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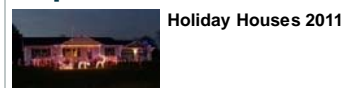
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Cleaning up Flood Damage in Berwick

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By Nikki Krize
8:30 p.m. EDT, March 16, 2012

The September flood devastated thousands of people in northeastern and central Pennsylvania. A group based out of Maryland saw the need for help with flood cleanup. The group is in Berwick helping to rebuild.

Patrick Skovira is from Americorps National Civilian Community Corps. He and seven other volunteers from all across the country are

in Berwick cleaning up flood damage.

"We're doing a lot of cleaning up, a lot of debris from the flood, a lot of parks and the river banks," said Patrick Skovira of Americorps NCCC.

Americorps is a national service program funded by the government. The group helps with disaster relief throughout the country.

"So we figured we'd come here and help out and get the community back on its feet and try to make it what it was before the flood occurred," said Skovira.

Ben Tripoli is from Georgia and joined Americorps last month. It's his first trip with the group, and he said it's been fulfilling.

"To hear them thank me is probably the biggest uplifter. To know I'm having an impact on their lives is the greatest gift they could give me," said Ben Tripoli of Americorps NCCC.

The group was in Shickshinny earlier this week, and will be in Northeastern and Central Pennsylvania through April. The Susquehanna Greenway Partnership asked the group to come.

"To have these extra hands to help clean up debris, help with park improvements along the river, it's great to have them involved in these communities," said Bridget Kane of Susquehanna Greenway Partnership.

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If you're interested in helping with flood cleanup in Columbia County you can stop by the Bloomsburg Town Park on Saturday, March 24. Crews will be cleaning up the park from 9 until 11 a.m.

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