

Summaries of Today's Projects

BREINIG PROPERTY CONSERVATION

Grantee:	Natural Lands
SRRF Funding:	\$7,500
Match:	\$80,967 (Everence Fund, App Trail Cons, PA Game Comm)

This project included the acquisition of 11.6 acres on the Kittatinny Ridge, in the Appalachian Trail viewshed, to be added to Game Lands 217. Three primary goals and objectives existed for this project: the protection of the Appalachian Trail Viewshed, the protection of the Hawk Mountain/Kittatinny Ridge Globally Important Bird Area, and the enhancement of the Kittatinny Ridge/Blue Mountain's climate change resiliency.

This project is a great example of how partners with overlapping missions can work together on issues like connectivity, resiliency and conservation for common goals. Natural Lands worked with the PA Game Commission and the Appalachian Trail Conservancy to complete this project.

LAST CHANCE ANGUS FARM

Grantee:	Lehigh County Conservation District
SRRF Funding:	\$51,000
Match:	\$209,713 (EQUIP, ACAP)

Last Chance Angus is a beef operation in New Tripoli, PA. This farm contributes to the Maiden Creek watershed via an unnamed tributary to the Ontelaunee Creek.

Prior to the completion of this project, cows were left out on pasture, leading to large animal concentration areas. Animals also had direct access to a stream that passes through the farm. In addition, manure was stored without proper runoff controls. These factors allowed for accelerated erosion, sedimentation, nutrient loading, streambank instability, and loss of streambank vegetation. By installing the best management practices in this grant, these issues have been addressed. Not only has sediment and nutrient pollution been reduced, but the streambanks are stable and have plenty of vegetation to act as a filter. The health of natural resources has noticeably improved, benefiting the farmer, the downstream community, and the Schuylkill watershed.

Project Outcomes:

- i. Concrete Heavy Use Area (50'x104')
- ii. Roofed Manure Storage (50'x40x)
- iii. Stormwater management: Gutters, outlets, diversion
- iv. Access Road (approximately 210')
- v. Streambank fencing (approximately 1,505')
- vi. Stream crossing (1)
- vii. Re-vegetation around new structures

2026 SCHUYLKILL RIVER RESTORATION FUND

Grant Award Project Summaries

Berks Nature – MIL JOY Farm

\$99,800

324 Virginville Road

Hamburg, Pennsylvania 19526

Located on an important farm in the Lake Ontelaunee source water area, unknown tributary to Maiden Creek. The MIL-JOY project is an 80+ beef cow operation located in Hamburg. Project will install a roofed manure storage facility, (68' X 384') a roofed heavy use area with a dry stack concrete manure storage (64'X104') and stormwater controls including rain gutters, leaders, and lined outlet.

Berks Nature – 7 Riparian Projects

\$91,076

Berks Nature has identified 7 riparian zone restoration projects located in 4 major subbasins representing 50% of the Schuylkill River basin. Selection criteria for these 7 projects have prioritized to improve surface water quality. Projects will include multiple partnerships and will work in Hay Creek, Maiden Creek, Willow Creek, Saucony Creek, and the Tulpenhocken. Native Trees Planted: Over 800. Native Shrubs Planted: 900
Length of Riparian Zone Restored: 5,950 feet. Acres of Riparian Zone Planted: 9.7 acres

French and Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust – South Branch French Creek Riparian

\$86,900

775 Warwick Furnace Road

Glenmoore, Pennsylvania 19343

Restoration of the riparian corridor including in-channel habitat improvements along ~4500 of impaired, incised stream channel and 246 acres of surrounding permanently protected habitat in an Exceptional Value waterway impaired by historic agricultural use.

Friends of the Wissahickon – Pachella Gully Phase 2

\$100,000

6839 Henry Ave

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19128

Restore an eroding 500-foot gully with a forested infiltration basin, stabilized ditches to divert and slow stormwater, enlarging a sediment catchment area in Wissahickon Valley Park, and public education. Project goals include improving Philadelphia's drinking water quality through reduction of sediment and phosphorus to the Wissahickon Creek.

Lebanon County Conservation District – Wenger Farm

\$100,000

215 S Race St

Myerstown, Pennsylvania 17067

This project will alleviate farm use area sediment from entering into the Tulpenhocken Creek reducing nutrients entering the watershed. The project will install one 30' x 60' x 16' roofed heavy use area and 2,000 sq ft critical area plantings.

PVTU – Longacre to Barto

\$65,000

2344 Old Rt 100

Barto, Pennsylvania 19504

Stream restoration project including bank stabilization; erosion remediation; and habitat improvements on 1100-foot section of the West Branch Perkiomen Creek from the Longacre farm property upstream to the Old Route 100 bridge. Installation of 300 feet of modified mud-sills; 200 feet of toe-log structures; multiple root-ball deflectors; several multi-log vanes; random in-stream bouldering over the 1100-foot length of the WBLBB project stretch, all in compliance with prevailing permitting requirements; design and build best building practices; and site preparation and post build clean up protocol.

Riverbend – Saw Mill Creek Stormwater

\$10,626

1950 Spring Mill Road

Gladwyne, Pennsylvania 19035

Riverbend Environmental Education Center will soon be acquiring a new piece of land which borders Saw Mill Run. This land will need to be reinforced with trees, shrubs, and additional natural material to prevent the land from eroding into the creek and possibly interfering with drainage into the Schuylkill River.

Schuylkill County Conservation District – Stoudt Farm

\$100,000

356 Sculps Hill Road

Auburn, Pennsylvania 17922

A 236'x80' beef heavy use area protection facility will be constructed to remove cow/calf pairs from severely overgrazed pasture. The facility will end the need for cattle to water in the stream. This project has been planned using NRCS cost share and engineering support, as well as SCD funding.



SCHUYLKILL RIVER RESTORATION FUND 2026 Grant Award Announcement

September 9, 2026

1:00 p.m.

Ontelaunee Park – New Tripoli, PA

WELCOME

Schuylkill River Greenways National Heritage Area

COMMENTS

Michael Thompson, *Executive Director*
Delaware River Basin Commission

Matt Bonnano, *Site Vice President*
Constellation - Limerick Generating Station

Ben Jewell, *Commissioner* - Philadelphia Water Department

Krista Seng, *Corporate Giving & Community Affairs*
Aqua, an Essential Utilities Company

Kristi English, *Senior, Source Water Protection Program Manager*
Pennsylvania American Water

2026 AWARDS ANNOUNCEMENT

Tim Fenchel, Schuylkill River Greenways NHA

