// RETURN ON ENVIRONMENT FACT SHEET

West Pikeland Township

2021

Louisiana Waterthrush / Darla Oathout

Ariel Whaley

$10.6 MILLION
ANNUAL COST SAVINGS BENEFITS PROVIDED BY NATURE

$7.8 MILLION
ANNUAL OUTDOOR RECREATION REVENUE

WE CAN'T AFFORD NOT TO PROTECT

WEST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP'S OPEN SPACES.

West Pikeland Township supplies our communities with sparkling clean drinking water, critical wildlife habitats, flood protection, and impressive recreational and tourism opportunities. The West Pikeland Township Return on Environment study demonstrates how open space is integral to West Pikeland 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.

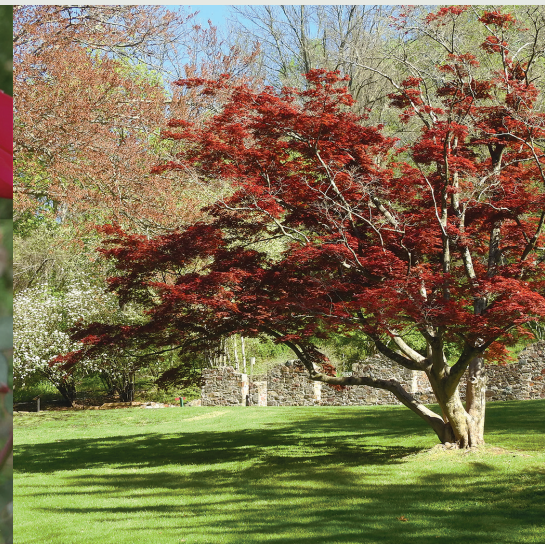## $3.6 MILLION
ANNUAL TAX SAVINGS DUE TO PROTECTED WATERSHEDS

$3.3 MILLION
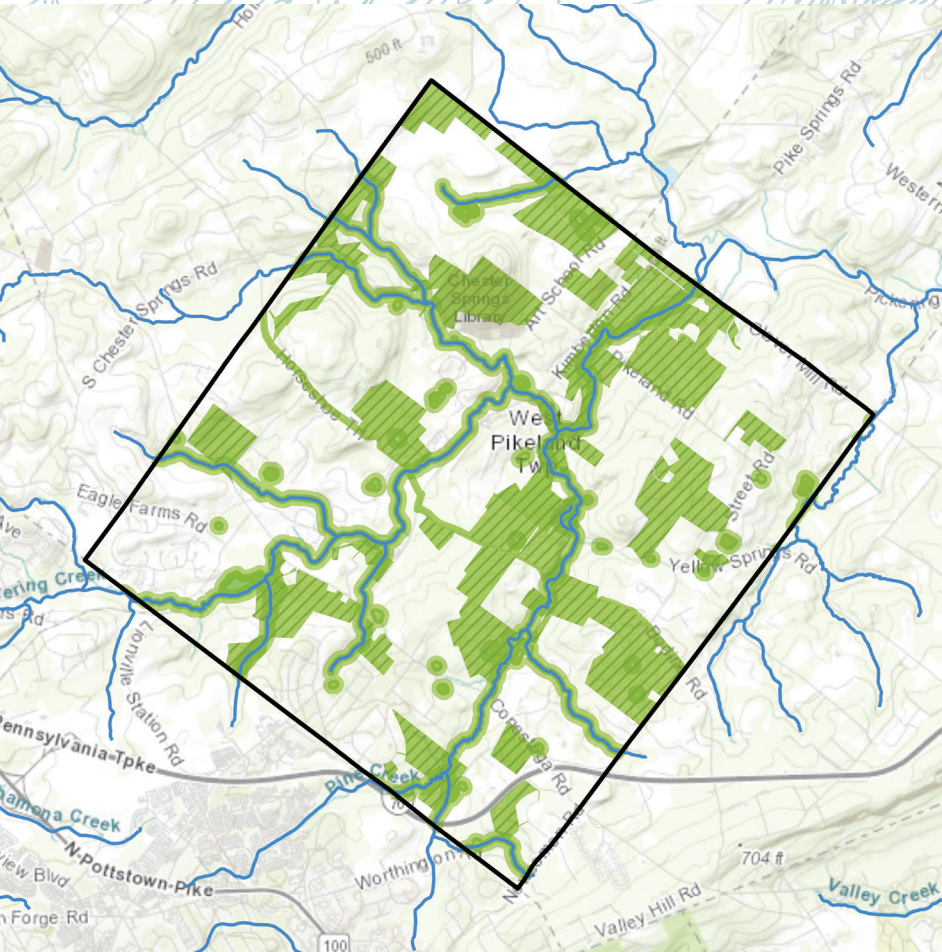**ANNUAL SAVINGS IN REDUCED HEALTHCARE COSTS**

Ariel Whaley

Ariel Whaley

Audubon | PENNSYLVANIA

GREEN VALLEYS WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

French & Pickering CREEKS CONSERVATION TRUST

Natural Lands

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**

WOODLANDS AND FORESTS ARE RENEWABLE RESOURCES THAT SHOULD BE CAREFULLY MANAGED IN ORDER TO SUPPORT GROWTH AND RE-GROWTH OF NATIVE SPECIES.

– WEST PIKELAND TOWNSHIP COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, 2010

🌲 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 Pikeland Township EAC, local land trust, or watershed association.

LEARN MORE // **PA.AUDUBON.ORG/BFC**

GET INVOLVED TODAY // **WESTPIKELAND.COM**