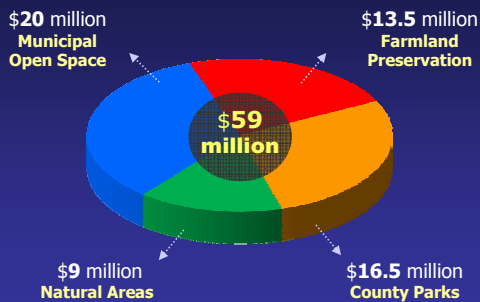


Bucks County Open Space Program



Open Space Bond Referendum 1997



Bucks County Agricultural Land Preservation Program



- Established in 1989
- Part of PA Farmland Preservation Program
- Preserved 130 farms = 11,324 acres

Bucks County Agricultural Land Preservation Program

Easement Values

- \$12,000 per acre cap
- Average price per acre is \$9,255
- \$10,000 to \$40,000 acre

Bucks County Agricultural Land Preservation Program

- Bucks County home to 917 farms = 76,831 acres
- In 2006, received a record 20 applications
- Waiting list = 62 farms / 4,090 acres

Bucks County Parks

County's longest standing commitment to open space preservation.

Bucks County Park System totals 8,500 acres



All county-owned parkland protected by deed restriction.

Bucks County Parks

Through the 1997 Open Space bond,
additional 1,000 acres preserved.

- stream banks along designated greenways
- in-fill parcels within existing county parks



Silver Lake



Ringing Rocks



Churchville Nature Center

Municipal Open Space Program

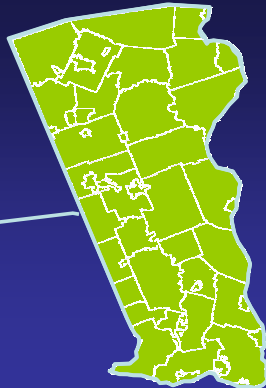
\$20 million
divided among
54 municipalities:

Base Allocation
\$100,000

+

Adjusted Share

% Overall County Land Area
% Overall County Population



Municipal Open Space Program




- **Required: Local Open Space Plan**
- **Up to \$10,000 planning grant**
- **Fee-Simple / Easement**
 - ✦ Farmland
 - ✦ Parkland
 - ✦ Natural Area

**All projects must implement
goals and recommendations
of local open space plan.**

Municipal Open Space Program

County Funding

- Up to 75% appraised value
- 25% municipal match

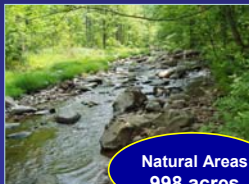
	County of Bucks	Number 94 - 0485
Date: <u>10/1/2009</u>		
PAY TO THE ORDER OF	<i>YOUR MUNICIPALITY</i>	\$ 200,000.00
Two Hundred Thousand and 00/100		DOLLARS
FOR: <u>Open Space Acquisition</u>		SIGNED <u>County of Bucks</u>

Municipal Open Space Program

Completed 96 projects
2,500+ acres



Parkland
657 acres



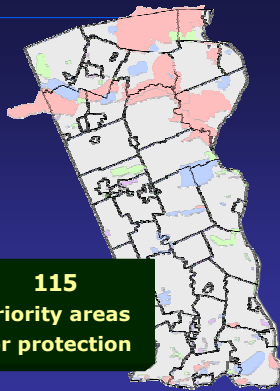
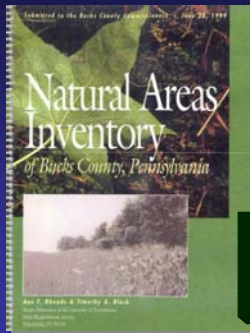
Natural Areas
998 acres

Municipal Open Space Program

Unspent Funding...

- \$1.2 million
- 15 municipalities
 - 3 untouched

Natural Areas Program



**115
priority areas
for protection**

Natural Areas Program

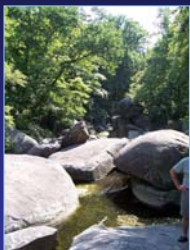
\$9 million



- **Competitive Grant Program**
 - 2 application rounds / year
- **50% appraised value / \$500,000**
- **Average of 2 appraisals**

Natural Areas Program

\$9 million



Who is eligible to apply?

- Nonprofit organizations
- Municipalities

How may funds be used?

- fee simple
- conservation easement



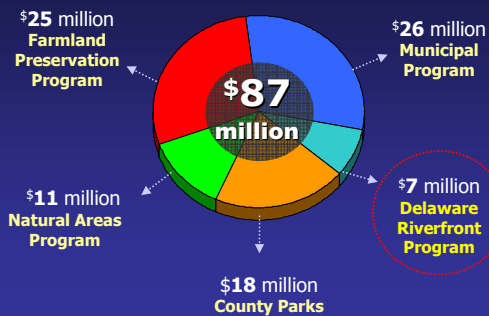
Bucks County Open Space Program

Is Public Access Required?

- One factor used to evaluate applications
- Ranges from unrestricted to guided educational tours



November 2007



Municipal Open Space Program \$20 million



- Base Allocation **\$200,000**
- Update Open Space Plan
- \$10,000 planning grant
- Fee-Simple / Easement
 - Farmland
 - Parkland
 - Natural Areas
- **Improvements**

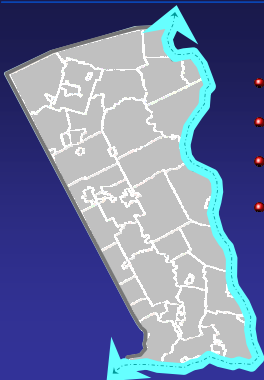
All projects must implement goals and recommendations of local open space plan.

Municipal Open Space Program

Improvements

- ☒ Considered on a Case-by-Case Basis
- ☒ Municipalities with Limited Open Space
- ☒ Pre-Application Concept Approval
 - Enhance Public Access / Utilization
 - Benefit Conservation Values
- ☒ Land must be Owned by Municipality and Deed Restricted

Delaware Riverfront Program \$7 million



- Subcomponent of Municipal
- 17 Riverfront Municipalities
- Competitive Grant Program
- Public Access to River

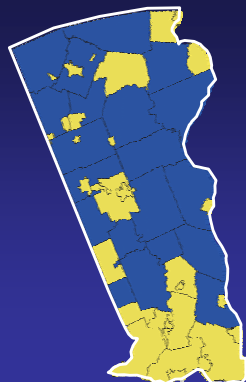


Stewardship and Monitoring



- Application include a Management Plan
- Annual Monitoring reports
- County hired staff

Local Open Space Funding in Bucks County



- 49 Local Funding Measures
 - 21 municipalities
- \$266 million

Total Leveraged Funds...

	County	State	Municipalities	Bargain Sale	Other	TOTAL Leveraged
Farmland	24	47.5	22.5	8.2	-	78.2
Natural Areas	11	4.6	5.1	3.1	1	13.8
Municipal	18.5	1.1	12.1	3.3	1.1	17.6
TOTAL	53.5	53.2	39.7	14.6	2.1	109.6

Source: The Trust for Public Land LandVote Database

Bucks, Chester, Montgomery Funding...

	Total Measures	Approved Funding
Bucks, Chester & Montgomery	87	884
Pennsylvania	113	1,356
Bucks, Chester & Montgomery % of PA	77%	65%

Source: The Trust for Public Land LandVote Database
