

Countryside Conservancy

Replanting the Ackerly Creekside
Project Manager: Cheryl Ellsworth
1999 Grant Award: \$ 18,000

Replanting the Ackerly Creekside was a project initiated by the Countryside Conservancy to enhance the historic property of the Little League fields adjacent to the Ackerly Creek. This area has been severely affected by increased suburban sprawl, illegal garbage dumping, and the succession of invasive vegetation. Tremendous efforts were directed to the cleanup and replanting of the Ackerly Creekside. The area now includes a picnic area and walking path. Additionally, local Garden Exchange volunteers planted a butterfly garden.

Significant Revisions to Scope of Work

Changes within the budget occurred to allow for more funds for debris/garbage cleanup.

Project Accomplishments

- Planted 37 deciduous trees including 13 canopy and 24 flowering. 15 trees were from bareroot stock;
- Planted 90 shrubs;
- Placed 5 cubic yards of mulch;
- Removed 100 yards Tartarian Honeysuckle;
- Established 10,000 square feet of riparian buffer;
- Cleared 35 cubic tons garbage and debris;
- Organized a series of presentations to various community groups assessing the impact of the project;
- Created two separate custom made wooden signs for the Natural Area at Ackerly Creek; and
- Established a working volunteer "Trail Committee."

Project Value and Match

Grant Award	\$18,000
Cash Contributions	\$ 2,500
In-kind Contributions	<u>\$21,571</u>
Total Project Value	\$42,071

Project Partnerships

Abington Little League – project support and volunteers
Apex Waste – dumpster
Clarks Summit Fire Department – services
Countryside Conservancy board members/membership – professional assistance
Garden Exchange – volunteers, donated plant material
Glenburn Township – project support, volunteers and services
Lou Milo Excavation – heavy equipment operation
Millers Country Store – supplies
Rotary of the Abingtons – project support
Stillmeadow Inc. – project support and volunteers
Wyoming County Penn State Cooperative Extension – weed burner

