

THE HORIZON

NORTH BRANCH LAND TRUST NEWS | SUMMER 2026



North Branch
Land Trust



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A message from the Board Chair STEPHEN MAAKESTAD

Dear Friends and Members,

As spring settles across our region, the trails and lands we protect are alive with the kind of beauty that reminds us why this work matters. We hope you've had a chance to get outside - because time in nature is genuinely good for us. It lowers stress, builds community, and renews our sense of place. This season, we have exciting environmental education events, guided nature walks, and volunteer stewardship opportunities on the calendar, including:

- Shaking Things Up – Exploring Local Geology – Wilkes University Professor of Geology, Dr. Bobby Karimi at Forest Echo Bird Sanctuary (400 Block of West Center Hill Road, Dallas) on June 27th at 10:00 am.
- Lend a Hand, Steward the Land – Volunteer Day focused on trail maintenance and clean up at the Ellen Ferretti Forest Echo Bird Sanctuary (400 Block of West Center Hill Road, Dallas) on July 11th at 9:00 am.
- Moth Magic – Celebrating National Moth Week – Join DCNR's Environmental Education Specialist, Tony Desantis, at the Lackawanna State Park Campground Amphitheater on July 25th at 9:00 pm.

There are more to come and you can sign up for these events at <https://nblt.org/events/>. When you step onto one of our trails, take a moment to look around. These places exist because people chose to protect them. Leaving things as you found them, and sharing these places with others is how we honor that gift.

None of this happens - not the nature trails, not the education programs, not the conservation easements, not the volunteer workdays - without the support of our members. Every membership dollar goes directly toward protecting land and connecting people to nature right here in Northeastern Pennsylvania. We appreciate your continued support - please renew or join today at <https://nblt.org/membership/> and spread the word. Thank you for being part of this community.

On behalf of the North Branch Land Trust Board of Directors, we congratulate Ellen Ferretti on her 2026 Lifetime Conservation Leadership Award, presented by WeConservePA.

2026 Lifetime Conservation Leadership Award

In April, North Branch Land Trust staff members attended the annual WeConservePA Land Conservation Conference.

The team joined conservation partners in celebrating Executive Director Ellen Ferretti for receiving the 2026 Lifetime Conservation Leadership Award.

This well-deserved honor recognized Ellen for her decades of leadership, advocacy, and unwavering dedication to protecting Pennsylvania's precious landscapes for generations.



North Branch
Land Trust



“Conserving precious land...forever.”

OUR MISSION: North Branch Land Trust partners with landowners, communities, and stakeholders to conserve and care for Northeastern Pennsylvania's lands and waters.

OUR VISION: A future where abundant conserved lands help maintain clean air and water, diverse forests and wildlife habitats, vibrant working farms, and inspiring natural beauty.

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Executive Director's Speech, Lifetime Achievement Award **ELLEN FERRETTI**

Thank you to WeConservePA and the judging panel for deciding I was worthy of the 2026 Lifetime Conservation Leadership Award. When I look at who has already received this award over the years, there are no words for how it makes me feel to stand among them. I've had the opportunity of knowing or working with most of the awardees, as well as continuing the legacy of those who passed from the Brandywine Conservancy. I have had the privilege of working alongside and learning from many who have not had awards given to them – they achieved so much in the name of conservation then moved on, retired or are no longer with us. While they may never have received an award, they are inspirational leaders and their work will live on in the hearts of those who knew them and of course the lands, forests and waters conserved and protected because of them.

My son gave me a piece of driftwood with a saying by Mary Oliver carved into it. It says: "Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life." In the beginning I didn't plan to become someone who conserves land; who creates opportunities for the young to learn to appreciate and enjoy the natural world around them; who tries to pass on the noble act of mentoring in the field of conservation to the next generation and the generation after that. In the beginning, I studied environmental science and biology at Wilkes College when the field was in its infancy. I went to work in environmental consulting and learned a lot. From Newport Beach to Michigan to South and North Carolina to the Bahamas, I learned the intricacies of how our actions can impact the very water we drink, the health of our forests and the soil we walk upon and farm.

These last few years, after starting off my career assessing and cleaning up land so contaminated that fish died from the runoff created by it, a former farm in South Carolina so polluted by DDT and toxaphene that I became ill just testing it, I made that plan Mary Oliver asked about. The plan is that I would spend whatever working years I had left in conservation – not talking about it but doing it. And now at the end of my career, I stand here and struggled with what to say. I have a lot to say, I always have, but now it doesn't seem to matter.

What I am left with is gratitude. I am grateful that I met Dr. Doug Ayers in the mid 1990's when he was part of a group of concerned citizens that formed the Back Mountain Regional Land Trust, now North Branch Land Trust. That started a decades long friendship and affiliation with North Branch, the PA Land Trust Association (now WeConservePA) and land trusts. I am grateful that my work at the Pennsylvania Environmental Council brought me to The Conservation Fund while we worked with local county officials and PA DCNR to conserve thousands of acres of watershed lands in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

I am grateful that I had the opportunity to work at DCNR alongside extraordinary and dedicated staff doing conservation work in frequently difficult conditions, to visit and experience so many stunning state forests and state parks, to work hand in hand with staff and partners to protect thousands of acres of land and water, and hug a baby bear. It was a privilege.

I am grateful for my time as Director of the Brandywine Conservancy – for the enthusiastic and devoted staff; for the Laurels Preserve and my friends and partners in the King Ranch who are inspired by and honor it; for supportive Board members and friends; for crazy ideas that turned into the new Glenroy Preserve and expansion of the Laurels Preserve; for the chance to dream big and have dedicated staff and loyal conservation supporters to make dreams reality; for finally coming to peace with the fact that wanting to protect the beauty of nature and all the inherent benefits the natural world provides is valid and worth fighting for; for understanding that inspiration and love of the lands and waters of home were the impetus for the formation of the Brandywine Conservancy, the conservation movement and the great acts of conservation that have been achieved over the years.

I am grateful to end my conservation career where I started – at North Branch Land Trust – for the committed staff who will take the mission forward; for the interns who visited us for a time and the one who stayed as staff; for the robust marketing and education programs we created; for the children who are so excited when staff visits them to share the wonders of nature and wildlife; for the supportive and active Board of Directors; for our partnership with PA American Water in conserving the lands at the Huntsville drinking water reservoir as a start; for the new members, supporters and friends that we are making; for the landowners who continue to choose to donate easements because they believe it is the right thing to do, including some of our founders and early supporters.

I am grateful for WeConservePA and Andy Loza for being steadfast, strategic and passionate about conservation.

As you all consider the impact you've had through working for and with your land trusts, conservancies and agencies, while you look forward to the next conservation project, don't forget to look back and ask **"what if."** **What if** you hadn't conserved that forest, that field, that family homestead; **what if** you hadn't protected that mountainside, farm or watershed; **what if** your achievements weren't focused on the conservation side of the balance we know must be maintained as part of a functioning society, a vibrant community? If you never did what you did, as well as those before you, what would your home and Pennsylvania in general look like now?

Thank you for the privilege of being able to walk beside you.



One of North Branch Land Trust's most essential partners, WeConservePA.

WeConservePA was founded in 1995 by land trusts who saw the need for an entity that could focus on the broad needs of the land conservation movement—to take on activities that no single group could effectively handle or wish to handle on its own.

Today, WeConservePA is made up of the North Branch Land Trust and 75 other Pennsylvania conservation organizations who approve its bylaws, set its general direction, and elect the WeConservePA board. Ellen Ferretti served on the board for much of the past decade.

- ✓ WeConservePA tirelessly advocates for creating and improving public policy friendly to conservation and defends against legislation that would harm conservation efforts.
- ✓ WeConservePA is the lead defender and advocate for conservation and outdoor recreation funding such as the Keystone Recreation, Park and Conservation Fund, the Environmental Stewardship Fund, and the Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Fund. North Branch's work has greatly benefited in our work by these very same funding sources!
- ✓ WeConservePA develops and maintains nationally renowned model legal documents (28 in all) and 164 technical guides for use in conservation real estate transactions, land stewardship, and organizational operations, and are provided free-of-charge.. North Branch staff rely heavily on these resources in our work.
- ✓ WeConservePA legal, mapping, and other staff are always available to help conservation real estate transactions, planning, and a myriad of other matters. WeConservePA has also supported North Branch with hundreds of thousands of dollars in direct grants for its conservation projects.
- ✓ WeConservePA provides the premiere state conservation conference that serves staff and board members with professional training and networking as well as a variety of seminars and other forums for conservation professionals and volunteers to learn and connect with one another.

Please visit <https://weconservepa.org/> to learn more about WeConservePA and it's critically important role in conservation throughout Pennsylvania.

NBLT STAFF SPOTLIGHT Welcome, Natalie Wasilchak!

Natalie has been working in the wildlife and natural resources field as an environmental educator and program leader before joining NBLT.

In her time as an intern at North Branch Land Trust, Natalie worked with the Senior Director of Conservation to better understand the process of a conservation easement and monitoring land. Natalie has since become a full-time staff member of North Branch Land Trust as the Conservation Specialist!

Her role is to monitor all conservation easements annually to ensure they are in compliance. She is also the volunteer coordinator working with community members to care for our preserves. Natalie assists with land conservation efforts through property inventories, mapping, and easement drafting as well.

Her goal is to help people build deeper connections with their land and inspire long term stewardship through conservation.

To read more on the Faber Internship and NBLT Staff in the Community, turn to page 12.



UPCOMING EVENTS

for more information or to register, visit nb.lt.org/events, call (570) 310-1781 or email info@NBLT.org.



Shaking Things Up: Exploring Local Geology

Saturday, June 27 @ 10:00 AM

📍 **Forest Echo Bird Sanctuary | Dallas, PA**

Spend a morning with North Branch Land Trust and Dr. Bobby Karimi of Wilkes University for an educational walk through Forest Echo Bird Sanctuary. Learn to identify local geology, get involved in data collection, and take part in a hands-on seismic experiment!



Hands for the Land

Saturday, July 11, 2026 @ 9:00 AM

📍 **Forest Echo Bird Sanctuary | Dallas, PA**

Join us for Hands for the Land, a volunteer day focused on caring for the preserve through trail maintenance and clean-up. Volunteers will help refresh trails, install signage, and remove debris and litter while enjoying time outdoors, meeting others, and supporting a healthy ecosystem.



Nature's Canvas “Intro to En Plein Air”

Saturday, July 18 @ 9:30 AM

📍 **Moon Lake Recreation Area | Hunlock Creek, PA**

Take part in our relaxed nature journaling series, where you'll slow down, notice the small wonders, and capture them in words and sketches. All skill levels welcome - just bring your curiosity; we'll provide prompts, peaceful trails, and gentle guidance. Spend an hour reconnecting with the outdoors and leave with a page (or two) filled with discoveries. Visit nb.lt.org to view the entire series.



Moth Magic: Celebrating National Moth Week

Saturday, July 25 @ 9:00 PM

📍 **Lackawanna State Park | North Abington, PA**

Meet North Branch Land Trust and PA DCNR's Environmental Education Specialist, Tony DeSantis, at the Lackawanna State Park for an evening of drawing in nocturnal moths using UV lighting! Discuss their beauty, diversity, and role they play in the environment.



Monarchs on the Move

Saturday, August 29 @ 10:00 AM

† **Vosburg Neck State Park | Tunkhannock, PA**

Join North Branch Land Trust and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources learn the life cycle, habitat needs, and the migration of monarch butterflies.

Afterwards, catch, tag, and release your own butterfly!



Fall Fungi Foray

Saturday, September 12 @ 10:00 AM

† **Picton Wildlife Sanctuary | Foster Township, PA**

Want to better identify mushrooms in your neighborhood?

Join North Branch Land Trust and Dannielle Bennett of Connected Fun Girl Wellness for a guided educational Autumn walk and learn key characteristics of local fungi. *This is not a foraging event.*



Exploring Barn Owls & Owl Pellets

Saturday, September 19 @ 10:00 AM

† **Osterhout Free Library | Wilkes-Barre, PA**

Our nocturnal raptors are fascinating. Spend a morning at the Osterhout Library with NBLT and learn more about Barn Owls and their role in the environment. Afterwards, take part in an owl pellet dissection, where you can keep what you find!



Bat Chat

Saturday, October 3, 2026 @ 6:00 PM

† **Butler Preserve | Hazle Township, PA**

Meet North Branch Land Trust and the Pennsylvania Game Commission for an evening of discussion on healthy bat habitats, bat boxes, and the diversity of Pennsylvania's native bats. Afterwards, take part in a rare opportunity to visualize a bat's echolocation during an activity led by NBLT's Environmental Education Coordinator!

Become a member of NBLT and enjoy complimentary and discounted events!

AN EVENING WORTH REMEMBERING 2026 ANNUAL DINNER & AUCTION

Landowners, conservation advocates, philanthropists, supporters, and friends of North Branch Land Trust gathered on Wednesday, March 25th, for an evening of togetherness in celebration of NBLT's long standing commitment of conservation across Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The Annual Dinner and Auction is the Land Trust's largest fund and friend raising event of the year, and is critical as we continue our mission to conserve Pennsylvania, our common wealth of beauty and nature. This year, NBLT was honored to recognize the Mericle Family for their longstanding support of our mission.



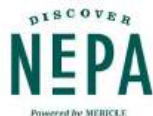
"I always look forward to the annual dinner and auction. It is a great time of year to celebrate the Land Trust's accomplishments and recognize all who contribute to our success," said Stephen Maakestad, Chair of NBLT.

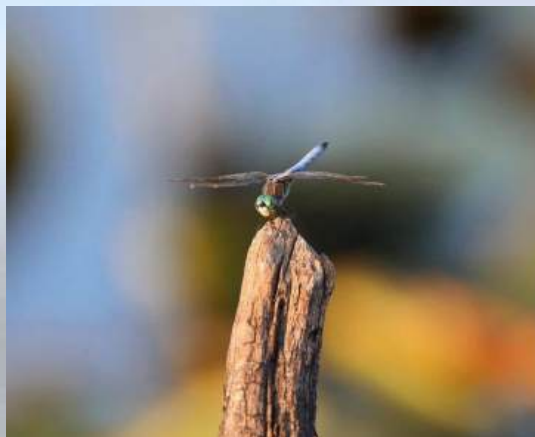
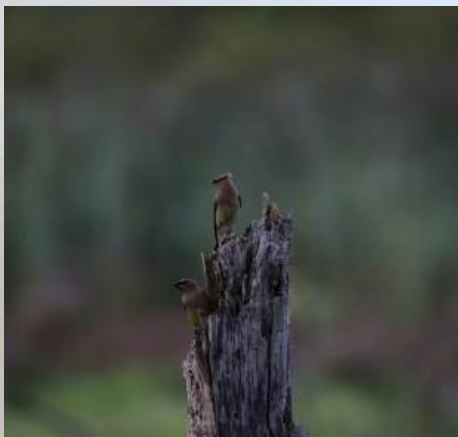
One of the evening's most memorable moments was surprising our Executive Director with a special announcement: the renaming of our public preserve to Ellen Ferretti Forest Echo Bird Sanctuary, honoring her leadership and lasting impact.

Thank you to our dinner chairs, Kelly Bray and Jeremy Eden of PA American Water, all the dinner committee members and our emcee, sponsors, auction donors, and everyone who made this event a success.



2026 ANNUAL DINNER PRESENTED BY:





Hanover Marsh photography courtesy of Hailey Griffin

Highlighting Hanover Crossings

HANOVER CROSSINGS MARSH SANCTUARY

Hanover Township • 39.9 Acres • Open to Public

The focal point of the 40-acre Hanover Crossings Marsh Sanctuary located in Hanover Township is the spectacular 15-acre marsh complex with a wide variety of flora and fauna found there. The remainder of the property boasts a mix of hardwoods, conifers, and even wildflower fields created when the industrial park was under construction. This property certainly offers a variety of habitat types perfect for walking, birdwatching, and outdoor photography. Recently, the Marsh has undergone invasive treatments to remove phragmites with the help of Native Creations. North Branch Land Trust aims to continue the treatment of phragmites and all over invasives two more times before implementing a replanting plan with funding provided by The American Water Charitable Foundation.

“The American Water Charitable Foundation is proud to invest in organizations and programs that focus on clean water, conservation, environmental education, climate variability and water-based recreation,” said Carrie Williams, President, American Water Charitable Foundation. **“We take pride in furthering American Water’s ongoing commitment to being a good neighbor and trusted partner in the community.”**

The restoration work proposed by Native Creations at the Hanover Marsh is focused on the suppression of phragmites throughout the project area and the restoration of native wetland habitat. Phragmites have become increasingly prevalent throughout areas of the marsh, forming dense monocultures that displace native vegetation, reduce biodiversity, and degrade the quality of the wildlife habitat as well as the overall natural functions of the marsh. As development continues to place increasing pressure on natural spaces, the protection and restoration of wetland ecosystems becomes increasingly important. Through the suppression of phragmites and reestablishment of native vegetation, this project will help to restore pollinator and wildlife habitat and improve the overall ecological health of the Hanover Marsh.” - Justin Ulanoski, Native Creations.



One of the latest interactive additions to the marsh was the implementation of a watershed focused interpretive sign, providing visitors with identification guidance and information on the water process of a wetland.





THE BENEFITS OF NATURAL TRAILS by Joseph Butkiewicz, NBLT Director of Community Engagement

Recreational trails abound in Northeastern Pennsylvania providing places to walk, run, ride and connect to nature. With minimal impact on the land, trails parallel the mission of North Branch Land Trust to conserve and care for Northeastern Pennsylvania's land and water. Ellen Ferretti, Executive Director of NBLT, believes that nature trails can offer residents and visitors a chance to appreciate the natural world around them, provide excellent opportunities to act as good stewards, and promote local tourism. She favors a quote from an older yet relevant publication on sustainable eco-tourism that states... "Sustainable is defined as using resources in a practical, profitable and environmentally sensitive manner, so that the resources can be utilized with little or no degradation. Growth is directed towards areas where infrastructure already exists." Trail organizations partner with landowners, communities, and stakeholders, like North Branch Land Trust. Trails provide recreation and healthy exercise options and drive economies, but at the core, trails are a gateway to conserved nature.

**"To step onto a trail is to breathe fresh air,
to escape hustle and bustle to peaceful place."**

Not every time on the trail is a zen moment but the zen moment is there to savor, everytime. It's in the chipmunks cavorting through leaves or a porcupine wobbling across the path. Just ahead, goldfinches undulate from branch to branch. Hear the white throated sparrow? With luck you'll see an oriole. In the spring, look for mayapple and on the streamside, skunk cabbage. Smell the ferns on the breeze, the sweet Joe Pye weed, the wood-scented hemlocks.

The options are myriad, from rails-to-trails organizations to state parks, forests and gamelands to county parks and non-profit land conservation organizations.

Please visit trails.dcnr.pa.gov to discover trails for your next adventure.

Recognizing the powerful role nature plays in public wellbeing, Geisinger, one of NBLT's community partners, is bringing these benefits directly to patients and staff through its new trail construction efforts. "Geisinger is proud to offer trails at several of its campuses, including Geisinger Medical Center (Danville) and Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center (Plains Township). When we set out to create our trail at Geisinger Wyoming Valley, our goal was to provide a place of respite where patients, visitors, and staff could take a deep breath of fresh air and get a break from the rigor of their day. It opened right before the COVID-19 pandemic and the timing couldn't have been better, as our staff greatly appreciated the opportunity to step away from the stress of that environment and take in our beautiful, wooded campus. Trails offer a meaningful escape for patients and visitors, especially during a time of stress or uncertainty. Geisinger Wyoming Valley's trail has been impacted by construction but we look forward to its successful reopening soon. They also reflect Geisinger's focus on contributing to healthier, more vibrant communities and being good stewards of our environment and region. Geisinger is grateful the support and expertise of the North Branch Land Trust in guiding our efforts to make our trail a reality!"

- Daniel S. Landesberg, Associate Vice President, Clinical Operations, Geisinger Northeast



CONSERVING YOUR PRECIOUS LANDS... FOREVER.

Are you a landowner concerned with the future of your property?
This is what you need to know to get started on the protection of your land for generations to come.

What is a Conservation Easement?

A conservation easement *conserves* land in the public interest, but the land stays in the *possession* and *control* of the private landowner.

A conservation easement is established by *mutual agreement* between a landowner and a land trust. The easement limits certain uses of the land in order to achieve the landowner's particular *conservation objectives*.

A conservation easement does not create a right for public access to a conserved property.

Why Would I Conserve My Land?

Protect the land, water, wildlife,
and vistas you hold dear

Protect water quality

Conserve wildlife and habitat

Protect working farms and forests

Preserve scenic views

Reduce flooding

Potential tax benefits

Who else might you want to talk to about Conservation Easements?

- Current NBLT Easement Holders
- Financial Planner or Tax Advisor
- Lawyer or Estate Planner

Getting Started

Contact

North Branch Land Trust
at info@nb.lt.org or give us
a call at 570-310-1781.

Our stewardship staff will talk you through the process to ensure that your conservation objectives are met.

LANDOWNER SPOTLIGHT: GRAPE ROCK FARM, LUZERNE COUNTY

Landowners are a crucial part of the success of North Branch Land Trust. Essentially, a conservation easement conserves land in the public interest, but the land stays in the possession and control of private landowners. Land trusts work to ensure that land acquired or placed under easement is properly stewarded, bringing permanent conservation benefits to our communities.

Through conservation easements, conserved land transfers, and fee owned preserves and sanctuaries, NBLT's mission benefits both natural habitats & those living in Bradford, Susquehanna, Sullivan, Wayne, Wyoming, Lackawanna, Luzerne, and Columbia Counties.

Bonnie Silvetti is a fourth-generation landowner in Luzerne County. An owner of over 50 acres of land, her longstanding interest in conservation of natural resources and landscapes fuels her love of the land.



Why did you decide to conserve land?

"In my lifetime here (which is probably 50+ years), I have noticed a decline in populations of both insects and birds, particularly within the barn swallow population. There was a time when I could count 30 to 40 on the wire, and now I'm lucky if I could count a dozen to twenty of them at once. And with the Monarch butterfly larvae, when I moved here, I was teaching fifth grade. I remembered when I could gather as many as I wanted to take into the classroom, and have the children watch their progression. Fast forward to last summer, I saw three larvae. You know, you read about declines in populations, but I feel like I'm witnessing it – it's pretty astounding."

What made you choose to ultimately make that decision, and what have you enjoyed since partnering with NBLT?

"I like the fact that [North Branch Land Trust] come here twice a year – I enjoy walking around the property with them. Sometimes they may help me with identifying bird calls and wildlife, but they also help me get some apps on my phone so that I can do more identification myself! I love sitting outside on the deck with my neighbor when it is warm out – we can just put on Merlin and learn about more bird calls!"

"At one point in time, with one of my old farmers, North Branch Land Trust would come around during their monitoring visits to identify any erosion issues with the land, as I have a few fields on the property. And for farmers, that is one of the words they never want to hear! [The land trust] also did a great job of making sure that I don't have people dumping on my property – years ago it used to be a much larger issue for me than it is now thanks to their help. But, one of the main reasons I enjoy working with North Branch Land Trust is because I am hoping that I can keep the property in my family's lineage for years to come, and with a conservation easement on the property I think that it can be done."

What are some current and future plans for your conserved lands?

"My focus will always be to maintain my love for this beautiful land I own. I do know that in the future I will not be planting any exotics on my property. I'm a member of the Mountain Top Garden Club, and that's why I have North Branch Land Trust coming to speak to them on native plants in our area. I also have a new farmer that I am working with currently, and he will be planting grasses (hay, cattle grasses, etc.) which I believe will reduce pesticide use as it'll be grown for his beef cattle."

GIVING BACK

NBLT IN THE COMMUNITY



NEPA Racing New Year's 5K Run Benefits Non-Profits

On February 19th, NBLT was awarded a donation provided by NEPA Racing. NEPARacing's objective is to help foster a healthier community by raising funds for local nonprofit organizations, like North Branch Land Trust, through their incredible Back Mountain Triathlon and 5K events. We're grateful for partners who believe in giving back and helping us care for the natural spaces that connect us!



Luzerne County Envirothon

On April 21st, NBLT staff participated as proctors and team leaders at The Luzerne County Envirothon, hosted by the Luzerne Conservation District at Camp Kresge. Students from different local schools tested their knowledge of aquatics, forestry, soils, wildlife, and current environmental issues, showcasing their passion for the environment and future conservation leadership.



Hands for the Land

Celebrating Earth Day in true stewardship style, NBLT friends gathered at the George and Lillian Picton Wildlife Sanctuary on April 26th for a volunteer day. Community members spent the afternoon refreshing trails, clearing debris, and making a lasting impact. Thank you to everyone who showed up and made an effort to improve some of NEPA's conserved lands!



Family Nature Walks with the Greater Wyoming Valley Area YMCA

North Branch Land Trust and The Greater Wyoming Valley YMCA partnered to offer the community a free, monthly, nature based educational series of child focused-family walks. These walks, led by NBLT's Environmental Education Coordinator, Leah Malarkey, focused on diverse topics such as bird identification, native species recognition, and understanding different ecosystems.



Aqua Pennsylvania Inc. Earth Day Project

Earlier in May, employees from Aqua Pennsylvania's White Haven Division and staff members partnered with North Branch Land Trust for the second year of Earth Day Volunteer projects at George and Lillian Picton Wildlife Sanctuary. Volunteers replaced the footbridge at the start of the White Tail trail, cleaned up the ditch near the footbridge, and some planted native cone flowers at the entrance of the preserve to assist with our native stewardship efforts!



Congratulations, Nick Splain! 2023-2026 Internship

Nick spent his NBLT internship executing the responsibilities of creative writing, graphic design, social media and communications with creativity and purpose, and it showed. Now he's heading into a new professional role. (We're cheering him on every step of the way!)

Thank you Nick, for the impact you made at North Branch Land Trust.

"My time with North Branch Land Trust was exciting and educational, teaching me the true value of teamwork - I am certainly going to miss it! I am now moving on to Fingerpaint Group, a healthcare and pharmaceutical marketing agency, where I will be joining the Digital Strategy team and applying the invaluable lessons I have learned over the past three years."

About the North Branch Land Trust Mary Louise & Eberhard Faber Conservation Scholarship Fund at The Luzerne Foundation

To further North Branch Land Trust's Mission, Vision, and Core Values, the Mary Louise and Eberhard Faber Scholarship Fund was established by members of Mary Louise's family at The Luzerne Foundation to celebrate the legacy of Mary Louise and Eberhard Faber. The Luzerne Foundation helps people create funds to do good things today and lasting good for tomorrow. Here for Good!™ This scholarship will benefit individuals passionate about land conservation by funding a hands-on educational opportunity through a paid internship program at the North Branch Land Trust. Earth Conservancy proudly contributes to the Faber Scholarship Fund to help cultivate the next generation of environmental leaders.

To find out more about the scholarship and opportunities to support the next generation of land and water stewards, please visit nblt.org/faber-internship-program.



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NEPA BARN BANQUET MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2026



North Branch
Land Trust

Save The Date

NEPA BARN BANQUET

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2026

138 Wyoming Road, Dallas PA 18612

AT FRIEDMAN FARMS

Join North Branch Land Trust
at the 5th annual Barn Banquet
in celebration of NEPA's agricultural heritage.
Help support NBLT's long-standing tradition of
conserving our local farmlands and rich
agricultural assets.

More information to follow.



FRIEDMAN
HOSPITALITY GROUP

