



PARK PICKS

by

FRIENDS OF THE ALLENTOWN PARKS

Donate today and help
make Allentown's great
park system even better.

Donate



Friends of the Allentown Parks was organized in November 2008 to increase awareness and care of Allentown's wonderful park, playground and trail system. With over 2,000 acres of open space and over 35 miles of trails these public assets provide opportunities to rest, relax and refresh.

There are numerous streams and springs throughout the area to sustain us as well as the diverse flora and fauna of the region.

Therefore, it is truly our responsibility as individuals in this community to maintain these superb resources not only for our enjoyment but for future generations as well.



A member-driven organization, Friends conducts educational and recreational activities, provides volunteer opportunities and is an advocate for park users. Membership has grown from 119 in 2009 to 965 in 2014.



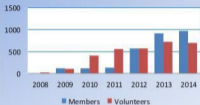
Friends of the Allentown Parks

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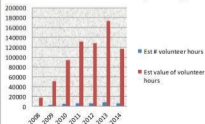
Member & Volunteer Data (2008-2014)



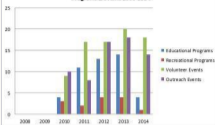
We began with 20 volunteers and as we increased litter collection and other activities so did our volunteer base. In 2014 over 692 individuals participated in events, volunteering over 5,741 hours with an approximate in-kind service value of \$116,255. To date, approximately 1,700 individuals have volunteered a total of 35,117 hours at an in-kind service value of almost \$712,000!



Volunteer Hours & Value of Hours (2008-2014)



Programs & Events 2008-2014



Friends offers a diversity of great activities:

volunteer events such as litter collection and beautification activities, community service projects & our annual National Public Lands Day celebration;



educational programs such as Discovery Walks, the first official Lehigh County bat count & sessions on WPA history;



recreational activities such as Yoga in the Parks, model sailboat building & Kids Gone Fishin';



and **outreach** by participating in Art in the Park, Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs Community Spotlight, local non-profit fairs, Earth Day celebrations & more.



In 2014 Friends expanded its portfolio of **special projects** and held **Community events** such as

Allentown Winterfest



Allentown Cherry Blossom Festival



Allentown

WoofStock



Member/Volunteer Appreciation Event at Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs Game



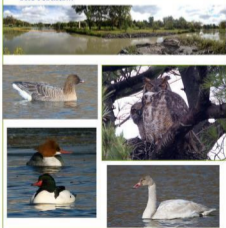
Special projects also included Conservation activities

Creating wildlife habitat at Lake Muhlenberg with some surprising results!

The work...



The results...



Creating pollinator gardens and enhancing a riparian buffer area at Trexler Park

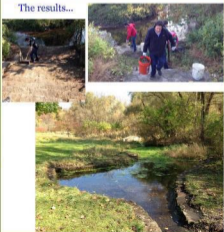


Clearing vegetation and silt from 1930s WPA structures at Lehigh Parkway

The work...



The results...



Donor Recognition

We gratefully acknowledge the following organizations for their generous support of our activities via grants, sponsorships & in-kind donations

Air Products Foundation
 American Bank
 An anonymous donor
 J. S. Burkholder Funeral Home
 Century Fund Trust
 Chaar Saddlery Farm and Pet
 City of Allentown
 County of Lehigh
 Crayola
 ESSA Savings and Trust
 Freshpet
 Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Foundation
 Gross McGinley LLP
 Haney Associates, Inc.
 The Hartford
 Charles H. Hoch Foundation
 Iron Pigs Charities
 Just Born
 Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful/PA Department of
 Conservation and Natural Resources
 KNBT
 Lehigh Gap Nature Center
 Lehigh Valley Arts Council
 Patrick McNealis Insurance and Financial Group
 National Environmental Education Foundation
 Pennsylvania Council on the Arts
 Plaque
 PPL
 Santander Bank
 Staples Foundation
 Bill Sugra Memorial Fund
 Trexler Funeral Home
 Walbert Animal Hospital
 Women's 5K



Partnerships and Collaborations

*"Alone we can do so little;
 together we can do so much."* - Helen Keller

We sincerely appreciate the on-going and supportive relationships established with the following organizations

Allentown Department of Parks and Recreation
 City of Allentown
 County of Lehigh
 Salisbury Township
 Cedar Crest College
 DeSales University
 Kutztown University of Pennsylvania
 Lehigh University
 Lehigh-Carbon Community College
 Muhlenberg College
 Northampton Community College
 Allentown School District
 East Penn School District
 Nazareth School District
 Parkland School District
 Whitehall School District
 Roberto Clemente Charter School
 Allentown Garden Club
 Allentown Environmental Advisory Council
 Lisa Bryan—PranaJoy Yoga & Holistic Health
 Edge of the Woods
 Girl Scouts/Boy Scouts
 Kiwanis/Key Clubs
 Lehigh Valley Audubon Society
 Lehigh Valley Center for Independent Living
 LI7-Le-Hi Trout Unlimited
 Old Allentown Neighborhood Association
 Rose Garden Neighborhood Association
 Rotary/Interact Clubs
 Union & West End Cemetery Association
 West Park Civic Association
 ...and many others



The United Way continues to support our on-going participation in the Donor Choice Program and we extend our most sincere thanks to everyone for your kind and generous contributions.

To our wonderful volunteers—thank you for your time, energy and enthusiasm in helping us preserve, promote and protect Allentown's wonderful park system!

**Thanks for your support.
 We'll see you in the parks!**