

South Fayette Conservation Group

Working to ensure the conservation, protection and enhancement of our natural and recreational resources

March/April 2009

Spring Volunteer Opportunities

SFCG Volunteer Activities Calendar



Sunday, **April 5th 2:00 p.m.** —Traffic island maintenance. We'll be weeding and mulching 4 traffic islands within South Fayette Township. Volunteers are encouraged to participate.



Saturday, **May 2nd 9:00 a.m.** —Clean Up Day. We will be collecting roadside trash as part of Great Pa Clean Up Activities. Join us along Presto-Sygan Road. All supplies provided.

Contact us at sfcg@comcast.net

South Fayette Wetland Trail Update

The long awaited interpretive sign has been installed. Go over and check it out!



Fairview Park Nest Box Project

With the approval of the South Fayette Parks and Recreation Department, the SFCG installed four new birdhouses in Fairview Park and repaired two existing birdhouses.



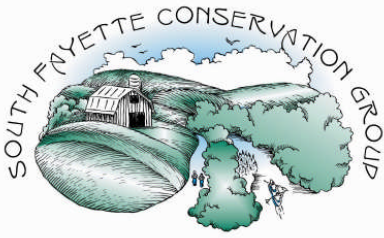
Growing Greener Funding

The South Fayette Conservation Group was recently awarded \$14,537.00 from the Pennsylvania DEP Growing Greener Program. The grant dollars will be used to undertake **a visual assessment of the watersheds within South Fayette Township.**

Trained volunteers will be out walking all of the streams and tributaries within the township surveying for areas of erosion, excess sedimentation, AMD discharges and other environmental concerns. The areas identified will be compiled into a report for a basis of undertaking future remediation projects.

This **volunteer opportunity**, which **requires free provided training**, would be appropriate for High School Students, College Students, Environmental Professionals and other adult members of the community capable of walking in the streams, documenting findings using GPS units and cameras, committing to the required training and interested in a large scale two year project.

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Growing Greener Funding (Cont'd from Page 1)

The use of cameras and GPS units, as well as all of the training, will be provided by the SFCG. Volunteers will be required to supply their own waterproof boots and backpacks to carry supplies. It is anticipated that this project will take two years to complete. In the field data collection, to be performed by the volunteers, is anticipated to take approximately 12-18 months.

A Steering Committee will soon be formed to oversee the project. **If you are interested in participating** in any aspect of the project, or know of someone else who may be interested, **please contact us at sfcg@comcast.net**

Boy's Home Park Announcement

The South Fayette Commissioners recently announced that a conservation easement for South Fayette Township's Boy's Home Park property was approved by the Pennsylvania Farmland Preservation Association (PFPA).

We look forward to helping the Parks and Recreation Department celebrate this achievement at our Annual Fall Hayride Event in November.

Single Log Vane Deflectors

The SFCG has also applied for funding through the Allegheny County Conservation Districts Clean Water Fund to install fish habitat structures known as single log vane deflectors in Millers Run Creek.

In addition to habitat, the deflectors aid in reducing erosion by deflecting rushing water away from the stream banks and keeping water moving through the middle of the stream bed.



Volunteer Opportunity with Allegheny Land Trust

A tree and seedling planting event will be held at the Wingfield Pines on Saturday, April 18th from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

The SFCG held a very successful tree planting event last April at Fishing Run and encourages anyone who enjoyed that event to participate in this ALT event.

Wingfield Pines is located within the townships of both Upper St. Clair and South Fayette.

You must register for this event through the Allegheny Land Trust Home Page and you must be age 12 or older to participate.

<http://www.alleghenylantrust.org/>