



Connecting Susquehanna Greenway River Towns 2012 Mini-Grant Program

SUCCESS STORIES

The Susquehanna Greenway is an evolving corridor of interconnected parks, trails, river access points, conserved areas and river communities, linking people to the natural and cultural treasures of the Susquehanna River and its West Branch. It is nearly 500 miles in length, making it our state's largest greenway.

The Susquehanna Greenway balances the needs of generations today and tomorrow; conserves the environment for all living things; and creates healthy and successful communities, wide-ranging recreation, and economic prosperity. The Greenway celebrates the Susquehanna River as a place of timeless value, shared memories and experiences – a place to use and enjoy and to treasure always.

BACKGROUND

The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership (SGP) implemented the 2012-2013 mini-grant program to fund small projects that align with the goals of the partnership and advance strategic approaches to both conservation and regional connections. A total of \$52,000 was granted to 14 different projects through a grant provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). Project types funded included greenway and open space studies, gateway improvements, trail enhancements, and signage projects.



Wilkes-Barre YMCA Bike Share Project

Mini-grant recipients were notified September 27, 2012 and were provided a grant agreement which gave each municipality or non-profit group a year to complete their projects. Throughout the year, mini-grant recipients were required to complete interim reports for review by SGP. SGP also provided technical assistance with the completion of projects and grant related documentation.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

1. A connection to existing local, county and regional planning efforts
2. Strong partnerships and high public value
3. Creates connections, protects water quality, encourages stewardship and exploration
4. Work can be done in the specified time frame
5. Secured match for grant award (1:1 match required)
6. Experience and commitment to project completion
7. Use of experienced professionals to complete project

BENEFITS REALIZED

The 2012-2013 Susquehanna Greenway Mini-Grant Program provided many short and long term benefits. Short term benefits included immediate visual and opportunity impacts for local residents who can now enjoy enhanced park facilities, signage, and a vision for future projects. Long term benefits include increased local capacity to take on larger projects and the economic benefits that recreation assets attract. Another important long term impact is increased awareness of what the Susquehanna Greenway does and how the organization can help local communities. Perhaps the most important overall impact are the partnerships with local communities that has been formed throughout the mini-grant process.



Muncy Heritage Park Project

The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership is a leading champion for the Susquehanna River Watershed. We advocate for public and private efforts to connect people with our natural and cultural resources, and promote a sustainable and healthy environment.



MARC Danville Town Trail Signage

For more information contact:

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2012 MINI-GRANT PROJECTS

- 1. Armstrong Township – Greenway, Recreation, and Open Space Plan**
Focused on the Sylvan Dell targeted development area and a regional ridge trail
- 2. Berwick Borough – Test Track Park Enhancements**
Provided additional park amenities including kiosks, signage, benches and tables
- 3. Buffalo Creek Watershed Alliance – Water Trail Brochure**
Created a water trail map that includes information about the creek corridor's natural and human history as well as new creek access sites
- 4. Curwensville Borough – Irvin Park Enhancements**
Partnered with local organizations to build and place new park amenities including tables and benches
- 5. Danville Business Alliance – Riverfront Trail Access Kiosk**
Designed and installed a kiosk showcasing Danville's history, businesses, and town trails
- 6. Lewisburg Area Recreation Authority – Buffalo Valley Rails to Trails Extension Design**
Created conceptual plan for extending trail into Lewisburg to better connect schools, businesses, and points of interest
- 7. MARC-Danville Town Trails Signage Implementation**
Designed and installed signage for two town based trails: Monkey Drift Trail (based on local mining history) and the Riverfront Trail
- 8. Millersburg Borough – River Bank Protection Study**
Reviewed green options for river bank stabilization
- 9. Montgomery Borough – Gateway Tree Plantings**
Planted over 60 trees to enhance local gateways into town
- 10. Muncy Township – Trail Connection Engineering Project**
Consulted with engineers to design and build bridge to connect park with Muncy
- 11. Ned Smith Center – Erosion Control Trail Improvements**
Regraded trails to reduce erosion and create a safer walking surface
- 12. Northumberland Borough – Pineknotted Park Signage**
Installed park signage at gateway into Northumberland with solar powered lighting
- 13. Watsontown Borough – Gateway Park and Streetscape Plan**
Created concept plans for improved gateways and riverfront park
- 14. Wilkes Barre Family YMCA – Bike Share Brochure**
Created a promotional brochure for a bike share program



Northumberland - Pineknotted Park Signage