

The Mount Penn Preserve

a collaborative approach to forest care and trails



Forest Stewardship Assessment and Trail Plan

Berks County, PA

The Mount Penn Preserve is a large natural area just on the outskirts of the City of Reading. It is valued by the community for its scenic beauty, recreation opportunities, and natural resources. In the spring of 2016, the Mount Penn Preserve Partnership (MP3) formed with a goal of making the Mount Penn Preserve a recreational and entertainment destination, while embracing the historical resources of the site.

Over two years, Natural Lands worked with the MP3 to create a plan that would support forest health and improve trail conditions while also focusing on ways the MP3 partners can continue to work together towards common goals. After assessing conditions on the ground and gathering public input, Natural Lands identified a suite of recommendations that ranged from improving forest conditions to better manage stormwater and protect water quality to creating unified signage and encouraging the various user groups to work in collaboration.

Key recommendations included expansion of the ranger program, continued deer management, improvement of stormwater management measures, and the establishment of a collaborative users group.



PROJECT SNAPSHOT

services: trail study and stewardship assessment

clients: City of Reading and the Mount Penn Preserve Partnership

key partners: Berks County, Berks Nature, City of Reading, the Mount Penn Preserve Partnership

