



WEST VINCENT

READ THE RETURN ON ENVIRONMENT REPORT // PA.AUDUBON.ORG/WESTVINCENTROE

// RETURN ON
ENVIRONMENT
FACT SHEET

West Vincent Township 2019

Belted Kingfisher / Terri Shaddick



\$16.4 MILLION

ANNUAL COST SAVINGS BENEFITS
PROVIDED BY NATURE

Evans Park / West Vincent Twp



\$8.2 MILLION

ANNUAL OUTDOOR RECREATION
REVENUE

WE CAN'T AFFORD NOT TO PROTECT

WEST VINCENT TOWNSHIP'S OPEN SPACES.

West Vincent Township supplies our communities with sparkling clean drinking water, critical wildlife habitats, flood protection, and impressive recreational and tourism opportunities. The West Vincent Township Return on Environment study demonstrates how open space is integral to West Vincent Township's economy, health, sense of place, and cost of living. By understanding nature's financial value, communities are better equipped to strike an effective balance between protecting natural resources and supporting smart growth.



Marsh Creek / Malia Edmunds

\$3.9 MILLION

ANNUAL TAX SAVINGS DUE TO
PROTECTED WATERSHEDS



Great Blue Heron / Tiffany Englander

\$3.4 MILLION

ANNUAL SAVINGS IN REDUCED
HEALTHCARE COSTS



Marsh Creek / Take It Outdoors Adventures

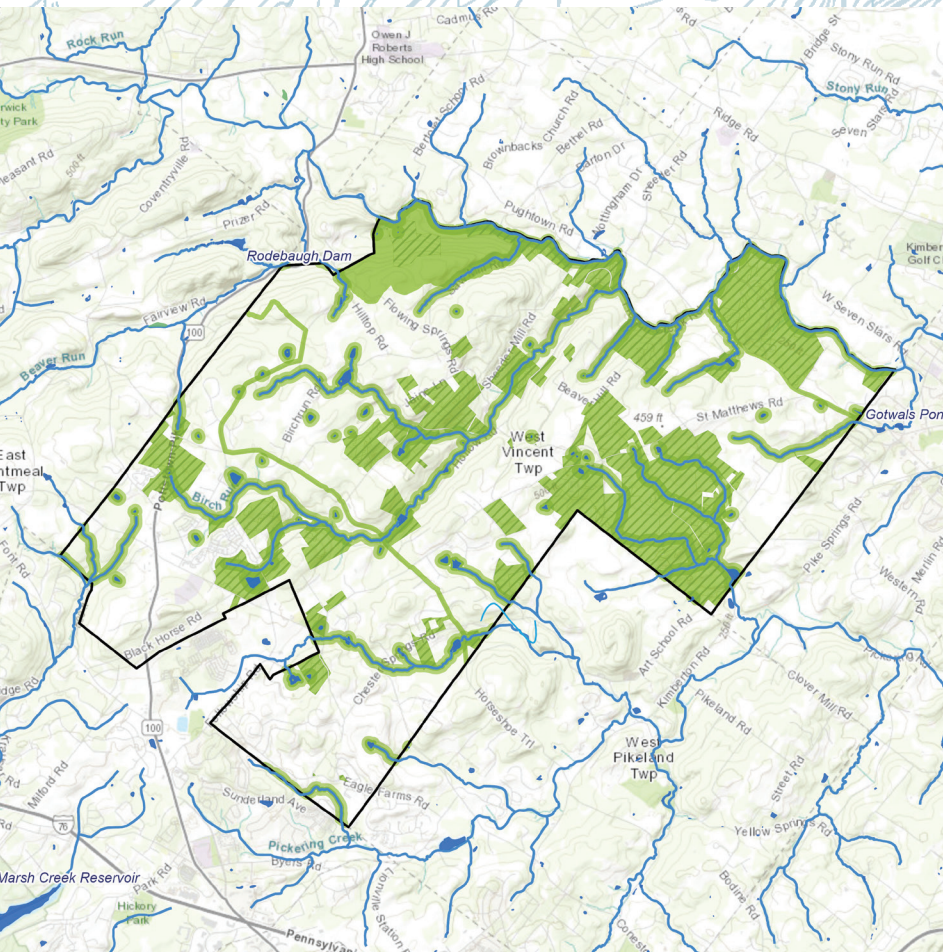


Bryn Coed Preserve / Virginia Apostolacus



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INCREASING OUR RETURN ON ENVIRONMENT

Green Ribbon Landscapes—areas where large, native forests and grassland habitats connect with trails, parks and green, open space—provide the highest environmental health, biological diversity, and economic sustainability.

- GREEN RIBBON LANDSCAPES
- WATERWAYS
- PROTECTED OPEN SPACE

THAT WE NEED TO PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES IS NOT A NEW IDEA IN WEST VINCENT OR ANYWHERE ELSE. WE ALL RECOGNIZE THE VALUE OF CLEAN WATER AND AIR... WHAT IS NEW, PERHAPS, IS A SENSE OF URGENCY.

— WEST VINCENT TOWNSHIP SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

GO NATIVE

Native plant species ensure ecological sustainability, diminish pests, and support local wildlife.

- // Remove invasive plant species, and replace lawns with native flowers, shrubs, and trees.
- // Improve stormwater absorption by creating rain gardens and reducing paved surfaces.
- // Make a brush pile of downed leaves and branches to provide food and shelter for wildlife.

GROW TOGETHER

Connected healthy habitats protect water sources, improve air quality, and benefit the community.

- // Share photos of your native garden and local wildlife on social media and community websites.
- // Organize a neighborhood landscape challenge or community native plant and seed swap.
- // Limit mowing along waterways to reduce erosion and support clean water for the community.

GET INVOLVED

Awareness, inspiration, and action will lead to better policies for environmental protection.

- // Support local conservation efforts to protect open spaces and watershed wildlife corridors.
- // Promote the use of native plants in parks, trails, community gardens, and public spaces.
- // Join the West Vincent Township EAC, local land trust, or watershed association.

LEARN MORE // PA.AUDUBON.ORG/BFC

GET INVOLVED TODAY // WESTVINCENTTWP.ORG