

Hoffman & Gateway Slopes Parks Mini-Master Plan

guiding the future development of community spaces



Assessment & Mini-Master Plans

Lansdowne Borough, Delaware County, PA

In 2025, Lansdowne Borough engaged Natural Lands to complete assessments and mini-master plans of two properties, Hoffman Park and Gateway Slope Park, which are connected by the Darby Creek Trail. The parks offer both active and passive recreation opportunities for residents of Lansdowne and beyond. The mini-master plans provide recommendations to reorganize and/or modernize existing facilities, improve stormwater management through green stormwater infrastructure, enhance recreation opportunities, upgrade portions of the Darby Creek Trail, and add native landscaping to make the parks more functional, comfortable, and beautiful. The mini-master plans are meant to provide attainable improvements for the Borough to make over time as they acquire grant funding.

Natural Lands utilized a DCNR grant to fund this project as a "Growing Greener" pilot project in the Darby Creek Watershed.



PROJECT SNAPSHOT

services: park and recreation facilities analysis, mini-master plans

client: Lansdowne Borough

key partners: Delaware County Greenways Grant Program, Foundation for Delaware County, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), the William Penn Foundation

key recommendations

- Engage the community and assess recreation needs.
- Better manage stormwater runoff and erosion along the Darby Creek through rain gardens, pervious pavers in parking lots, and riparian buffer plantings.
- Install native plantings in combination with green stormwater infrastructure features.
- Improve accessibility to the park from parking lots.
- Install directional signage and additional park seating.
- Update and relocate park features (playground, pavilion, seating, and basketball courts).
- Update the Darby Creek Trail to meet Circuit Trail standards.
- Create a formalized trail along Darby Creek at Hoffman Park.
- Increase park maintenance efforts.