



LOWER MERION CONSERVANCY



Lower Merion Conservancy 2025 Annual Report

Message from the Chairman and Executive Director

Dear Friends,

As we close out 2025, we want to thank you for your generosity and invite you to make a year-end, fully tax-deductible gift to the Lower Merion Conservancy. Your support protects vital green spaces, improves our local watersheds, and preserves the historic character of our community.

This year, your generosity made a real impact:

Revitalizing Harriton Preserve: Together with the Friends of Harriton Preserve and Lower Merion Township, the Lower Merion Conservancy began the first phase of a two-part ecological restoration project. This year, we removed invasive plants from sensitive streamside areas and planted more than 100 canopy trees, 300 understory trees and shrubs, and thousands of native wildflowers, creating new habitat and improving water quality.

Restoring Habitats and Protecting Streams: Through our Growing Greener Communities program, we worked with the Cobbs Partners to expand pollinator habitats and improve stormwater management on both residential and public properties. In collaboration with Villanova University, we also continued a new study to address the impact of road salt on our waterways, helping us build a path toward cleaner, healthier streams.

Sharing Stories That Inspire Stewardship: We launched a series of new StoryMaps that brings our environmental and historic preservation work to life through interactive maps, historic photos, and neighborhood stories.

Preserving Our Historic Resources: We continued advocating for the protection of our community's historic buildings, encouraging Class 1 designations and helping homeowners secure historic recognition for their properties.

Thanks to you, we have made extraordinary progress this year. As we look ahead to 2026, your continued partnership will help us meet the challenges of a changing climate and ensure that nature and history continue to thrive together in Lower Merion.

With gratitude and warm holiday wishes,

Tom Duncan
Board Chair

Maurine McGeehan
Executive Director

Snapshots of FY2025



Students from Friends Central hiked through Rolling Hill Park to Mill Creek following their volunteer Day of Service at the Conservancy Cottage.



The planting crew at Merion Elementary School poses after installing a new pollinator garden on the school grounds.



Tom Korman shows off the trout he painted at the Schauffle Plaza celebration where attendees lent a creative hand to an upcoming LMC mural project.



A female box turtle stopped by to visit staff at Rolling Hill Park.



Stargazers check out the planetary alignment through telescopes at our first Astronomy Night.



One of the goat interns from Amazing Grazing takes a break from eating invasives at Harriton Preserve.



Friends from Delmont Avenue gather for a photo while celebrating the glow-up at Schauffle Plaza.



LMC staff with our partners Steve Lockard and Ray King from the Tree Tenders of Upper Darby.



Philadelphia Mycology Club foray attendees show off their fungi-est Halloween costumes.

Watershed Conservation

Miniature Forests, Rapid Growth

Southeastern Pennsylvania is a challenging place for wildlife. Our neighborhoods are densely developed and many of the remaining open spaces are kept as lawns. Invasive plants have gained footholds in many of the “natural” areas. These conditions impact water quality, increase flooding, create heat islands, and decrease biodiversity. The issues are easy to point at but identifying and securing plots of land for restoration projects can be difficult. We are always looking for opportunities to re-establish native plants to combat the unyielding pace of development.

In late winter, our partners from the Tree Tenders of Upper Darby told us about a reforestation approach called the Miyawaki method. Created by Japanese botanist Akira Miyawaki in the 1970s, the Miyawaki method mimics the soil conditions of old-growth forests to create fast growing miniature native forests. These forests are a mix of native canopy trees, understory trees, and shrubs, planted 12 to 18 inches apart. The close spacing provides support and creates competition, which—combined with improved soil conditions—speeds up growth.

We are situated in an area with one of the most abundant distributions of invasive species in Pennsylvania. This invasive plant cover makes traditional approaches to habitat restoration labor intensive. Miyawaki forests offer fast maturation, flexible plot sizes, and resiliency in the face of invasive pressure, making them relevant when working to restore our area.

Soon after our initial research we scheduled a trip to Horn Farm in York, Pennsylvania to tour their Miyawaki forests with partners from Tree Tenders of Upper Darby and Pennsylvania Resources Council. We were floored by the growth of the Horn Farm Miyawaki forests. The tour gave us an opportunity to ask their staff questions so we could follow their approach. Their staff aerates the soil with broadforks, inoculates the soil with local mycelium (networks of fungal strands that function like roots), covers the ground with leaf mulch, and plants tree and shrub seedlings. They weed for the first two years but do not water in order to force the plants to adapt to conditions. The replicable nature of their approach only added to the appeal.

The Conservancy has gotten started on our own Miyawaki forests, adopting the Horn Farm techniques. Volunteers and members of our staff broadforked and planted Miyawaki forest plots near the Conservancy cottage in Rolling Hill Park. The plantings complement our previous conventional tree plantings. We are excited for another year of growth in 2026!



Tom Clark breaks ground with a broadfork on the first Rolling Hill Park Miyawaki plot.



Jason Landau Goodman and Conservancy board member Bruce Ludwig plant trees and shrubs in the Miyawaki forest.



Native trees and shrubs thriving in the Miyawaki forest.



Watershed Conservation

Growing Greener Communities

Growing Greener Communities (GGC), launched in 2024, is an initiative to create wildlife habitat, improve stormwater management, and increase climate resilience through education and on-the-ground projects. GGC is an expansion of our work under the William Penn Foundation's Delaware River Watershed Initiative, which brought the Conservancy together with Pennsylvania Resources Council (PRC), Darby Creek Valley Association and Eastern Delaware County Stormwater Collaborative. Our partnership has strengthened relationships and allowed us to expand our programming and geographic scope.

Newer GGC partners include the Tree Tenders of Upper Darby, the Upper Darby Rain Garden Program, Black Girls with Green Thumbs, Cobbs Creek Ambassadors, Darby Borough Residents Association, and Stonehurst Hills Community Association. All partners share an interest in the Cobbs Creek watershed, collaborating to maximize our impact.

GGC extends the Conservancy's reach downstream into environmental justice communities, while still supporting our upstream work in Lower Merion and Narberth. The work is funded by an EPA Thriving Communities Grant through the Green and Healthy Homes Initiative, a National Fish and Wildlife grant, a PA DEP Environmental Education Grant, and a PA Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) Growing Greener Grant. Each grant supports a different aspect of the project. Details about GGC programming and projects are on [lmconservancy.org](https://www.lmconservancy.org) and growinggreenercommunities.org.



Michelle Schofield from Stonehurst Hills Community Association poses with her neighbor, a new downspout planter recipient.



GGC partners work on a three-tiered rain garden in Drexel Hill.



LMC staff with Fay Wright in her new rain garden.



Bethann Dilione waters her newly installed rain garden.



Native plugs are placed in the bowl-shape of a rain garden prior to planting.



Native plants replace turf grass, adding habitat.

Watershed Conservation

The Salt Watch Continues

The Conservancy continues our work with Dr. Steven Goldsmith from the Department of Geography and the Environment at Villanova University to reduce salt levels in streams. Road salt is one of our area's most concerning pollutants because it harms aquatic life, corrodes streets and pipes, releases lead into the environment, and contaminates drinking water. Salt that does not get washed into the nearest stream goes into the ground, slowly making its way to the stream through groundwater. Enough salt has accumulated in soil that salt levels in streams are higher year round. To create change, we looked at where the salt comes from.



Villanova University master's student Livia Graham collects a water sample from the East Branch of Indian Creek.

Municipal road salt is the most visible source of salt. Municipalities can reduce salt levels by switching from rock salt to liquid brine, as Haverford Township, Upper Darby Township, and Marple Township have done. Brine application is more efficient; using brine can reduce salt levels in streams by 30%. Commercial and residential salt use can contribute disproportionate amounts of salt to streams because individuals are not held to salting standards the way municipal workers are. Since approaches to de-icing vary from person to person, we decided to reach out.

Over the winter, Dr. Deena Weisberg and Dr. Joseph Toscano, both from the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at Villanova University, worked with Dr. Goldsmith and the Conservancy to conduct a survey about road salt use. The survey asked participants what they knew about road salt use and related issues, how they use road salt on their properties (if at all), and if they are interested in learning more about reducing salt use. The survey data, which has been analyzed and will be available soon, will support our education efforts.

To track the progress of the project, Dr. Goldsmith's graduate students collect stream samples weekly to measure salt levels. The samples complement the Enviro DIY monitoring stations that measure stream conductivity, temperature, and depth. Conductivity measures water's ability to conduct electricity through ions such as Na^+ and Cl^- , which make up road salt. Depth gives us context for conductivity, showing how recent weather influences the readings.

Check our website for updates on progress and links to data as data loggers come online. The project is funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

Cynwyd Heritage Trail Update

After another season of growth, the Cynwyd Heritage Trail Restoration Project wrapped up this fall. We planted native shrubs in a patch of Japanese knotweed that the Friends of the Cynwyd Heritage Trail Stewardship Committee has been weakening with regular cuttings. The new shrubs are planted densely to out-compete the knotweed. The pesticide-free approach has been successful on other parts of the trail, notably along Vine Creek and the dirt path just upstream from the footbridge.

Other final additions to the project included re-grading soil to direct stormwater into swales and basins along the trail. The adjustments capture polluted runoff before it reaches Vine Creek and reduce pooling and erosion on the trail.

The project was made possible by a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant and our partnership with the Friends of the Cynwyd Heritage Trail (FOCHT). The grant window is over but work to increase wildlife habitat along the trail is ongoing. Volunteers led by Dr. Karen Snetselaar, the Conservancy's board treasurer and a member of the FOCHT board, have made the project a success with their tireless efforts to help native plants thrive. Stop by the trail to see everything!





Conservation Easements

One of the most important tools we use to protect land and conserve the environment is the conservation easement, a legal agreement between a landowner and a qualified land trust that permanently protects a property's natural features. These protections remain in effect even when the property changes owners.

No two easements are alike, and each is tailored to the land and the goals of the people who care for it. An easement might limit development along a stream, protect woods and wildlife habitat, or keep farmland open and productive. By donating a conservation easement to a qualified land trust or public agency, a landowner may receive federal tax benefits.

Pennsylvania has a long history of using conservation easements, protecting thousands of acres of farms, forests, scenic views, and community open spaces since the first easement was recorded in 1966.

In Lower Merion, conservation easements help keep our green spaces healthy, support wildlife, and improve water quality. They preserve the landscapes that make our community unique.

The Conservancy is excited to share that in the coming months, we will be working with Natural Lands to expand the existing easement at Stoneleigh to include the Oakwell property. This will strengthen the long-term protection of the land and conserve numerous conservation resources. The Conservancy holds 21 conservation easements, protecting 198 acres of land.

Historic Preservation

Historic Black Churches

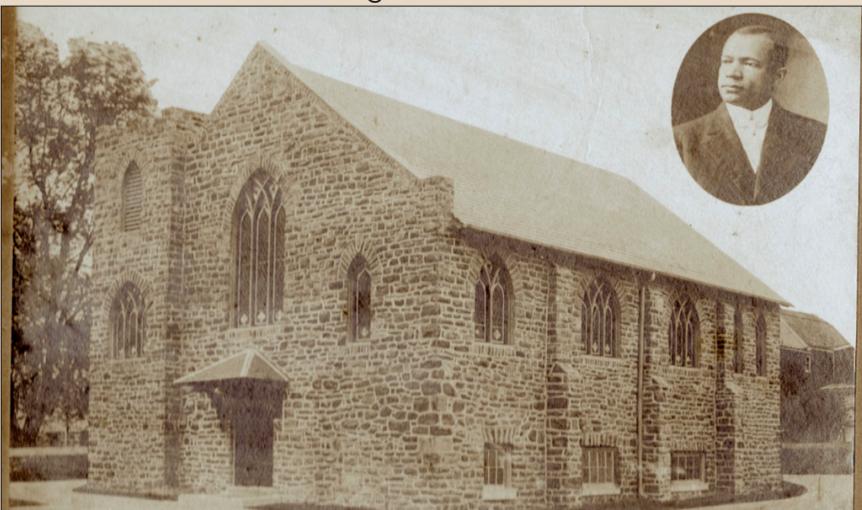


Scholar Dienabou Barry.

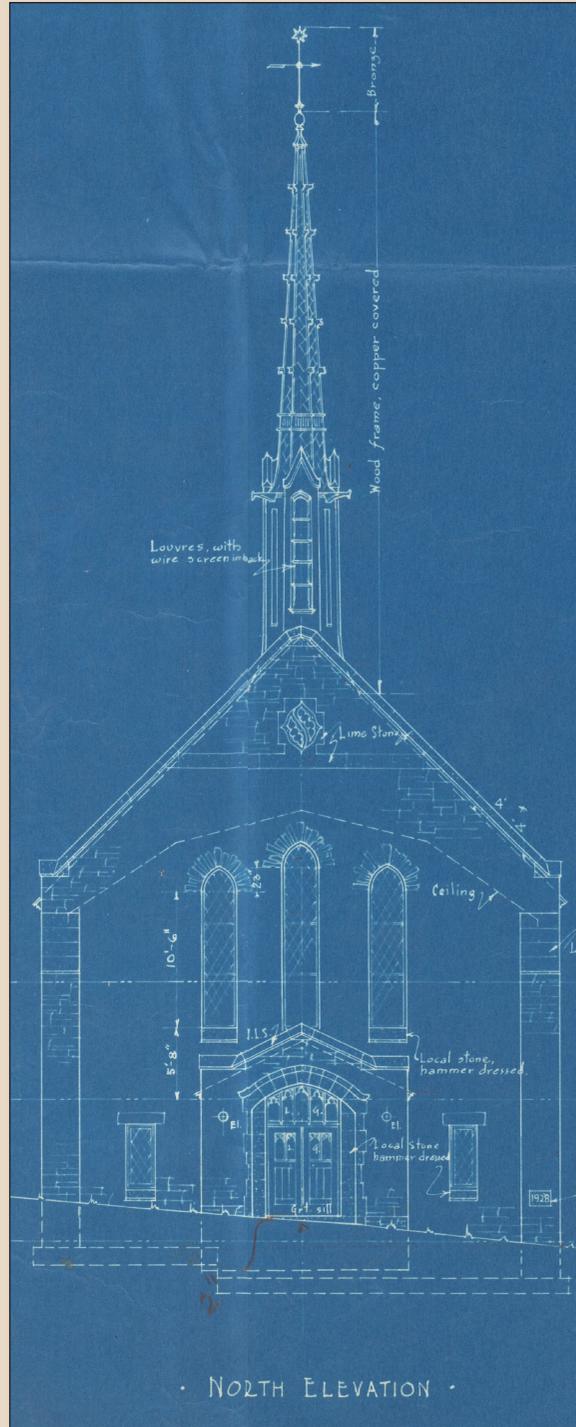
Over the past year, the Conservancy partnered with a scholar, Dienabou Barry, to document the history and significance of five historic Black churches in Lower Merion: Bethel AME Church (Ardmore), Mount Calvary Baptist Church (Ardmore), Zion Baptist Church (Ardmore), Saints Memorial Church (Bryn Mawr), and Bethel AME Church (Bryn Mawr). Established around the turn of the twentieth century, these churches have played vital roles in

shaping Lower Merion's historically Black neighborhoods. Their contributions extend beyond spiritual leadership — they have been at the forefront of confronting racism and segregation, fostering community, delivering social services, and supporting Black-owned businesses in the area.

This important work was made possible through an American Recovery Act grant awarded to the Conservancy by Lower Merion Township. We are deeply grateful for the township's support for this project. It enabled us to collaborate closely with church leaders and members, gather and preserve each congregation's unique history, and build a strong case for their inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.



A historic postcard depicts Mount Calvary Church and its pastor.



Blue print for Mount Calvary Church.

Schauffele Plaza StoryMap

The Conservancy is honored to have recently participated in a project that gave Schauffele Plaza—a once-drab space in the heart of Ardmore's Commercial Historic District—a much-needed glow up!

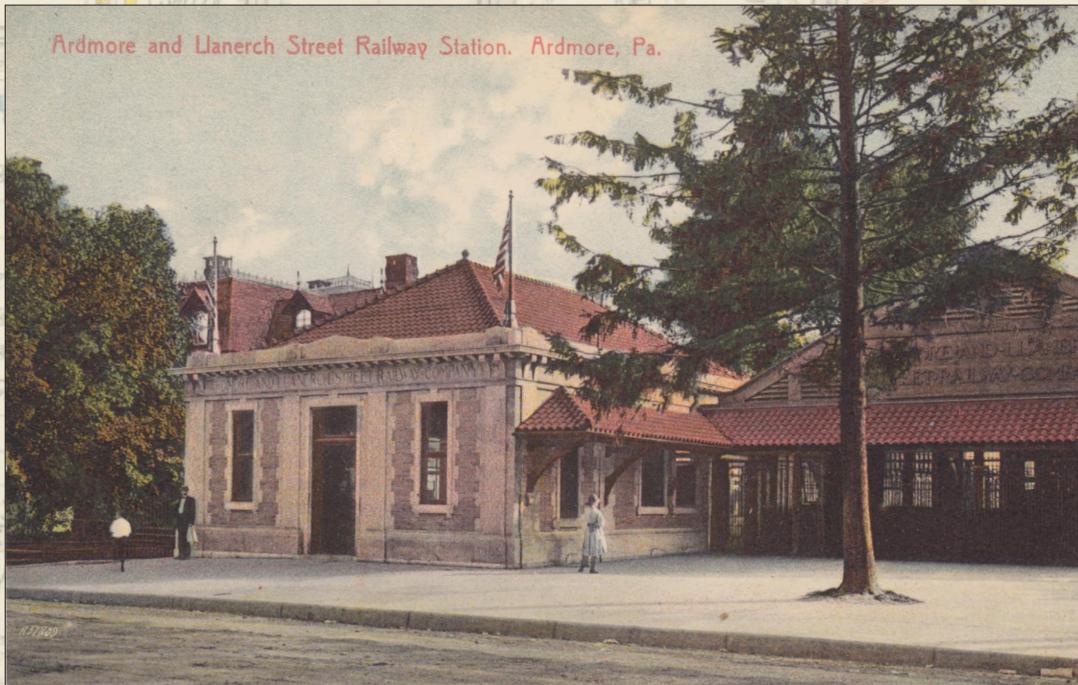
Led by Ardmore resident Craig Timberlake and supported by Friends of Schauffele Plaza (a dedicated volunteer group), Lower Merion Township, Ardwood Civic Association, Tired Hands, the Better Block Foundation, and the Lower Merion Conservancy, this collaborative effort transformed the plaza into a more attractive, welcoming space. The improvements, which include vibrant new seating, planters, and native plantings, created a place where the community can gather and relax. A ground mural by Dierdre Murphy, the Conservancy's artist-in-residence, now adds a bold splash of color to the formerly cold concrete expanse.

To complement the transformation, the Conservancy created a StoryMap that explores the history of Schauffele Plaza. Believe it or not, this modest space—just three-quarters of an acre, parking lot included—was once part of a farmstead and later the site of a trolley station that connected Ardmore to Philadelphia with streetcars every 15 minutes.

Historic Preservation



A screenshot of the Schauffele Plaza StoryMap. Scan the QR code to access the interactive feature on our website. Get a glimpse into the history of the Plaza, current projects, and a look ahead at what is to come.



A historic postcard depicts the Ardmore and Llanerch Street railway station where Schauffele Plaza is located today.

StoryMap Interns

If you've been following our work, you know we LOVE creating StoryMaps! These interactive, online narratives combine photos, maps, text, and historic archival materials to tell the stories of places and events that shape the communities we serve.

Thanks to the overwhelming positive response to our many StoryMaps, we've brought on two talented high school interns to help expand this work. Each intern is developing a StoryMap to explore the history of their own neighborhood.

Sonia Bonita, a junior at Lower Merion High School with a passion for architectural history, is crafting a StoryMap focused on Green Hill Farms - a traditional neighborhood in Penn Wynne established in the 1920s. It's been a pleasure working with Sonia and seeing her project take shape. We can't wait to share the final result!

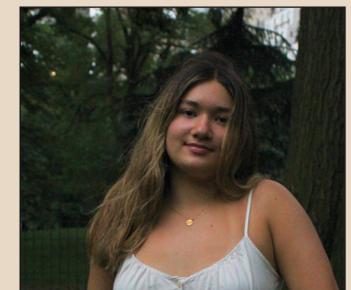
Peter Staugaard, a senior at Friends' Central School, is documenting the development of his Ardmore neighborhood, Merion Golf Manor. Located in Haverford Township, this tract shares many characteristics with neighborhoods in Lower Merion, making it a fascinating and relevant subject for the Conservancy.

Both Sonia and Peter's StoryMaps will be featured on our website once completed.

Are you a student interested in exploring your neighborhood's history through a StoryMap? Reach out to the Conservancy - we'd love to hear from you! Contact Kathleen@lmconservancy.org for more information.



We are grateful to have Peter Staugaard (L) and Sonia Bonita (R) working with LMC this year as interns!



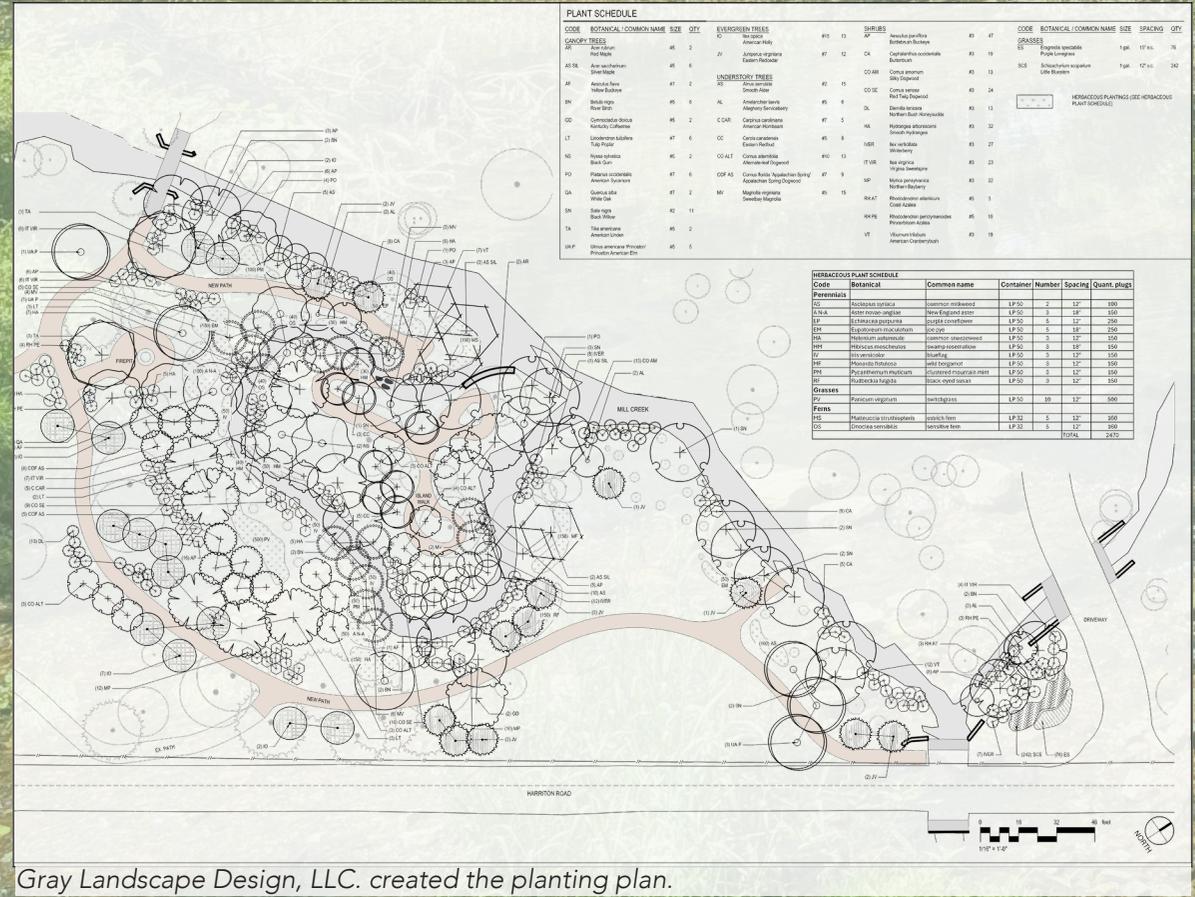
Watershed Conservation

Harriton Preserve Riparian Restoration

Over the last year, the Conservancy and our project partners — Friends of Harriton Preserve, Lower Merion Township, and Bob Gray of Gray Landscape Design — began the implementation phase of the Harriton Preserve Restoration Project. This three-year initiative, funded by the PA Department of Environmental Protection's Growing Greener Plus Program, focuses on the "riparian corridor" of the Preserve, the area beginning at the stream bank and extending 70 feet from the stream on each side. The plants within a riparian corridor play an important role in maintaining stream health, so we are filling the area with a diverse mix of native trees and shrubs to provide shade for the stream, filter runoff before it enters the water, restore the tree canopy, and create habitat for insects and other wildlife that live in and around the stream.

Over the last 10–15 years, the tree canopy at Harriton Preserve has decreased significantly. The loss of mature ash trees to the emerald ash borer, combined with disturbances from nearby land development and previous flood-mitigation efforts, has created large openings in the once-forested Preserve. These gaps have allowed invasive plant species to spread rapidly, with aggressive vines weakening and taking down many remaining trees.

The first step in implementing the project took place this past summer and focused on the removal of invasives on the north side of the creek near the footbridge and the island in the center of the Preserve. The Conservancy used a mechanical approach, clearing invasives in sections and revisiting each area to ensure effective removal. On the north side of the creek, near the driveway (or footbridge), the landscape had been overtaken by Japanese knotweed and porcelain berry, with only a few native plants interspersed. To jumpstart the process, the Conservancy partnered with Amazing Grazing and their 24 hard-working goats to tackle the first wave of clearing.



Watershed Conservation

Following the goats, precision cutting by the Growing Network targeted areas of regrowth and stubborn patches of invasive plants. Repeated, systematic cutting helps weaken invasive species over time giving existing native plants, and those being added as part of the project, a competitive advantage.

A riparian seed mix from Ernst Seeds and a rye cover crop were spread in the cleared areas that will be planted next fall during the second phase of the project, helping to stabilize exposed soil. While seed survival may be limited due to the presence of established invasives, the cover crop will help secure the soil and increase competition against unwanted species.

In addition to invasive plant removal, the first phase of the project includes the installation of more than 70 canopy trees, 320 shrubs, and 2700 herbaceous plants this fall along the southern banks of the stream and the island between Mill Creek and Harriton Road.

To support this restoration project, the trail has been re-routed to expand the riparian corridor, better define the pathway through the park, and improve accessibility after storms. The new trail will continue to provide stream access and will feature a small loop on the island at the center of the park.

In the spring and summer of 2026, we will conduct three additional rounds of invasive plant removal before completing the planting of the riparian corridor on the north side of the stream in October. Visit our website for detailed project plans, photos, and drone imagery documenting the transformation of the Preserve as the project takes shape.



Day one of the goats at work.



Within days, goats cleared the area.



LMC staff spread seeds.



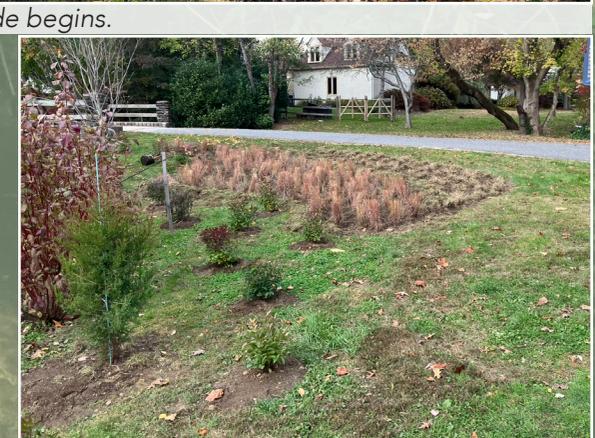
Staff helps unload a plant order.



Planting by the creekside begins.



Bob Gray plants the first native shrub along the waterway.



Native trees, grasses and shrubs are planted.

Education

Interconnected Education

This year, the Lower Merion Conservancy continued its mission to connect learners of all ages to the environment. Our programs focused on understanding local ecosystems, how land and water influence one another, and the role we all play in protecting these shared resources. From preschool through high school, our educators offered hands-on lessons, field experiences, and opportunities to engage with the natural world both in and beyond the classroom.

Our school partnerships remained strong. We worked with 129 AP Environmental Science students at Lower Merion High School through "Lunch & Learn" sessions on watershed science, stormwater runoff, and persistent pollutants like road salt. Students then visited Rolling Hill Park to conduct chemical water testing, search for macroinvertebrates, and assess riparian conditions. At Black Rock Middle School, the Pennsylvania Trout in the Classroom program connected watershed concepts to real-world habitat needs. Students tested chloride levels, studied stormwater impacts on trout, and released the trout they raised at Merry Place on Darby Creek. We look forward to continuing this partnership again this year.

Students at the Bucks County Learning Cooperative explored nonpoint-source pollution, especially road salt, and tested a nearby creek for chloride. Several continued monitoring throughout the year, demonstrating impressive stewardship in a student-led learning environment. Younger learners at Phoebe Anna Thorne Kindergarten enjoyed seasonal lessons on topics like wildlife and plants and also had bonus lessons learning how salt pollution enters waterways using the Enviroscape model - showing it's never too early to understand how land and water are connected. Narberth Presbyterian Preschool joined us at the creek for macroinvertebrate hunting in the spring, while Merion Mercy Academy Kindergarten explored winter wildlife behavior with hibernation lessons and animal pelts for the children to touch. Watershed and salt-focused programs were supported by a PA Department of Environmental Protection Environmental Education Grant. The project, Connecting Our Community to a Salty Situation for Better Water Quality and Climate Resilience enabled us to bring science-based, locally focused education to schools across the region.

The Conservancy also expanded learning beyond classrooms through social media and public workshops. Our online content reached thousands and ranged from local history and macroinvertebrate ID to a series on the environmental justice movement. In-person programming included mushroom walks with the Philly Mycology Club, Pollinator in a Pot workshops, Astronomy Nights, community history displays through "Windows into History," and our annual bird counts with expert ornithologists.

Across classrooms, creeksides, and community programs, our goal remains the same: to teach, inspire, and empower people of all ages to understand, care for, and actively protect the environment.



Students from Black Rock Middle School hike along the riparian area of Darby Creek on their way to release trout.



LMHS student IDs macroinvertebrates found in Mill Creek to determine the health of the water.



Narberth Presbyterian students learn to observe and identify underwater life.



Feeling animal pelts, like the fox pictured above, connects students to wildlife in winter.



Students find a crayfish with a clutch of fertilized eggs under her abdomen in Mill Creek.



"Birding with Bobo" attendees learn how to attract song birds by call.

A New Look for the Conservancy

This year, the Lower Merion Conservancy unveiled a fresh visual identity with the introduction of our new logo. The design reflects the breadth of our mission — from protecting local watersheds and native plants to preserving historic landscapes and fostering community stewardship.

The creative force behind bringing the logo to life is Holly Fasching, a graphic design intern who joined us through our Climate Artist in Residence, Deirdre Murphy, at Lehigh University. By understanding our dedication to biodiversity, land preservation, and the power of individual action, she was able to translate these principles into a cohesive visual identity.

At the heart of the new design is an oak leaf, a symbol of strength and biodiversity. Native oak trees support hundreds of caterpillar species, which feed birds and bolster ecosystems, while also providing shade, shelter, and water filtration. The leaf is surrounded by the outline of a house, symbolizing both our historic preservation efforts and our Growing Greener Communities work with homeowners. The leaf contains a branching network of tributaries flowing into a central river, reflecting our commitment to watershed health and illustrating how small, local actions can ripple outward to create meaningful change.

The new logo captures a central belief of the Conservancy: collective action matters. Every element—from leaf to river—represents the connections that allow small steps to grow into lasting environmental impact. We are proud of this new logo and grateful to Holly for her dedication in bringing it to life.

To celebrate our new logo, we have also launched a line of Conservancy merchandise! From apparel to accessories, our new merch lets you show your support while spreading awareness about the importance of conservation in our community. Explore the full collection at lower-merion-conservancy.printify.me.



Artist-In-Residence

A Year for Public Art

This year, our Climate Artist-in-Residence, Deirdre Murphy continued to bring environmental conservation and science to the community through art. Much of her work begins in the upper rooms of the Conservancy Cottage, where she drafts and researches projects before bringing them out into the world. In May 2025, she created Flyways, a stunning sculptural piece that blends art, science, and function. Serving as a bench and a bird blind along the Chester River Flyway, it highlights the migratory Caspian and Least Terns and features etched constellations of Polaris and Cassiopeia - a nod to the stars these birds use during their long migrations. Deirdre was joined by Katie Bui, design research assistant at Lehigh University, to bring this beautiful, educational piece to life.

Closer to home, Deirdre's first ground mural, Birdsong, transformed Schauffele Plaza in Ardmore as part of a Better Block "Glow Up" led by Ardmore resident, Craig Timberlake. Volunteers from the community and Lehigh University joined Deirdre in September and helped lay down over 18 gallons of paint across two days. The design translates bird migration data into bright shapes reminiscent of mid-century modern patterns, using data from the Foreman Branch Bird Observatory and the global eBird network. New planters built by Craig and filled with native plants donated by the Conservancy through a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant complement the new mural - creating habitat through community! Read more about Deirdre's work at as our Artist-in-Residence by scanning the QR code.

Stay tuned for more of Deirdre's work from the Cottage. She is looking forward to a solo show at the Audubon Center in 2026!



Maquette of Flyways from Deirdre's Cottage studio.



Deirdre sits in her finished Flyways bird blind bench along the Chester River.



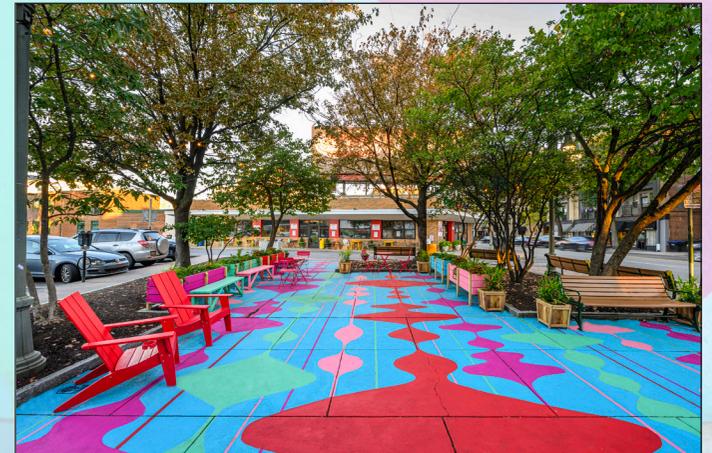
Design process for the Birdsong mural.



Migration data is translated into shapes.



Deirdre begins installing Birdsong.



The completed Birdsong mural at Schauffele Plaza.

A Fundraiser to Celebrate Conservation

The Spring Gala was an enchanting event, thanks to the generosity of homeowner, Michael Karp. By opening the Lutheran Deaconess House in Gladwyne to our supporters, Michael helped us create an evening to remember. The financial support of sponsors, guests and silent auction bidders keeps the party going, allowing us to celebrate conservation through our mission all year.

Save the Date!

Our next Spring Gala will be held June 11, 2026 in Villanova.

Contact Kat Hassinger via email at Kat@lmconservancy.org for creative Gala sponsor opportunities and ways to partner with the Conservancy.



Deb and Tim Callahan



Mr. Elie and Dr. Joni Antar



Dr. Diane Pappas-Sfedu
and Dr. Emil Sfedu



Dr. Charles and Dr.
Theresa Yeo

Christina and Gary Fink Support LMC Through Celebration

A very special thank you to Christina and Gary Fink for their thoughtful fundraiser! The Finks used Evite to invite guests to a family celebration this summer. By offering guests the option to donate to the Conservancy in lieu of gifts, Christina and Gary helped raise over \$6,000! It says a lot about the Finks that their friends and family are so generous.

When the Finks sent out their Evite for a family celebration, they included more than just the date and time. They added a link to support the Conservancy — and their guests clicked. Including a donation link on an Evite invitation is a simple, thoughtful way to turn any gathering into a party for a cause!

The Finks are longtime supporters of the Conservancy, and Christina brings her positivity and can-do spirit to the Gala Committee. Their Evite addition combined with the generosity of their guests provided us with a gift that will help us continue our important work.

We are thankful for all the ways the Finks support our mission.



Grow with us!

Do you get our emails? They're only occasional, but always fun! We are on a mission to grow our community — and help it grow in return. Help us reach 300 new email subscribers by the end of the year. *Every new email added by December 31 will be entered to win a mini-meadow native plant kit and LMC merch!* Stay in the loop on Conservancy updates, events, and more. A winner will be chosen early 2026. Sign up at lmconservancy.org.



Donors

Thank you!

Your support matters. We are immensely grateful for the continued contributions of our donors, sponsors, and board members.

The Conservancy appreciates its wide circle of generous donors. Below is a list of those who gave gifts between July 1, 2024 and June 30, 2025.

\$10,000 and above

The Austelle Foundation
Deb and Tim Callahan
Peter and Nancy Grove
Lower Merion Township
Melissa Morris and Miguel Perez
The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
PA Department of Environmental Protection
Bruce D. Reed
William Penn Foundation

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Connie and Sankey Williams

\$2,500 to \$4,999

Anonymous
Laurie M. Beach
Bob and Carol Gray
Dr. Doris and Dr. Dana Greenblatt
Judy and Tony Lame
Manko, Gold, Katcher and Fox, LLP

Heather Osborne and Vincent Duane
PECO
Shreiner Tree Care
John B. Ward & Co. Tree Experts

\$1,000 to \$2,499

Tania and Mark Alexander
The Christine and Michael Angelakis Foundation
Aqua Pennsylvania, Inc.
Ann R. Baruch
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Christine and Wade Berrettini
Frederick L. Bissinger, Jr.
Elaine E. Brown
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Ellen and Peter Davis
Michael Dillon
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Tom and Beth Gadsden
Kent Haas and Sharon Riser
Hanson Fine Building, Inc.
David and Susan Hoog

Charles Howland
Kate and Julian Jiggins
Michael Karp
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Lower Merion Historical Society Board of Directors
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Sandy Hollow Arts & Recreation for the Environment
Doug and Lisa Schoenberg
Gail Seygal
Shanin and Tracey Specter
Linda and Simon Tasker
Mark Taylor and Ilene Wasserman
Mr. and Mrs. Christian Terwiesch
The Friends of the Cynwyd Heritage Trail

Elizabeth and Anthony Vale
Karin Volkwein and James Caplan

\$500 to \$999

First Trust Bank
Kathleen Abplanalp and Charlie Douglas
Catherine and Mike Abrams
Beth Allen and Henry Levy
Richard Bierregaard and Cathy Dolan
Todd Bressi
Carson Clark
Clark Hill
David and Jennifer Copas
Paul Costa and Mia Carpinello
Sarah Coulson
The Cynwyd Club
Michelle Detwiler and Lars Pace
William and Christa Farnon
Gary and Christina Fink
Julia and David Fleischner
Janice Gault and Jim Vander
Matt and Anne Hamilton
Warren Higgins and Diane DiBonaventuro
Abby and Eric Hocky
Jennifer and Todd Jarden
Susan Jewett
Jennifer Juang
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A close-up photograph of a bee on a purple flower with an orange center. The bee is positioned on the right side of the frame, facing left. The flower's center is a vibrant orange, and the petals are a soft purple. The background is a blurred green, suggesting a natural outdoor setting.

The Lower Merion Conservancy protects and enhances our community's character and quality of life, recognizing that the sustainable management of our environmental and historic resources is intertwined with both conservation and change.



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