

2008 Grants for Municipal Parks/Trails/Open Space
& Preservation Partnership Programs – Round 20

Applicant: Birmingham Township
Project: Brandywine Battlefield Trails – Phase 1
Acres: 92.17 (6,130 linear feet of trail)
Location: 1075 and 1060 Meetinghouse Road & Birmingham Road
Tax Map Parcel #s: 65-4-6.3; 65-4-22; 65-4-25.1
Owners: Worth Trust & Brandywine Conservancy
Grant: \$40,000

Description: The project involves the establishment of approximately 6,130 linear feet of a public walking trail and a twelve-car parking lot in the Brandywine Battlefield Meetinghouse Road Corridor in the east-central section of Birmingham Township.

The trail would be located on two large private properties along and immediately outside of the public rights-of-way of Meetinghouse Road and Birmingham Road. These properties are the 115-acre Worth Family Trust property and the 100-acre Brandywine Conservancy property (formerly Odell property). The parking lot would be situated on the Conservancy property and front on Birmingham Road.

The two properties, situated in the Brandywine River watershed, are permanently protected and public trail easements are reserved. The Worth property is restricted with a conservation easement granted to the Brandywine Conservancy, Chester County, and Birmingham Township, which also grants to the County and the Township the right to construct, maintain and use a public walking trail. The Brandywine Conservancy property is subject to restrictive covenants in favor of Chester County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which also provides for public access via a trail and parking lot. The Brandywine Conservancy's Board of Trustees has resolved to grant a trail easement to Chester County and/or Birmingham Township on the former Odell property via a trail along Meetinghouse and Birmingham Roads. Birmingham Township's Board of Supervisors has resolved to accept such a trail easement. The trail easement will be completed and recorded prior to beginning any construction.

For most of its length, the trail would be unimproved with a grass, earth, and/or woodchip surface. Between the proposed parking lot and its southern terminus at the intersection of Birmingham and Wylie Roads, the trail would be improved gravel mixed with stone fines surface. This section is intended to be suitable for use by persons with physical disabilities. The parking lot would have a gravel base and surface; its entrance onto Birmingham Road would be paved.

A post and rail fence would be constructed along the entire length of the trail and around the parking lot to inhibit users from entering adjacent private land.

Applicant: East Bradford Township
Project: East Branch Brandywine Trail – South Segment
Acres: 41 (3,960 linear feet of trail)
Location: Harmony Hill Road and Downingtown Pike
Tax Map Parcel #s: 51-4-1; 51-4-3; 51-4-4.1; 51-4-4
Owners: East Bradford Township & PECO (51-4-4.1)
Grant: \$160,500

Description: The entire project entails the design, and construction of a 2.4-mile, paved, multi-use trail from West Bradford Township’s Brandywine Meadow Preserve (50-3-5 and 50-3-6) to PA Route 322 (between Sugars Bridge Road and Skelp Level Road). The overall purpose is to realign a portion of the existing Bicycle PA Route L, which currently shares the shoulder, and in some instances the actual cartway, of PA Route 322. The entire project area is located in the northwest portion of East Bradford Township and in the northeast portion of West Bradford Township and is a cooperative effort between the two municipalities. This grant application focuses on the southern segment of the trail only – the 0.75-mile segment from Harmony Hill Road / Shadyside Road (near Gibson’s Covered Bridge) to PA Route 322.

The southern trail segment will start at Harmony Hill Road / Shadyside Road (near Gibson’s Covered Bridge). The trail alignment will follow the abandoned trolley bed through parcels, 51-4-1, 51-4-3, 51-4-4.1, and 51-4-4 to Route 322. The proposed trail will be approximately 10 feet wide with 2-foot shoulders (where possible).

The facilities currently under consideration for the southern portion of the trail include signage, two trash receptacles, anti-vehicular gates, and mutt-mitt boxes. Parking is proposed at the north side of Harmony Hill Road and would also be available in the existing lot off of Skelp Level Road, which serves the West Valley Nature Area.

The site is bordered by the East Branch Brandywine Creek to the west, Harmony Hill Road to the north, residential and conserved properties to the east, and PA Route 322 to the south. The abandoned West Chester Street Railway Trolley bed runs north to south through the eastern portion of the site. The project area is primarily wooded and steeply slopes from east to west, although the trolley bed is relatively flat. The project area is located in the East Branch Brandywine Creek Watershed.

Applicant: East Bradford Township
Project: Schramm Property Full-Fee Acquisition: Phase 1
Acres: 38.9
Location: 925 Sconnelltown Road
Tax Map Parcel #: p/o 51-7-78
Owners: Leslie B. & Cecilia C. Schramm
Grant: \$275,000 as a Phase 1 grant.

Description: This project involves the acquisition of a portion of a 45-acre estate (tax parcel 51-7-78) for use as parkland. While the entire tract is approximately 45 acres, the Township is proposing to purchase approximately 39 acres. The remaining 6 acres that surround the existing house will be subdivided and sold separately. The property is located between Sconnelltown Road and West Miner Street (PA Route 842). The West End Swim Club (parcel 51-7-13) is north of the property. The remaining surrounding uses are residential.

This acquisition will fulfill an open space/recreation need in the southern portion of the Township. The updated Township 1993 *Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources (OSRER) Plan* (updated in 2005) states that there is a need for additional neighborhood and community park facilities, especially in the southern region of the Township.

The Township intends to preserve and protect the natural features on the property. A passive recreation trail loop is envisioned around the property. Trail connections would also be provided to Miner Street – to provide access to the swim club – and to Sconnelltown Road. Additional recreation facilities might include a parking area, kiosk, and benches.

The lot is moderately to steeply sloped from north to south. Existing vegetation generally consists of meadow areas, dense mature woods and other individual mature trees and tree masses located in the meadow area. Existing drainage from the lot flows to a tributary stream to Blackhorse Run, a trout stocked/migratory fishery as classified by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). No wetlands are present.

Applicant: East Fallowfield Township
Project: Beagle Club Acquisition
Acres: 105
Location: 40 Lloyd Street
Tax Map Parcel #s: 10-4-93.1; 47-5-43.19; 47-5-34; 47-5-35; 47-5-38; 47-5-39; 47-5-40; 47-5-43.11; 47-5-43.13; 47-5-43.14; 47-5-43.16; 47-5-43.2; 47-5-43.4; 47-5-43.5; 47-5-43.7
Owners: Sportsmen's Beagle Club, Inc
Grant: \$300,000 as a Phase 1 grant

Description: This project proposes the acquisition of the +/-105 acre Sportsmen's Beagle Club property in East Fallowfield Township and Modena Borough. The 105 acre holding consists of 15 tax parcels. Of these 13 are landlocked and were subdivided off the property at a time when the property was going to be developed as a trailer home park.

The Sportsmen's Beagle Club property includes +/- 59.3 acres of woodlands and 2,800 feet of Dennis Run (a tributary to the West Branch Brandywine Creek). The Property is adjacent to open space of both Modena Borough and South Coatesville Borough and is proposed to be used for passive recreation for these Boroughs as well as East Fallowfield Township.

A pedestrian trail along Dennis Run is proposed in East Fallowfield's "Open Space, Recreation, and Environmental Resources Plan" dated July 1993 to connect this property in both directions to South Coatesville and Modena Boroughs. The fee simple acquisition of this property would allow this trail system to be built as well as trails throughout the property.

Applicant: East Vincent Township
Project: Vincent Elementary - Community Park Links Trail
Acres: 3,238 linear feet of trail
Location: Ridge Road, Hoffecker Road and West Seven Stars Road
Tax Map Parcel #: 21-4-89-E; 21-4-91.5; 21-5-192.10
Owners: East Vincent Township, Owen J. Roberts School District and HOA
Grant: \$55,000

Description: The East Vincent Township Open Space and Recreation Plan update of 2007 included a community-wide trail network plan. The trail network plan provides alignments for proposed multi-use off road trails, bicycle lanes, bicycle routes, and sidewalk extensions throughout the Township. This proposed trail project represents a portion of one construction phase of the trail network plan.

The proposed phase of the community-wide trail system will provide a trail link from Vincent Elementary School, through the Reiff tract (which the Township is acquiring for a passive recreation park – acquisition funded by the County in Round 19), Kimberton Ridge open space to the existing Community Park on the Ridge, located south of Route 23, in the central portion of the Township. The trail will link existing neighborhoods to the Community Park on the Ridge and to Vincent Elementary School and will become part of the community-wide trail system when it is fully developed. The project will provide a safe alternative to bus or car travel for children who attend Vincent Elementary School and live in the nearby communities of Kimberton Ridge and Hunter’s Ridge.

Most of the trail is proposed to be constructed as an eight foot (8’) wide asphalt trail within a twenty foot (20’) wide right-of-way.

Applicant: Franklin Township
Project: Annand Acquisition – White Clay Greenway
Acres: 61.4
Location: 315 Chesterville Road, Landenberg
Tax Map Parcel #: 72-2-47
Owners: Wilkinson Builders, Inc. (Equitable Owner)
Grant: \$500,000

Description: Franklin Township proposes to acquire the 61-acre Annand tract as a municipal park and nature preserve. Identified in the Chester County Natural Areas Inventory as “Chesterville Woods”, the property falls within the White Clay Creek watershed and contains roughly 2,000 feet of frontage along the Middle Branch of White Clay Creek, a federally-designated Wild and Scenic River. This portion of the Creek is classified by the Commonwealth as a trout stocking/migratory fishery.

The majority of the property is wooded, with a portion in the southeast comprised of younger trees interspersed with fields reverting to woodland. Much of the lowland is occupied by forested wetlands and falls within the 100-year floodplain. At least 4 small tributaries traverse the property. Steep slopes lie west of the Middle Branch. The puttyroot orchid (*Aplectrum hyemale*), a designated rare plant in Pennsylvania, occupies the wooded uplands in the northern part of the property. *Poa autumnalis*, an endangered bluegrass, has been identified in the floodplain.

The only improvements on the property are hiking and ATV trails. Access to the property is available from a dirt road off Chesterville Road (four-wheel drive required). Agricultural and residential uses surround the property.

The Annand tract is situated in the middle of an emerging greenway, recognized in Township and County planning documents, linking West Grove Borough to DCNR’s White Clay Creek Preserve. Recent and pending acquisition of properties and conservation easements on land owned by the Goodwin, Howard, and Pierson families, as well as trail easements on the Hocking and possibly Overton properties, is bringing this greenway vision to fruition.

The proposed use of the Annand tract is a passive recreation municipal park and nature preserve. Use of the property will be limited to walking/hiking, biking, fishing, wildlife-watching, and outdoor education. A trail network would be built (location, surface, and width to be determined) to connect to other planned trails north and south of the Property. Field areas would be reforested and/or managed as meadows. Other improvements may include signs, benches, tables, parking facilities, and a pavilion.

Applicant: London Britain Township
Project: Nichol Park Development – Phase 2
Acres: 18.75
Location: 315 Chesterville Road, Landenberg
Tax Map Parcel #: 73-5-7-E
Owners: London Britain Township
Grant: \$76,000

Description: In 1993 London Britain Township purchased an eighteen acre parcel for use as an active park using grant money from Chester County. While available to the region Nichol Park is primarily used by the residents of Franklin Township and London Britain Township.

A three phase Master Site Plan was developed in 1995. Implementation of Phase 1 was completed in 1997, and included a softball/soccer field, walking paths, a parking lot, and minimal vegetation. The local township parks are used heavily by the local athletic associations for baseball, soccer, lacrosse and other field sports, as well as residents using the walking trails and picnic areas. There was already a deficit in facilities at the completion of this project especially in sports fields. A local developer contributed money for part of a planned playground and grading for future tennis courts. One quarter of the planned playground was built in 2003. It is the intention of the township to proceed with part of Phase 2 of the 1995 Master Site Plan.

The township would like to complete the playground started in 2003, build two tennis courts, two volley ball courts, and a picnic pavilion. The needs identified in 1995 have not changed significantly.

Development of Nichol Park – Phase 2 of 1995 Master Site Plan

Planned additions include:

- the balance of a playground planned in 2003 to include school age play structure, a swing set for babies and a swing set for school age children, toddler equipment, and a central covered gazebo for parents, .
- two tennis courts
- two volleyball courts
- one basketball court
- one 20'X30' picnic pavilion
- additional vegetation

Applicant: London Britain Township
Project: Mason-Dixon Greenway South Trail Development
Acres: 92.17 (+/- 1 mile of trail)
Location: Flint Hill and Strickersville Road
Tax Map Parcel #: 73-5-34.5-E; 73-5-34.6-E; 73-5-34.7-E; 73-5-46.6-E
Owners: London Britain Township & London Britain Township Land Trust
Grant: \$188,500

Description: This project is part of a long-range plan to connect the White Clay Creek Preserve in PA and DE and the Fairhill Natural Resource Area in MD. Development of this area will complete approximately one mile of the total proposed project.

The Scope of work includes development of the Mason Dixon Greenway South on ninety-two acres following the guidelines of the Master Site Plan. The ninety-two acres break down as follows: thirty-four acres are in open field, 12 acres are planted for environmental restoration and the remaining area is wooded.

Work to include:

- installation of a parking lot
- construction of walking, non-motorized bike, and horseback riding trails
- a handicapped accessible trail
- re-forestation of approximately thirty-four acres

The wooded area requires clearing and grubbing of the trail areas and three fords across the headwaters of the Christina River. Signage similar to the signage already in place on nearby trails will be required and initially the trail should be mulched.

The open field areas present the greatest effort and expense in this project. The plan is to re-forest thirty-four acres in order to protect the groundwater, create a continuous habitat between the two state parks and provide trails. This part of the project involves creating a meadow. Once the meadow is established, which should take one to two years, seedlings can be planted, monitored, maintained and replaced when necessary.

A parking lot will be installed with an interpretive garden to explain the interaction between the groundwater, storm water and air quality provided by this project when it matures.

A paved handicapped trail will run from the parking area to the woods and a raised boardwalk will run along the creek. The steering committee felt that there is probably limited opportunity for people with limited mobility to be in a forested area by a creek and felt this project was an opportunity to provide this type of facility.

Applicant: New Garden Township
Project: New Garden Park Expansion – Phase 1
Acres: 34.62
Location: 299 Starr Road, Landenberg
Tax Map Parcel #: 60-3-245-E
Owners: New Garden Township
Grant: \$250,000

Description: On March 2, 2000, New Garden Township acquired a 34.62-acre addition to New Garden Park, which is 21.6 acres. The original park was purchased and developed in part with funding from the Chester County Commissioners. In October 2004 planning began for park construction in 2004 and a Master Site Plan for the park was presented to the public at a Board of Supervisors meeting in May of 2006.

This application is for Phase One, the design and engineering and the grading and site development for the proposed Park as depicted by the Plan. As the construction will be a very expensive proposition the Township proposed to develop the Park in Phases using various funding sources such as the County of Chester, DCNR and the Township's own Park Fund.

Phase One would be the grading of approximately half the current property which in its current state is best described as three tiers of rolling hills. Phase one would grade the property, provide the access driveway, a 55 space parking lot and a walking trail around the athletic fields.

Future development would be Phase Two that provides for the grading of the balance of the property, and would include construction of the permanent facilities such as the tennis courts, basketball courts, tot lot, amphitheatre, pavilions, interior roads and additional parking. Phase One is calculated to cost \$980,000.

Applicant: North Coventry Township
Project: Coventry Woods Phase 8 – Morris Acquisition
Acres: 3.2
Location: 2161 Coventryville Road
Tax Map Parcel #: 17-6-34.8
Owners: Samuel J. & Carolyn R. Morris
Grant: \$85,000

Description: North Coventry Township, with assistance from Natural Lands Trust will acquire a fee interest in the Morris parcel. The parcel is 3.2 acres. This acquisition project is located within the Coventry Woods, maturing woodland of over 400 acres, situated at the headwaters of Pigeon Creek a tributary of the Schuylkill River and the headwaters of Rock Run, a tributary of French Creek. The Township currently owns or has under contract 321 acres of forest in Coventry Woods. The parcel in question would protect a portion of the wooded lower slope of Chestnut Hill, an extension of the ridge in the eastern end of French Creek State Park, and a part of the contiguous wooded area of the Hopewell Big Woods as well as the Schuylkill Highlands.

The Morris property is an interior parcel contiguous on three sides with existing protected acreage of Coventry Woods. It has legal access across Township land to Coventryville Road. Once acquired, this land will be added to the natural area used for passive recreation. It is entirely wooded, but has a ruined cabin appraised as having no value, which will be removed. This parcel is an ideal addition as a site for public access and rest facilities as it has existing, functioning septic system and well and electric.

Acquisition of this site would provide the Township for the first time with easy access from the Township parking lot and pavilion over moderate slopes to the ridgeline trail and the rest of the Coventry Woods Preserve. Current access must go around this parcel and traverse steep slopes.

Applicant: North Coventry Township
Project: Coventry Woods Phase 8 – Kulp Acquisition
Acres: 2.1
Location: North of Penn’s Walk Way
Tax Map Parcel #: 17-6-12.1
Owners: Timothy D. and Carolyn L. Kulp
Grant: \$10,000

Description: North Coventry Township, with assistance from Natural Lands Trust will acquire a fee interest in the Kulp parcel. The parcel is 2.1 acres. This acquisition project is located within the Coventry Woods, maturing woodland of over 400 acres, situated at the headwaters of Pigeon Creek a tributary of the Schuylkill River and the headwaters of Rock Run, a tributary of French Creek. The Township currently owns or has under contract 321 acres of forest in Coventry Woods. The parcel in question would protect a portion of the wooded lower slope of Chestnut Hill, an extension of the ridge in the eastern end of French Creek State Park, and a part of the contiguous wooded area of the Hopewell Big Woods and the Schuylkill Highlands.

The Kulp property is an interior parcel contiguous on three sides with existing protected acreage of Coventry Woods. Once acquired, this land will be added to the natural area used for passive recreation. The parcel is entirely wooded with mature trees and moderate slopes with easy access to the ridgeline trail. It is an area reserved for low-impact uses such as hiking, bird watching, and photography. This parcel is a priority because of the possibility that it may be heavily logged and/or developed, both alternatives recently suggested by the owners. This acquisition, because it is surrounded on three sides by Coventry Woods, helps reduce potential fragmentation of the park.

Ultimately, North Coventry Township’s goal is to link the forested Coventry Woods Park to Warwick County Park and the Horseshoe Trail to the south and east and French Creek State Park and Hopewell National Historic Site to the west through a trail network.

Applicant: Schuylkill Township
Project: Pasquale Full-Fee Acquisition
Acres: 16.1
Location: 366 Valley Park Road
Tax Map Parcel #: 27-6-147; 27-6-147.1
Owners: Donald H. & Patricia F. Pasquale
Grant: \$150,000

Description: The Pasquale property is in the Pickering Creek Watershed and the first order unnamed tributary flows directly into the Pickering Reservoir. It includes approximately 13 acres of woodlands, 4.5 acres of wetlands (of which 2 acres are wooded), and 1,275 feet of the unnamed first order tributary to the Pickering Reservoir.

The Property is within 200 feet of Homeowner Association open space, which is directly across Valley Park Road to the Graham Property conservation easement. The Pasquale Property is in the "Top Ten Open Space Sites" and the "Top Ten Overall Sites" for Open Space and Recreation Recommendations in Schuylkill Township's "Open Space, Recreation, and Environmental Resources Plan" dated December 1992. The fee simple acquisition of this property would allow a trail system to be built.

Applicant: Warwick and South Coventry Townships
Project: Coventry Woods – Bentley Acquisition Phase 1
Acres: 60
Location: West side of Jones road and Rock Run
Tax Map Parcel #: 19-3-19 (Warwick); 20-1-1 (South Coventry)
Owners: Richard P. & Susan M. Bentley
Grant: \$437,000

Description: This acquisition is the first half of a joint project by North Coventry, Warwick and South Coventry Townships to acquire a total of 115.44 acres of land from the Bentley's. The 115.44 acres are included in three parcels on both sides of Rock Run and are adjacent to and contiguous with North Coventry Township's Coventry Woods Preserve. This application is for the Warwick and South Coventry portions of the property only. North Coventry intends to acquire the North Coventry acreage (55.44 acres) in a separate transaction. North Coventry Township will act as the lead contact agency in this transaction, as noted by an inter-governmental agreement between the three Townships.

Warwick and South Coventry Townships, with assistance from Natural Lands Trust and North Coventry Township will acquire a fee interest over the indicated parcels. The parcel in Warwick is 46 acres and the South Coventry parcel is 14 acres. This acquisition project is located within the Coventry Woods, an extensive maturing woodland situated at the headwaters of Pigeon Creek, a tributary of the Schuylkill River and the headwaters of Rock Run, a tributary of French Creek. North Coventry Township currently owns 321 acres of forest in Coventry Woods. The two parcels in this project would protect a portion of the wooded ridgeline of and adjacent to Chestnut Hill, an extension of the ridge in the eastern end of French Creek State Park, and a part of the contiguous wooded area of the Hopewell Big Woods. Once acquired, this land will be added to the natural area used for passive recreation and expand the animal, bird and plant habitat in this critical size forest. The two parcels have over 1500 feet of frontage on both sides of Rock Run. It is an area reserved for low-impact uses such as, hiking, bird watching, and photography. Surrounding land use is a mixture of natural lands, low-density single family residential and a few farms. These parcels are a priority because of the possibility that they may be heavily logged and/or sold for development.

Applicant: West Bradford Township
Project: Marshallton-Copesville Trail Phase 1
Acres: .5 acres (4,488 linear feet of trail)
Location: Strasburg Road from Clayton Road to Jolene Drive
Tax Map Parcel #: Located in the Right of Way
Owners: Penn DOT and West Bradford Township
Grant: \$80,000

Description: This project implements a portion of the planned Marshallton-Copesville loop trail. This Phase 1 of the project creates a linear, uniform sidewalk 4.5 feet wide within the public right of way on Strasburg Road in the village of Marshallton. It begins at the Martin's Tavern pocket park on Northbrook Road encompasses both sides of Strasburg Road and ends near Jolene Drive. Concurrent with the creation of the trail and outside the scope of work for this project, traffic calming and streetscape improvements are being conducted in the village.

The trail will cross approximately 60 properties and cover a distance of .85 miles. Historically one-half of the village has had a narrow sidewalk system. The remaining portion of the village does not currently have a sidewalk system. Grant assistance is requested for only actual capital construction costs for the trail project. The project is split between the East and West Branches of the Brandywine and the Broad Run Watershed. The project is a municipal priority because it will connect a historic village and adjacent subdivisions to out municipal trail network and the Brandywine-Struble Regional Recreation Corridor. This project will connect a park with the community through a trail system.

PRESERVATION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Applicant: Brandywine Valley Association

Project: Myrick Conservation Center Addition - Fee Simple Acquisition

Acres: 20

Location: Pocopson Township – Unionville-Wawaset Road

Property Tax Map Parcel #s: 63-1-43.3, 63-1-45, and part of tax parcels 63-1-8

Owners: Benzel Family

Grant: \$350,000

Description: These 20 acres are immediately adjacent to and will become part of the publicly accessible and permanently protected BVA Myrick Center Property (318 acres). The property will be open for all the public uses that currently exist on the Myrick Center (hiking, bird watching, equestrian use, fox hunting, etc). A pond exists on the property. The pond, along with a tributary of the Brandywine Creek that traverses the property, will be utilized in BVA's environmental education programs. Please note this site will provide a vastly superior location for BVA's "pond," "stream," and "wetland" environmental education programs which, within the last year, included 1,191 contacts. In addition the acquisition, including the pond, will provide the public with the opportunity of fishing (a recreation activity that does not currently exist at the Myrick Center.)

BVA has a very strong commitment to public access. BVA's Myrick Center is open to the public during daylight hours for hiking, equestrian use, fox hunting bird watching and other uses. In addition BVA serves as host for many groups such as weekend overnight Boy Scout camping, star watching, and orienteering.

Negotiations are ongoing.

Applicant: Kennett Township Land Trust
Project: Stateline Woods Nature Preserve **Phase 2** (of 2) –
Halsted Property Fee Simple Acquisition
Acres: 78.3
Location: Kennett Township; Merrybell Lane and Old Kennett Road
Property Tax Map Parcel #: 62-7-50 and 62-7-50.5
Owners: John S. Halsted and the Estate of Mary C. Melody
Grant: \$500,000

Description: This property consists of rolling piedmont hills, two large hayfields separated by a small stream valley, and mature woodlands. The stream draining the hayfields passes through an extensive wetland and converges with a smaller tributary on its way to the Red Clay Creek. The woodlands on the property have been identified as prime Class I Woodlands and are part of a larger woodland community known as the Stateline Woods. Three Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (“PNDI”) sites have been identified on the Property.

The property already has a well-developed trail system that has been used as a bridle path for the past thirty years, and more recently offshoots of the main trail have been used by neighboring landowners for hiking. The Property is already serving as a quasi-nature preserve for use by special permission only.

The project will create a nature preserve with walking and minimal usage horse trails for the benefit of the public. The nature preserve will be the first of its kind and magnitude in Kennett Township. KTLT will manage the property in accordance with Best Management Practices, including trail stewardship, meadow, wetlands, and woodlands restoration, and agricultural practices to support the mushroom industry in Chester County. KTLT will hold its own outreach activities at the preserve and also invite other conservation groups and school groups to use the nature preserve for education and research.

KTLT will provide a designated parking area, trail signage, information on botanical points of interest, and lookout vistas from key vantage points on the property. This property is a vital link within the ever-expanding Stateline Woods Trail Corridor Area and is adjacent to the Harvey Conservation Easement.

Negotiations are underway.

Applicant: Natural Lands Trust
Project: Foote Farm Preserve Addition
Acres: 113
Location: Franklin Township
Property Tax Map Parcel #: 72-4-35
Owners: Wilkinson Nottingham, LLC
Grant: \$1,150,000

Description: Natural Lands Trust seeks to purchase the +/- 113 acre Wilkinson Property (Mackie Farm) immediately adjacent to Natural Lands Trust 60 acre Foote Farm Preserve. The combination of these two properties will expand Natural Lands Trust's preserve to 173 acres in southern Chester County and provide a direct link to the proposed Springlawn Corridor preservation project.

The Wilkinson property contains a confirmed bog turtle site in wetlands on the property. These wetlands are associated with the second order unnamed tributary to the Big Elk Creek on the western portion of the property. Another second order tributary flows on the eastern portion of the property. The combined length of the two tributaries totals approximately 1.33 miles (7,015.65 linear feet) of streams feeding into the Big Elk Creek. It also contains +/- 53 acres of woodlands and wetlands with the remainder a mix of active and abandoned farm fields.

The goal is to add the Wilkinson Property to Foote Farm Preserve, convert the farm fields to meadow and forest, and install public use facilities (parking lot, walking trails). The bog turtle habitat will be managed according to a Habitat Management Plan created in conjunction with the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Negotiations have been productive and appear ripe for closure if funding can be obtained and the current leveling off in the housing market continues.

Applicant: Natural Lands Trust
Project: White Clay Creek Corridor – Kalb Easement
Acres: 66
Location: London Britain Township
Property Tax Map Parcel #: 73-4-61
Owners: Jan Kalb
Grant: \$850,000

Description: The Kalb property easement acquisition is the “Keystone Link” in the Chester County Linking Landscapes’ and London Britain Township greenway and trail corridor envisioned to stretch between the White Clay Creek Preserve and the Fairhill Natural Area. This property links the protected Ives & White Clay Creek Preserve Properties and the Nickols & Wilkens easements. The property contains a house, tenant house, and barn.

The property will contain a publicly accessible trail corridor linking the public trail corridor of the Ives Easement traversing the Kalb property and linking with the recently established trail corridor on the Wilkens’ property. This project will provide permanently protected land and add to the growing protected land corridor stretching from the White Clay Creek Preserve as envisioned by London Britain Township as the Mason Dixon Greenway and by Chester County’s *Linking Landscapes* as a “Top Priority” Regional Trail Corridor.

The Kalb property contains scenic views, forested areas, wetlands, and steep slope areas in the White Clay Creek Watershed and is identified as a “critical area” in The National Wild and Scenic Rivers *White Clay Creek and Its Tributaries Watershed Management Plan, May, 1998*. The White Clay Creek Wild and Scenic River Management Committee and London Britain Township are providing funds for this project.

Applicant: Natural Lands Trust
Project: White Clay Creek Corridor – Schaer Easement
Acres: 25.7
Location: London Britain Township
Property Tax Map Parcel #: 73-3-5.1A
Owners: Tom and Barbara Schaer
Grant: \$250,000

Description: The +/-25 acre Schaer property easement acquisition borders and overlooks the White Clay Creek. A single residence and barn are on the property. Protection of this property is important for two reasons; 1st) the proposed trail corridor (including fishing access to the White Clay Creek) provide for proposed trail linkages as expressed in London Britain Township's *Open Space, Recreation and Environmental Resources Plan* and Chester County's *Linking Landscapes Regional Recreation Corridor* and 2nd) to maintain protected lands linkages and expand watershed protection.

The property is immediately adjacent to the Chester County funded Gosztonyi easement acquisition and comes very close to (but does not touch) the Chester County funded Krause easement and pending Whetham easement.

The Schaer property consists of scenic views, forested areas, wetlands, and steep slope areas in the White Clay Creek Watershed. It is identified as a "critical area" in The National Wild and Scenic Rivers *White Clay Creek and Its Tributaries Watershed Management Plan, May, 1998*. The conservation easement on the property will protect these areas from development and, therefore, assist in protecting and improving the water quality within the property and downstream.

This project will add to the growing protected land corridor along the White Clay creek stretching north from the White Clay Creek Preserve as envisioned by London Britain Township and by Chester County's *Linking Landscapes* as a "Regional Recreation Corridor." The project will include a trail corridor within which a publicly accessible trail could be built (including fishing within a stocked trout stream) along the White Clay Creek as it traverses the property

Negotiations are fairly well advanced.

Applicant: Open Land Conservancy of Chester County
Project: Diamond Rock Preserve Addition
Acres: 20.6
Location: Tredyffrin Township; south of Howell Rd.
Property Tax Map Parcel #: 43-4-2
Owners: Estate of William Barrett
Grant: \$196,875

Description: This project is the fee simple acquisition of 20.6 acres which will be added to the adjacent 31 acre Diamond Rock Preserve in western Tredyffrin Township. This larger protected area will enhance wildlife habitat and the integrity of the Preserve. The Addition will be kept in its natural state and enjoyed by the public for passive recreation. The property, located on Diamond Rock Hill, is a mature oak forest with rock outcroppings, very steep slopes, and forms part of the North Valley Hills ridgeline, which is an important scenic feature defining the Great Valley. The parcel is accessible via the Diamond Rock Preserve, a trail easement, and the Horse Shoe Trail which will run through the property. The Horse Shoe Trail travels 130 miles from Valley Forge north to Harrisburg where it meets the Appalachian Trail. The Addition is the link that allows the Horse Shoe Trail to pass through natural woodlands in place of its current routing along Howell Rd. There are no structures on the parcel.

Negotiations have been completed.

Applicant: The Conservation Fund
Project: Springlawn Corridor Phase 2 (of 3)
Acres: 1,718 acres
Location: Elk, Franklin, and New London Townships,
Property Tax Map Parcel #s: 70-5-6, 70-5-7, 70-5-8, 70-5-15, 70-5-15.3, 72-6-1, 72-6-4, 72-6-10, 72-6-14, 72-7-11, 72-7-11.1A, 72-7-11.1B, 72-7-11.1C, 72-7-11.1D, 72-7-11.1E, 72-7-11.1F, 72-7-13, 71-4-32.3
Grant: \$1,000,000 for Phase 2 grant.

Description: These 1,718 acres are located in three townships (Elk, Franklin and New London). These holdings are probably the single largest privately owned tract in Chester County. The property's southern edge (2.1 miles) runs along the MD/PA border (which is also the Mason-Dixon Line) and borders the Fair Hill Natural Resource Management Area. The tract is a mix of open and wooded landscape with a number of threatened plants and animals, as well as 3.5 miles of Big Elk Creek, which is a tributary of the Elk River and the Chesapeake Bay.

The property is immediately adjacent to the 5,300-acre Fair Hill Natural Resource Management Area located across the state line to the south in Maryland. The objective of protecting this property is to create the Pennsylvania counterpart to the Fair Hill NRMA in Maryland. Fair Hill NRMA is a major site for outdoor recreation that accommodates horseback riding, fishing, hunting, camping, mountain biking, birding, hiking, and environmental education.

This acquisition in combination with the adjacent Fair Hill Natural Resource Management Area will create one of the largest public open spaces in the Mid-Atlantic.

Negotiations are underway.

Applicant: Brandywine Conservancy
Project: Farmland Preservation
Acres: 89.8
Location: Elk Township
Property Tax Map Parcel #: 70-3-38.3
Owners: "PSF"
Grant: \$284,600

Description: This +/-89 acre farm is privately owned by a Plain Sect landowner – a critical segment of the County remaining “unpreserved” agricultural infrastructure. This relatively new program is designed to reach out to this group to the greatest degree possible while retaining necessary checks and balances inherent in the administration of publicly financed expenditures.

The property contains 65% arable farmland, 30% woods, and 5% wetlands. Current agricultural use includes row crops and dairy operation. A first order stream begins in the woods. The easement would be designed to preserve the land for continued, productive agricultural use. The Property includes a farm and house complex near Lombard Road on the eastern border.

Approximately 450 acres of permanently preserved farmland in Chester County are preserved within 1 mile of this farm and an estimated 3,374 acres of permanently preserved farmland in Chester County are within 5 miles of this farm.

Negotiations are proceeding well.

Applicant: Brandywine Conservancy
Project: Farmland Preservation
Acres: 78.4
Location: West Fallowfield Township
Property Tax Map Parcel #: 44-2-18.2
Owners: "PSKA"
Grant: \$250,400

Description: This +/-78.4 acre farm is privately owned by a Plain Sect landowner – a critical segment of the County remaining “unpreserved” agricultural infrastructure. This relatively new program is designed to reach out to this group to the greatest degree possible while retaining necessary checks and balances inherent in the administration of publicly financed expenditures.

The property contains 95% arable farmland that gently slopes. Current agricultural use includes row crops and dairy operation.

An adjacent Plain Sect landowner is close to signing an agreement of sale with the Brandywine Conservancy for the Conservancy’s purchase of an agricultural conservation easement on his 42-acre farm. 585 acres of permanently preserved farmland preserved with agricultural conservation easements held by Chester County are within 1 mile of this farm. 11,580 acres of permanently preserved farmland in Chester and Lancaster Counties are within 5 miles of this farm.

Negotiations are proceeding well.

Applicant: Brandywine Conservancy
Project: Farmland Preservation
Acres: 38.1
Location: West Sadsbury Township
Property Tax Map Parcel #: 36-4-36.2
Owners: "PSKI"
Grant: \$129,500

Description: This +/-38.1 acre farm is privately owned by a Plain Sect landowner – a critical segment of the County remaining “unpreserved” agricultural infrastructure. This relatively new program is designed to reach out to this group to the greatest degree possible while retaining necessary checks and balances inherent in the administration of publicly financed expenditures.

The property contains 90% arable farmland that gently slopes and three acres of woods through which Officers Run flows. Current agricultural use includes row crops and dairy operation. The easement will be designed to preserve the land for continued, productive agricultural use. The property includes a farm and house complex near Swan Road on the western border.

This property is part of a cluster of preserved farmland with approximately 491 acres of farmland permanently preserved with agricultural conservation easements held by Chester County within 1 mile and 7,605 acres of permanently preserved farmland in Chester and Lancaster Counties within a 5 mile radius.

Negotiations are proceeding well.

Applicant: French & Pickering Creeks Conservation Trust (FPCCT)
Project: Farmland Preservation
Acres: 11
Location: Charlestown Township
Property Tax Map Parcel #: 35-3-24.2, 35-3-25, 35-3-26
Owners: Bernhard
Grant: \$50,000

Description: This 11 acre project is a key component in the Pigeon Run Greenway. Several neighbors already have permanently preserved their lands through conservation easements creating an expanding green network to a cumulative protected greenway area of nearly 370 acres. Although FPCCT is only seeking County funding assistance for the farmland portion of the property, the entire 20.5 acres will be preserved through a conservation easement. Partnering with Charlestown Township, the FPCCT's goal is to protect the entire Pigeon Run corridor by placing conservation easements on land through which the Pigeon Run flows, making conservation of this parcel, a Trust priority. The owners, Rick and Holly Bernhard, are joining this partnership and will be donating a percentage of the value of the easement.

The property currently serves as a residence and equestrian farm and consists of woodlands, wetland areas, fields, agricultural outbuildings, and two houses. The Bernhard's have accepted Charlestown Township's offer to purchase all of the development rights, excepting out one two-acre housing right (to be reserved for a child's possible future home), and place a conservation easement over the entire property. Public access will be permitted along the property outside of existing pasture land.

The project is adjacent to at least 50 acres of permanently preserved farmland, within a mile of a permanently preserved farm, and there are over 250 acres of permanently preserved farmland within 5 miles.

Negotiations are underway.

Applicant: Natural Lands Trust
Project: Farmland Preservation
Acres: 61.8
Location: Charlestown Township
Property Tax Map Parcel #: 35-3-49.01
Owners: Kling Brothers, LLC (Vincent Kling, Jr.)
Grant: \$60,000

Description: This +/-61.8 acre farm will be an additional preservation link in the Pickering Creek Greenway. Several neighbors already have permanently preserved their lands and others are in the process of doing so through conservation easements creating an expanding green network for an overall protected greenway area of over 200 acres. One of NLT's focus areas for protection is the corridor of the Pickering Creek. Partnering with Charlestown Township to place a conservation easement on the Kling Property will assist in the protection of this corridor. The owner, Vincent Kling, Jr. is joining this partnership and will be donating a percentage of the value of the easement.

The property currently serves as a residence and is being farmed for hay. It consists of woodlands, wetland areas, fields, agricultural outbuildings, and a residence. Mr. Kling has accepted Charlestown Township's offer to purchase all of the development rights, save one potential two acre building area for his offspring, and to place a conservation easement over the entire property.

Public access will be permitted through the use of a trail that will form a connection to existing and/or future trails. It abuts the Historic 140 mile Horse-Shoe Trail. The trail will not disturb agricultural use.

There are 1,243 acres of County Agricultural Easements within five miles of the Kling Property, the adjacent landowners are working to preserve their land and there are farms with private conservation easements on them within one mile of the property.

Negotiations are underway.

Applicant: Natural Lands Trust
Project: Farmland Preservation
Acres: 37.7
Location: East Nantmeal Township
Property Tax Map Parcel #s: 24-8-12, 24-8-13, and 24-9-21
Owners: Robert L. March
Grant: \$125,000

Description: This +/-37.7 acre farm is located on Finney Road in the headwaters of Lyons Run, a tributary of Marsh Creek. There are 2,543 acres of County Agricultural Easements within five miles of the Property. The March Property is within one quarter of a mile of an extensive area of protected land that surrounds the Great Marsh, the County's largest wetland and important natural area identified in the *County Natural Areas Inventory*. The protected lands surrounding the Great Marsh cover over 2,000 acres of contiguous farmland, forest, and wetlands and consist of a mosaic of agricultural easements, conservation easements, and a Nature Conservancy preserve. The sale of an agricultural easement on the March Property will advance the conservation efforts of the various non-profit and governmental agencies that are working in the Great Marsh area to protect water quality and supply, wildlife habitat, scenic landscapes, and the agricultural economy in this portion of Chester County.

Approximately 30 acres of the Property are in grass, pasture, or hay production. Eight to ten acres are fenced for pasture, and four or five steers are raised on the farm each year. Hay is harvested for feeding livestock on the property. Excess hay is sold for feed or compost, as quality permits. No retail sales are conducted on the property other than the sale of hay and steers.

The property has been owned by the same family since 1951. Robert March purchased the Property from his parents in 1987 for a nominal sum. Mr. March would like to see the Property remain open and undeveloped, and has signed a proposal with NLT for the sale of an agricultural/conservation easement. The easement restrictions will prohibit subdivision of the property but will allow for the construction of an additional residence and outbuildings. Forestry, farming, and agricultural activities will be subject to review by the easement holder to protect riparian lands and water resources from intensive and potentially damaging uses.

Negotiations are underway.