

Lake Restoration Efforts

The Commonwealth's lake protection and restoration program is supported by various State and Federally funded programs. State funding sources include the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Growing Greener Grant Program, the Commonwealth's Environmental Stewardship Fund (ESF), and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resource's (DCNR) TreeVitalize program. Additionally, cooperative efforts by outside agencies to include but not limited to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE), the Pennsylvania Lake Management Society (PALMS), the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC), County Conservation Districts, and neighboring state agencies such as the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) have supported lake restoration efforts. Federally funded programs such as the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 319 Grant Program have also supported the Commonwealth's protection and restoration efforts. Other funding sources could include EPA Section 104(b)3 grants, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, the Chesapeake Bay Program, and PENNVEST.

Overall program goals are to protect and restore lake water quality. To meet these goals, actions are executed in Phases – Phase I to III. Phase I is to complete an assessment of the lake by gathering data, determining impairment status, and identifying pollution sources. Phase II is to develop a plan of action to remediate and restore water quality by implementing Best Management Practices (BMP), implementing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL), and/or prescribing control measures. Phase III is to follow-up to monitor the efficacy of BMPs, TMDLs, and other control efforts.

Projects for the period October 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023 are summarized in Table 1. When determining projects to be funded, lakes are prioritized according to public use and lake benefit, impairment status and watershed impairment status. During this period, \$ \$2,088,847 had been spent on Phase II projects. A variety of project types were completed on 20 lakes across the Commonwealth. Restorative efforts included stormwater BMPs, invasive plant management, nutrient management, shoreline rehabilitation, and habitat improvements.

Table 1. Completed Lake Restoration Projects – Period 10/1/2021 to 6/30/2023.

Funding Source	Funding Amount	Lake Name	County	Project Description	Project Period	Phase
DEP Growing Greener	\$24,000.00	Lake Wallenpaupack	Pike/Wayne	Stormwater BMPS (PALMS Mini Grant)	May 2022 - May 2023	II
DEP Growing Greener	\$20,940.50	Lake Towhee	Bucks	Invasive Plant Management (PALMS Mini Grant)	October 2021 - October 2022	II
DEP Growing Greener	\$14,500.00	Skymount Lake	Montgomery	Invasive Plant Management (PALMS Mini Grant)	October 2021 - October 2022	II
DEP Growing Greener	\$24,000.00	Lake Alden	Wayne	Invasive Plant Management (PALMS Mini Grant)	October 2021 - October 2022	II
DEP Growing Greener	\$2,000.00	Pine Run Reservoir	Mercer	Invasive Plant Management (PALMS Mini Grant)	October 2021 - October 2022	II
DEP Growing Greener	\$24,000.00	Waynewood Lake	Wayne	Nutrient Management (PALMS Mini Grant)	October 2021 - December 2022	II
DEP Growing Greener	\$22,500.00	Hemlock Farm Ponds	Pike/Wayne	Nutrient Management (PALMS Mini Grant)	October 2021 - December 2022	II
DEP Growing Greener	\$23,992.71	Blue Marsh Lake	Berks	Shoreline Rehabilitation (PALMS Mini Grant)	October 2021 - October 2022	II
DEP Growing Greener	\$24,000.00	Raystown Lake	Huntingdon	Shoreline Rehabilitation (PALMS Mini Grant)	October 2021 - October 2022	II
DEP Growing Greener	\$23,757.01	Edgewood Lake	Philadelphia	Invasive Plant Management/Shoreline Management (PALMS Mini Grant)	October 2021 - October 2022	II
DEP Growing Greener	\$6,561.72	Laurel Lake	Susquehanna	Invasive Plant Management (PALMS Mini Grant)	October 2021 - October 2022	II
EPA 319	\$287,810.00	Harveys Lake	Luzerne	Stormwater BMPS	June 2019 - September 2022	II
EPA 319	\$207,000.00	Stephen Foster Lake	Bradford	Nutrient Management	September 2018 - August 2022	II
EPA 319	\$435,000.00	Frances Slocum Lake	Luzerne	Abraham's Creek Watershed BMP	Ongoing through December 2023	II
EPA 319	\$790,914.00	Lake Luxembourg	Bucks	Wetland BMP	Ongoing through June 2024	II
DCNR	\$68,871.30	Foster Joseph Sayers	Centre	Shoreline Enhancement/Habitat Improvements	January 2023 - February 2023	II
DCNR	\$15,000.00	Lake Aurthur	Butler	Shoreline Enhancement	January 2022 - April 2023	II
DCNR	\$50,000.00	Glendale Lake	Cambria	Shoreline Enhancement	July 2022 - April 2023	II
DCNR	\$15,000.00	Scotts Run/Hopewell	Chester	Invasive Plant Management	May 2022 - Present	II
DCNR	\$9,000.00	Memorial Lake	Dauphin	Invasive Plant Management	May 2022 - Present	II