

Vision of the Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape: Lehigh Valley communities are linked to greenways, trails, and outdoor experiences resulting in stronger local economies and improved public health, green infrastructure and natural resources

#### Goals:

1: Land Conservation & Restoration - Conserve critical landscapes, restore degraded habitats including stream corridors, and promote best management practices

2: **Outdoor Recreation & Trail Connections** - Connect people to greenway and trail opportunities to promote healthy living, recreation, and the region's green assets

3: **Community Revitalization** – Support community revitalization through green infrastructure that enhances the quality of life

4: Local Education & Outreach – Promote understanding of our natural environment and its benefits to our communities

## 2022 Lehigh Valley Greenways Action Plan

#### Promote Awareness of Greenways Partnership – 10% increase in LVG events and online engagement

- Strengthen conservation landscape branding through creation of Green Retail resources (tabletop sign, window clings, widget for partner websites, creative branding and acquirement of new donation tool).
- Create a short informational video about Lehigh Valley Greenways to share online and on social media.
- Create an LVG Instagram account, following at least 50+ relevant partners and organizations.
- Provide 2 articles for municipalities to use in newsletters and to promote on the website.
- The Partnership will support the Eastern PA Greenways & Trails Summit highlighting Lehigh Valley projects on September 28 and September 29, 2022.
- Secure consultant for LVG Strategic Plan.

#### Land Protection – preserve 8 more natural acres and 1,360 more agricultural acres by end of 2022

- Promote municipal adoption of official maps through mini grant funding (Goal 1).
- Advocate for open space funding in both counties following actions outlined in each of the county Livable Landscapes Plans.

- Expand existing preserves by adding 8 acres.
- Complete at least nine buffer plantings and at least four stream restoration projects.
- Preserve 1,360 acres of farmland

### Trails and Bicycle/Pedestrian Connections – open 2.3 new miles of trail

- Complete 1.5 miles of trail on Catasauqua D&L Trail Section
- Complete 0.8 mile section on the Jordan Creek Greenway
- Lead at least 10 branded bike rides for THE LINK and weekly bike rides through, "Everybody Rides" program.
- Pursue installation of THE LINK Trail Network Advertising/Display at Lehigh Valley International Airport

# Education & Engagement – involve a more inclusive audience in the outdoors and environmental education

- Keep inclusion up front in Lehigh Valley Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan.
- Utilize LV Center for Independent Living in the partnership for site survey visits at least two trails.
- Compile a list of organizations not currently involved in the partnership that are already engaging more inclusive audiences.
- Reach out to at least 10 new and potential partners to ensure diversity, equity and inclusion within the partnership.
- Continue recruiting and training Color of Nature leaders to prepare them for conservation jobs.
- Pilot Cultural Ecology of Eastern Pennsylvania program in public school districts. <u>Cultural</u> <u>Ecology of Eastern Pennsylvania – Humans and the Environment in the Delaware and Lehigh</u> <u>National Heritage Corridor</u>