
HIDDEN RIVER PARK AND PRESERVE

MASTER PLAN

EAST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP, CHESTER COUNTY, PA



Draft Date 9-9-20

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HIDDEN RIVER PARK AND PRESERVE MASTER PLAN

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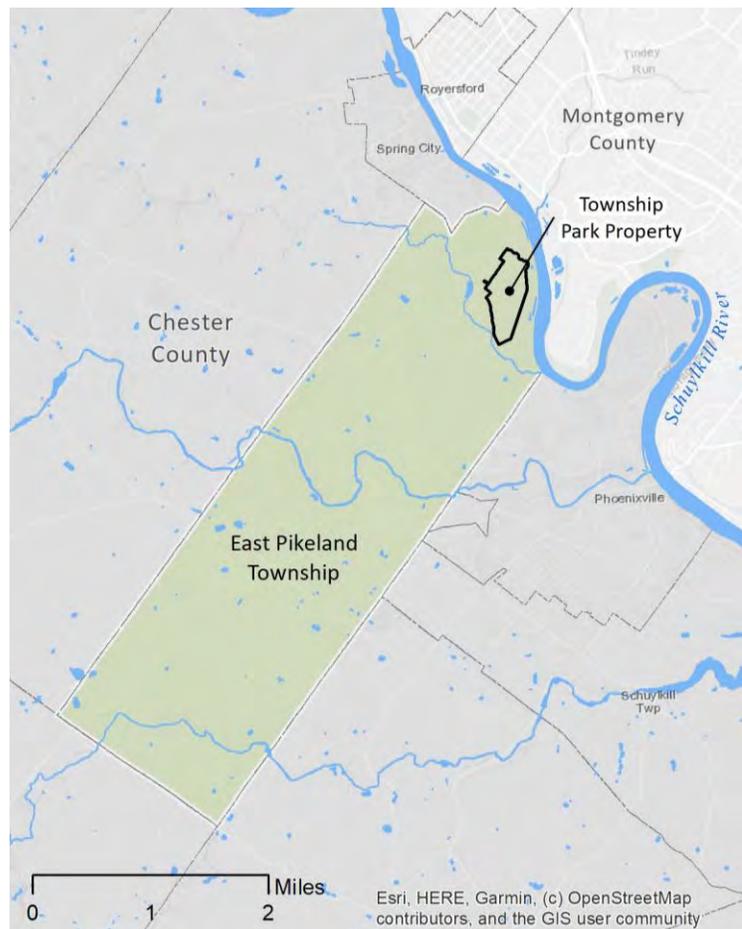
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INTRODUCTION

LOCAL AND REGIONAL CONTEXT

East Pikeland Township is an 8.8 square mile municipality in northern Chester County, approximately 30 miles west of Philadelphia, with a 2010 Census population of 7,079. The Township lies between the boroughs of Phoenixville and Spring City and consists of residential areas, farmlands, and natural landscapes. Residential development is concentrated in the central part of the Township, as growth originated around the historic village of Kimberton and migrated outward along the road network. Later, the extension of public sewer and water infrastructure facilitated denser settlement and extension of development into new areas. Commercial uses and places of employment are concentrated along Routes 113, 23, and 724, and in Kimberton. Agriculture occurs in the open lands in the north and south ends of the Township, interspersed with low density rural residential use. The Township also has land based commercial enterprises, including farm stands and kennels. Isolated industrial uses exist along Route 113 and Coldstream Road, and along the Schuylkill River. Civic and cultural resources include a municipal complex, the Kimberton Fire Company and fairgrounds, parks, public open spaces, historic sites, churches, and commercial centers.

Historically, East Pikeland was an agricultural community of farms, mills, and related enterprises. The Township landscape is dotted with historic farmhouses, barns, mills, bridges, inns, churches, and commercial buildings, many of which are in use today. The center of the community has always been the Village of Kimberton. In the late 19th and early 20th century, a railroad connected Kimberton and other agricultural communities along the Pickering Creek with Phoenixville, where the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad extended from Pottsville to Philadelphia. The Schuylkill River also linked the Township with the surrounding region through the Schuylkill Navigation Company Canal, which was in operation through most of the 19th century. Both the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad and the Schuylkill Canal corridors are considered linear



historic districts by Chester County. This history defines East Pikeland’s cultural place in the context of the Schuylkill River National and State Heritage Area.

East Pikeland is part of the Phoenixville Regional Planning Committee (PRPC), comprised of Charlestown, East Pikeland, Schuylkill, West Pikeland, and West Vincent Townships, as well as the Borough of Phoenixville. The PRPC began meeting in 2000 to address rapid growth and unprotected agricultural lands in the Phoenixville Region. In 2008, the first Phoenixville Regional Comprehensive Plan was adopted by the member municipalities to establish goals and policies that guide future land use and growth management in the Region, and the Phoenixville Regional Comprehensive Plan was updated in 2019. The Phoenixville Region is well-balanced with a richly diverse landscape of historic sites and communities, attractive neighborhoods and villages, industry, commercial centers, rolling farmlands and abundant natural resources. The Borough of Phoenixville has historically been the commercial center of the Region, while the surrounding, historically agricultural Townships including East Pikeland have experienced significant suburban-type development in recent decades.

In addition, East Pikeland is a member of the Federation of Northern Chester County Communities (The Northern Fed), comprised of East Coventry, East Pikeland, North Coventry, Warwick, West Pikeland, and West Vincent Townships. The 2012 Northern Fed Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan and the PRPC Regional Comprehensive Plan each identify Regional and local recreational deficiencies that will be addressed by the Park Master Plan.

EAST PIKELAND OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION ASSETS

Protected open space in East Pikeland is comprised of Township owned lands, homeowners’ association lands, and conservation easements on private properties, adding up to 1,325 total preserved acres. The Township owns 356 acres of natural open space, including the Continental Powder Works National Register Historic Site and the two mile long French Creek Trail. Utility and vacant transportation corridors create linear stretches of additional potentially useable open space. In 2019, the Township acquired the 115-acre property that is the subject of this park master plan. Overall, 23% of the Township’s land area is protected open space.

Public recreational resources in East Pikeland include the 16.4 acre Kimberton Park with tennis courts, a roller hockey rink, basketball court, amphitheater, playgrounds, a pavilion, and restroom facilities. Other key recreation attributes in the Township include the Kimberton Youth Athletic League playfields on Township and Fire Company properties in Kimberton and the French Creek Trail, which will ultimately extend from the Schuylkill River Trail in Phoenixville to Warwick County Park.

The Schuylkill River, a Pennsylvania Scenic River, is one of the Township’s most significant natural and recreational resources. It is the site of two regional trails that will ultimately connect visitors with destinations along the entire river corridor from Pottsville to Philadelphia. The Schuylkill River Trail (SRT) is an improved multimodal trail that crosses the northeastern end of the Township, directly adjacent to the proposed park site. The Schuylkill River Water Trail, a federally designated National Recreation Trail, provides boat access to the river. The Cromby Trailhead for the SRT is approximately 0.4 miles southeast

of the subject site, and is currently the Township’s only SRT connection. There is no public access to the water trail or to the Schuylkill River in the Township at this time.

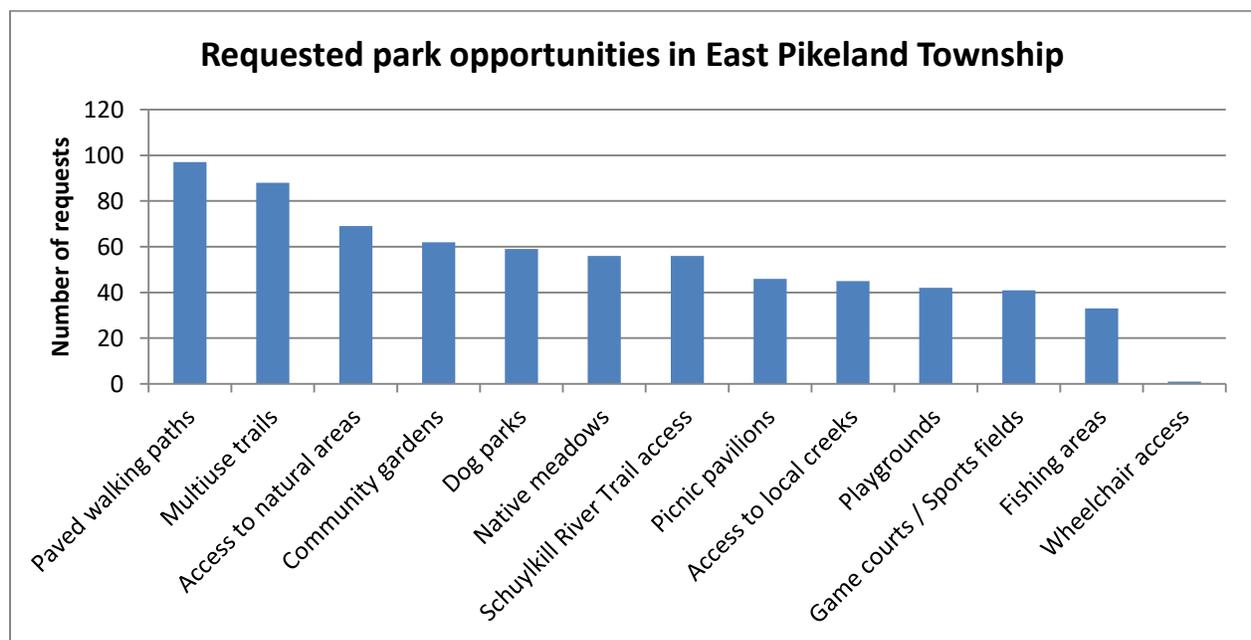
In 2013, East Pikeland adopted a Comprehensive Plan Supplement and a Trail Plan that envision a comprehensive system of multi-use and loop trails connecting all areas of the Township, as well as the regional trail and conservation/greenway system. A recreation demand analysis conducted as part of the Comprehensive Plan Supplement found that there is an uneven distribution of park facilities. The analysis also identified the need for amenities for senior citizens. This is supported by demographics estimates conducted by the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, which indicate that more than 1 out of 5 Township residents are age 65 years or older¹.

RECREATIONAL NEEDS SURVEY

The Township conducted a Community Park and Recreation Survey in 2018. The survey drew 241 respondents, of which 221 were Township residents. Of these residents, 60% live in the center of the Township, followed by 26% in the southwest of the Township and 14% in the northeast of the Township. The majority of households included adults aged 36-59 (53.5%). Nearly 29% included members aged 60 and over, and over 26% included members aged 19 to 35. Nearly 30% of respondents’ households had pre-teen or younger children, while 12.4% contained teenaged children.

REQUESTED PARK FACILITIES

The majority of respondents want additional passive recreation in the Township (153 responses). This was followed by active recreation (91) and indoor recreation opportunities (86). Respondents showed a clear preference for more trail amenities and increased access to open space as demonstrated in the chart below:



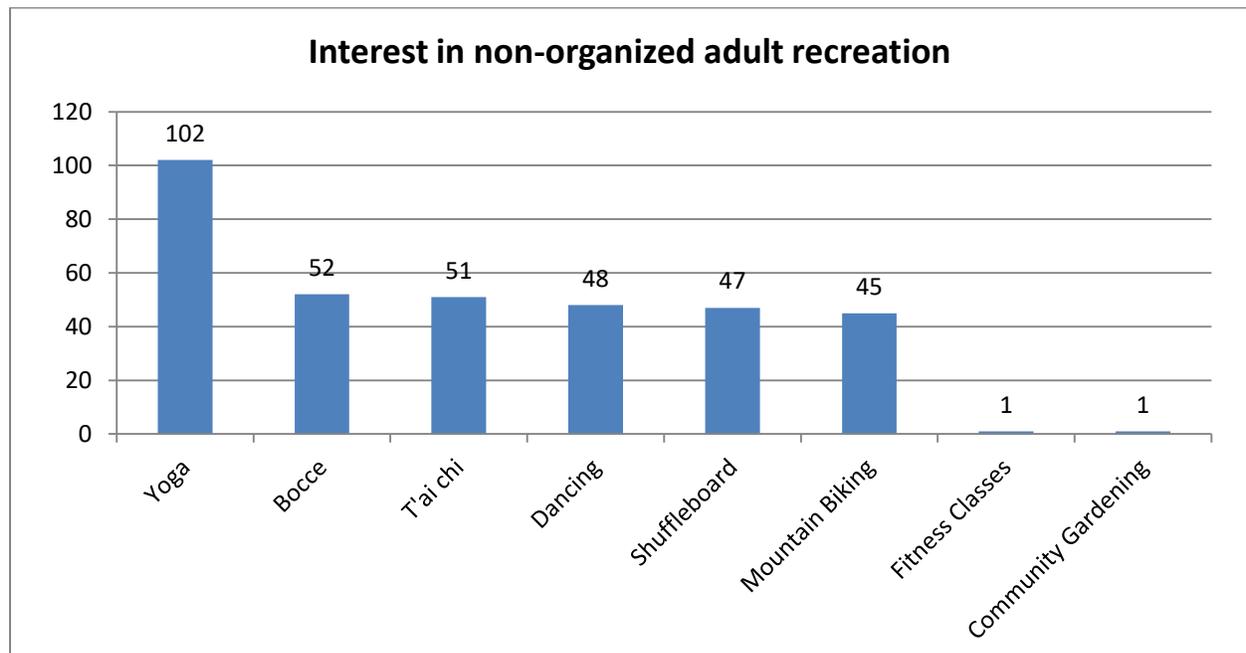
¹ See the “Equity Analysis for the Greater Philadelphia Region” map, <https://www.dvrpc.org/webmaps/IPD/#map>

ACTIVE RECREATION

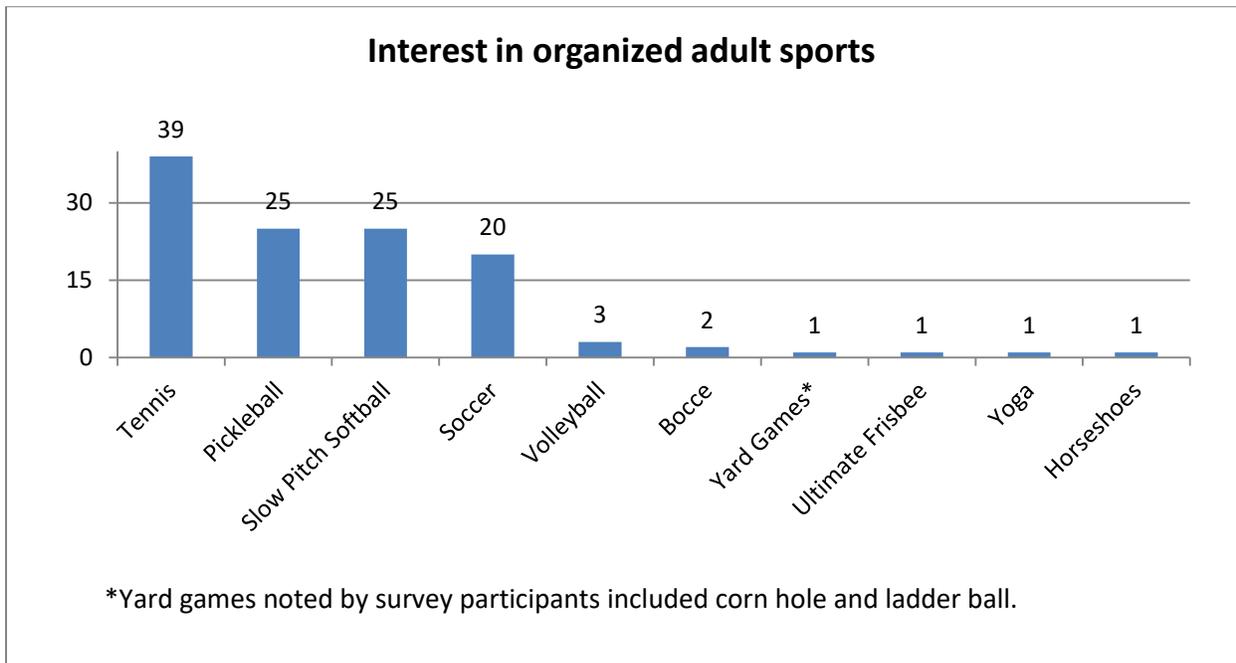
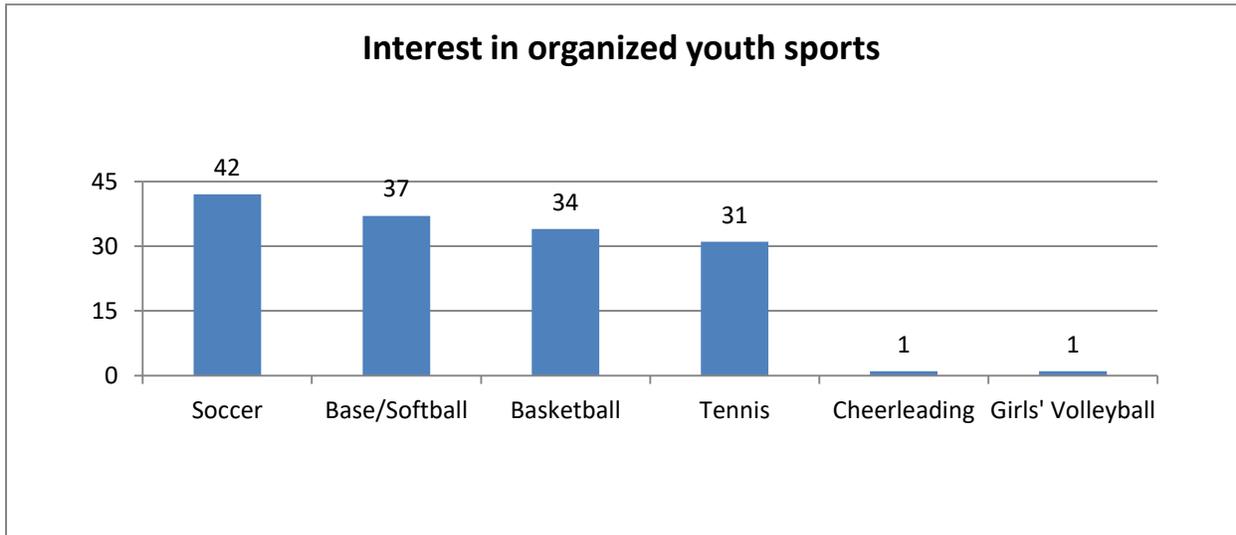
Each survey participant was asked about their household’s participation in organized sports. Most did not participate in a league. Respondents whose households did play organized sports reported that soccer, baseball / softball, and basketball were the most popular youth sports, while tennis and soccer were most popular for adults:

Household member participation in organized youth sports leagues		Household member participation in organized adult sports leagues	
Soccer	31	Tennis	11
Base/Softball	26	Soccer	10
Basketball	17	Pickleball	5
Tennis	9	Basketball	5
Flag/Football	9	Hockey	5
Hockey	5	Slow Pitch Softball	4
Swimming	3	Volleyball	4
Volleyball	3	Flag/Football	3
Gymnastics	3	Kickball	2
Cheerleading	2	Other sports	6
Track	2		
Field Hockey	2		
Other sports	7		

Participants felt that there should be more opportunities for adults to participate in non-organized recreation activities such as yoga, bocce, or shuffleboard:



Interest in organized youth sports and organized adult sports opportunities were reported as follows:



A summary of the Community Park and Recreation Survey is included in this park master plan as Appendix A.

SITE SUMMARY



ABOVE: VIEW TOWARDS THE SCHUYLKILL RIVER FROM A HIGH POINT NEAR THE FORMER FARM COMPLEX. THE TOWERS OF CROMBY STATION ARE VISIBLE AT RIGHT.

Hidden River Park and Preserve is located on a 115-acre agricultural tract consisting of three parcels in the northern part of the Township. It is surrounded by single family residences to the west, by the former Cromby electric generating station to the south, and by the Schuylkill River to the east. The property is characterized by rolling topography with a generally eastward aspect, facing the river. A series of hills are interrupted by small streams with incised banks. These rolling, erosion-prone features are typical of land within the Gettysburg-Newark



ABOVE: STRUCTURES AND RUINS REPRESENTING THE PROPERTY'S AGRICULTURAL HISTORY.

Lowland section of Pennsylvania's Piedmont, which developed on soft, reddish, sedimentary rock. Several high points on the site afford excellent views of the river valley and surrounding landscape.

Two perennial streams drain directly into the Schuylkill River. A collection of drainage ditches empty into a third, ephemeral stream that flows through a small patch of woodland in the southern half of the property. This area is surrounded by soils with hydric inclusions, which may indicate the presence of seeps. Most of the site is part of the Schuylkill River's direct drainage watershed, although a small part of the property's southern corner is within the Stony Run watershed. Prime agricultural soils underlay most of the site.

Hedgerows consisting of mature, second-growth trees and brush divide the site's farm fields. The hedgerows are significant vegetative features on the site, and should be preserved and expanded to prevent soil erosion, protect streams, support wildlife, and define views and uses on the site. Vegetation within the hedgerow includes native species like Black Walnut, Hackberry, Hickory, Black Cherry, Ash, and Pin Oak, as well as non-native invasive species such as Norway Maple, Ailanthus, and Oriental Bittersweet. A cluster of farm buildings, ruins, and structures is located adjacent to Spring City Road.

These could be incorporated into park programming as interpretive elements that link directly to the site's history. Farm roads bisect the property and provide access to Wall Street and Spring City Road.

The site holds potential to create multiple offsite trail connections. The adjacent Schuylkill River Trail would be easily accessible to pedestrians and bicyclists. Existing farm roads could be incorporated into the site's circulation plan, either as trails or to accommodate vehicles.

Four favorable locations for driveways into the site were identified for a residential development that was proposed in 2004. The proposal's traffic study indicated that these would support safe vehicular circulation, provided improvements were made to local intersections to accommodate increased traffic volume.

SENSITIVE SPECIES

Pennsylvania Conservation Explorer, the state's online clearinghouse for conservation information, indicated areas of potential conflicts between site development and species of concern. One of these species was confirmed to be a Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*), a state-threatened bird of prey that is under the jurisdiction of the Pennsylvania Game Commission.

In order to determine the park's impact on species of concern and to demonstrate compliance with state and/or Federal grant or permit applications, the park concept plan was submitted for PA Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Environmental Review. Three state agencies – the Game Commission, Fish and Boat Commission, and Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – conducted reviews of the design and found no impact. Review by a fourth agency with PNDI jurisdiction, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, was not required because proposed park improvements did not meet the disturbance threshold necessary for Federal review. The PNDI receipts are valid for two years from the date of issue and are included as Appendix B of this master plan.



TOP: HEDGEROWS CONSISTING OF MATURE WOODLAND SPECIES DIVIDE THE PROPERTY'S FARM FIELDS.

MIDDLE: VIEW SOUTH FROM THE SCHUYLKILL RIVER TRAIL. THE PROPERTY IS VISIBLE AT RIGHT.

ABOVE: PEREGRINE FALCON (WEB SOURCE IMAGE)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Federal grant funding for the park's acquisition required a Phase I Archaeological Survey to be performed in cooperation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The survey uncovered 419 prehistoric artifacts, primarily in the northern half of the site. Two areas of high artifact density were identified to be preserved in place. Any proposed land disturbance in these areas would require additional archaeological investigation prior to construction. The Township intends to leave these areas undisturbed in the park master plan.

Artifacts can be used to inform visitors of the Township's archaeological heritage. However, archaeological interpretive exhibits should not compromise the security of the artifacts or the sites in which they were found. The SHPO should advise on best practices for educational displays.

The SHPO letter and archaeological report abstract are included as Appendix C of this plan.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Input from Township residents and local stakeholders was solicited throughout the master planning process and built on the results of the 2018 Township recreational needs survey:

- The master plan **Steering Committee** included neighboring residents to the park, members of the Township Parks and Recreation Board and Open Space Committee, and representatives from Chester County Parks and the Schuylkill River Greenway. Meetings were held regularly to inform park design.
- Citizens were invited to submit park name proposals via an **Online Survey**. Of the proposals, the Board of Supervisors voted to select Hidden River Park and Preserve as the park name.
- Two **Community Workshops** were held to engage citizens in identifying priorities for the property and seek feedback on the draft Park and Preserve Master Plan:
 - The first workshop was held on November 6, 2019 to introduce participants to the property and determine desired goals and program elements for the park.
 - The second workshop was held on September 9, 2020 to present the Park and Preserve Master Plan and receive feedback.
- Park maps and information were displayed as **Public Information Exhibits** online and at the Township, at master plan workshops, and at the November 2, 2019 ribbon cutting ceremony.
- Adoption Hearing October 6, 2020 before the Township Board of Supervisors.

COMMUNITY VISION

The majority of Community Workshop participants viewed nature-based and passive recreation elements as most important priorities for the property, including native meadows, woodlands and reforestation, and pollinator habitat. Most-desired passive recreation improvements for the park included trails, access to the Schuylkill River, bicycle facilities, and community gardens. Participants that requested active recreation elements at the park preferred disc golf, fitness stations, mountain bike trails, tennis courts, and baseball fields.



PARTICIPANTS AT PUBLIC VISIONING WORKSHOP

Nature-based education was also considered a priority by participants, who requested wildlife education, a nature center, and amateur astronomy at the park. Concerns included traffic safety, parking availability, mitigation of noise pollution, adequate lighting with glare control, and the provision of restrooms.

Public Information Exhibits and full summaries of the Community Workshops are included as Appendix F and Appendix D in this plan, respectively.

VISION, GOALS, AND PARK PROGRAM

VISION STATEMENT

Hidden River Park and Preserve will complement the Township open space system in serving the recreational needs of the community, promoting environmental protection, and connecting with local and regional open space and recreational corridors.

GOALS

1. Preserve open space within the Schuylkill River and Stony Run Greenways.
2. Develop a park program that promotes protection of vital natural resources, including water quality, soil, wildlife habitat, scenic vistas, and dark night skies.
3. Develop a park program that focuses on passive recreation that is accessible to all.
4. Create connections to local and regional trail networks.
5. Ensure security for park users and neighboring properties.
6. Provide educational/engagement opportunities to connect the community to the area's rich environmental heritage.
7. Develop and maintain the park in a cost effective manner.

PARK CONCEPT

Hidden River Park will be primarily dedicated to passive recreation and open space. The park's main entrance will be at the north end of the property off of Spring City Road. There, the former farm complex will be preserved with buildings and structures repurposed for education/events and park facilities programming. The southern property corner is proposed as active recreation with trailhead parking for access to the Schuylkill River Trail. The majority of the property will be restored as native meadow and forest.

Access to the Schuylkill River for boating and fishing was initially proposed as a park amenity. This would have required a paved driveway and parking for vehicles carrying boats, and a paved path crossing the Schuylkill River Trail to the River. However, the archaeological survey established areas of no disturbance within the space proposed for boat launch parking. In addition, the relatively steep grades along the river are not conducive to a vehicular driveway or boat portage. Thus it is not considered desirable to provide a connection to the Schuylkill River from the park.

PROGRAM ELEMENTS

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS

The majority of the park will be restored as native habitat for wildlife, ecological enhancements, and natural beauty. Interpretive signs will be installed throughout the park to educate visitors about the benefits of each of the following improvements.

NATIVE MEADOWS

Approximately 52 acres of the property currently in agricultural use will be converted to native meadow vegetation. Meadows will be installed using seed mixes chosen to suit varying hydrologic conditions on the site. For example, areas with seasonally high water table will be planted in a mix of wildflowers and grasses tolerant of fluctuating soil moisture levels, whereas areas on slopes will be planted in an upland meadow mix. The proposed meadows will create wildlife habitat for a variety of pollinators, birds, and other wildlife, providing immense natural beauty for park visitors. They will infiltrate stormwater runoff from impervious and mowed lawn surfaces. Additionally, meadows will require less maintenance upon establishment than lawn would, thus saving the Township labor time and cost, while reducing environmental impacts.



EXAMPLE OF A NATIVE WET MEADOW (EICHELBERGER)

REFORESTATION

The plan proposes to reforest 19 acres of the property. Two farm fields in the west property corner will be converted to native forest. Additionally, 150-foot-wide forested riparian buffers will be established along each of the three streams on the property. The new forests will shelter an evolving array of wildlife species as they mature; provide shade to park visitors; and sequester carbon. The forested riparian buffers will also improve water quality by filtering pollutants from stormwater runoff, promoting infiltration, and protecting streambanks from erosion.

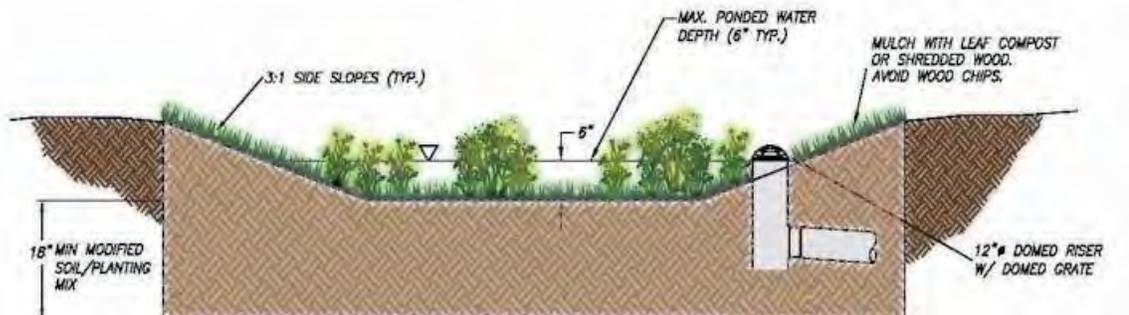
Reforested areas will consist of native trees planted on 10-foot to 12-foot centers. Adjacent hedgerows will provide additional seedlings. Seedlings shall be protected from deer browse and rodent damage with 5-foot plastic tree tubes until they reach at least 3-inch caliper.



PLANTED AND NATURALLY OCCURRING SEEDLINGS IN A REFORESTATION AREA (WEB SOURCE IMAGE)

RAIN GARDENS

Rain gardens will treat stormwater runoff in the two proposed parking lots. Also called bioretention basins, they will be designed with native woody and herbaceous plants to filter pollutants from runoff. The treated runoff will infiltrate into the soil to recharge groundwater, and any excess water will be directed out of the basin at controlled rates of flow. The native plants in the rain gardens will also attract pollinating insects and birds.



RAIN GARDEN DIAGRAM (PADEP)

POLLINATOR GARDENS

Colorful plantings within the farm complex area will provide beauty for visitors as well as food and shelter for butterflies, bees, and birds. These pollinator gardens will be designed for low maintenance needs, and will consist of native plants as well as non-invasive introduced species with proven pollinator benefits.

BUFFER PLANTINGS AND LANDSCAPING

Landscaped buffers consisting of native trees and shrubs are proposed along park property lines between park facilities and surrounding residences.

Additional landscaping including shade and street trees will enhance the park's appearance, provide shade and shelter from wind, and will support wildlife. Species will be selected for their tolerance of site conditions and environmental benefit. Non-native trees like Horse Chestnut may be chosen as street trees because of their resilience and quick growth, while native species like White Oak, Sycamore, Flowering Dogwood will be utilized for wildlife habitat along trails in the park's interior.



HORSE CHESTNUT (*AESCULUS HIPPOCASTANUM*) STREET TREE (WEB SOURCE IMAGE)

PASSIVE RECREATION

MULTI-USE TRAILS

The plan proposes 2.125 miles of 8-foot wide asphalt multi-use trails, with two connections to the Schuylkill River Trail. The trails will accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists and are designed for universal accessibility. In addition, the trails will facilitate park maintenance by accommodating mowing equipment. Decision points at trail intersections will feature seating and pollinator gardens, interpretive signage, or art installations.



VIEW OF THE PARK FROM THE SCHUYLKILL RIVER TRAIL

Two stream crossings are proposed in the center of the property. The east crossing will utilize an existing farm road corridor, which will require evaluating the existing culvert for structural integrity. If the culvert is safe, it will be repurposed for the trail; otherwise, a new culvert will be required. The west crossing will require a bridge to be installed. A prefabricated steel bridge is proposed for longevity and for facilitating access by maintenance vehicles.

Connections to the Schuylkill River Trail would require easements to allow trail links between the park property and the private property on which the SRT is located.

A connection between the Schuylkill River Trail and the proposed Schuylkill East Trail in Montgomery County is possible in the future via an existing railroad bridge. This "railroad viaduct" would connect open space on both sides of the Schuylkill River and the extensive trail networks of both Chester and Montgomery Counties. The status of the rail line, which runs through properties owned by a private company, PECO, and Montgomery County, is unknown. A feasibility study in cooperation with Chester and Montgomery Counties is recommended to investigate utilizing the railroad viaduct as a trail link over the Schuylkill River.

NATURAL SURFACE TRAILS

Approximately 1.75 miles of mowed grass trails are proposed for walking, trail running, or mountain biking. They will form loops within woodland and meadow areas for nature exploration. Trails will be at least 5 feet wide with unimproved natural surface. Raised sections comprised of stepping stones, puncheon bridges, or boardwalks will be provided where trails cross seasonally wet areas or ephemeral streams, such as in the southern half of the property.



NATURAL SURFACE TRAIL IN CHARLESTOWN TOWNSHIP



ABOVE LEFT: PLATFORM AT CHESTER COUNTY'S BLACK ROCK SANCTUARY, PHOENIXVILLE. ABOVE RIGHT: COVERED OBSERVATION TOWER WITH ADA ACCESSIBLE RAMP, ENTERPRISE SOUTH NATURE PARK, CHATTANOOGA, TN (WEB SOURCE IMAGES)

WILDLIFE OBSERVATION

Four observation platforms are proposed at high points and in the reforestation area to allow visitors to enjoy the park's sweeping vistas, observe wildlife, or watch the night sky. Platforms will be partially covered to provide shelter for visitors, while remaining open in places for sky watching. Platforms along nature trail loops, such as those near the north park entrance and in the center of the park, will incorporate educational signage. All platforms will have paved path connections to multi-use trails, as well as ramp access compliant with ADA standards.

PAVILIONS/PICNIC AREAS

Pavilions are proposed near park entrances for seating, shade, and picnic opportunities. Pavilions will be constructed of low-maintenance, vandal-resistant materials, and could be either fixed timber/steel structures or shade structures that can be disassembled and stored during the winter. Pavilions will have concrete floors for ease of maintenance and ADA accessibility.

A picnic area is also proposed within an existing grove of mature trees adjacent to the farm complex. The picnic lawn and all pavilions will be accessed via ADA compliant paths. At the farm complex, a large overhang attached to the existing garage will be repurposed as a pavilion area. This will require evaluating the structure's stability, refurbishing the building exterior and interior, and pouring a level concrete floor.



**TOP: PAVILIONS AT CHARLESTOWN PARK
ABOVE: GARAGE OVERHANG AT THE FARM COMPLEX**

PLAYGROUNDS

Two playgrounds are proposed:

- A **Conventional Playground** will provide play space for children of all age groups adjacent to the active recreation facilities at the south park entrance. The playground will be accessed by ADA compliant paths and incorporate universally accessible components.
- A **Nature Playground** near the farm complex will utilize natural materials and constructed landforms adjacent to an existing tree grove to facilitate creative play opportunities and foster deeper connections between children



OLLIE OWL’S NATURE PLAYGROUND, CHESLEN PRESERVE, COATESVILLE (WEB SOURCE IMAGE)

and the environment. Large tree trunks and branches can be sanded smooth and cut to form tunnels, climbing bars, and balance beams. Slides and tunnels made of conventional materials can be set into constructed mounds. Examples of natural playgrounds to emulate include Ollie Owl’s Nature Playground at Natural Land’s Cheslen Preserve, Coatesville, PA; Chickadee Nature Discovery Area in Mohnton, PA; Nature Play Zone at Berks Nature in Reading, PA: and the Zucker Natural Exploration Area in Prospect Park, New York City, NY. The Township should determine whether existing materials on site, such as felled trees, could be recycled as playground elements.

UN-PROGRAMMED LAWN

Small areas of lawn are proposed near park entrances for unorganized passive recreation and events such as Yoga in the Park.



EXAMPLE OF A MULTI-USE ATHLETIC FIELD (WEB SOURCE IMAGE)

ACTIVE RECREATION

Approximately 6.5 acres of active recreation facilities are proposed to address the need for additional sports amenities in the Township. One athletic field, three tennis courts, and a basketball court will be located in the south property corner near the Wall Street entrance. In addition, another three acres adjacent to these facilities will be managed as lawn, for a potential future multi-use field. The active recreation area was chosen for its separation from neighboring residences, thus limiting noise disturbance from sports games. The location is also fairly level, which will minimize grading necessary for sports facilities. A disc golf course is also proposed in the preserve area.

ATHLETIC FIELD

A 225-foot by 360-foot youth athletic field is proposed next to the south parking lot. It will be designed as a multi-purpose field that can accommodate youth league soccer, baseball, or unscheduled pick-up games. As community need for sports fields increases, a three acre area east of the multi-purpose field can be developed into additional facilities. The field will be designed as a natural turf field to minimize installation and replacement costs². Field and court lighting is not proposed, but could be added if subsequently deemed necessary or desirable.

² The cost to install an artificial field is between 3 and 10 times that for a natural grass field on native soil (Sports Turf Managers Association). This does not include maintenance, or disposal and replacement costs required once the artificial field’s warranty period ends (typically 8 years).

COURT FACILITIES

Three tennis courts and one basketball court are proposed adjacent to the multi-purpose sports field. All courts will have asphalt surfacing. The tennis courts will be designed as dual tennis/pickleball courts and will be completely surrounded by chain link fence. Courts will be accessed by a 5-foot-wide concrete or recycled rubber path.

DISC GOLF COURSE

An 18-hole disc golf course circumnavigates the northern 2/3s of the park. Hole placement will respond to topography and vegetation, and will follow the safety guidelines in the figure below. Holes will range from 250 feet long to 500 feet long from tee to target. Tees will be marked with signage, and targets will be standard chain baskets. Fairways will be maintained as a mixture of mown grass and manicured woodland.

FITNESS STATIONS

Five fitness stations are proposed along the multi-use trails. Stations will be spaced along the trails to form a 'fitness trail loop'.

Design Principles and Safety Distances on a Safe Disc Golf Course

Design Principles

- ➔ Disc golf target will not be installed too close to a residence, pathway, playground, etc.
- ➔ Throwing directions are planned so that stray throws cause as minimal harm as possible.
- ➔ Holes are not planned crossing cycleways, pathways or roads.
- ➔ Holes are planned so that they cross with each other as little as possible.

Safety Distances

Target's minimum distance from a residence/lot	150 ft
Target's minimum distance from buildings, motor roads and playgrounds	60 ft
Tee's minimum distance from buildings, roads and playgrounds	45 ft
Target's minimum distance from tee	45 ft
Target's minimum distance from pathway	15 ft

It's important to mark the safety instructions on the InfoBoard and TeeSigns.

- ➔ On the InfoBoard the course instructions along with the rules and etiquette of Disc Golf are displayed.
- ➔ Each holes TeeSign displays the possible safety issues associated with the hole.



SAFETY DESIGN PRINCIPLES FOR A DISC GOLF COURSE (DISCGOLFPARK)

PARK FACILITIES

Park facilities will include new improvements as well as refurbishing and use of existing site structures and utilities.

PARKING AND VEHICULAR CIRCULATION

The plan includes two public parking lots at either end of the property. Paved multi-use trails will connect to both parking lots for universal accessibility. Bollards are proposed to prevent vehicles from entering the trail from parking areas.

FARM COMPLEX ENTRANCE AND PARKING LOT

An asphalt parking lot will be installed at the north park entrance off of Spring City Road, in a relatively flat field south of the farm complex. The lot will accommodate 47 vehicles, including ADA compliant parking spaces, and will feature a rain garden divider strip to treat stormwater runoff. Overflow parking for up to 40 additional vehicles can be provided in a reinforced turf area adjacent to the new lot. The parking lot will provide access to educational and event facilities proposed in the farm complex; adjacent picnic and play areas; trails; and the disc golf course.

The existing Spring City Road entrance will be widened and repaved to accommodate two lanes of traffic, and a new, 24-foot-wide paved driveway will branch off of the existing driveway to connect to the parking lot. The existing driveway will be repaved and utilized by Township staff to access the garage and office. A gate is proposed across the driveway to prevent unauthorized vehicle traffic.

SPORTS COMPLEX ENTRANCE AND PARKING LOT

A new driveway and asphalt parking lot will be installed to create a south park entrance off of Spring City Road in a location identified in a 2004 traffic study. The lot will accommodate up to 75 vehicles, including ADA compliant parking spaces. Rain gardens will treat stormwater runoff. Paved or recycled rubber paths will provide ADA-accessible connections from the parking lot to sports facilities, playground, pavilions, and trails.

EXISTING FARM BUILDINGS

Six structures remain on site at the farm complex providing unique and attractive connections to the property's agricultural past. The plan proposes to refurbish them and utilize them for park programming. Prior to restoration, the Township should consult with an architect to determine the structural stability of each building, and to determine a detailed restoration work scope.

GARAGE

A one-and-a-half-story wood frame garage is proposed to serve as storage and office space for Township vehicles, equipment and staff. The building's attached overhang will be utilized as a pavilion for staff and visitors. The existing driveway will be re-paved and extended to the garage for Township trucks and equipment. A five-space asphalt parking lot is proposed for municipal use next to the garage.

The garage appears to be structurally sound, but is in need of a new roof, doors, and windows, lighting, and interior finish. HVAC could be provided with mini split systems.

WOOD SHED

A one-room wooden shed next to the garage is proposed to be utilized as an activities building for educational events. It will require doors, windows, lighting, interior finish work. HVAC could be provided with mini split systems.

COW SHED

A stone-and-concrete cowshed is proposed to be renovated to house restroom facilities. Water and sanitary utilities will be extended to the building to accommodate sinks and flushing toilets. Lighting and interior finish work will be required, and year round use could be facilitated with mini split HVAC systems.

CORN CRIB

A large wooden corn crib near the park entrance is proposed to house a rotating display of exhibits – examples could include children’s artwork from school or summer camp, or educational exhibits on the Township’s environmental or cultural heritage. The structure is leaning, which indicates the need for a new, stable foundation. The roof should also be evaluated.

BARN RUINS

The remains of a stone dairy barn are located in the center of the farm complex. The stone walls of the ruin are proposed to be stabilized to create the backdrop for a visually striking outdoor classroom and venue for community events such as movie nights. The existing concrete floor is cracked and will be removed, with the rubble forming the base layer for the park’s multi-use trails. The concrete floor will be replaced with compacted stone fines or recycled rubber (e.g. Flex Pave) for ADA accessibility. Iron cow stanchions should be evaluated for reconditioned use in an educational exhibit. Excess stones from the ruins will be used to construct low seating walls around the barn perimeter to frame the space.

SILOS

Two existing silos are proposed to remain. A tile silo adjacent to the barn ruins will serve as a sculptural element; remains of an attached ladder will be removed to prevent climbing. The other concrete silo can be modified as an observation tower with a spiral steel staircase attached to the silo’s exterior, leading to an enclosed platform facing southeast towards the Schuylkill River and Cromby.

UTILITIES

Water, septic, and electrical service will be provided at the farm complex and at the sports and recreation area. The existing water well and electric service will be extended to service the farm complex, and a new septic field will be required. In the sports and recreation area, new electric service will be extended from Spring City Road, and a new well and septic field will be required.

EXISTING CONDITIONS:



TOP: FARM COMPLEX; SECOND ROW L: GARAGE AND WOODEN SHED; R: GARAGE OVERHANG; THIRD ROW L: BARN RUINS; R: COW SHED; BOTTOM ROW L: CORN CRIB EXTERIOR; R: CORN CRIB INTERIOR

EXAMPLES OF PROPOSED RESTORATIONS:



FIGURE 1 TOP ROW L: RESTORATION OF THE WOODEN GARAGE AND OVERHANG WILL LOOK SIMILAR TO THIS CARPORT AND WORKSHOP; R: CHARLESTOWN TOWNSHIP'S WOOLEN MILL PROPERTY FEATURES AN OUTDOOR GATHERING SPACE BUILT OVER THE FOUNDATION OF A STONE FARMHOUSE.

SECOND ROW L: CHARLESTOWN TOWNSHIP STABILIZED THE STONE WALLS OF THE HISTORIC LONGWOOD SCHOOL; R: THE PLAN PROPOSES BUILDING A RESTROOM WITHIN THE FOOTPRINT OF THE EXISTING COW SHED.

BOTTOM ROW L: THE PLAN PROPOSES A SPIRAL STAIRCASE AROUND A CONCRETE SILO AT THE FARM COMPLEX. THE APPEARANCE WOULD BE SIMILAR TO THIS SILO, WITH ADDITIONAL SAFETY STRUCTURES TO PREVENT FALLS; R: THE CORN CRIB COULD BE RE-PURPOSED AS EXHIBIT SPACE, SIMILAR TO THIS MID-WESTERN CORN CRIB.

PROPOSED BUILDING

In addition to proposed pavilions and observation platforms, the following is proposed:

RESTROOM/STORAGE

A building next to the athletic field near the south park entrance will house restroom facilities with sinks and flushing toilets as well as maintenance equipment storage.

PEDESTRIAN SURFACES

The outdoor classroom and paths connecting the farm complex buildings will be surfaced with a material that is ADA accessible and pervious to stormwater. Acceptable materials are compacted stone fines or porous recycled rubber pavement such as Flexi-Pave®.



POROUS PAVEMENT SIDEWALK (WEB SOURCE IMAGE)

Compacted stone fines offer the advantages of low installation cost and providing a comfortable walking surface that does not reflect surface heat to the extent that asphalt and concrete do. Downsides are relatively high maintenance requirements and costs, and compacted fines paths present difficulties for snow removal. In addition, heavy rain events could wash the gravel into adjacent areas, particularly where grades are not level. Surface erosion can be somewhat mitigated with stone or steel edging, which adds significantly to installation and maintenance costs.

Recycled rubber surfaces are highly pervious, strong, and come in a variety of colors. Although installation cost is significantly higher than compacted fines, maintenance costs are negligible and the surface can be easily cleared of snow. In addition, some products are fully creditable to LEED certification. Recycled rubber paths have been used at many public facilities, including at national parks.

SITE FURNISHINGS

Proposed site furnishings consist of the following:

BENCHES AND TRASH RECEPTACLES

Benches and trash receptacles are proposed around key gathering places in the park, including parking lots, picnic areas, pavilions, playgrounds, and sports facilities. Benches will be six feet long and installed on concrete pads off of pedestrian traffic ways.

BICYCLE RACKS

Bike racks are proposed at trailheads at the farm complex and athletic complex parking lots. Racks will have at least a 10-bike capacity and will be composed of low-maintenance materials like powder-coated steel.

SIGNAGE

Five interpretive signs are proposed throughout the park to educate visitors about the rain gardens, meadow area, reforestation area, farm complex, and about the park's archaeological significance. Park entrance signs are proposed at the farm complex and athletic complex parking areas, and will include park hours and regulations. A restricted access sign is proposed at the garage driveway to inform visitors that the driveway is for municipal use only.

BOLLARDS

Bollards are proposed at the farm complex, trailheads to Schuylkill River Trail, and athletic complex trailheads to prevent vehicles from driving onto the multi-use trails. A bollard and chain is proposed across the garage driveway to prevent access by non-municipal vehicles.

PICNIC TABLES

Six foot long picnic tables will be provided at each pavilion and the picnic lawn; at least one table at each pavilion and one in the picnic grove will be eight feet long and ADA accessible, including ADA compliant space for maneuvering.

PROJECT PHASING AND COST ESTIMATES

The following provides information regarding proposed park improvements and costs for planning and phasing purposes. The Township should consult with an architect for more detailed cost estimates regarding restoration of the farm complex buildings.

PHASE 1 \$ 1,369,220.00

MULTI-USE TRAIL
NATURE PLAYGROUND
SEEDING NORTH MEADOW WITH GRASS TRAILS
REFORESTATION UPPER MEADOW
FARM COMPLEX RESTROOM RENOVATION
PICNIC GROVE
STABILIZE BARN RUIN
FARM PARKING

PHASE 2 \$ 916,210.00

RENOVATE FARM COMPLEX BLDGS
PAVILIONS
TRAIL OBSERVATION PLATFORMS
HIKING PATH
DISC GOLF
SEEDING MIDDLE MEADOW WITH GRASS TRAILS
REFORESTATION STREAM BUFFERS

PHASE 3 \$ 1,253,340.00

ATHLETIC COMPLEX
SPORTS FIELD
SPORTS PARKING
RESTROOM
TENNIS
BASKETBALL
PLAYGROUND
PAVILIONS
SEEDING SOUTH MEADOW WITH GRASS TRAILS

PHASE 1

<u>Item Description</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Unit Cost</u>	<u>Total Cost - Option 1</u>	<u>Total Cost - Option 2</u>
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS & LANDSCAPING				
2" cal. Shade trees	145 EA	\$ 350.00	\$ 50,750.00	
7' Evergreen trees	40 EA	\$ 255.00	\$ 10,200.00	
Lawn seed	12 AC	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 50,400.00	
Rain gardens	1 LS	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 36,000.00	
Pollinator gardens	3 LS	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 5,400.00	
Meadow seed	22 AC	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 44,000.00	
Reforestation, seedlings 12' o.c. with plastic tree tubes	10 AC	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 45,000.00	
SUBTOTAL LANDSCAPING			\$ 241,750.00	
ACTIVE RECREATION				
	<u>Qty</u>		<u>Estimated Cost - Option 1</u>	
Natural playground	1 EA	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	
SUBTOTAL ACTIVE REC			\$ 60,000.00	
PASSIVE RECREATION				
	<u>Qty</u>		<u>Estimated Cost - Option 1</u>	
Multi-use trails, 8-foot asphalt	10820 LF	\$ 36.00	\$ 389,520.00	
Trail bridge	1 LS	\$ 52,000.00	\$ 52,000.00	
SUBTOTAL PASSIVE REC			\$ 441,520.00	
SIGNAGE				
	<u>Qty</u>		<u>Estimated Cost - Option 1</u>	
Park rules	1 EA	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 1,750.00	
SUBTOTAL SIGNAGE			\$ 1,750.00	
FACILITIES				
	<u>Qty</u>		<u>Estimated Cost - Option 1</u>	<u>Estimated Cost - Option 2</u>
REFURBISH EXISTING BUILDINGS				
Restroom	1 LS	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00	
Barn ruins - stone wall rehabilitation (67 LF)	1 LS	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	
Barn ruins - new seating walls (60 LF)	1 LS	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	

<u>Item Description</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Unit Cost</u>	<u>Total Cost - Option 1</u>	<u>Total Cost - Option 2</u>
FACILITIES CONTINUED				
SITE FURNISHINGS				
Bollard w/ concrete footer	8 EA	\$ 600.00	\$ 4,800.00	
Benches 6' w/ concrete footer	7 EA	\$ 800.00	\$ 5,600.00	
Picnic tables 8' wheelchair accessible	2 EA	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	
Picnic tables 6'	5 EA	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 9,000.00	
Trash cans 32 gallon	4 EA	\$ 800.00	\$ 3,200.00	
Bicycle racks w/ concrete footer	1 EA	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 1,050.00	
Drinking fountains	1 EA	\$ 2,450.00	\$ 2,450.00	
Boundary fence, wood post and rail	1250 LF	\$ 50.00	\$ 62,500.00	
PAVING / CIRCULATION				
Farm complex driveway 12'	600 SY	\$ 95.00	\$ 57,000.00	
Farm complex parking lot and access drive	2600 SY	\$ 95.00	\$ 247,000.00	
Farm complex pedestrian surfaces option #1 - compacted stone fines	6500 SF	\$ 7.00	\$ 45,500.00	
Farm complex pedestrian surfaces option #2 - recycled rubber	6500 SF	\$ 12.00		\$ 78,000.00
Driveway sign and chain bollard (Farm complex)	1 LS	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	
UTILITIES				
Water lines from existing well - farm complex	400 LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 14,000.00	
Septic systems	1 EA	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	
SUBTOTAL FACILITIES			\$ 591,700.00	\$ 624,200.00
TOTAL PARK IMPROVEMENT COST - PHASE 1			\$ 1,336,720.00	\$ 1,369,220.00

PHASE 2

<u>Item Description</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Unit Cost</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS & LANDSCAPING			
Lawn seed	13 AC	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 54,600.00
Pollinator gardens	3 LS	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 5,400.00
Meadow seed	18 AC	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 36,000.00
Reforestation, seedlings 12' o.c. with plastic tree tubes	10 AC	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 45,000.00
SUBTOTAL LANDSCAPING			\$ 141,000.00
ACTIVE RECREATION			
	<u>Qty</u>		<u>Estimated Cost</u>
Disc golf course 18 holes	1 EA	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
SUBTOTAL ACTIVE REC			\$ 20,000.00
PASSIVE RECREATION			
	<u>Qty</u>		<u>Estimated Cost</u>
Grass trails 5' wide	8600 LF	\$ 1.00	\$ 8,600.00
SUBTOTAL PASSIVE REC			\$ 8,600.00
SIGNAGE			
	<u>Qty</u>		<u>Estimated Cost</u>
Interpretive signage	4 EA	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 7,000.00
SUBTOTAL SIGNAGE			\$ 7,000.00
FACILITIES			
	<u>Qty</u>		<u>Estimated Cost</u>
REFURBISH EXISTING BUILDINGS			
Corn crib	1 LS	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
Garage	1 LS	\$ 260,000.00	\$ 260,000.00
Activities Shed	1 LS	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
Silo stairs	1 LS	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 40,000.00

<u>Item Description</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Unit Cost</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
FACILITIES CONTINUED			
NEW BUILDINGS			
Pavilions 20X20	2 EA	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
Observation Platforms	4 EA	\$ 10,800.00	\$ 43,200.00
SITE FURNISHINGS			
Benches 6' w/ concrete footer	8 EA	\$ 800.00	\$ 6,400.00
Picnic tables 8' wheelchair accessible	2 EA	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Picnic tables 6'	6 EA	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 10,800.00
Trash cans 32 gallon	4 EA	\$ 800.00	\$ 3,200.00
Fitness Stations	5 EA	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
PAVING / CIRCULATION			
Farm complex reinforced turf parking	9720 SF	\$ 8.00	\$ 77,760.00
Municipal parking and garage apron (Farm complex)	150 SY	\$ 95.00	\$ 14,250.00
SUBTOTAL FACILITIES			\$ 739,610.00
TOTAL PARK IMPROVEMENT COST - PHASE 2			\$ 916,210.00

PHASE 3

<u>Item Description</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Unit Cost</u>	<u>Total Cost - Option 1</u>	<u>Total Cost - Option 2</u>
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS & LANDSCAPING				
2" cal. Shade trees	15 EA	\$ 350.00	\$ 5,250.00	
Lawn seed	10 AC	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 42,000.00	
Rain gardens	1 LS	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 36,000.00	
Pollinator gardens	1 EA	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,800.00	
Meadow seed	9 AC	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 18,000.00	
SUBTOTAL LANDSCAPING			\$ 103,050.00	
ACTIVE RECREATION				
	<u>Qty</u>		<u>Estimated Cost - Option 1</u>	
Conventional playground (2-5 year old and 5-12 year old age groups)	1 EA	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00	
Athletic field 225'x360'	1 EA	\$ 55,000.00	\$ 55,000.00	
Tennis court	3 EA	\$ 53,360.00	\$ 160,080.00	
Basketball court	1 EA	\$ 53,360.00	\$ 53,360.00	
SUBTOTAL ACTIVE REC			\$ 348,440.00	
PASSIVE RECREATION				
	<u>Qty</u>		<u>Estimated Cost - Option 1</u>	
Multi-use trails, 8-foot asphalt	400 LF	\$ 36.00	\$ 14,400.00	
SUBTOTAL PASSIVE REC			\$ 14,400.00	
SIGNAGE				
	<u>Qty</u>		<u>Estimated Cost - Option 1</u>	
Interpretive signage	1 EA	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 1,750.00	
Park rules	1 EA	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 1,750.00	
SUBTOTAL SIGNAGE			\$ 3,500.00	

<u>Item Description</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Unit Cost</u>	<u>Total Cost - Option 1</u>	<u>Total Cost - Option 2</u>
FACILITIES				
NEW BUILDINGS				
Proposed restroom/maintenance shed	1 EA	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 80,000.00	
Pavilions 20X20	2 EA	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 120,000.00	
Pavillion 20X40	1 EA	\$ 96,000.00	\$ 96,000.00	
SITE FURNISHINGS				
Bollard w/ concrete footer	2 EA	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,200.00	
Benches 6' w/ concrete footer	4 EA	\$ 800.00	\$ 3,200.00	
Picnic tables 8' wheelchair accessible	4 EA	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	
Picnic tables 6'	12 EA	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 21,600.00	
Trash cans 32 gallon	6 EA	\$ 800.00	\$ 4,800.00	
Bicycle racks w/ concrete footer	1 EA	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 1,050.00	
Drinking fountains	2 EA	\$ 2,450.00	\$ 4,900.00	
PAVING / CIRCULATION				
Athletic complex parking lot and access drive	3300 SY	\$ 95.00	\$ 313,500.00	
Athletic complex path paving option #1 - concrete	5500 SF	\$ 6.50	\$ 35,750.00	
Athletic complex path paving option #2 - recycled rubber	5500 SF	\$ 12.00		\$ 66,000.00
UTILITIES				
New well at athletic complex	1 LS	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 5,200.00	
Water lines at athletic complex	1100 LF	\$ 35.00	\$ 38,500.00	
Septic systems	1 EA	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	
SUBTOTAL FACILITIES			\$ 753,700.00	\$ 783,950.00
TOTAL PARK IMPROVEMENT COST			\$ 1,223,090.00	\$ 1,253,340.00

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: COMMUNITY PARK AND RECREATION SURVEY

Survey Summary:

The 2018 Community Park and Recreation Survey, which ran from May 18-June 30 had a total of 221 resident responses. The findings are summarized below, followed by a question-by-question summary.

French Creek Trail:

- 65% of responders use the French creek trail (51% monthly) (Q9 & Q10).
 - If people don't use the trail it was because they haven't gone yet/no time/no chance, unaware, no reason/not interested, etc. (Q12).

Kimberton Park:

- 63% of responders utilize Kimberton park (48% monthly) (Q6 &7)
 - If people don't use the park it was because they prefer walking trails, they were unaware of it, etc. (Q8).
- The majority of people were aware that you can rent park facilities (71%) but of those who were aware, only 13% have rented (Q30 & Q31).

Parks and Recreation:

- 88% of responders would like to have access to more park facilities throughout East Pikeland, specifically, passive recreation (Q17 &18).
- People would "like to know more" about recreation programs, events, and services; community events; recreation facilities; trails; where to get information about parks and recreation; and parks (Q15).
- A majority of responders thought that we do NOT have enough PARK opportunities (Q19).
- People thought that we do NOT have enough non-organized adult recreation and adult education opportunities (Q20).
- When asked **what people liked about parks and trails** in East Pikeland the most popular responses were: clean/well maintained, nature/green space, easy access, etc. (Q28).
- When asked **what they would do to improve parks and recreation** in East Pikeland the most popular responses were: more trails/parks, connections between trails/parks, more community events, etc. (Q29).

- People would like: more movie nights/music concerts; food festivals/food & drink trucks; fitness classes/yoga/tai chi; and environmental education (nature walks, community garden, health classes, gardening/bees) (Q36).
- Most people prefer to get their information from Facebook or other social media (Q38).

In Conclusion:

- People want more parks facilities and recreation opportunities in East Pikeland.
- People want more information/education on parks and recreation in East Pikeland.
- People were interested in adult education and non-organized adult sport opportunities.
- People would like more outdoor events (especially involving music & food) and outdoor education and fitness opportunities.

Question Summary

- **Q1: Are you a resident of East Pikeland Township**
 - Yes: 221, No: 20
- **Q2: Please tell us what age groups reside in your household:**
 - The majority of homes had 36-59 year-olds residing there (129), followed by 0-12 (70) 60 and over (69), 19-35 (64), and 13-18 (30).
- **Q3: In what area of the Township do you live?**
 - The majority of respondents lived in the Central part of the township (60%), followed by the West (26%) and North (14%)
- **Q4: Do you travel to other locations for recreation**
 - 91% of people travel to other locations for recreation
- **Q5: When you travel for recreation which parks do you travel to?**
 - Popular locations include: Valley Forge (75), Charlestown Park (44), French Creek State Park (23), Reeve's Park/Phoenixville (19), Marsh Creek (16), Mandarach (15), Schuylkill River Trail (13), Binky Lee (6), Wilson Farm Park (6) and many others.
- **Q6: Do you currently utilize Kimberton Park?**
 - 63% of people currently utilize Kimberton Park
- **Q7: How often do you use Kimberton Park?**
 - Of those people who use the park, most use it monthly (48%). Followed by yearly (31%), weekly (19%) & daily (2%)

- **Q8: Why don't you use Kimberton Park**
 - The 37% of people who don't use the park do so because:
 - They prefer walking trails (11), they are unaware of it (10), they or their children are too old (9), no dogs allowed (6), they participate in activities not available at the park (6), no reason/no need (6), New to East Pikeland (4), and many others.
 - Other responses:
 - We were doing tennis there, but the courts were always in use by private tennis instructors. Make us feel a little unwelcome.
 - Would like to play tennis after work and usually full with lessons at least last year. Also, the park does not have pickleball. I know they had an individual running games there but I believe it should be run by the Township so everyone can play.
 - More things for young teens.
- **Q9: Do you currently utilize the French Creek Trail in East Pikeland Township?**
 - 65% of people use the French Creek Trail
- **Q10: How often do you use the French Creek Trail in Each Pikeland Township**
 - Of those, 51% use it monthly. Followed by weekly (23%), yearly (20%), and daily (7%)
- **Q11: When you use the French Creek Trail do you:**
 - The majority of people use the trail to walk (118), walk their dogs (53), bike (31), run (21), and fish (16).
 - Other responses include: swim, play in creek, look for crayfish, x-country ski in winter
- **Q12: Why don't you use the French Creek Trail in East Pikeland Township?**
 - The 35% of people who do not use the French Creek Trail do so because:
 - They haven't gone yet/no time/no chance (10), No reason/not interested (9), Unaware (9), disabled/unable to use (6), worried about wildlife/insects (6), and others
- **Q13: If you could, would you walk or ride your bike to Kimberton to eat and shop?**
 - 84% of people would
- **Q14: If you could, would you walk or ride your bike to Phoenixville to eat and shop?**
 - 79% of people would

- **Q15: How aware are you about the following options in East Pikeland:**
 - People would “like to know more” about recreation programs, events, and services (115), community events (115), recreation facilities (99), trails (101), where to get info about parks and recreation (95), and parks (90).

- **Q16: Would you like to have access to more park facilities at Kimberton Park?**
 - 36% of people would like access to more park facilities at Kimberton Park.
 - 32% would need more information, 23% said maybe, and 9% said no.

- **Q17: Would you like to have access to more park facilities throughout East Pikeland?**
 - 88% of people would like more park facilities.

- **Q18: What kind of park options are you interested in?**
 - People were most interested in passive recreation park options (153)
 - Followed by active recreation (91) and indoor recreation (86)

- **Q19: What do you think about the availability of the following PARK opportunities in East Pikeland:**
 - People thought that we do NOT have enough PARK opportunities. specifically: paved walking paths (97), multipurpose trails (88), access to woods and natural areas (69), community gardens (62), dog parks (59), native meadows (56), access to the Schuylkill river trail (56), picnic pavilions (46), and game courts & sports fields (41).
 - People thought that our access to local creeks (55), playgrounds (48) (*42 people thought we needed more), and fishing areas (33), were just right
 - Other comments:
 - More wheelchair access
 - Open space with native vegetation
 - Indoor basketball courts
 - Connect trails within township and abutting townships for access without drive to a starting place
 - Would like bocce courts

- **Q20: What do you think about the availability of the following RECREATION opportunities in East Pikeland?**
 - People thought that we do NOT have enough non-organized adult recreation opportunities (yoga, bocce, shuffleboard, etc.) and adult education opportunities (gardening, retirement classes, nature/bird walks) RECREATION opportunities.

- People were not sure about the availability of organized adult sport leagues or summer camps for children and teens.
 - People thought we had the right amount of organized youth sport leagues (*closely followed by not enough).
- **Q21: Please select which organized youth sports league opportunities you, or a member of your household, currently participate in.**
 - Many respondents replied with “doesn’t apply” (64) or “none of the above” (53).
 - The next highest were Soccer (31), Baseball/Softball (26), Basketball (17), Tennis (9), Flag/Football (9), and Hockey (5).
 - Other answers included:
 - Swimming (3), Volleyball (3), Gymnastics (3), Cheerleading (2), X-country/Track (2), Field hockey (2), Wrestling (1), Rock Climbing, Rugby, Water Polo, Archery, Lacrosse, and Kickball
- **Q22: Please select which organized adult sports league opportunities you, or a member of your household, currently participate in.**
 - Many respondents replied “none of the above” (105) or “doesn’t apply” (22).
 - Followed by Tennis (11), Soccer (10), Pickleball (5), Basketball (5), Hockey (5), Slow Pitch Softball (4), Flag/Football (3)
 - Other answers included:
 - Volleyball (4), Kickball (2), Dodgeball (1), Horseshoes, Rugby, Biking, Philly Stones League, Bocce
- **Q23: Rate your level of interest in organized youth sports league opportunities:**
 - The majority of people said doesn’t apply (56).
 - Other responders were “interested” in Soccer (42), Baseball/Softball (37), Basketball (34), and Tennis (31)
 - People were “not interested” in Hockey (31) or Flag Football (32)
 - Other “interested” responses included cheerleading and girls volleyball
- **Q24: Rate your level of interest in summer camps for children and teens**
 - The majority of people were interested (39%) in summer camps for children and teens.
 - The question also did not apply for many respondents (38%).
- **Q25: Rate your level of interest in organized adult sports league opportunities:**
 - Many respondents were “not interested” in any of the options including hockey (57), basketball (54), soccer (52), flag/football (51), pickleball (49), slow pitch softball (47), and tennis (42).

- People were most “interested” in tennis (39), pickleball (25), slow pitch softball (25), and soccer (20).
 - Other comments: yard games, volleyball, ultimate Frisbee, yoga, bocce and horseshoe.
- **Q26: Rate your level of interest in non-organized adult sports league opportunities:**
 - Most people were “interested” in non-organized activities including yoga (102), bocce ball (52), tai chi (51), dancing (48), shuffleboard (47) and mountain biking (45)
 - Other comments: fitness classes & community garden
- **Q27: Rate your level of interest in the following adult education opportunities:**
 - The majority of people were “interested” in every category including environmental workshops (gardening, rain gardens, etc.) (91), Expert-led outdoor activities (nature/bird walks, guided hikes, yoga, etc.) (89), crafts and hobbies (82), and educational workshops/speakers (retirement, fraud prevention, etc.) (49).
- **Q28: What is ONE thing you like about the parks and trails in East Pikeland?**
 - People commented on the following things:
 - Clean/well-maintained (38), nature/green Space (20), easy access (18), convenient (11), not crowded/peaceful/quiet (7), great trails (5), nice area (4), playgrounds (4), variety of activities (4), etc.
- **Q29: If you could do ONE thing to improve parks and recreation in East Pikeland, what would it be?**
 - People commented on the following things:
 - More trails/parks (36), connections between trails/parks (9), more community events (7), bike lanes on local roads/safer biking options (6), more dog access (6), more pavilions (6), open space (6), sidewalks (5), better trail maintenance (4), easier trail access (4), etc.
 - Specific responses included:
 - Purchase Piazza property and install tennis courts, bocce, horseshoe, playground and trail to Kimberton village etc.
 - Add more sidewalks to make them accessible for everyone by walking or biking.
 - Allow dogs. Kimberton Park has two signs posted on the same post. The rules at the park say no dogs, but another sign says pick up after the dogs. I wish there were more open dog parks in the area.
 - Better trail maps including access points to all trails
 - More access points for bikes, too dangerous to ride to trail entrance

- Offer a summer playground camp. Now that East Pikeland school is shut, kids have to trek to Manavon for summer playground camp. Lots of families would love to bring back a more local, walkable option.
 - French creek trail could use additional work in some areas prone to flooding. Standing water creates large pools that are impossible to pass.
 - All ability access to parks and recreation. I have a child with special needs so parks that are all ability accessible would be great and programs for kids with disabilities.
-
- **Q30: Are you aware that you can rent facilities (courts, pavilion, etc.) at Kimberton Park?**
 - 71% of people said yes, 29% said no

 - **Q31: Have you rented a facility at Kimberton Park?**
 - Of the people who were aware that you could rent facilities, only 13% of people have rented, while 87% have not

 - **Q32: Please check the facilities you have rented:**
 - The most frequent rental was the pavilion (14).

 - **Q33: If you haven't rented a facility at Kimberton Park, why not?**
 - Most common response: "have never needed to" (82)
 - Other responses include: area is not big enough (3), use their yard (3), rent at Charlestown (2), want adult beverages (2), etc.

 - **Q34: Do you attend community events sponsored by the Township?**
 - Yes (53%), No (47%)

 - **Q35: If you do not attend, why?**
 - Not available (35%), Didn't know about them (34%), Not interested (24%)
 - Other comments: scheduling/planning (6)

 - **Q36: What types of community events would you like to see in East Pikeland that we don't currently have?**
 - More movie nights/music events (15), food festivals/food & drink trucks (8), fitness classes/yoga/tai Chi (8), environmental education events (nature walks, community garden, health classes, gardening/bees (8), Craft/Art Festivals (5), Sports (4), Community Clean-Ups (3), and more.
 - Specific responses:
 - I would love to see more of a community center for indoor activities

- Anything that makes EP feel like its own community. Right now, it's pretty spread out in different neighborhoods with no real connections.
 - Something for early teens.
 - All ages event (movie, egg hunt are for younger families).
 - Nature walks, guided owl prowls, stargazing events, guided bird watching, learn about and promote bee keeping
-
- **Q37: Would you be willing to volunteer at community events?**
 - 61% of people would need more information, 31% said yes.

 - **Q38: How would you prefer to get information about parks, recreation, and events in East Pikeland?**
 - Most people prefer Facebook or other social media (112), followed by the Township Website (83), the InCommunity Newsletter (76), and emails (66).
 - The least preferred were local newspapers and handouts and fliers.

 - **Q39: If you are interested in signing up for a park and recreation email newsletter that would provide monthly updates and event information please fill out the contact information below:**
 - 93 responses

APPENDIX B: PENNSYLVANIA NATURAL DIVERSITY INDEX (PNDI) REVIEW RESULTS

1. PROJECT INFORMATION

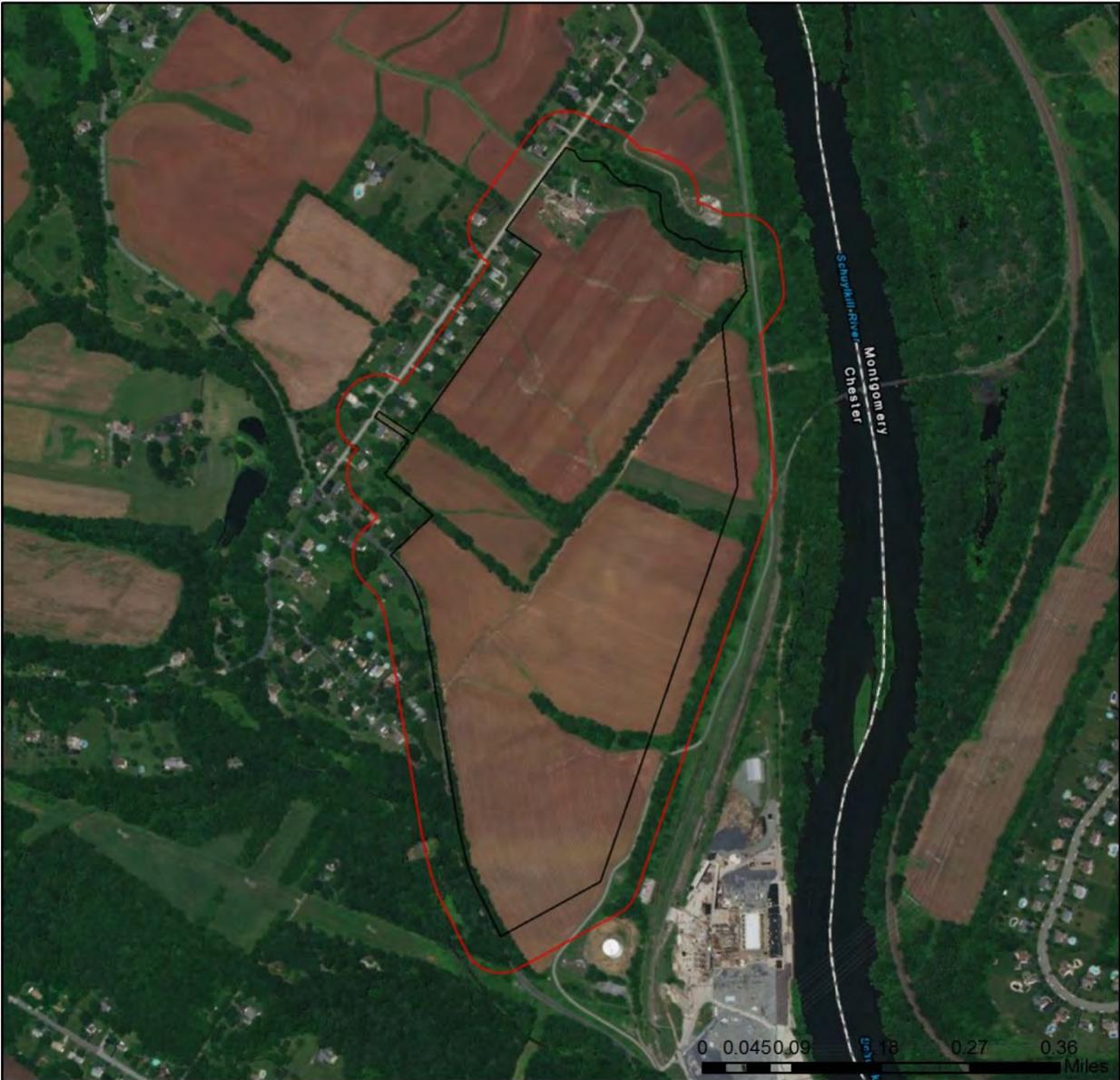
Project Name: **Hidden River Park and Preserve**
Date of Review: **3/10/2020 11:01:56 AM**
Project Category: **Recreation, Other**
Project Area: **115.27 acres**
County(s): **Chester**
Township/Municipality(s): **EAST PIKELAND**
ZIP Code: **19460**
Quadrangle Name(s): **PHOENIXVILLE**
Watersheds HUC 8: **Schuylkill**
Watersheds HUC 12: **Mingo Creek-Schuylkill River**
Decimal Degrees: **40.158467, -75.532629**
Degrees Minutes Seconds: **40° 9' 30.4801" N, 75° 31' 57.4644" W**

2. SEARCH RESULTS

Agency	Results	Response
PA Game Commission	Potential Impact	FURTHER REVIEW IS REQUIRED, See Agency Response
PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	No Known Impact	No Further Review Required
PA Fish and Boat Commission	Potential Impact	FURTHER REVIEW IS REQUIRED, See Agency Response
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	No Known Impact	No Further Review Required

As summarized above, Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) records indicate there may be potential impacts to threatened and endangered and/or special concern species and resources within the project area. If the response above indicates "No Further Review Required" no additional communication with the respective agency is required. If the response is "Further Review Required" or "See Agency Response," refer to the appropriate agency comments below. Please see the DEP Information Section of this receipt if a PA Department of Environmental Protection Permit is required.

Hidden River Park and Preserve

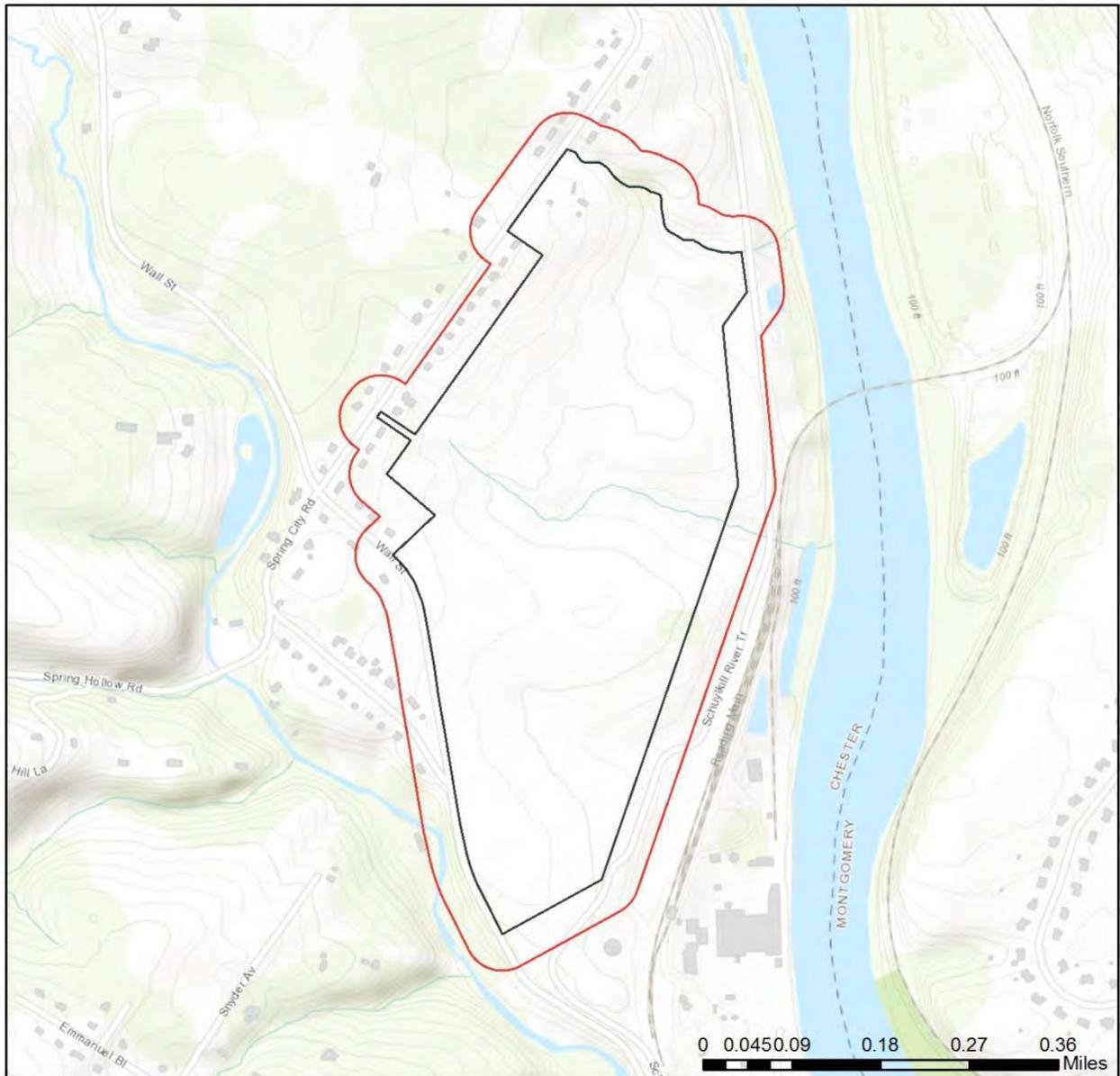


- Project Boundary
- Buffered Project Boundary



Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

Hidden River Park and Preserve



- Project Boundary
- Buffered Project Boundary

Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community
Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS,



RESPONSE TO QUESTION(S) ASKED

Q1: Accurately describe what is known about wetland presence in the project area or on the land parcel by selecting ONE of the following. "Project" includes all features of the project (including buildings, roads, utility lines, outfall and intake structures, wells, stormwater retention/detention basins, parking lots, driveways, lawns, etc.), as well as all associated impacts (e.g., temporary staging areas, work areas, temporary road crossings, areas subject to grading or clearing, etc.). Include all areas that will be permanently or temporarily affected -- either directly or indirectly -- by any type of disturbance (e.g., land clearing, grading, tree removal, flooding, etc.). Land parcel = the lot(s) on which some type of project(s) or activity(s) are proposed to occur.

Your answer is: The specific project area (that is, project layout or "footprint") has not yet been identified, but the land parcel on which the project will occur has been investigated by someone qualified to identify and delineate wetlands, and no wetlands were located. (A written report from the wetland specialist should substantiate this.)

Q2: The proposed project is in the range of the Indiana bat. Describe how the project will affect bat habitat (forests, woodlots and trees) and indicate what measures will be taken in consideration of this. Round acreages up to the nearest acre (e.g., 0.2 acres = 1 acre).

Your answer is: The project will affect 1 to 39 acres of forests, woodlots and trees.

Q3: Is tree removal, tree cutting or forest clearing of 40 acres or more necessary to implement all aspects of this project?

Your answer is: No

3. AGENCY COMMENTS

Regardless of whether a DEP permit is necessary for this proposed project, any potential impacts to threatened and endangered species and/or special concern species and resources must be resolved with the appropriate jurisdictional agency. In some cases, a permit or authorization from the jurisdictional agency may be needed if adverse impacts to these species and habitats cannot be avoided.

These agency determinations and responses are **valid for two years** (from the date of the review), and are based on the project information that was provided, including the exact project location; the project type, description, and features; and any responses to questions that were generated during this search. If any of the following change: 1) project location, 2) project size or configuration, 3) project type, or 4) responses to the questions that were asked during the online review, the results of this review are not valid, and the review must be searched again via the PNDI Environmental Review Tool and resubmitted to the jurisdictional agencies. The PNDI tool is a primary screening tool, and a desktop review may reveal more or fewer impacts than what is listed on this PNDI receipt. The jurisdictional agencies **strongly advise against** conducting surveys for the species listed on the receipt prior to consultation with the agencies.

PA Game Commission

RESPONSE:

Further review of this project is necessary to resolve the potential impact(s). Please send project information to this agency for review (see WHAT TO SEND).

PGC Species: (Note: The Pennsylvania Conservation Explorer tool is a primary screening tool, and a desktop review may reveal more or fewer species than what is listed below.)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Current Status
Falco peregrinus	Peregrine Falcon	Threatened

PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

RESPONSE:

No Impact is anticipated to threatened and endangered species and/or special concern species and resources.

PA Fish and Boat Commission

RESPONSE:

Further review of this project is necessary to resolve the potential impact(s). Please send project information to this agency for review (see WHAT TO SEND).

PFBC Species: (Note: The Pennsylvania Conservation Explorer tool is a primary screening tool, and a desktop review may reveal more or fewer species than what is listed below.)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Current Status
Sensitive Species**		Threatened

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

RESPONSE:

No impacts to **federally** listed or proposed species are anticipated. Therefore, no further consultation/coordination under the Endangered Species Act (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq. is required. Because no take of federally listed species is anticipated, none is authorized. This response does not reflect potential Fish and Wildlife Service concerns under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act or other authorities.

* Special Concern Species or Resource - Plant or animal species classified as rare, tentatively undetermined or candidate as well as other taxa of conservation concern, significant natural communities, special concern populations (plants or animals) and unique geologic features.

** Sensitive Species - Species identified by the jurisdictional agency as collectible, having economic value, or being susceptible to decline as a result of visitation.

WHAT TO SEND TO JURISDICTIONAL AGENCIES

If project information was requested by one or more of the agencies above, upload* or email* the following information to the agency(s). Instructions for uploading project materials can be found [here](#). This option provides the applicant with the convenience of sending project materials to a single location accessible to all three state agencies. Alternatively, applicants may email or mail their project materials (see AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION).

***Note:** U.S.Fish and Wildlife Service requires applicants to mail project materials to the USFWS PA field office (see AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION). USFWS will not accept project materials submitted electronically (by upload or email).

Check-list of Minimum Materials to be submitted:

___ Project narrative with a description of the overall project, the work to be performed, current physical characteristics of the site and acreage to be impacted.

___ A map with the project boundary and/or a basic site plan (particularly showing the relationship of the project to the physical features such as wetlands, streams, ponds, rock outcrops, etc.)

In addition to the materials listed above, USFWS REQUIRES the following

___ **SIGNED** copy of a Final Project Environmental Review Receipt

The inclusion of the following information may expedite the review process.

___ Color photos keyed to the basic site plan (i.e. showing on the site plan where and in what direction each photo was taken and the date of the photos)

___ Information about the presence and location of wetlands in the project area, and how this was determined (e.g., by a qualified wetlands biologist), if wetlands are present in the project area, provide project plans showing the location of all project features, as well as wetlands and streams.

4. DEP INFORMATION

The Pa Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) requires that a signed copy of this receipt, along with any required documentation from jurisdictional agencies concerning resolution of potential impacts, be submitted with applications for permits requiring PNDI review. Two review options are available to permit applicants for handling PNDI coordination in conjunction with DEP's permit review process involving either T&E Species or species of special concern. Under sequential review, the permit applicant performs a PNDI screening and completes all coordination with the appropriate jurisdictional agencies prior to submitting the permit application. The applicant will include with its application, both a PNDI receipt and/or a clearance letter from the jurisdictional agency if the PNDI Receipt shows a Potential Impact to a species or the applicant chooses to obtain letters directly from the jurisdictional agencies. Under concurrent review, DEP, where feasible, will allow technical review of the permit to occur concurrently with the T&E species consultation with the jurisdictional agency. The applicant must still supply a copy of the PNDI Receipt with its permit application. The PNDI Receipt should also be submitted to the appropriate agency according to directions on the PNDI Receipt. The applicant and the jurisdictional agency will work together to resolve the potential impact(s). See the DEP PNDI policy at <https://conservationexplorer.dcnr.pa.gov/content/resources>.



5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The PNDI environmental review website is a preliminary screening tool. There are often delays in updating species status classifications. Because the proposed status represents the best available information regarding the conservation status of the species, state jurisdictional agency staff give the proposed statuses at least the same consideration as the current legal status. If surveys or further information reveal that a threatened and endangered and/or special concern species and resources exist in your project area, contact the appropriate jurisdictional agency/agencies immediately to identify and resolve any impacts.

For a list of species known to occur in the county where your project is located, please see the species lists by county found on the PA Natural Heritage Program (PNHP) home page (www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us). Also note that the PNDI Environmental Review Tool only contains information about species occurrences that have actually been reported to the PNHP.

6. AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Bureau of Forestry, Ecological Services Section
400 Market Street, PO Box 8552
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8552
Email: RA-HeritageReview@pa.gov

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Pennsylvania Field Office
Endangered Species Section
110 Radnor Rd; Suite 101
State College, PA 16801
NO Faxes Please

PA Fish and Boat Commission

Division of Environmental Services
595 E. Rolling Ridge Dr., Bellefonte, PA 16823
Email: RA-FBPACENOTIFY@pa.gov

PA Game Commission

Bureau of Wildlife Habitat Management
Division of Environmental Planning and Habitat Protection
2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797
Email: RA-PGC_PNDI@pa.gov
NO Faxes Please

7. PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____
Company/Business Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone:(_____) _____ Fax:(_____) _____
Email: _____

8. CERTIFICATION

I certify that ALL of the project information contained in this receipt (including project location, project size/configuration, project type, answers to questions) is true, accurate and complete. In addition, if the project type, location, size or configuration changes, or if the answers to any questions that were asked during this online review change, I agree to re-do the online environmental review.

applicant/project proponent signature

date

APPENDIX C: ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY ABSTRACT



Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office
PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION

May 22, 2020

Kevin Quigg
CHRS, Inc.
395 N. Cannon Avenue
Lansdale, PA 19446

RE: ER 2020-0225-029-B – DCNR: Phase I Archaeological Survey, Crouse Property, East Pikeland Township, Chester County

Dear Mr. Quigg:

Thank you for submitting this report for the above referenced project. The Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (PA SHPO) reviews projects in accordance with state and federal laws. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, and the implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 800) of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, is the primary federal legislation. The Environmental Rights amendment, Article 1, Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution and the Pennsylvania History Code, 37 Pa. Cons. Stat. Section 500 et seq. (1988) is the primary state legislation. These laws include consideration of the project's potential effects on both historic and archaeological resources.

We agree with the recommendation that no further work is necessary for the following sites:

36CH0583, 36CH1064, 36CH1065, 36CH1066, 36CH1067.

We also agree with the recommendation that sites 36CH0047 and 36CH1063 should be avoided by any project impacts and preserved in the place. If the areas of these two sites cannot be avoided and preserved, we agree that Phase II archaeological evaluations would be necessary.

If you have any questions or comments concerning this review, please contact Mark Shaffer at (717) 783-9900.

Sincerely,

Douglas C. McLearn, Chief
Division of Environmental Review

ABSTRACT

This report documents the results of a Phase I Archaeological Survey performed for the Crouse Property, in East Pikeland Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania. The proposed project comprises approximately 115.34 acres (46.67 hectares) within the Gettysburg-Newark Lowland Section of the Piedmont Physiographic Province. The entire parcel was examined for the presence of cultural remains. This is the first cultural resources report for the project. The cultural resources work was performed for East Pikeland Township as part of their application process through the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) for open space acquisition grant funds from the National Park Service, Land & Water Conservation Fund.

The Phase I investigations identified 419 artifacts during course of the ground surface inspection of the Crouse Property. An examination of the spatial distribution of artifacts revealed seven separate sites. Two of the sites were identified as previously recorded occupations: Site 36CH0583 and Site 36CH0047. The remaining five sites are new and include: 36CH1063, 36CH1064, 36CH1065, 36CH1066, and 36CH1067. In addition to the five sites, a large number of widely dispersed flakes were encountered as well as an isolated projectile point.

Four of the sites (36CH1064, 36CH1065, 36CH1066, and 36CH1067) are small, low density lithic scatters. No additional archaeological work is recommended for these sites. These sites do not have the potential to provide important information to our understanding of local or regional prehistory.

Only 28 artifacts were recovered from 36CH0583. A portion of Site 36CH0583 had been subjected to subsurface investigations during a previous study. The previous investigations indicated that the site was severely deflated. Based on the low density of artifacts and the deflated soil horizon identified during previous work at the site, 36CH0583 does not have the potential to provide important information to our understanding of local or regional prehistory.

Sites 36CH1063 and 36CH0047 are higher density sites that might have the potential to provide important information to our understanding of local and regional prehistory. Details of the proposed development of the Crouse Property have not yet been developed. We highly recommend that 36CH1063 and 36CH0047 be avoided during any ground disturbing activities that would result as part of the Township's development of the property. If the site areas cannot be avoided, additional archaeological investigations should be undertaken to assess the eligibility of the two sites for listing in the National Register of Historic Places prior to any ground disturbing activities in the vicinity of the two sites.

APPENDIX D: COMMUNITY INPUT

Community Workshop #1 – Visioning

The first Community Visioning Workshop for the Crouse Property was held on Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at the Kimberton Fire Company, from 7:00 until 8:45 pm. Approximately 60 residents of East Pikeland and surrounding municipalities proposed their vision for the new Township open space and gave input on potential park elements.

Maps, photos, and aerial video of the property were displayed for participant reference throughout the event, which began with a visual presentation covering the property, existing Township recreational facilities, and the results of a 2018 Township park and recreation needs survey. Participants then divided into working groups to discuss their vision for the new park. Five stations were set up around the meeting space representing the following “big ideas” of developing a park program: Active Recreation, Education/History, Passive Recreation, Natural Areas, and Concerns/Solutions. Specific plan/program elements from the 2018 survey were listed under each big idea, and group members chose their indicated their three most important and three least important elements with color-coded stickers. Participants also wrote in elements that they thought were missing from the lists. Township staff, consultants, and volunteers answered questions and facilitated discussion, with groups rotating stations in 10-15 minute intervals until all groups had visited all stations. In addition, a “vision board” was set up where participants described their vision for the property and desired elements for the park program. Following the exercise, station leaders summarized voting results and comments, and final comments and questions were taken from participants.

The following is a summary of participant responses at the vision board and at each of the five stations:

Vision Board

The majority of participants viewed nature-based and passive recreation elements as their most important priorities for the property. Most entries on the Vision Board supported maintaining a largely natural park with trails, playgrounds, and habitat / natural spaces.

Active Recreation

Participants were divided on active recreation park elements, with roughly equal numbers voting for baseball fields and tennis courts as their most important and least important priorities. Disc golf, adult fitness stations, and mountain bike/cyclocross amenities received a majority of “most important” votes. Space for remote control vehicles, badminton, and hockey courts were voted as the least important facilities.

Passive Recreation

Trails, Schuylkill River access, community gardens, and bike riding were voted as the most important passive recreation amenities, while splash pads, a skate park, dog park, and playgrounds were voted as the least important.

Education/History

Nature-based education program elements were preferred to historical education elements. Participants unanimously voted for wildlife education as their top education priority for the park, while the history of the Cromby station was voted as the least important education aspect. A nature center and open spaces for astronomy were voted as “most important” by a majority of attendees. By contrast, the majority of participants voted Township history, the property’s history, and railroad history as “least important”.

Natural Areas

The provision of native meadows, woodlands and reforestation, and pollinator habitat were most important to participants, while mowed grass areas were least important.

Concerns & Solutions

Participants were most concerned about traffic safety and parking, noise, and lighting issues, as well as the provision of bathrooms. They were least concerned about park development costs and park boundary enforcement. Security drew a divided response among workshop attendees. Suggested solutions to noted concerns included traffic calming at park entrances; LED light fixtures designed for glare control; and composting toilets or septic sand mounds in lieu of public sewer access.

Community Workshop #2 – Master Plan Input

The second Community Workshop will be held on September 9, 2020. This section will be updated with workshop results.

APPENDIX E: CONCEPTUAL DESIGN PROCESS

Two concepts were initially drafted for Steering Committee consideration. The concepts featured similar programming, including native habitat restoration, adaptive reuse of the farm complex structures, paved and natural surface paths that connect to regional trails, playgrounds, outdoor classroom/amphitheater, playfields and sport courts. Both proposed entrances into the park from Wall Street and Spring City Road; a vehicular drive through the property between the two entrances; and an offsite connection to the Schuylkill River for fishing and/or boat portage provided by Chester County.

Concept 1 proposed Spring City Road as the primary access point to the park. The public driveway would extend from the farm complex to a parking area for access to an amphitheater, pavilions, and a paved trail to the Schuylkill River. Beyond this parking area, road access would be limited to pedestrians, bicyclists, and occasional municipal vehicles. Concept 1 proposed the farm complex area with sport courts, a playground, and trail access to the rest of the park. An active recreation complex with sports fields, additional sport courts, and multi-use trail access to the Schuylkill River Trail was proposed in the south corner of the park, accessible from a short driveway off of Wall Street.

Concept 2 proposed a central activities area in the middle of the park, with athletic fields, play areas, and an amphitheater. The existing farm road would be paved for vehicular access through the park from either Wall Street or Spring City Road. The farm complex was reimagined as a trailhead and nature education and natural play area.

The two concepts were combined following Steering Committee input into a Final Concept that prioritizes open space for passive recreation and habitat. The concept proposed an active recreation complex in the south property corner with one multi-use athletic field, sport courts, and a playground. Additional fields could be added in the center of the park should the need arise. The farm complex was proposed as a small trailhead and picnic space. A road proposed through the center of the property would provide access from Wall Street to a central trailhead parking area, and from Spring City Road to a parking area for an amphitheater, natural playground, and river access.

Following the results of the Phase 1 archaeological survey, it was determined that a central road and river access would not be feasible. Thus the concept was revised to remove these features and relocate the nature education and natural play areas to the farm complex. The Spring City Road entrance was proposed as the main entrance to the park, while the Wall Street entrance was retained for access to the athletic complex. The revised concept further developed the farm complex to better utilize existing structures and provide a more compelling entrance into the park.

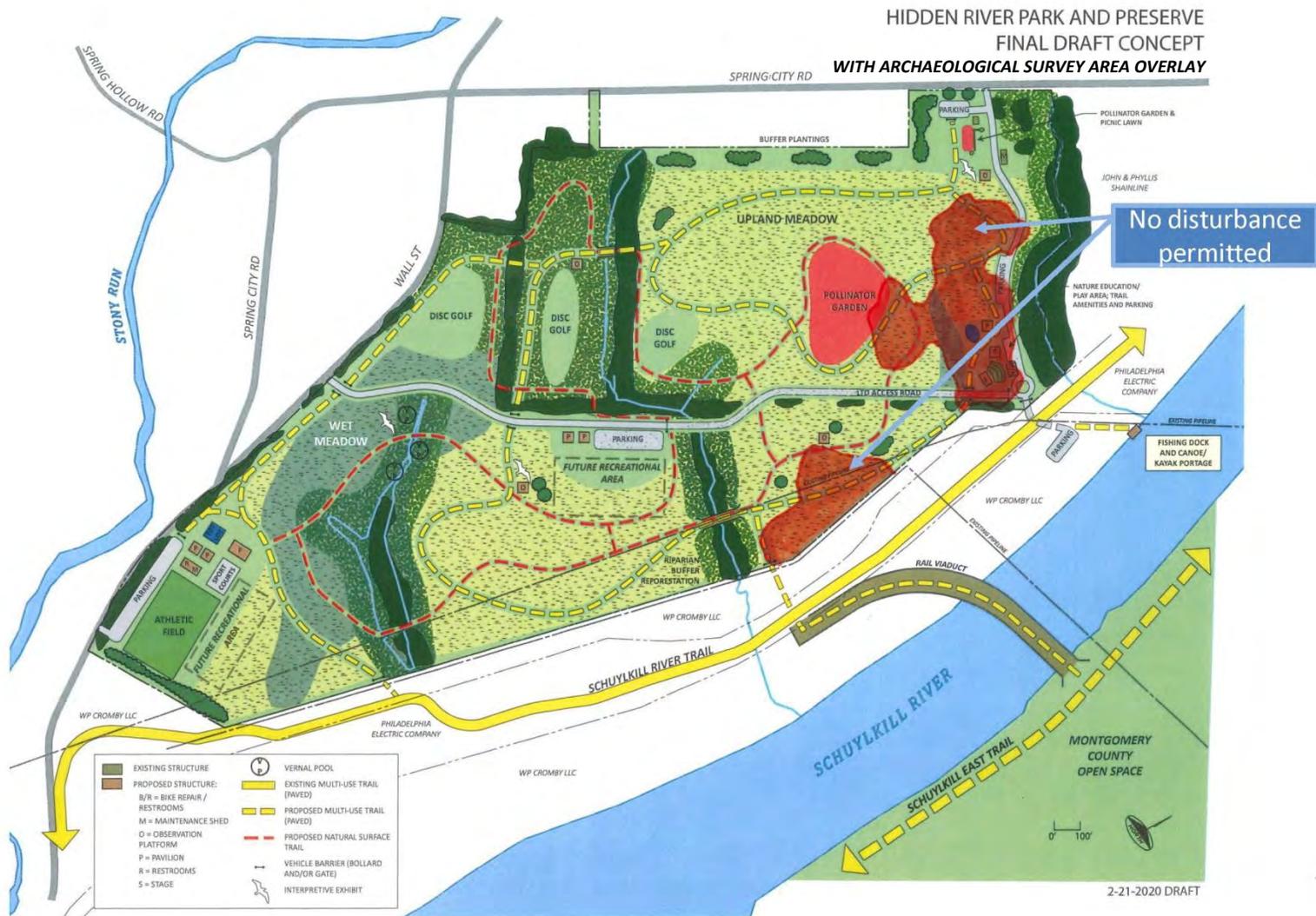


HIDDEN RIVER PARK AND PRESERVE CONCEPT 2



HIDDEN RIVER PARK AND PRESERVE FINAL DRAFT CONCEPT





HIDDEN RIVER PARK AND PRESERVE MASTER PLAN

8-13-2020 DRAFT

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| | PROPOSED UPLAND MEADOW | | EXISTING MULTI-USE TRAIL |
| | PROPOSED WET MEADOW | | PROPOSED MULTI-USE TRAIL |
| | PROPOSED REFORESTATION | | POTENTIAL FUTURE TRAIL
(COMPLETED BY OTHERS) |
| | PROPOSED SHADE TREE | | PROPOSED NATURE TRAIL |
| | PROPOSED POLLINATOR GARDEN | | VEHICLE BARRIER |
| | EXISTING STRUCTURE | | BENCH |
| | PROPOSED STRUCTURE:
M = MAINTENANCE SHED | | FITNESS STATION |
| | O = OBSERVATION PLATFORM | | INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE |
| | P = PAVILION | | PARK RULES SIGNAGE |
| | R = RESTROOMS | | DISC GOLF COURSE
(GENERALIZED) |



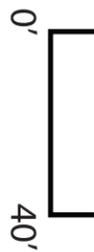
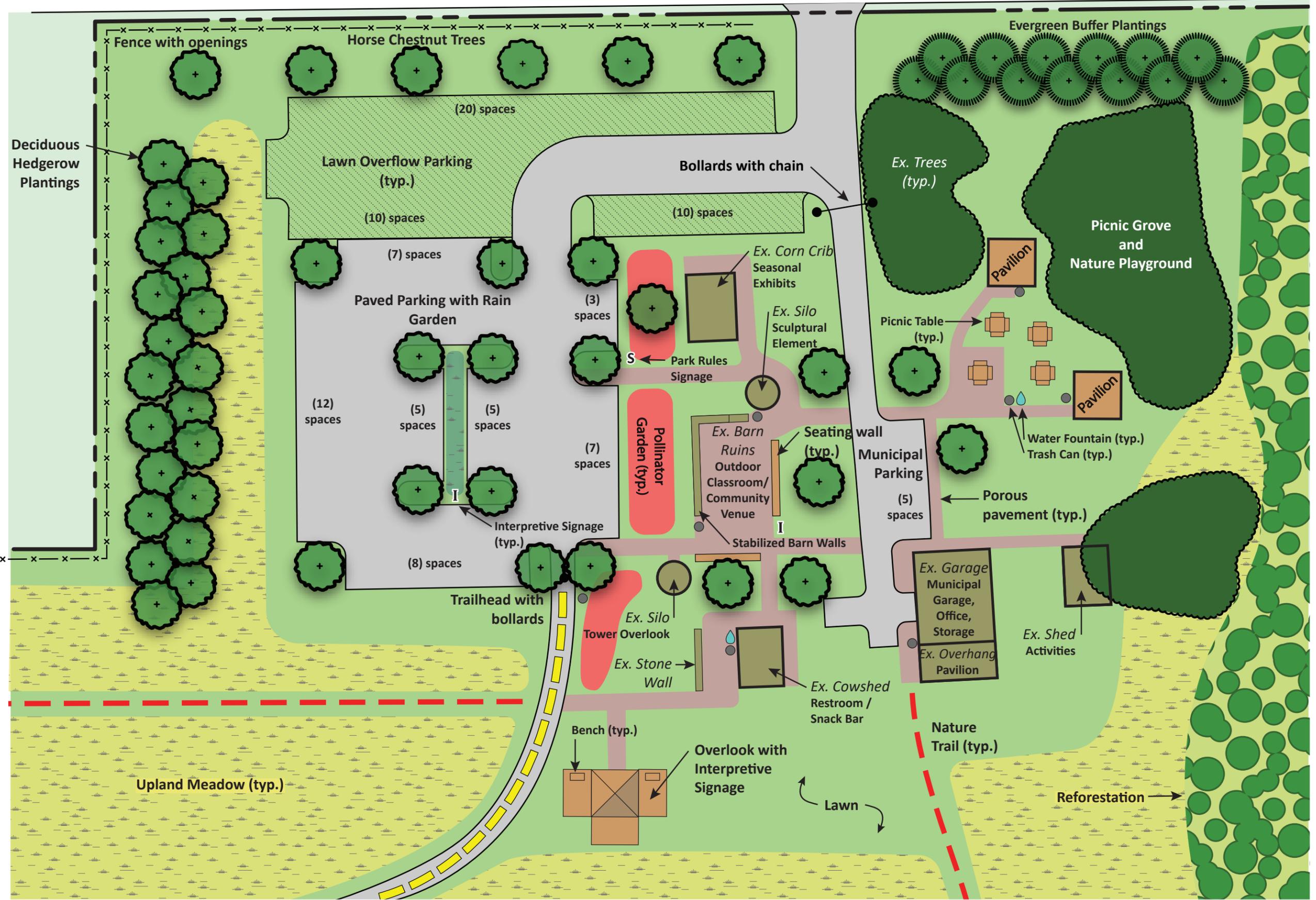
TO PHOENIXVILLE

TO SPRING CITY

MONTGOMERY COUNTY OPEN SPACE

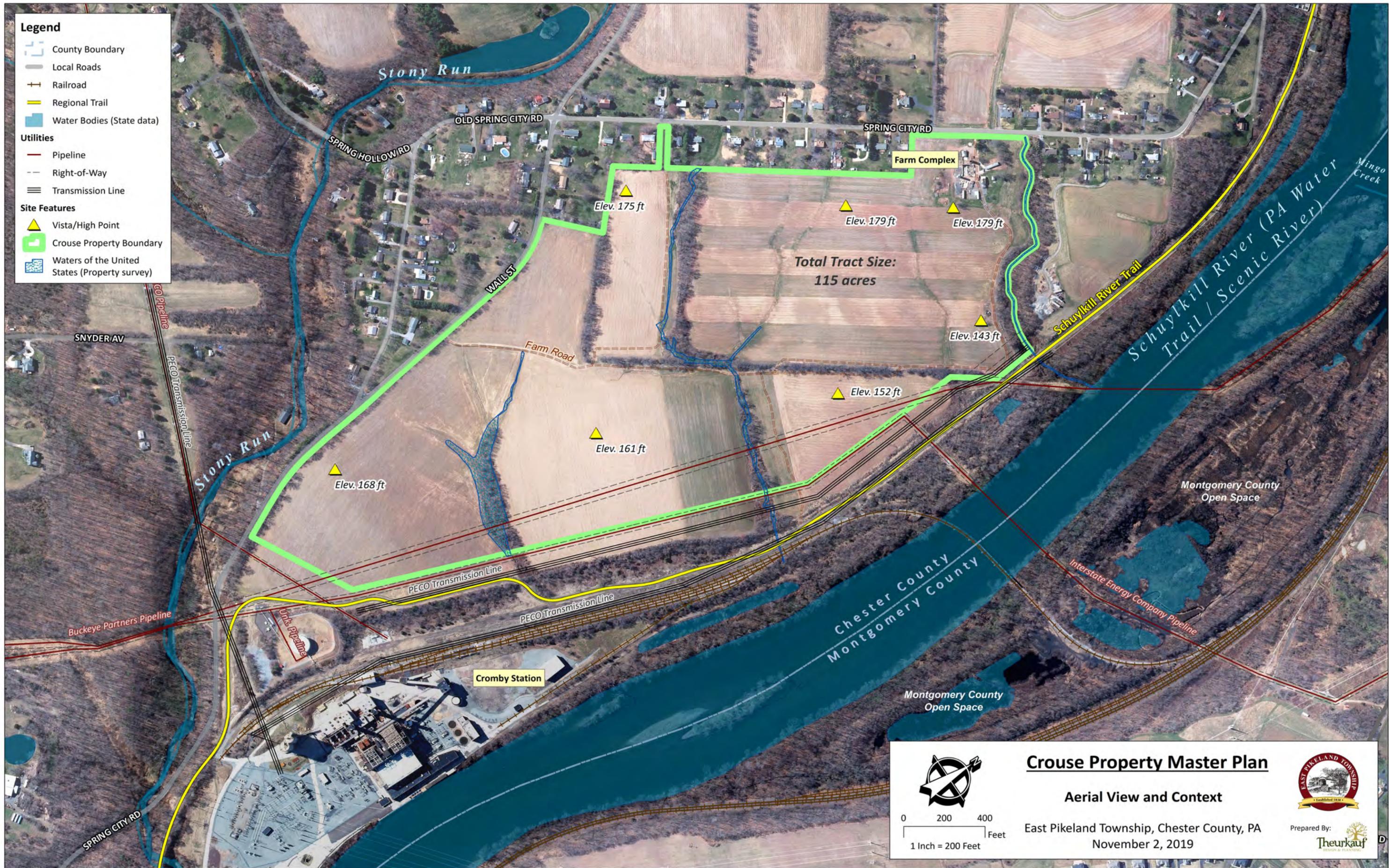
HIDDEN RIVER PARK AND PRESERVE
FARM COMPLEX DETAIL

8-10-20 DRAFT



APPENDIX F: MAPS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION EXHIBITS

- Legend**
- County Boundary
 - Local Roads
 - Railroad
 - Regional Trail
 - Water Bodies (State data)
 - Utilities**
 - Pipeline
 - Right-of-Way
 - Transmission Line
 - Site Features**
 - Vista/High Point
 - Crouse Property Boundary
 - Waters of the United States (Property survey)



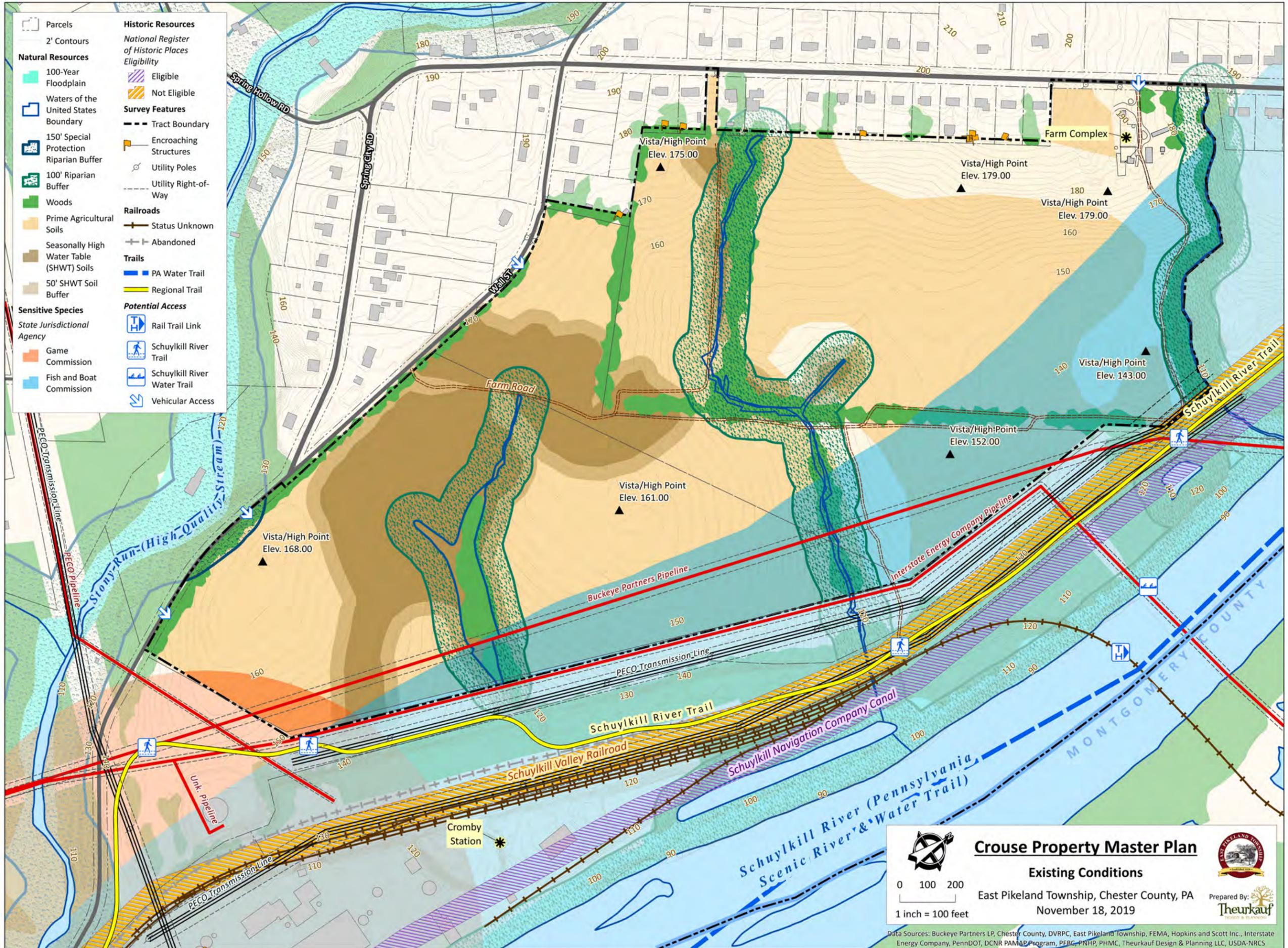
Crouse Property Master Plan

Aerial View and Context

East Pikeland Township, Chester County, PA
November 2, 2019

0 200 400 Feet
1 Inch = 200 Feet

Prepared By:
Theurkauf
DESIGN & PLANNING



Crouse Property Master Plan
Existing Conditions
 East Pikeland Township, Chester County, PA
 November 18, 2019

0 100 200
 1 inch = 100 feet

Prepared By:
Theurkauf
 DESIGN & PLANNING

Data Sources: Buckeye Partners LP, Chester County, DVRPC, East Pikeland Township, FEMA, Hopkins and Scott Inc., Interstate Energy Company, PennDOT, DCNR PAMAP Program, PEBC, PNHP, PHMC, Theurkauf Design & Planning LLC, USDA-NRCS

Visual Character



Aerial view north towards Montgomery County



Cromby Station from farm road



View from farm road towards Spring City Road



Fields and hedgerows from farm road

Proximity to Schuylkill River Trail, Cromby Station, and Schuylkill River



Aerial view south towards Schuylkill River Trail



Aerial view from Farm Complex towards Schuylkill River



View south along Schuylkill River to rail bridge



Schuylkill River Trail towards Cromby Station

The Farm Complex



Aerial view towards Spring City Road



Remnants of dairy barn and silo



Wood corn crib

Crouse Property Master Plan

Property and Contextual Imagery

East Pikeland Township
Chester County, PA

Imagery courtesy of East Pikeland Township (October 2019) and Theurkauf Design & Planning, LLC (July 2019)



Prepared By:
Theurkauf
DESIGN & PLANNING