## Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape

# SUCCESS STORY

By: Wildlands Conservancy www.wildlandspa.org dmotel@wildlandspa.org

## Lehigh River Sojourn Youth Scholarships

#### **SUMMARY**

The 25<sup>th</sup> annual Lehigh River Sojourn took place June 26-28<sup>th</sup>. A celebration of the Lehigh River Water Trail and the D&L Trail, youth scholarships made these trails more accessible to our community youth, providing a deeper connection to it.



#### **CHALLENGE**

Many families in our area are not able to explore the Lehigh River and D&L Trail for economic, social, or safety reasons. Guided tours and specialty equipment are out of reach for many people living in our watershed.

#### **FUNDING**

**Grant Award: \$2,000.00** 

Match: \$11,368.12

Total Project Cost: \$13,688.12

#### PARTNERSHIP IS KEY

The Lehigh River Sojourn

Committee, made up of
community members, business
leaders, and professional river
guides, pledged support and
promotion.







#### SOLUTION

Scholarships allowed many families the opportunity to experience our local natural areas, learn about the Lehigh River Watershed, how Lehigh Valley Greenways has contributed to successful conservation efforts, along with ways that they can continue to experience our greenspaces long after they finish the Sojourn.

### **RESULTS**

Lehigh River Sojourn youth scholarships provided an on-river opportunity for 36 youth and their adult caregivers the opportunity to explore our watershed, bond with long-time Sojourners, and experience the beauty of the Lehigh River in a safe, supportive environment. This place-based connection provided a deeper understand and appreciation of our unique, local resources.

#### **Contact**



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