Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape
SUCCESS STORY

By: Wildlands Conservancy
Wildlandspa.org

South Mountain Highlands Protection (2011)

SUMMARY

The South Mountain Nature Preserve is part of the federally designated and county recognized Pennsylvania Highlands. Conservation of the Highlands is a priority in order to preserve the cultural and ecological quality of this region. The Wildlands Conservancy worked to add approximately 300 acres to its South Mountain Preserve, proceeding with landowner outreach and site analysis.

FUNDING

Grant Award:
$5,000

Match:
$5,188

Total Project Cost:
$10,188

PARTNERSHIP IS KEY

William Penn Foundation

CHALLENGE

South Mountain, a well-documented natural area with trail and greenway linkages, as well as nearly 655 acres of nature preserve available to the population of five municipalities, serves as the source of drinking water for the City of Allentown. Twenty parcels were identified as priority acquisitions in order to preserve the quality of this area, conserve and connect natural areas with high conservation value, and preserve remaining unprotected natural areas.

Wildlands Conservancy

pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES
www.dcnr.state.pa.us

DELAWARE & LEHIGH
NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR

SOLUTION

Landowner outreach and site analysis activities were conducted on six parcels of highly prioritized land. Staff time was dedicated to continued correspondence with landowners regarding the acquisition of land area, visiting sites to determine negotiation needs, appraising land parcels, and repackaging of conservation option presentations.

RESULTS

- Landowner outreach and site analysis on 6 high quality land parcels
- Consideration of over 127 acres of land for acquisition or conservation easement

Contact

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Pennsylvania Highlands South Mountain Project Area