



Greenways Mini-Grant Newtown Township Bucks County

VOLUNTEERS

Boy Scout Troop 74

Local Residents

Newtown Creek Coalition

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Tree Tenders

Weed Warriors

Volunteers: 7

Volunteer Hours: 84

"The spirit of volunteerism from local residents is greatly appreciated and aids in achieving the Township's long-term goals established in the Stewardship Plan prepared in 2008 for the Clark Nature Center."

Newtown Township

As a recipient of a Greenways Mini-grant from Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, Newtown Township completed their invasive plant removal and tree planting project at the Clark Nature Center. The center is a 50-acre Township-owned property. It is comprised of forested land, steep slopes, waterways, and man-made structures and is used for environmental education and recreation. A Stewardship Plan for the Clark Nature Center has been created. The plan identified the center's existing conditions, its natural and cultural resources, and management concerns, as well recommendations for the site. These included the removal of invasive species and tree planting. Newtown Township focused on these two recommendations to improve diversity, aesthetics, and wildlife habitat.

The project was implemented over a three-day period in mid-November 2011. Seven hardworking volunteers performed invasive plant removal in two contiguous, delineated areas and subsequently planted a total of twenty-six trees. Both activities were performed near a bird blind, and the newly planted trees will provide additional cover for the nesting and feeding birds against observing visitors.

The Clark Nature Center is part of the Neshaminy Creek Greenway, which provides protected open space currently reaching from Tyler State Park to the county owned Peter Taylor Farmstead. The Greenway is made up of natural areas and manicured open space, such as ball fields, school grounds, and parklands. It also presents the public with an opportunity of a future trail system that would allow travel across more than three-quarters of the township.



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