

Ballas Tract Native Grass and Wildflower Meadow 2016

SUMMARY

Bushkill Township planted a 35 acre native grass and wildflower meadow on the 90 acre Ballas Tract in the Spring of 2017. The parcel contains an existing fishing pond and a one mile perimeter trail which can be used for active and passive recreation. The parcel was acquired in 2013 through funding from the DCNR C2P2 Program, Northampton County and Bushkill Township Open Space program.



CHALLENGE

As part of the DCNR grant requirements, the parcel was not permitted to be used for traditional agricultural pursuits once the parcel was developed for passive and active recreation. The Bushkill Township Board of Supervisors and the Environmental Advisory Council determined the best use of the agricultural acreage would be to plant a native wildflower meadow. The native meadow would serve wildlife and provide park users with an aesthetically pleasing recreational experience.

FUNDING

Grant Award:
\$3,500.00

Match:
\$11,216.63

Total Project Cost:
\$14,716.63

PARTNERSHIP IS KEY

Bushkill Township partnered with the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor and the Lehigh Gap Nature Center to make the meadow project feasible.



SOLUTION

Bushkill Township, in conjunction with Ernst Conservation Seeds, planted 35 acres of native wildflower meadow along with oats as a cover crop. The Butterfly and Hummingbird mix serves as wildlife habitat and satisfies the requirements of the grant funding from DCNR.

RESULTS

Approximately 35 acres of agricultural land was planted with Ernst Seed Mix ERNMX-179S at a rate of 10lbs/acre and oats for a cover crop.

Contact



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