

Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape SUCCESS STORY

By: Wildlands Conservancy
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Lechauweki Park Environmental Education & Revitalization Project (2012)

SUMMARY

The Lechauweki Park Revitalization Project was developed to increase access to environmental programs to students at Fountain Hill Elementary School, where over 80% of the school's student population is enrolled in federal programs to assist schools with a high percentage of low-income families. This included classroom programs, experiential learning, and community engagement activities revolving around Leckauweki Park.



CHALLENGE

With a high rate of low-income students, and a reliance on federal Title 1 assistance, Fountain Hill Elementary School is unable to achieve the type of environmental education and community programs that could prove beneficial to its students. By using an experiential learning technique that involves hands-on collaboration and community service, the Leckauweki Park Revitalization Project serves to expand the scope of childhood education while improving the local environment.

FUNDING

Grant Award:
\$5,000

Match:
\$9,240

Total Project Cost:
\$14,240

PARTNERSHIP IS KEY

**Fountain Hill Elementary
School**

Borough of Fountain Hill



SOLUTION

This project presented replicable place-based activities, developed to introduce local environmental issues, advocate revitalization of urban natural areas through community involvement, and initiate positive future stewardship, along with experiential education activities in the park. Students also took part in limited invasive species removal and native species planting projects. This has resulted in a renewed cooperation between the Borough of Fountain Hill, the Bethlehem Area School District's Fountain Hill Elementary School, and the ethnically diverse community surrounding Lechaweki Park.

RESULTS

- Presented 52 in-school programs at Bethlehem Area School District's Fountain Hill Elementary School
- Developed and facilitated 6 experiential environmental education activities for grade levels at Fountain Hill Elementary School in Lechaweki Park
- Led 3 clean-ups of Lechaweki Park
- Created 6 grade level outdoor classroom activity packs

Contact



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