

Schuylkill River Restoration Fund

2017 Grant Awards & Project Summaries

IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS

**Berks County Conservation District
Irish Creek Stormwater Project
\$19,800**

This project will implement stream and floodplain restoration best management practices on an agricultural operation in Center Township. These efforts will aid in the reduction of accelerated erosion from unstable stream banks. Stream bank stabilization and restoration will occur along 350' of the Irish Creek. Additional work will include increased riparian buffer and 700' of livestock exclusion fencing.

**Berks Nature
Yunker & Kunkle Farms
\$96,000**

Installation of agricultural best management practices on two dairy farms in the headwaters of Mill and Maiden Creeks. Both projects will benefit the drinking water supply for City of Reading and Berks County residents. These projects will install liquid and/or dry manure storage facilities as well as implement storm water controls, stream bank fencing for animal exclusion and improved riparian buffers.

**Berks Nature
Youse Farm
\$50,000**

The Youse Farm is located on an unnamed tributary of the Manatawny Creek and will complete similar agricultural BMP's as the Yunker and Kunkle farms. The installation of a manure storage facility will assist the farmer in safely storing manure produced from farm production and will reduce excessive nutrient levels in the watershed.

**Lehigh County Conservation Dist.
Bennecoff Hog Farm
\$23,393**

The Bennecoff Hog farm is located within the impaired Mill Creek in Weisenberg Township. The project will install agricultural BMP's including improved animal heavy use area, stream bank fencing, newly vegetated riparian buffers and over 900' of protected stream. This project is consistent with the Reading Area Water Authority's Source Water Protection Plan and the Schuylkill Watershed Conservation Plan.

**Montgomery County Conserv. Dist.
Perkiomen Creek Improvements
\$18,000**

The Conservation District is partnering with Trout Unlimited and Upper Perkiomen High School to improve a 340' section of the Perkiomen Creek along the American Legion property in East Greenville. The project will include stream bank stabilization, riparian buffer restoration, stream channel improvements, and aquatic habitat enhancement.

IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS (continued)

**Schuylkill Banks
Bioswale Project
\$15,000**

The Schuylkill River Development Corp. will create a bioswale along an erosion prone area of the Schuylkill River Trail and will install native plantings that will help reduce storm water runoff and filter non point source pollution before it can enter the Schuylkill River. The project will also enhance urban wildlife habitat and create a safer experience for trail users.

**Schuylkill Headwaters Assn.
Dyer & West Creeks Project
\$80,000**

This project will include the direct deposit of high calcium limestone sand into West Creek and Dyer Run stream channels which will result in increased pH and alkalinity to improve water quality in both tributaries of the Schuylkill River. Water quality monitoring will also be completed as a part of this project.

**West Norriton Township
Jeffersonville Storm water
\$50,000**

West Norriton Township will undertake a storm water management and improvement project along 1,100 liner feet of stream corridor within the township owned Jeffersonville Golf Course. The project will improve stream bank stabilization, increase riparian buffers, convert mowed turf grass to native grasses and will plant over 200 trees and shrubs.

LAND TRANSACTION ASSISTANCE PROJECTS

**Berks Nature
Love Property
\$4,000**

This 74 acre property contains sourcewater, streams, farm fields and forestland lands in the headwaters of the Hay Creek. Water values on this property will be placed in the High Protection Area in the PALTA model easement document. Berks Nature will hold the conservation easement on this property.

**Natural Lands Trust
Buck Hollow Preserve
\$4,000**

The Natural Lands Trust will complete the fee simple purchase of this 20 acre property and it will be added to the PA Forestry's 80 acre Buck Hollow Preserve. The property is located within the Exceptional Value Hay Creek watershed.

**West Pikeland Township
Ker Feal Property
\$4,000**

West Pikeland Township will purchase the conservation and trail easement on this 138 acre parcel owned by the Barnes Foundation through the Natural Lands Trust who will hold the easement. This project will preserve highly valued land from development and will protect the headwaters of several local streams.