

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society
TreeVitalize XV
DEP Growing Greener Plus Grant C990002461
FINAL REPORT - PROJECT SUMMARY

In March 2003, the US Forest Service and American Forests, in collaboration with DCNR, released a study that estimated that there had been a substantial loss of tree cover in southeastern Pennsylvania. Trees and shrubs provide the best protection and improvement for water quality, so the TreeVitalize Watersheds program was created to address that need (now known as Trees for Watersheds Grants).

Since the initiation of the program, PHS has regranted \$4,057,557 in funding provided by the DEP Growing Greener program, with additional cash funding provided by Aqua Pennsylvania. This funding supported 761 projects that have planted 159,920 trees, 296,594 seedlings and nearly 22,000 shrubs by streams, wetlands and stormwater facilities in parks, schools, nature preserves and other public lands. PHS partners with the Watershed Specialists from the Bucks, Montgomery, Delaware and Chester County Conservation Districts to provide technical and grant writing assistance to applicants.

During the DEP XV TreeVitalize Watersheds grant period, 6,953 trees were planted and 68 acres were restored. As a result, approximately 961 pounds of total nitrogen, 24 pounds of total phosphorous and 12,634 pounds of sediment will be prevented from polluting our waterways annually.