



West Pikeland Land Trust

Preserving Open Space • Protecting Land • Promoting Conservation

NEWS

West Pikeland Land Trust Preserves 60+ Acres

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Chester Springs, PA - August 15, 2009 - The West Pikeland Land Trust (WPLT) and West Pikeland Township preserved 61 acres during the first half of 2009 through purchased conservation easements on three major West Pikeland properties. In addition to protecting the properties from future subdivision and development, the easements provide recreational opportunities through public trail access, and protect scenic views, historic settings, clean water, agricultural lands, and wildlife habitat.

The conserved properties represent the first uses of the Township’s open space preservation fund, created by a resident-approved tax initiated in 2008. In all cases, the Township’s investment was supplemented by county and state grants and/or landowner contribution. The three transactions were facilitated by the Open Space Advisory Committee of the West Pikeland Land Trust, which was selected as the Township’s Open Space Advisor in 2008. The three properties are:

Property	Size	Conservation Values	Benefits to Residents
Tavengar/ NLT Tract	20.8 acres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 12 acres of mature woodlands - 9 acres of prime agricultural soils - 400’ tributary of “High Quality” Pickering Creek - Scenic vistas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community access via hiking and equestrian trails connected to Binky Lee Preserve - Scenic views
White Property	17.1 acres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Historic 18th century house with active horse farm - 10 acres of woodlands - 4.5 acres of prime agricultural soils - “High Quality” Pickering Creek runs through property - Scenic vistas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community access via 30’ foot-wide trail corridor for hiking and horseback-riding - Access via trail corridor to the fishing-accessible Pickering Creek, a PA Fish Commission trout-stocked stream - Scenic views
Hopkins Property	23.1 acres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 13 acres of woodlands - Environmentally sensitive wetlands - Meadow and grasslands - Critical habitat for endangered and non-endangered species - 2,000’ of streams - Scenic vistas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community access via a trail for walking, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, and other non-motorize trail uses - Scenic views - Portion of funding donated by landowner

“Our vision is to create a network of open spaces that will eventually connect all the trails in West Pikeland,” said Curt Grogan, WPLT president. “These preserved parcels will provide public access for hiking, horseback riding, bicycling, and fishing, while protecting scenic views, clean water and wildlife habitat in perpetuity—all of which contributes to the quality of life for all residents and improves the desirability of living in West Pikeland.”

About West Pikeland Land Trust

The West Pikeland Land Trust is an all-volunteer registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to advocate and facilitate land preservation in West Pikeland Township that enhances the township’s unique character, desirability and quality of life for current and future generations. WPLT’s work is supported primarily through private donations. For more information, visit www.wplandtrust.org.

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