

Open Space and Land Preservation Committee's Annual Report 2018



August 13, 2019

Open Space and Land Preservation Committee Members

- Ivy Ross - Chairperson, Environmental Advisory Council, Liaison
- Sharon Kaszan - Vice Chairperson, Bike and Hike, Liaison
- Vince Evans – Secretary, Planning Commission, Liaison
- Mark Lomax- Historic Commission, Liaison
- Ted Cicci – Resident -At-Large
- Kathy Newcomb – Resident-At-Large
- Ruth Schemm- Board of Supervisors, Liaison

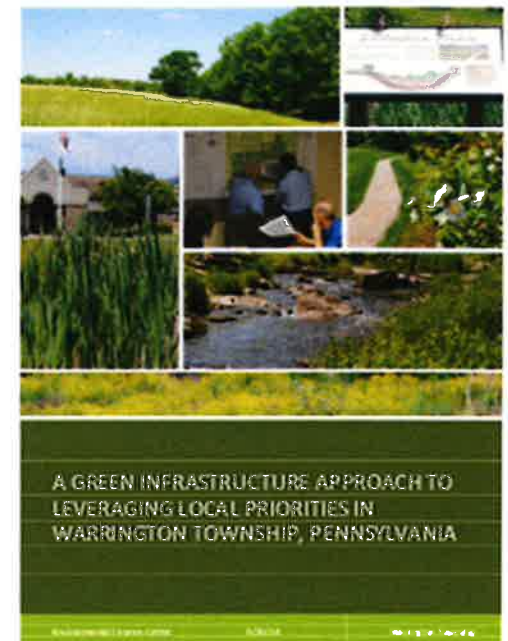
Background



In 2012, the citizens of Warrington Township passed an Open Space Referendum, authorizing the Board of Supervisors to borrow up to 3 million dollars over 20 years, to purchase and protect open space. This commitment demonstrated a clear demand for protecting as much of the remaining open space and natural areas left in Warrington Township as possible.

Priorities

1. Evaluate and choose the most valuable parcels for purchase.
2. Leverage referendum monies to the maximum extent.
3. Choose suitable locations for Open Space signage.
4. Review development plans for consistency and compliance with Open Space Ordinances.



Identified Uses of Referendum Money

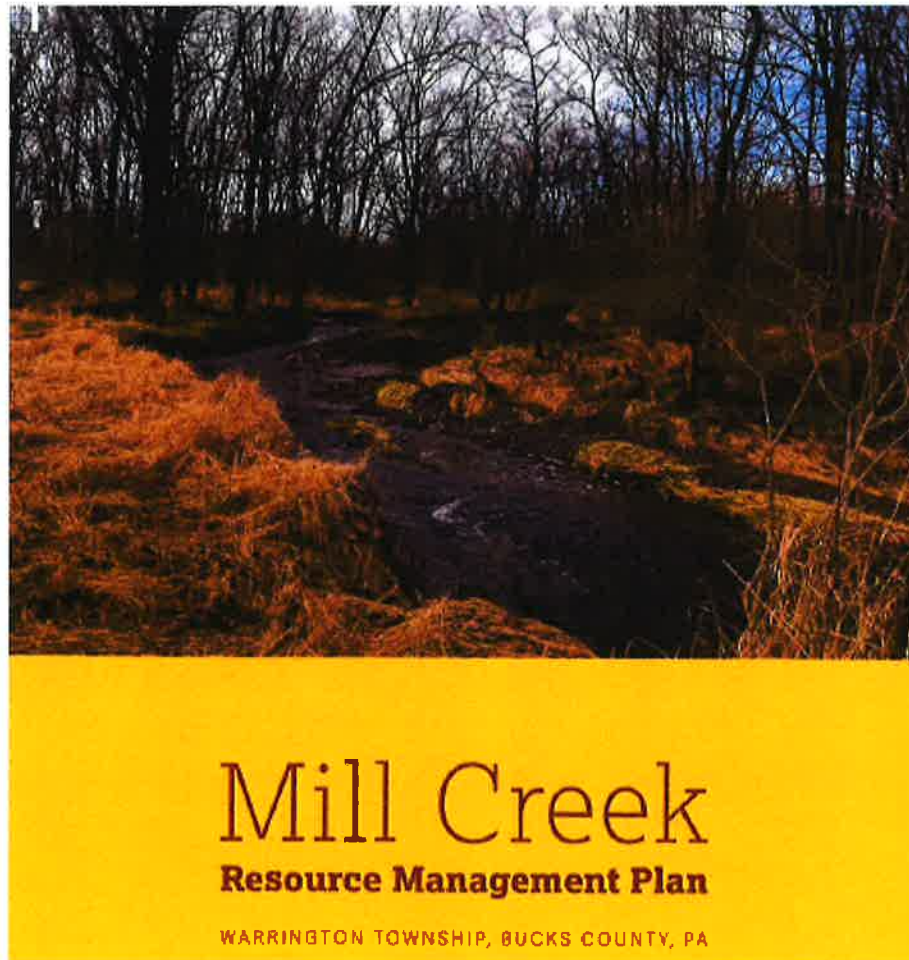
1. Finance, acquire, and improve open space by purchasing undeveloped land and farmland.
2. Improve the trail system by acquiring trail linkages and expanding the trails system.
3. Improve infrastructure in existing parks.
4. Acquire and preserve historic lands.

Top Priority Parcel- Mill Creek Property was purchased in December 2018



Natural Lands prepared a Resource Management Plan summarizing the current state of natural resources within the Mill Creek property.

This report documented management options for protecting and enhancing this newly acquired parcel, which will be a passive park in Warrington Township.



An Environmental Assessment was prepared by
Boucher & James, Inc. as a requirement of receiving
Land and Water Conservation Fund monies.

MILL CREEK PROPERTY



Photo by Gregory L. Snyder

February 2019

Environmental Assessment

Warrington Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania

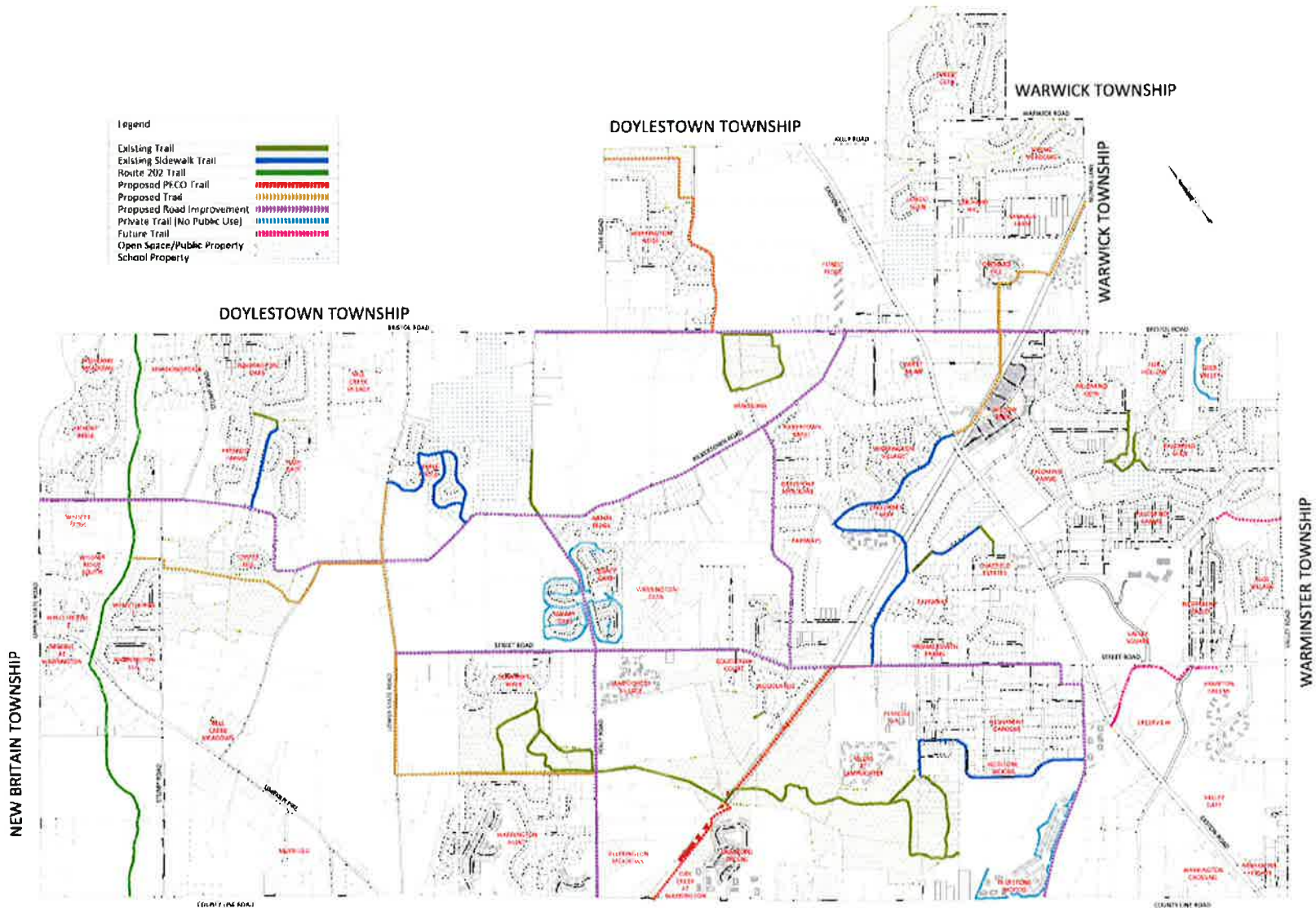
Many Beautiful Meadows and Open Spaces



Highest Quality Wetlands Remaining in Warrington Township



Trails-A grant was submitted through the DVRPC Regional Trails Program in 2018. The grant was awarded and the trail will be constructed in Township Open Space.



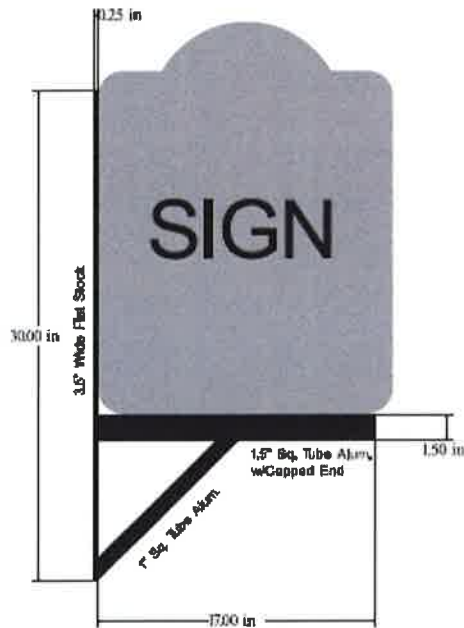
Lions Pride Park and Pond to Wetland Grant

- A grant was submitted to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to convert the existing degraded pond at Lions Pride Park, into an educational wetland. The grant is entitled “ Ecological Restoration of Natural Habitat”.
- The proposed park will emphasize outdoor nature play and environmental education. This park will be a multigenerational facility were everyone can enjoy open space and nature.



Proposed Open Space Signs

IR1



18"x24" Double Sided
2" Pebble Grain Sandblasted
HDU Signs w/Support Bracket

PRICES:
Qty. 1 - 5 = \$850 each
Qty. 6 - 10 = \$810 each
Qty. 11+ = \$775 each



18"x24" Single Sided
1/4" ACM Aluminum Signs
w/Digital Print Graphics

PRICES:
Qty. 1 - 5 = \$100 each
Qty. 6 - 10 = \$90 each
Qty. 11+ = \$80 each

8ft U-Channel Posts
w/Stainless Steel Hardware
\$35 each

Example of Finished Open Space Sign



Continued Efforts by Committee

- Collaborate with other Township committees.
- Maintain citizen oversight of open space bond budget.
- Give input on external grants submitted for Township Open Space initiatives.
- Educate residents at Township events.
- Develop strategies for partnerships to maximize open space.
- Incorporate Green Infrastructure initiatives into open space plans.
- Encourage maximum open space to be integrated into development plans by working with the Planning Commission on the Conservation Residential Development Ordinance.
- Develop a Master Plan for existing open space in the western part of the Township, including the 66 acres.
- Choose locations for new Open Space signs.

