As a recipient of the Fresh Paint Day grant from Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, West Reading Elm Street chose to paint ten properties that were built in the late 1800's. These homes are an example of Reading-German Style row homes which are a unique architectural style found only in eastern Pennsylvania.

In the mid 20th century many of the row homes were covered over with various types of siding, however this section of row homes on South Sixth Avenue still retain all their original character.

The Fresh Paint Days grant provided West Reading Elm Street with forty gallons of paint and painting supplies and the community provided the volunteers as well as numerous support from the business community and local foundations.

West Reading Elm Street made a immediate and dramatic impact on the neighborhood. It demonstrated to property owners as well as other residents in the neighborhood what is possible when the entire community works together for a clean and beautiful Pennsylvania.

West Reading Elm Street was chosen by Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful for the best visual impact award.

"Our project helped stabilize a declining residential neighborhood by greeting visitors with beauty and romancing them with color."

Dean Rohrbach
West Reading Elm Street

This project was funded by:
Richard King Mellon Foundation

VOLUNTEERS
Alcon Laboratories
Carpenter Technology
East Penn Manufacturing
Gary Laity Designer Finishers
Isaac's Famous Grilled Sandwiches
Residents of South 6th Ave
Salon Avanti
Sunshine Premium Painting
The Reading Hospital
and Medical Center
West Reading Borough Council
United Way of Berks

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The Wyomissing Foundation
Third & Spruce Café

Event Date: September 14, 2011
Township: West Reading
# Volunteers: 70
# Volunteer Hours: 280

PPG Pittsburgh Paints
Empowering Pennsylvanians to make our communities clean and Beautiful