

Countryside Conservancy

Countryside Conservancy Trolley Trail

Project Manager: Cheryl Ellsworth

2000 Grant Award: \$ 35,000

The **Countryside Conservancy Trolley Trail** project continued the Conservancy's implementation activity begun at the Ackerly Creek Little League site. This project cleared and planted a 2600' corridor for use as a walking trail along the former rail bed of the Northern Electric Trolley Line in Glenburn Township, Lackawanna County. Garbage, debris, and extensive invasive vegetation had to be removed from the railroad bed prior to the planting of native vegetation. Large rocks have been placed at the entrance to the walking path to discourage motorized vehicles.

Project Accomplishments

- Planted 75 trees including 15 evergreens, 60 deciduous, 45 canopy, and 30 flowering;
- Planted 67 shrubs;
- Removed Tartarian Honeysuckle;
- Cleared and planted 2,600 linear feet of former Northern Electric Trolley trail at the project site;
- Held several project presentations for Countryside Conservancy Board of Directors, Glenburn Township Supervisors, The Garden Exchange, and the Abington Township Public Meeting for a Comprehensive Plan;
- Installed large two-piece 'Hunt Club' sign;
- Received publicity in the *Abington Journal*, *Countryside Conservancy Newsletter*, and *The Scranton Times*; and
- Placed birdhouses along the site with local Boy Scout Troop.

Project Value and Match

Grant Award	\$35,000
Cash Contributions	\$16,900
In-kind Contributions	\$36,387
Total Project Value	\$88,287

Project Partnerships

Abington Little League – cooperative assistance with property matters
American Lung Association – donated plant materials
Boy Scouts of America – Eagle Scout volunteers
Countryside Conservancy, board members – volunteered professional time, legal advice, consultation, refreshments
Countryside Conservancy Trail Committee – volunteers, professional expertise
Garden Exchange – volunteers and plant material
Glenburn Township – future management of site and volunteers
Lackawanna County Conservation District – technical assistance
Lou Milo Excavation – in-kind match of heavy equipment/operation
Stillmeadow Inc. (Residential Treatment facility for troubled court committed youth) – volunteers