

Park and Open Space Stewardship

Protecting Pennsylvania's Recreation & Conservation Investments



Since 1995, DCNR has helped partner organizations and communities fund 2,751 development projects totaling approx. \$296,772,531.



Since 1995, DCNR has helped partner organizations and communities conserve approx. 162,530 acres of land for the benefit and enjoyment of all Pennsylvanians.

More Information

Visit our Stewardship Website to learn more about the grant funding stewardship responsibilities:

<http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/elibrary/resource/stewardship/index.htm>



Conservation in Perpetuity

Since 1965, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) through the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation and its predecessors have assisted communities and non-profit organizations across Pennsylvania acquire land for public parks and open space and develop those lands into recreational sites to be enjoyed by all generations to come.

The annual grant funding used to support the acquisition and development of recreation and conservation lands is made possible through the Community Conservation Partnerships Program (C2P2). This Program has been, and continues to be, funded by a variety of legislated funding sources. Those funding sources are connected to certain stewardship responsibilities.

In general, acquisition and development projects funded shall not be converted at any time for purposes other than recreation and conservation use. If a change in use does occur to a park funded by DCNR certain requirements need to be met based on the restrictions set within the legislation. Visit our [Parks and Open Space Stewardship Website](#) to learn more.

Land Conservation Investment

DCNR helps support land conservation through a number of methods, including:

- The acquisition of lands that are added to state parks and state forests.
- Grant funding assistance for acquisition of trail corridors, recreation and conservation lands by local government or nonprofit organizations.
- Providing funding for the purchase of conservation easements and supporting the creation of Model Easement documents: <http://conservationtools.org/>.
- Providing funding to organizations for large landscape planning efforts.

The publicly supported and national award winning 2014-2019 Pennsylvania State Outdoor Recreation Plan calls for the continued investment in public open space providing parks, trails, river access and protecting wildlife habitat across Pennsylvania.

