

Mid Valley Elementary School District
 Mid Valley Schools – Grounds for Learning
 Project Manager: Rosann Moskel
 1998 Grant Award: \$ 13,409

The **Grounds for Learning** project took place in an economically and environmentally degraded community. Mid Valley Schools received funding to develop a safe area for students to explore and observe flora, fauna, and natural change. Trees, shrubs, and herbaceous material were planted to reclaim the land. A dendrology walk and large outdoor classroom was developed. Through the assistance of a PA DEP Environmental Education Grant, science curriculum was developed and integrated with PA STEEP Standards. Environmental in-services were held for teachers and environmental activities for the students. Students also studied and planted trees and operated a forest fire observation station.

Significant Revisions to the Scope of Work

An extension was granted due to drought and limited availability of plants. Co-project manager, Mrs. Shanley withdrew from the project.

Project Accomplishments

- Planted 16 trees including 9 evergreen, 7 deciduous, 11 canopy, and 5 flowering;
- Planted 42 shrubs and 200 herbaceous plants;
- Placed 13 cubic yards of mulch and augmented soil on site;
- Thomas McLane Associates created a plan for the project site;
- Increased dendrology walk by 600 linear feet;
- Held a dedication with parents, students, staff, and guests;
- Held 19 staff development and education presentations reaching 186 teachers and 17 student activities; and
- Produced a 5'x 4' promotional sign.

Project Value and Match

Grant Award	\$13,409
Cash Contributions	\$16,034
In-kind Contributions	\$44,979
Total Project Value	\$74,422

Project Partnerships

- Anthracite Museum – consultants
- Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce and PA DEP – financial support
- Hamline University, Lackawanna River Corridor Association and National Institute for Environmental Renewal – presentations and materials
- Lackawanna Audubon Society – Audubon Adventurer
- Lackawanna County Recycling Center – presentations and recycling
- Marywood College and SIFE – seeds, presentations and materials
- Mid Valley PTA, Penn DOT, PA Game Commission, and Penn State Cooperative Extension – books and materials
- National Tree Trust – saplings, materials, and curriculum guide
- NEIU #19 – consultants and materials
- PA DCNR, Angela Lambert, Bill Kovanoc – overall support
- PA Department of Education – Governor’s Institute and materials
- PA Fish and Boat Commission – Project KARE and materials
- USDA Forest Service – fire monitoring station
- Wal Mart – Plant Kits and 99/00 materials
- Wilkes College – technical advice

