'Hare  
Robert J. O'Leary  
Peter J. Oswald  
Lou Ann Pacocha  
John F. Pearson  
Mary V. Pendleton  
Patricia Pezely  
Dedra Phillips  
Juliann Pinto  
Barbara L. Pollarine  
Todd Palmer  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Porter  
Barry Powell  
Betsy Quant  
Carl V. Raring  
Steve Razzano  
Leslie Rebmann  
Garrett & JoAnn Redmond  
Richard W. Reiber  
Bill & Lorie Reichert  
Col. Harry H. Reichner, Jr.  
Sue Repko  
Sydne L. Romig  
Fred Rosen  
E.M. Rothman  
David Rouse  
Linda Ruddick  
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Rutlowski  
Richard L. Sassaman  
Wendolyn Saville  
Mr. & Mrs. Frederick H.  
Schuetz  
Arnout Schurmans  
Showalter James  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles J. Snyder  
Gina Snyder  
Nancy Stamm-Henschel  
Adam Stauts  
Rita and Gregory Stevens  
Michael Stokes  
Robert Stook  
John & Susan Storb  
Christy Stoudt  
Randall W. Swan

Gerald Sweeney  
Brian D. Swisher  
Kay Sykora  
John J. Symborski  
Stephanie Szakal  
Mr. & Mrs. Lee E. Tabas  
Jay H. Tarler  
David Thomas  
Robert P. Thomas  
Jim Thorne  
Neal G. Thorpe  
David Thun  
Nancy Tobias  
Cheri Towne  
Candace Trace  
Bill & Debra Trace  
Thomas C. Troutman  
Elizabeth & Duncan  
Van Dusen  
James & Deborah Van Horn  
Conrad Vanino  
Kathleen A. Wagner  
James Watko  
George Wausnock  
John Weber  
Robert Weston  
Wendi Wheeler  
Agnes Wiedmann  
Karen S. Williamson  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald J.  
Witman  
Mr. & Mrs. Wesley Young  
Allen J. Zimmerman  
Stan Zona



# A LOOK BACK ON THE SCHUYLKILL RIVER HERITAGE AREA'S 2013 ACHIEVEMENTS



**Conservation. Education. Recreation. Cultural and historic preservation. Tourism.** Those words are our mantra here at the Schuylkill River Heritage Area. Those concepts are the tools we use to revitalize communities throughout the region and spur economic development. They fit together like pieces of a puzzle that join to form our overarching view of an improved Schuylkill River Region. Below is a brief overview of our key projects and programs for 2013, all of which are founded on the concepts above.

## Cycles & Cemeteries Ride.



In September we held the second ride in our Schuylkill River Trail Bike Tour Series. The Cycles & Cemeteries Ride was a tremendous success, with 140 cyclists riding 14 to 28 miles along the Schuylkill River Trail and visiting burial sites of Civil War notables at the historic Laurel Hill and Montgomery Cemeteries. In 2014 the Bike Tour Series will continue with our Pedaling through our National Parks Ride.

## 10th Annual Scenes of the Schuylkill Art Show.

The juried art show once again showcased regional talent and highlighted the beauty of the river valley. A total of 83 original works were on display in the Montgomery County Community College West Campus Gallery from Aug. 28 to Oct. 18.

## River of Revolutions Interpretive Center.

Our Interpretive Center, which opened last year, welcomed hundreds of visitors throughout 2013. Located in our Pottstown offices, its interactive exhibits on river history, recreational and historic sites, environmental awareness and more have proven to have wide appeal.

## 15th Annual Schuylkill River Sojourn.

Over 200 paddlers took the journey from Schuylkill Haven to Philadelphia during the 15th Annual Schuylkill River Sojourn, with a record number, 59, making the full trip. The programming theme, A Civil War Odyssey, celebrated the region's role in the Civil War with programs that featured re-enactors, informative presentations, music, and a talk by the Gettysburg National Park superintendent. The sojourn's popularity continues to grow. Since 1999, over 3,000 registrants from 21 states and Canada have participated.



## Lectures and Book Signings.

We launched a new series of lectures

and book signings that focused on the region's history and



environment. Books featured were: *The African American Experience at Hopewell Furnace* by Frances Delmar; *More Trees Please*, by Rich Wood; and *Legendary Locals of Pottstown*, by Sue Repko and Ed Berger. We also held two showings of the documentary *The City Dark*, about the loss of night.

## Schuylkill Outdoor Leadership Odyssey.

Our VISTA volunteer, Anesa Owen, who worked in our offices through 2013, joined forces with the I-LEAD Charter School in Reading to develop the Schuylkill Outdoor Leadership Odyssey, a new educational program that connects at-risk urban youth to the outdoors and environmental careers. The 14-week mentoring program for 9th & 10th graders was highlighted by a kayaking trip on the Schuylkill. The program will continue in 2014.

## Pedal and Paddle.

Our round-trip Pedal and Paddle biking/kayaking adventures



continue to be among our most popular events. In 2013, we held one each month from May through September. Over the course of the summer, we introduced 75 people to a 4.5 mile ride along the Schuylkill River Trail in Pottstown, a tour of Historic Morlatton Village and a return trip via kayak.

## Community Bike Shares.



Bike Pottstown and Bike Schuylkill are completely free bike share programs that we have made available in three communities: Pottstown, Phoenixville and Hamburg. This year we expanded our commitment to the bike shares with a new website at [www.bikeschuylkill.org](http://www.bikeschuylkill.org). We also encouraged people to try Bike Pottstown by offering free water bottles to first time participants and free backpacks to people who borrowed a bike 10 times.





## Schuylkill River Trail Projects

### Trail Sustainability Programs.



We continued to grow our volunteer base and our Trail Ambassador, Sponsor-a-Trail and Adopt-a-Trail programs in Berks and Schuylkill Counties where we operate and maintain 28 trail miles. With help from our VISTA Americorps worker, who served as our Trail Sustainability Coordinator, we added more Trail Ambassadors and improved our volunteer communications. We also added a new trail sponsor, with the Chicago-based Sloan Valve Company signing on as a three-year Sponsor-a-Trail member. In addition to a monetary donation for trail upkeep, Sloan also presented the Heritage Area with a custom bike that we will use to promote the trail. Sponsor-a-Trail members agree to donate money to help maintain a portion of the trail. Other Sponsor-a-Trail members include: UGI Corp., Brentwood Industries, Safeco Insurance and PPL Corp. Adopt-a-Trail members agree to help clean up a section of trail. They include: Bethany Children's

Home, Penn State Schuylkill, South Manheim Township and West Brunswick Township.

### Trail Constructon.



We cut the ribbon on a new section of trail in Bern Township. One of the first pieces built along the proposed 20-mile Reading to Hamburg stretch of the Schuylkill River Trail, the new 2,100-foot segment will be expanded in 2014 to 2.5-miles.

### Mile Markers.



We added mile posts along 18 miles of the Thun Section of the Schuylkill River Trail in Berks County, marking distances in miles, quarter-miles, and, along some spots, tenths of miles. Distances are measured from the Schuylkill River Trail's start in Philadelphia, thus the first Berks County marker begins at mile 45. Eventually it is hoped that mile markers will be installed along the

entire Schuylkill River Trail. The markers create a reference point for emergency 9-1-1 calls. They will also help trail users keep track of distances.

## WHAT WE ARE WORKING ON IN 2014

### 2014 River of the Year Programs.

The Schuylkill River is the 2014 Pennsylvania River of the Year and we have been named the lead agency in developing a year-long celebration of the river. We are creating a River of the Year theme for the 16th Annual Schuylkill River Sojourn and working with partner on a calendar of events that honor the river. We are developing a series of speaker programs that focus on the river, including a talk by Chari Towne about the mid-20th century desilting project, and two presentations in October by Beth Kephart, author of the book *Flow: An Autobiography of the Schuylkill River*.

### Pedaling Through Our National Parks Ride.



The third ride in our Schuylkill River Trail Bike Tour Series will be a two-day event featuring a bike ride along the trail and visits to three national parks: Hopewell Furnace, Valley Forge and Independence.

### Gateway Centers.



Two new Schuylkill River Heritage Area Gateway Centers will be added in Pottsville and Schuylkill Haven bringing to 21 the number of centers now located in well-visited sites throughout the five-county Heritage Area. Gateway Centers are information booths with literature and information about cultural, historic and recreational tourism opportunities in the region.



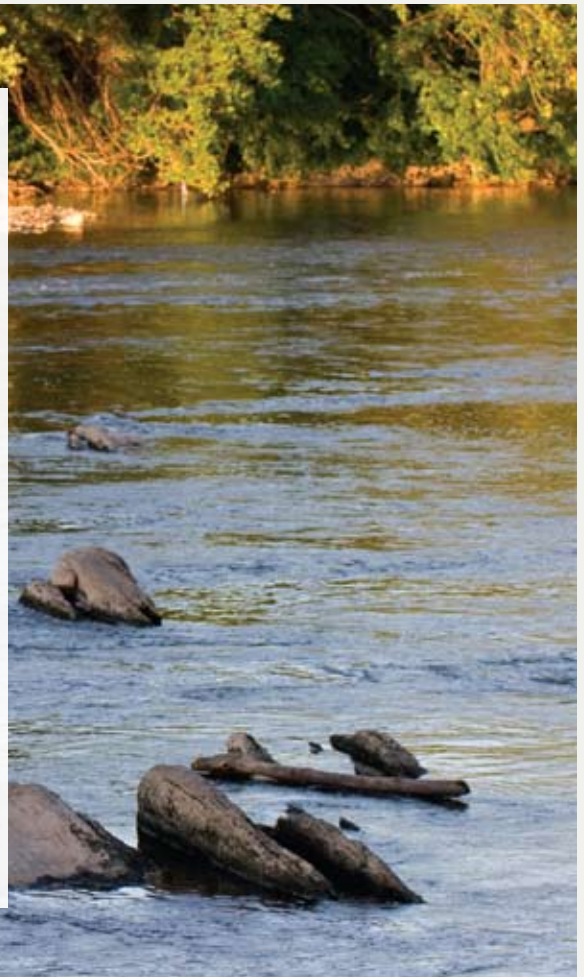


## Schuylkill River Restoration Fund

The Schuylkill River Restoration Fund provides grants to government agencies and non-profit organizations for projects that improve the quality of water in the river and its tributaries. The grants focus on three major sources of pollution: stormwater runoff, agricultural pollution and abandoned mine drainage. In 2013, we distributed over \$350,000 in Schuylkill River Restoration Fund grants to 10 projects. Since the Fund was established in 2006 by Exelon and the Heritage Area, the public/private partnership has garnered over \$2 million for 42 projects. Additional Funders include: Philadelphia Water Department, Aqua PA and Partnership for the Delaware Estuary.

### Project Statistics

- 42 projects funded, 22 completed
- 5 Stormwater basins retrofitted
- 5 Abandoned mine drainage projects completed
- Over 6,500 feet of protected streams
- Over 10,000 feet of steambank fencing installed
- Over 1,500 native trees and shrubs planted
- Agricultural improvements to 12 Berk Co. Farms



### Schuylkill River Trail Projects.



We are always working to expand and improve the Schuylkill River Trail. In 2014 a new section of trail is being added in Leesport that will connect to the piece built in 2013.

### New Water Trail Guide.

The Schuylkill River Water Trail Guides and Maps make the river more accessible and safer for recreational boaters. We are working to create a brand new water trail guide, with more details and updated maps that account for new access points and removed dams.

## Revolutionary War Illustration Exhibit

### Bringing the War of Independence to Life.

We are collaborating with two national parks and the Crossroads of the American Revolution National Heritage Area, in New Jersey, in displaying our our unique exhibit, *Bringing the War of Independence to Life: 19th Century Illustrations of the American Revolution*. The traveling exhibit of 42 illustrations from the personal collection of Heritage Area Executive Director Kurt Zwinkl is being shown throughout 2014, first at Valley Forge National Historical Park and then at Morristown National Historical Park in the Washington's Headquarters Museum, in Morristown, NJ.







Schuylkill River Heritage Area  
Managed by the Schuylkill River Greenway Assn.  
140 College Drive • Pottstown, PA 19464  
484-945-0200 • Fax 484-945-0204  
[www.schuylkillriver.org](http://www.schuylkillriver.org)



## SCHUYLKILL RIVER

NATIONAL & STATE HERITAGE AREA

Managed by the Schuylkill River Greenway Assn.

140 College Drive

Pottstown, PA 19464



**pennsylvania**

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES

# FISCAL YEAR 2013

## Appropriations, Grants, and Contributions

The Schuylkill River National and State Heritage Area, managed by the Schuylkill River Greenway Association, a non-profit 501c3 organization, is supported by federal and state appropriations and receives public and private sector grants and donations. Funding supports a variety of projects as well as administration and program development.

### Federal Appropriations

National Park Service (funds spent) \$ 509, 897

### State Funding

DCNR Community Conservation Partnership Program (C2P2) \$ 6,249  
 DCNR C2P2 – Conservation Landscape Initiative \$ 163,000  
 Dept. of Transportation (DOT) \$ 4,460

### County & Local Funding

Berks County \$ 1,000  
 Chester County \$ 10,000  
 Schuylkill County \$ 5,771  
 Philadelphia Water Department \$ 94,410

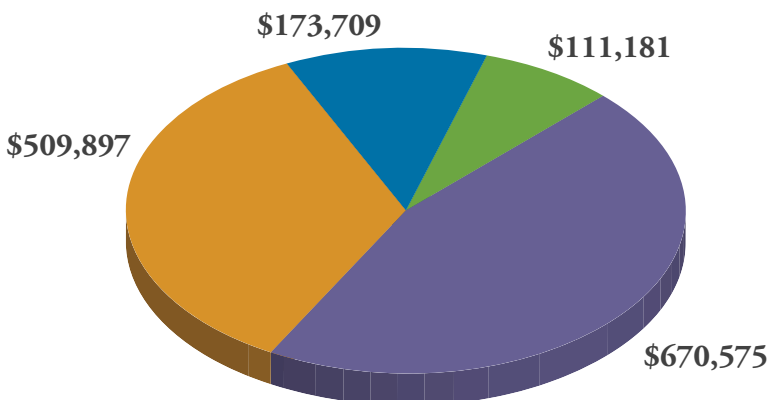
### Private Funds, Grants, & Donations

Exelon Nuclear \$ 323,878  
 Memberships & Contributions \$ 22,902  
 Merchandise Sales \$ 1,447  
 PPL Services Corporation \$ 3,000  
 PA Organization of Watersheds & Rivers (POWR) \$ 5,900  
 Pottstown Area Health & Wellness Foundation \$ 25,000  
 Sojourn & Special Events \$ 77,543  
 William Penn Foundation \$ 160,678  
 Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc. \$ 4,015  
 Arcadia Publishing Royalties \$ 108  
 Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission \$ 31,104  
 J. P. Mascaro & Sons \$ 15,000

**Funding Total \$ 1,465,362**

### Sources Of Funds As A Percentage Of Total Investment

- Federal Appropriations
- State Funding
- County & Local Funding
- Private Funds, Grants, & Donations



# EVENT SPONSORS

## Schuylkill River Sojourn

Ateeco Inc.	O'Donnell, Weiss & Mattei, P.C.
B&G Glass/Gallen Insurance	Patriot Environmental
Bank of American with Jamie Middleton	Pennsylvania American Water
Barwis Construction, LLC	Peter Johnston & Associates, LLC
Candy & Bill Trace	Pottstown Area Health & Wellness Foundation
Carroll Engineering Corp	PPL Services Corp
Descoco Design & Construction, Inc.	Reading Blue Mountain & Northern R.R.
Dr. Christina DiCello	Reinhart & Co
Dr. Robert Weston	Russell Plywood, Inc.
Evans Network of Companies	TE Carroll Designs
Gregory Kreitz (Merrill Lynch)	The Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce
James Middleton (Merrill Lynch)	The H&K Group
McTish, Kundle & Associates	The Swisher Studio
Main Line Financial Advisors, LLC	Traffic Planning and Design, Inc.
MCCC	Wade Goldstein Landau & Abruzzo
Miller Designworks, Inc.	Wrigley's Office Supplies

## Scenes of the Schuylkill Art Show

Campbell Thomas & Company	Pottstown Area Artists Guild
National Penn Bank	Sager & Sager Associates
Normandeau Associates, Inc.	T E Carroll Design & Consulting Services

## Schuylkill River Trail Bike Tour Series

422 Commercial Realty	MCCC
B & G Glass Service, Inc.	The Brick House
Christopher & Jane Degruchy (Cast Rite Metal Co.)	Traffic Planning and Design, Inc.
Invata Intralogistics (Formerly GRIS)	Trans Logistics, Inc.
	William & Beverly Knight

## Schuylkill Outdoor Leadership Odyssey

Body Kneads	Partnership for the Delaware Estuary
PA Outdoor Lighting Council	