#### FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORT

(Follow form instructions)

Federal Agency and Organizational Element to Which Report is Submitted     US Fish & Wildlife Service			report mul	Federal Grant or Other Identifying Number Assigned by Federal Agency (To report multiple grants, use FFR Attachment)     52230-A-G003					Page 1	of
3. Recipie	ent Organization (Nar	me and complete addre	ess including Z	ip code)						page
Maidencre	eek Township P.O. B	Box 319, Blandon, PA 1	9510							
4a. DUNS	Number	4b. EIN	IF Desiries							
80789299		23-6000410	Number (T	t Account Number or Identifying o report multiple grants, use FFR		entifying	6. Report Type 7. Basis of Accounting		ing	
		20 0000410	Attachmen	t)	nipie grants,	use I I I	Quarterly Semi-Annual Annual Final	✓ Cash  Accrual		
8. Project/	Grant Period (Month	, Day, Year)				9. Reportin	g Period End Date	(Month Day	Vear)	
From:	08/12/2010		To:	09/30/201	4	9/30/2013	g i oned End Date	(wonth, bay,	(cai)	
10. Transactions								Cumulative		
(Use lines	a-c for single or mult	tiple grant reporting)								
a. Cash	Receipts	tiple grants, also use	FFR Attachme	ent):			Tag. 100 01			
	Disbursements						30426.91 33832.12			
	on Hand (line a minu	us b)					3405.21			
(Use lines	d-o for single grant r	reporting)					0 100.21			
Federal E	xpenditures and Un	nobligated Balance:								
	Federal funds autho						\$		50	,000.00
e. Federal share of expenditures     f. Federal share of unliquidated obligations							\$			,832.12
	Federal share (sum						\$			-
h. Unob	ligated balance of Fe	ederal funds (line d min	ns a)				\$			,832.12
Recipient	Share:	and tarido (into a titili	do g/				\$		16,	,167.88
	recipient share requi	red					T \$		71	,800.00
j. Recipient share of expenditures							\$			,087.76
k. Remaining recipient share to be provided (line i minus j)							\$			712.24
Program II	ncome:									
m Progr	ederal program inco	ome earned ed in accordance with the	- d - d t							
n. Progra	am income expended	d in accordance with the	e addition alter	native						
		me (line I minus line m		David T	T. B					
Indirect	a. Type	b. Nate	c. Period From	Period To	d. Base	e. Amount C	Charged	f. Federal St	nare	
Expense			1 10111							
				g. Totals:	0	0		0		
12. Remark	ks: Attach any explan	nations deemed necess	ary or informa	tion required	by Federal	sponsoring ag	gency in compliance	e with govern	ing legis	lation:
12 Contitio	estion. Bu simula at	h! 1								
expenditur	res, disbursements	his report, I certify to and cash receipts are	for the purp	oses and in	tent set for	th in the awar	rd documents. La	am aware tha	t any fal	d the lse,
rictitious, d	or fraudulent inform	nation may subject me	to criminal,	civil, or adn	ninistrative	penalties. (U.	S. Code, Title 18,	Section 1001	1)	
		Title of Authorized Certi	fying Official			c. Telephone (Area code, number, and extension)				
Diane Hollenbach, Manager						610-926-0182				
				d. Email Address						
						maidentwp@aol.com				
b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official						e. Date Repo	ort Submitted (Mon	nth, Day, Year	)	
						10/01/2013				
						14. Agency L	use only:			
							rd Form 425 - Revised 6/28/2010 pproval Number: 0348-0061			
							ate: 10/31/2011			

Paperwork Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB Control Number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0348-0061. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1.5 hours per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0061), Washington, DC 20503.

2013

#### Willow Creek Restoration Project

Annual Report October 1, 2012 to September 30, 2013



#### PROJECT GOAL AND LIST OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

GOAL - Restore habitat along 1 mile of Willow Creek.

- The Township Road Crew dug the holes on October 1-4 and volunteers installed 600 trees and plants on October 13 and 20, 2012 on the Cornerstone Drive side of the stream from Cornerstone Drive Playground to Route 73.
- The Township Road Crew set boulders in the stream in February. This completed the installation of all trout habitat structures.
- This project has drawn the attention of local Boy Scout Troops and in March, one leader, Geoffrey Price, constructed and installed three bat boxes in the project limits. The Township paid for all materials. Another Scout has begun the process of getting an Eagle Scout project approved to build and installing birdhouses in the project area and the Township is again covering the cost of materials.
- From March 21, 2013 through April 13, 2013, the Township received and planted another 600 trees in the riparian buffer area with the help of volunteers from Reading Area Community College.
- The Road Crew mowed and maintained the grass trail through the project in May, June and August.
- On September 30, 2013, Giorgio Food donated 29 trees, each 12 feet in height, to be planted along the stream.
- Signs have been designed and ordered for the project.

Items to be completed:

- Installation of signs.
- Final planting of riparian buffer in fall 2013.

#### Oct 2012 to Sept. 2013 Costs

Riparian Planting Sprin	g 2013		
Trees & Shrubs	Octoraro	Nursery *25% of \$6,748.65	\$1,687.16
<b>Equipment Rental</b>			7-,001,120
Mini Excavator	Lift Inc. I	Fall Planting 2012	\$1000.00
Mini Excavator	Lift Inc. I	fall Planting 2012	\$ 250.00
Mini Excavator Stoney Cr		reek February 2013 Boulders	\$ 310.50
Mini Excavator		reek Spring Planting 2013	No. Concession Action
	*25% of \$	630.20	\$ 157.55
NFHAP REQUEST			\$3,405.21
IN KIND SERVICE			
Fall Weed Control & Pla	nning	Berks Conservancy	\$6,230.00
Fall Volunteer Hours			\$4,122.48
February Boulder Settin	g	Maidencreek Township	\$ 363.10
Spring Planting Prep		Maidencreek Township	\$2,787.99
Spring Weed Control & 1	Planting	Berks Conservancy	\$4,788.00
THE THE COURT OF THE			
IN KIND SERVICE TO	'AL		\$18,291.57

 $<sup>\</sup>mbox{*}$  Items with  $\mbox{*}$  and requested at 25% were partially covered by funding from the Schuylkill River Restoration Fund

2011 Distributed Funds	\$16,091.58
2012 Distributed Funds	\$14,335.33
2013 Requested Funds	\$ 3,405.21
Total to Date	\$33,832.12
2011 In Kind Service	\$36,051.35
2012 In Kind Service	\$11,744.84
2013 In Kind Service	\$18,291.57
Total to Date	\$66,087.76

To:

United States Department of the Interior

Fish & Wildlife Service Attn: Meredith Bartron 227 Washington Avenue

Lamar, PA 16848

From:

Maidencreek Township

Diane Hollenbach, Manager

P.O. Box 319

Blandon, PA 19510

Prepared:

October 1, 2013

Expanding Brook Trout within Willow Creek per the NFHAP & PA EBTJV State Conservation Strategy

Exhibit A

Reading Eagle Article on Project

Exhibit B

Spring Newsletter about the project

Exhibit C

6 signs that are being produced for installation along the trail

#### New trees benefiting area near Blandon

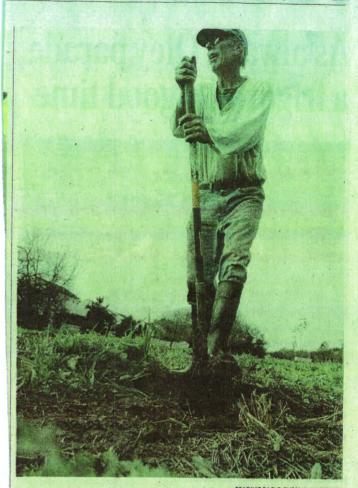
READING EAGLE

There are more trees along Willow Creek in the Blandon area thanks to the efforts of volunteers.

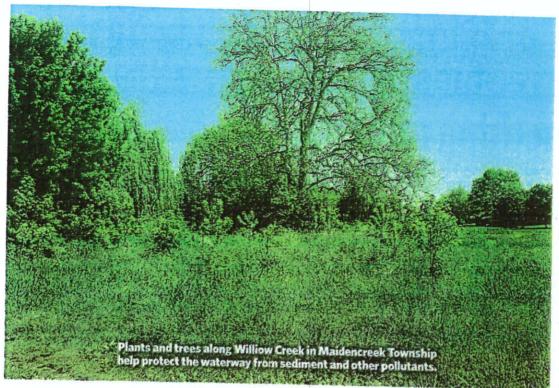
The Berks County Conservancy coordinated the major tree planting effort Saturday in cooperation with Maidencreek Township, Fleetwood School District, the state Fish & Boat Commission, Trout Unlimited, Maidencreek Watershed Association, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and local residents and volunteers.

The ongoing project addresses 2.4 miles of buffer along Willow Creek. It involves the total planting of 1,350 native trees and shrubs with 600 more next year.

Among the goals are improving water quality and reducing flooding, developing recreational fishing opportunities and involving local conservationists.



Larry Lloyd, senior ecologist with the Berks County Conservancy, helps plant trees Saturday along Willow Creek near Blandon.



COURTESY OF BERKS COUNTY CONSERVANCY

#### It takes a community to clean a stream



Larry Lloyd is a senior ecologist with the Berks County Conservancy.

By LARRY LLOYD

T Is puzzling how water, our most precious and essential natural resource, is at the same time our most taken-for-granted gift. With the human body composed of greater than 95 percent water and with all aspects of health and life on planet Earth dependent on water, it would stand to reason that clean, sustainable drinking water would be a top priority. Do you know where your drinking water comes from and how it got there?

Today, there are many stressors to water quality, and our lack of attention and lack of action to

protect our water quality is negatively impacting the availability of clean water.

Water is a community value, because it takes respect and action by all members of our communities to ensure quality drinking water. What we drink is the result of positive and negative human behaviors on the land, and everyone is downstream from someone.

There are some local communities in Berks County that are taking their link in the chain of protecting our water seriously. Among those forward-thinking communities using best management practices to enhance drinking water quality, Maidencreek Township is a shining and instructive example.

The Willow Creek runs through Ruscombmanor Township, Fleetwood, and Maidencreek and Ontelaunee townships on its way to join the Maiden Creek near its confluence with the Schuylkill River. The Willow Creek has stream segments that support breeding native brook trout. Native, as opposed to stocked, trout are bio-indicators of good water quality. Their presence in a stream means the process of cleaning water is functioning. The Willow Creek, like many streams, is an impaired waterway, primarily because of storm runoff from residential, commercial, industrial and agricultural impervious surfaces.

Instead of feeling daunted by these many challenges, Maidencreek officials and the state Fish and Boat Commission procured grant funding to help improve the water quality of the Willow Creek by installing aquatic habitat structures to reduce erosion and the accumulation of sediment, and by planting native trees along the stream to shade and cool the water, stabilize soil and serve

as a riparian buffer from surrounding residences.

The Berks Conservancy
helped the Fish and Boat Commission and the township
develop a plan to manage Maidencreek's milelong, 44 acre
riparian buffer along the creek.
Between fall 2011 and spring
2013, more than 1,900 5-foottall native trees were planted.

Participating in the tree planting were the Fish and Boat Commission; Maidencreek Township supervisors and management staff; the township Parks and Recreation Board; Conservancy staff and members; the Maiden Creek Watershed Association; students from Kutztown University, Albright College, Reading Area Community College and Exeter High School; Tulpehocken Trout Unlimited; and students from the Fleetwood School District's elementary school, middle school and high school, who participated in all four plantings from start to finish.

This extraordinary participation proved contagious and was the impetus for other positive actions for water quality to be undertaken in the watershed. An upstream dairy farmer installed agricultural best management practices to keep animal manures from mixing with storm water runoff and entering the stream, reducing the nutrient load in the stream.

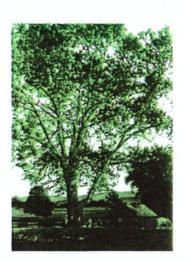
Downstream, the Maidencreek Township Authority and its staff planted more than 85 native trees, averaging 12 feet tall, creating a riparian buffer on their portion of the creek. In addition, Giorgio Foods plans to plant native trees in the fall along its portion of the creek.

Congratulations to all the partners for participation in this Willow Creek water quality project and for demonstrating the importance of talking individual and collective responsibility for the water quality in their watershed. Everyone can play a part in and add value to the sustainability of clean drinking water. Catch the wave. ©

We welcome letters and commentary. Letters should be brief (about 200 words) and should respond to a news item published in *Berks Country* or address a specific topic of interest to the rural community. For verification purposes, include your full name, the municipality in which you reside, and phone number (day and evening). Online: Go to berkscountry readingeagle.com, click on the "Submit News" tab. select "Letters to the Editor" and because of the country of the

PAGE 4

#### Free mulch is available at the Municipal Building for all residents beginning in March.



Largest Sycamore in Berks County stands by the Willow Creek in between Rt. 73 and Schaeffer Rd.

#### RESIDENTIAL BRUSH COLLECTION

March 25, April 1 & April 15

Brush collection has been growing in size and popularity. We are happy to provide this service to you.

Have your brush curbside by 7am on Monday of the collection week. Limbs should be cut into 12 to 15 foot lengths. We can not accept trunks with a diameter greater than 15 inches or stumps with roots attached. Please call the week prior to collection. If you are putting out an entire tree, we will pick your property up last. Please consider using our yard waste drop off site located at 1200 Maidencreek Road next to Custom Milling. The yard waste drop off site is open seven days a week during daylight hours and is for RESIDENTS only. Please report any commercial dumping or person dumping trash to 610-926-4920.

#### ELECTRONIC DISPOSAL

New rules for disposing of electronic devices took effect January 24, 2013. Under the state Covered Device Recycling Act of 2010, waste haulers will no longer be able to take laptops, computers, monitors, televisions and other electronics with the regular trash. Electronics may be dropped off at the Berks County Electronic Recycling Center, 1316 Hilltop Rd, Leesport on a Tuesday, Thursday, or Saturday from 8 a.m. to Noon. Some fees apply. Call 610-478-6362 for rates or visit their website at www.co.berks.pa.us/dept/swa.

#### Willow Creek Project—from Neat to Natural

Maidencreek Township, the PA Fish Commission and the Berks County Conservancy have partnered together to improve the water quality along a section of the Willow Creek. Located between Route 73 and Schaeffer Road, the 5000+ feet of stream and 6+ acres of pasture were dedicated to the Township for recreation by several developers between 1990 and 2005. The Park and Recreation Board was given the task of finding a use for the flood prone area. The PA Fish Commission began stocking the Willow Creek with trout in 2006 and approached the Township about ways of improv-

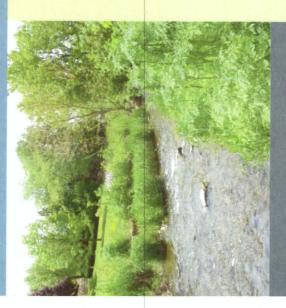
ing the water quality of the stream, stabilizing the stream bank, providing recreation opportunities for the residents and restoring the riparian buffer in the pasture. Through grants obtained from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Schuylkill River Restoration Fund the project includes fish

habitat structures, planting of more than 1800 trees and shrubs, maintenance of a trail and educational signage. The project is scheduled for completion in the spring of 2013.



Our goal is to make the best use of the Willow Creek Open Space by using it in a way that minimizes upkeep and is kinder to the land and wildlife.

# WILLOW CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT



### Project Goals:

Enhance habitat for aquatic organisms Improve water quality and reduce flooding along the Willow Creek Vegetate approximately six acres of streamside habitat

# Thank you to our Partners!

## Financial Support provided by:

Maidencreek Township Park and Recreation Pennsylvania Fish Commission CHIP Grant

Schuylkill River Restoration Fund

United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service

## Volunteer and Technical Assistance provided by:

Berks Conservancy

Pennsylvania Fish Commission

Fleetwood Area School District

Maidencreek Township

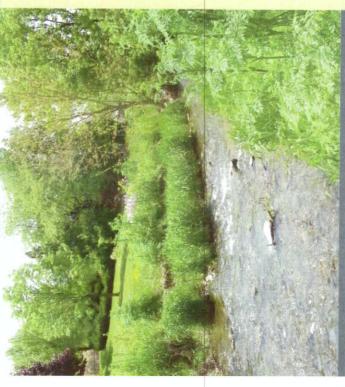
Tulpehocken Chapter of Trout Unlimited Maidencreek Watershed Association



### Project Goals:

Develop recreational fishing opportunities Inform and involve local conservationists

# STREAMSIDE BUFFERS & WATER QUALITY



nerbacious plants along waterways that separates the Astreamside buffer is a zone of trees, shrubs, and waterway from other land uses and improves the water quality and stream health. Streamside buffers protect wildlife, filter excess nutrients and chemical runoff, minimize flood damage and improve

the overall well-being and quality of the creek water.

## Protecting Water Quality

Maidencreek Township is committed to keeping our watershed healthy. By planting trees, creating a buffer along the stream, maintaining trails and creating parks, Maidencreek Township is creating a healthy watershed for you and many others.

## How can a buffer protect the health of a stream?

### Cools the Streams

life, stabilize stream banks and help keep By planting trees and shrubs along streams, they capture and filter pollution from runoff, provide habitat for wildlife and agu

## Protects Drinking Water

frought - protecting both water quality ed buffers filter our pollucants and bartle ng sediment, nutrients, toxins, and other suffers protect drinking water. Forest

#### Protects Wildlife

Surface runoff carries an increased direar of pollution. Buffer strips work by creating a barrier between the stream corridor and the land area draining into the stream thereby keeping the water clean and wild

#### Prevents Erosion

and belp to prevent erosion. The plant roots also absorb pollutants and filter sediment by reducing the force and power of Streamside buffers stabilize scream banks

You can also be proactive and plant native trees or narive wildBowers along the stream within the buffer

over! Very soon you will have a streamside buffer.

zone. Eventually they will provide shade, food and habitat to many creatures that live in the greenway

#### Willow Creek healthy! Help keep the Lawn Care

Use pesticides and fertilizers, sparingly. Use organic mulch or safer pest control methods whenever possible. Compost or mulch yard waste.

#### Pet Care



#### Auro Care

orunpaved surface; dumpsoapy water bucket down the toilet. Check your vehicle for leaks

How do you create a streamside buffer?

ing the existing vegetation cover alone. If the area is Leave a natural strip of vegetation and let nature take

Sometimes a buffer means nothing more than leav carrently mowed, stop mowing right up to the water

## Home Improvements



# GETTING TO KNOW THE BROOK TROUT



is dependent on the land surrounding it. If the The health of a trout stream

and within a watershed is not treated properly, the where it is no longer suitable for trout to survive. Although all land within a watershed is important, the stream will be impacted, perhaps even to the point land directly adjacent to a river or stream is particularly critical to its health.

# A Sign of a Healthy Stream

Brook trout are the only trout native to much of the eastern United States. Arguably the most beautiful freshwater fish, brook trout survive in only the coldest and cleanest water. Brook trout serve as indicators of the health of the watersheds they inhabit. Strong wild brook trout populations demonstrate that stream or river ecolations can serve as an early warning that the health of an entire aquatic system is at system is healthy and that water quality is excellent. A decline in brook trout popu-

Relatively small, randy growing over 9 to 10

lative to eastern Canada and northeastern

Inited States

Distribution:

About the Brook Trout

Key Distinguishing Markings:

Prefer aquatic insects (nymphs) that live under

ood Preferences

to also feed beavily on the adult stage of aquatic insects as they hatch and take flight.

## Life Cycle of the Brook Trout



BROOK TROUT

ABULT: They are





# THE IMPORTANCE OF NATIVE PLANTS



A native plant is one that was growing here before humans brought in plants from distant places. Native plants provide food and shelter to support birds, insects, fish and animals.

Taking native plans from the wild depletes narive populations. Also, many wild-collected plants do or survive transplanting. Prevent wild-collecting of

Do not remove native plants plants, the more this supply will grow.

from the wild















## Why go native?

### Less Maintenance

When landscaping with native plants it is important to choose plants that will grow well at the site: wet or dry, shade or sun. A good trick is to notice which native plants are thriving nearby, and to use those clues to guide plant selection. Other information can be found from native plant nurseries or the Department of Conservation

Protecting native plants

## To Create Wildlife Habitat

plants by making sure that plants you buy are propagated at a nursery, or by starting plants yourself from

and Natural Resource website, www.denr.state.pa.us.

a local seed supply.

The most important guideline is to conserve already

existing areas of native vegetation as a whole,

Protect native plant communities

The first rule of responsible landscaping is to plant troduce invasive plants to your landscape that will ive plant communities. They can drastically alter

techniques

Practice responsible landscaping

the right plants in the right environment; never inggressively spread off your property and invade na

many areas. Intelligent landscaping in parlss yards

Landscape with native plants

and campuses can help redress this loss. Well-chosen

Buy native plants from nurseries Most retail nurseries and mail-order caralogs now

### For Beautification

Learn more about native plants

your area. There are many field Learn what plants are native in





# WILDLIFE ALONG THE WILLOW CREEK



Willow Creek is part of a greenway. A greenway based. Greenways protect natural, cultural, and scenic is a corridor of open space that can be land-or waterresources that benefits both humans and and wildlife.





















## Protecting native wildlife

Native wildlife is what makes your area special. A common animal like a squirrel or deer is just one part of a complex system of predators and prey that have evolved and adapted to thrive where you live. Protect your native wildlife by ensuring that gardening and other household practices aren't poisoning them, and that they have safe passage through greenway corridors.

## How can you help?

## Dispose of waste responsibly.

that often scavenge for food in unsecured garbage ling bins indoors until collection day Wild animals ans can hurr themselves on things like metal cans or at something that may be toxic to them. Dispose of trandous chemicals like paint and oil appropriately. two them to contaminate waterways that provide uring them down the drain or into the sewer grate ahirat and drinking water to native animals.

## andscape with native plants.

ceds scatter in the wind or with the help of certain nimals. Eventually, these exotics can crossed out natimals. Even if the exotic plant provides food and refree, the non-native plant is still not a substitute for the plant the wildlife evolved with and may not

## Eliminate lawn care chemicals.

sicken wildlife and kill nonpost insects that serve as rechniques to prevent weeds from sprouting in the prey for certain types of wildlife, Instead, plant flow ers, which attract insecrs that ear the pests but don't narm the plants. Learn proper soil management ers like coriander, dill, alyssum and dwarf sunflow first place, making herbicide unnecessary.

### Reduce your impact.

Recycling and reducing energy can lessen the impact es helps the environment, native local wildlife, and saves money in the process. Getring involved and tat, and even volunteer work helps in unimaginable helping local governments and agencies with fund ing, donations, land protection for for wildlife habithat is felt on the environment. Reducing rese

#### The truth about bats Bat boxes along the creek

lation growth and the development of our natural landscape have led to a worldwide decline in bat populations. Installing a bat house will provide a habitat for one of the world's most Insect-eating bats eat an enormous amount o insects (including mosquitoes). Human popu





# WILLOW CREEK & ITS WATERSHED



A WaterShed is the land that water flows across, or under, on its way to a stream, river or lake. Within each watershed, all water runs to the lowest point - a stream, river or lake. On its way, water travels over several types of surfaces such as farm fields, forest-lands, suburban lawns and city streets, or it seeps into the soil and travels as groundwater through aquifers.

## Protecting Your Watershed

You live within the Maiden Creek Watershed. The Willow Creek is a tributary of the Maiden Creek. Lake Ontelaunee, the main body of water into which this stream eventually flows, provides drinking water for 125,000 people in Berks County. Everyone has a part to play in protecting this watershed.

## Why should you protect the Watershed?

Habitat - The animals, birds and fish all live in your watershed. You influence what happens in your watershed, good or bad - by how you treat the natural resources - the soil, water, air, plants and animals.

Drinking Water - Whar happens in your small watershed affects the larger watershed downsteam. The Willow Creek flows into the Maiden Creek and eventually Lake Onrelaunce which is drinking water to 125,000 people.

The Air We Breathe - By planting trees in your watershed, it deans the air around you. Trees add value to your home, help cool and heat your home, and clean our air.

## What you can do....

Explore a local stream. Wade, canoe, or kayak. Find out where

it starts and where it drains. It's difficult to preserve and protect what we don't know.

Plant a tree.

The riparian zone is that area right along the steam bank. Get

to know what plants, animals, and insects hang out there.
Wash your car on the grass to carch runoff.
Dispose of chemicals properly. Never pour chemicals, pharmaceuticals, oil or paint into the drain or toilets. Check with your county's household hazardous waste program to properly

dispose of or recycle chemicals and keep them







#### We're saving a place for you...

25 North 11th Street, Reading, PA 19601 610-372-4992 tel · 610-372-2917 fax email: info@berks-conservancy.org web: www.berks-conservancy.org

April 8, 2013

Dear Diane,

The Berks Conservancy looks forward to our continued partnership to enhance recreational opportunities in our community. As we discussed, below is an estimate for the design of the signs for your upcoming project. I've also included a few examples of our recent sign design work on the Gravity Trail.

#### Examples:





#### Estimate - \$9,000

- 5 1/8" Exterior Graphic Panel Size: 24" x 36"
- 5 NPS Style Double Cantilever Pedestal (45 Degree). Black Powder Coated Aluminum. In-Ground Mount.
- 1-1/8" Exterior Graphic Panel Size: 48" x 96"
- Design and pre-print development for signs Estimated 40 hours
- Installation is not included. Maidencreek Township will be responsible for installation.

Thanks for the opportunity to quote on this project,

Kim Lewis

Director of Marketing and Communications

The leading agent for the conservation of the environment in Berks County.

From: Elaine Price <misstrinity@me.com>
To: Maidentwp <Maidentwp@aol.com> Subject: Bat box location 1

Date: Sun, Apr 21, 2013 11:58 am

After a couple of weeks of cutting, painting and assembling the 4 Bat Boxes (Bat Condo's), the first one was erected this morning near the intersection of Adele and Rte 73.

