

Bacton Hill Park

making nature more accessible



Park Master Plan

East Whiteland Township, Chester County, PA

In 2018, Natural Lands began working with East Whiteland Township to prepare a Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails (PROST) plan, which revealed that the Township needed more parks to better serve their residents. Fortunately, the Township already owned a site that they could develop into a park, but needed guidance on how to accomplish this.

Through outreach and public participation opportunities, residents shared their desire for a modern, accessible playground and additional sports facilities, gathering places, and trails within a natural setting. Natural Lands and Toole Recreation Planning set out to prepare a plan for Bacton Hill Park that would deliver on residents' wishes while respecting nature. The final Park Master Plan included a conceptual design for a modern playground combined with adult fitness equipment, plus benches and tables, all framed by native plants. The playground was designed with universal accessibility and neurodiversity in mind, featuring accessible equipment, quiet spaces, sensory features, and clear sightlines. The plan also specified a pavilion for gathering, pickleball courts, multi-use sport courts, and a restroom. The park trail system offers multiple loop options and is relatively flat, meeting accessibility standards, and connects to the regionally important Chester Valley Trail.

PROJECT SNAPSHOT

services: park master plan, design coordination, landscape plan, playground design, landscaping installation inspections

client: East Whiteland Township

key partners: KOMPAN,
Toole Recreation Planning

