

# Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape **SUCCESS STORY**

By: Wildlands Conservancy  
Wildlandspa.org

## Lehigh Valley Adventure Camp Phase V (2012)

### **SUMMARY**

Lehigh Valley Adventure Camp focused on connecting urban youth from the Southside of Bethlehem to the outdoors through day-long, educationally based outdoor activities. Activities were meant to provide healthy, meaningful outdoor pursuits, to promote environmental stewardship and to introduce participants to areas close to their homes where they can connect with nature on their own after the camp has ended.

### **FUNDING**

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

**Match:**  
**\$5,000**

**Total Project Cost:**  
**\$10,000**

### **PARTNERSHIP IS KEY**

**City of Bethlehem Recreation Staff**

**PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources**



### **CHALLENGE**

This program has had four years of previous success. This year aims to continue with the successful aspects of the project, as well as expand it. Lehigh Valley Adventure Camp promotes outdoor recreation for inner-city youth, as well as providing education and outreach by maintaining a conservation theme throughout the program. By exposing residents to valued natural resources, the goal is to make an important connection that will lead to their preservation.



## SOLUTION

Lehigh Valley Adventure Camp Phase V took place from June 17-21, 2013. Sixteen teenagers were given the opportunity to participate in day-long activities. This activities included a bike & boat trip, Appalachian Trial hike, whitewater rafting, rock climbing, and disc golf. All activities were intertwined with hands-on environmental education designed to increase stewardship, as well as a discussion on the cultural and historical resources of the area.

## RESULTS

- 16 teenagers participated in a week-long adventure camp free of charge
- Taught participants safety and ethics in regards to each activity
- Infused environmental, cultural and historical importance and significance to each activity
- Partnered with local businesses and restaurants to obtain food donations and promote healthy eating
- Provided an opportunity for three agencies to collaborate
- Allowed for future collaborative projects

### Contact



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