

Lackawanna County Regional Planning Commission

Visitor Center and Montage Enhancement Project

Project Manager: Harry Lindsay

1999 Grant Award: \$ 70,000

The **Visitor Center and Montage Enhancement Project** includes plantings at a sitting terrace, main entrance, and the parking area of the Lackawanna Visitor Center at Exit 51 off Route 81 along Montage Mountain Road. Demonstration plantings, interpretive signage, and displays will serve as an introduction to the Arboretum at McDade Park and attractions on Montage Mountain. In addition, a large parking area was planted with evergreens at the Montage Mountain ski resort.

Significant Revisions to Scope of Work

Minor site layout changes were made and an irrigation system was added to concept plan.

Project Accomplishments

- Planted 70 trees including 49 evergreens, 21 deciduous, and 6 flowering;
- Planted 230 shrubs and 493 herbaceous plants;
- Placed 1,563 cubic yards of mulch;
- Installed an irrigation system;
- Thomas McLane and Associates, landscape architects, conducted a tree inventory and created a plan for the project site;
- Removed beginnings of succession of Tree of Heaven, sumac, and Japanese knotweed;
- Established 22,500 square feet of woodland riparian buffer;
- Created identifications labels on the project plantings;
- Planted 66,200 square feet of the project site;
- Plantings have encouraged tourism at other sites in the county including McDade Park and Arboretum;
- Restored and stabilized 50 feet of a slope with native plants; and
- Received the Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce Pride and Progress Award.

Project Value and Match

Grant Award	\$ 70,000
Cash Contributions	\$310,584
In-kind Contributions	<u>\$ 8,530</u>
Total Project Value	\$389,114

Project Partnerships

Lackawanna Planning Commission – project support
PA DCNR, Bureau of Forestry – technical assistance

