

# Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape SUCCESS STORY

By: The Nature Conservancy  
Nature.org

## Minsi Lake Corridor Natural Area Protection (2011)

### SUMMARY

Conservation of both the Minsi Lake Landscape and the Kittatinny Ridge are priorities throughout the Lehigh Valley. The Northampton County Parks 2002 Plan cites the Greater Minsi Lake Corridor as an important ecological corridor and recommended its further protection. The Nature Conservancy worked to ensure conservation of this resource by working with landowners to acquire parcels, providing technical expertise and hosting guided outings and educational events with local partners.



### CHALLENGE

Conservation efforts for the Minsi Lake area have been ongoing for many years. Several landowners in high priority areas expressed interest in exploring conservation options, which requires a sustained campaign of outreach and agreements. In addition, assistance to the Upper Mount Bethel Township Open Space Advisory Council would help strengthen efforts to conserve land in that township, through both site assessment and educational outreach.

### FUNDING

**Grant Award:**  
**\$5,000**

**Match:**  
**\$7,155**

**Total Project Cost:**  
**\$12,155**

### PARTNERSHIP IS KEY

**Upper Mount Bethel Township**

**Kirkridge Retreat and Study  
Center**

The Nature  
Conservancy 

 **pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
[www.dcnr.state.pa.us](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us)

 **DELAWARE & LEHIGH**  
NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR

## SOLUTION

Through agreements with landowners, numerous parcels were acquired by The Nature Conservancy and set aside for conservation. Public events, such as guided nature walks, were held around the Minsi Lake Corridor area, with personal invitations sent to local residents. In addition to attending and assisting in Upper Mount Bethel Township Open Space Advisory Council meetings, presentations were made to neighboring municipalities regarding ecologically sensitive lands.

## RESULTS

- Over 187 acres of land preserved
- Outreach to over 9 additional landowners regarding acquisition
- Guided nature walk with naturalist Patti O'Keefe open to the public
- Presentation to Plainfield Township Environmental Advisory Council regarding landowner outreach
- Monthly attendance by a Nature Conservancy staff member at Upper Mount Bethel Township Open Space Advisory Council meetings

### Contact



[www.LVgreenways.org](http://www.LVgreenways.org)

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