

With your help, on May 16, 2011 we were successful in protecting the 408 acres of Phase 3 of the Welsh Mountain Nature Preserve in East Earl and Salisbury townships. The groundswell of support came from individuals, municipalities, service clubs, outdoor organizations, businesses, solid waste authorities, sportsmen's groups, foundations, the State of Pennsylvania and Lancaster County. This Phase 3 closing to "Save the Mountain" was truly a collective and resolute effort.

This acquisition adds to Phases 1 and 2 and to Lancaster County's Money Rocks Park to total more than 1,180 acres of publicly accessible land. The preservation of this land, the second largest contiguous forest tract in Lancaster County, ensures that the scenic, historic and ecological resource values of the Welsh Mountains will endure.



Together, We Saved "The Mountain"! Together, we'll work to steward and share its riches



Looking ahead, we will have opportunities to protect additional adjacent and interior parcels. We are also challenged now to fund the management and creation of access to these resources.

Recreational improvements will include carefully designed parking areas, signage, historical and folklore interpretation of the area, provision for student educational opportunities, trail design/repair/modification, and improvement of deteriorated portions of the main access road. We are also considering a ropes course, benches and a pavilion.

The WMNP is unusual among Conservancy properties because of its large size and gentle terrain in some areas. We anticipate creating trails for individuals on horseback and on bicycles, as well as for those in wheelchairs.

A handicapped resident shared that "All I want to be able to do is get into the woods, even just a little bit." Personal experiences within the forests and along the trails of the WMNP will invest the community in this tremendous hometown resource today and for generations to come.

In the coming months, we will ask for your help to realize these stewardship and land protection plans.

Welsh Mountain Nature Preserve Land Protection and Stewardship Priorities:

Protection of Added Parcels. We will have the opportunity to increase the size of the Welsh Mountain Preserve through the purchase of a combination of an interior parcel and adjacent parcels.

Parking is our #1 Stewardship Priority. Natural resource management work, as well as the tremendous recreational potential of the preserve cannot be realized without safe and ample parking.

Engineering Design Services. These are needed to determine precisely where and what size these parking areas will be and how they will be constructed. We also need to assess site suitability for an ADAhandicapped loop and other trails, assess road stabilization needs, and advice on both the design and building aspects of these efforts.

Working Groups. These committees will be formed to address access and management issues. The groups will include representatives from the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA), Therapeutic Riders Association, Penn Dutch Sportsmen, municipalities, the New Holland Recreation Center, Welsh Mountain Medical Center, Garden Spot Village, local and county historical societies, Conestoga Valley, Pequea Valley and Garden Spot School districts, and individuals from the community.

We seek to implement our site master plan for the Welsh Mountain Nature Preserve and to create lasting partnerships to ensure perpetual support for the protection and wise use of the Welsh Mountain Nature Preserve.