

Keystone College

Keystone College Forest Stewardship Project

Project Manger: Howard Jennings

2000 Grant Award: \$ 55,000

The **Keystone College Forest Stewardship** project implemented components of a forest stewardship plan. Work included improving riparian areas along the Ackerly and Tunkhannock Creeksides, constructing a demonstration Sugar Shack, installing deer exclusion fencing, and developing a forest stewardship interpretative trail and virtual field trip.

The College replanted riparian areas using a variety of native trees and shrubs that were identified in a Forest Stewardship plan approved by Lackawanna County's Service Forester. The College also designed and built an instructional Sugar Shack and created a corresponding field biology class. The one-credit class, entitled "Maple Sugaring", is now offered each spring and the Overlook Foundation provided funding for the equipment. In addition, the self-guided forest stewardship trail was created and includes 17 stations, each with color signs depicting current forest stewardship knowledge and practices. Visitors can access the Forest Stewardship virtual field trip online at <http://stewardship.keystone.edu>.

Project Accomplishments

- Planted 154 deciduous trees including 66 canopy and 88 flowering trees. 75 trees were from bareroot stock;
- Planted 264 shrubs;
- Created a Forest Stewardship Plan to plant or replant riparian areas with native species, demonstrate deer exclusion techniques and timber management strategies, reduce exotic and invasive plant species, and create an interpretive sugar bush operation;
- Thomas McLane and Associates, landscape architects, developed a planting plan for the riparian areas along the Ackerly and Tunkhannock Creeks;
- Pruned one tree and removed 4 hazardous trees;
- Improved 91,000 square feet of degraded streambank;



- Created a Forest Stewardship self guided hike and a virtual field trip available online or on CD-ROM; and
- Constructed a 14 by 17 foot sugar shack.

Project Value and Match

Grant Award	\$ 55,000
Cash Contributions	\$ 39,731
In-kind Contributions	\$ 48,387
Total Project Value	\$143,118

Project Partnerships

Bradford County Conservation District and Endless Mountains Resource, Conservation and Development – technical assistance
Envirothon – education
Keystone College Business Office – management support
Keystone College Development Office – report assistance/public relations
Keystone College Environmental Sciences and Forestry Program – project education
Keystone College Science Club and Student Senate– volunteers
Lackawanna County Conservation District – technical assistance
Lackawanna State Park, Penn State Cooperative Extension Service, Pocono Northeast Resource, Conservation and Development, Susquehanna County Conservation District, and Wyoming County Conservation District – technical assistance
Scranton Pocono Girl Scout Council – volunteers
The Overlook Foundation – financial support
Woodland Resources Adventure Camp – education