

Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (PTC)
Northern Gateway Enhancement Project, Phase II
Project Manager: James Kaiser
1998 Grant Award: \$99,262

The main goals of the PTC are to ensure a safe traveling environment while providing an aesthetically pleasing roadside experience. In Northeast Pennsylvania, landscape enhancement is especially important due to the degraded nature of land and the increasing role of tourism in this region.

Phase II continued the **Northern Gateway Enhancement Project** to improve the existing conditions of numerous roadside areas. Work focused on the Northeast Extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike between Milepost A-98.0 and Milepost A-110. Trees, shrubs, and perennials were planted to add diversity to the roadside with seasonally differing colors and varied textures.

Project Accomplishments

- Planted 85 trees including 52 evergreen and 33 flowering;
- Planted 1,079 shrubs and 3,711 herbaceous plants;
- Jim Kaiser, PTC landscape architect, created a plan for the project site;
- Placed 238 cubic yards of mulch and 149 cubic yards of topsoil;
- PTC staff attended four conferences on natural resources management including certification for pesticide application, drought management, and roadside vegetation management;
- Placed two promotional signs describing the name of the project and the organizations supporting the work; and
- Planted 7 miles of roadway.

Project Value and Match

Grant Award	\$ 99,262
In-kind Contributions	<u>\$ 97,201</u>
Total Project Value	\$196,463

Project Partnerships

Abington Township – project coordination
PA DCNR – project guidance and support
Pennsylvania Conservation Corps – volunteers

