



GROWING GREENER



Natural Lands Trust
 Greenspace Alliance
 PennEnvironment
 Trust for Public Land
 Chesapeake Bay Foundation
 Philadelphia Department of Recreation
 Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future (PennFuture)

The Nature Conservancy
 Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society
 Pennsylvania Environmental Council
 The Conservation Fund
 10,000 Friends of Pennsylvania
 Lancaster Farmland Trust
 Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
 Preservation Pennsylvania
 Montgomery County Lands Trust
 Pennsylvania Parks and Forests Foundation

Audubon of Pennsylvania
 Pennsylvania Land Trust Association
 Sierra Club Pennsylvania Chapter
 Pennsylvania Horticultural Society
 Foundation for Pennsylvania Watersheds



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History of Growing Greener:

- 🍃 1999 - Gov. Ridge and Legislative Leaders commit \$645M over five years
- 🍃 Statewide program that provides funds to communities and non-profit organizations to help restore and protect local watersheds, clean up abandoned mines, preserve and acquire farmlands and open spaces, and lessen non point source pollution from entering our waters.
- 🍃 Also provides funds for maintaining our award-winning state park system, for heritage conservation and for the development of multipurpose trails and greenways in our communities.
- 🍃 Funds distributed to DCNR, DEP, PennVest, and AG.



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History of Growing Greener:

- 2002 - Gov. Schweiker and General Assembly establishes a dedicated revenue source with “tipping fee” - the fee for dumping trash in Pennsylvania - and places the revenue into the Environmental Stewardship Fund
- Extended life of the program - as long as “tipping fee” was being collected, Growing Greener would have a funding source



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History of Growing Greener:

- ✔ 2005 - Gov. Rendell and General Assembly propose \$625M bond referendum to voters
- ✔ Approved with 60% of vote statewide
- ✔ Funds limited to capital improvement projects only
- ✔ Did not include future funding for PennVest
- ✔ Introduced funding for DCED, Fish & Boat Commission, Game Commission and \$90M for County Environmental Initiatives



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Investing in our State:

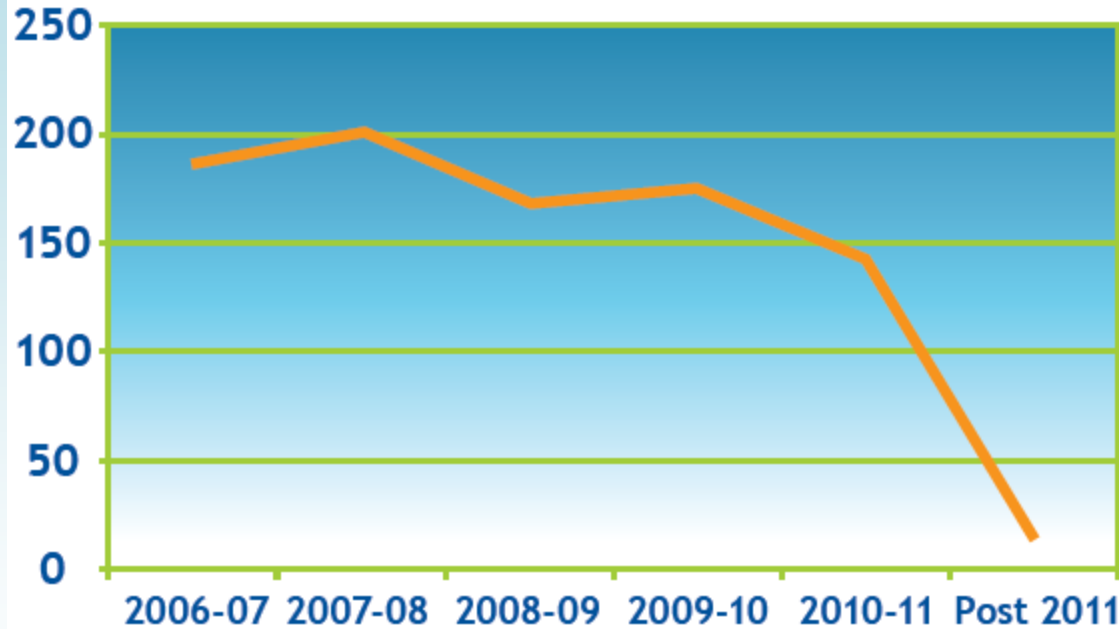
- 🍃 Improve recreation through 234 community park projects
- 🍃 Protect more than 33,000 acres of farmland
- 🍃 Restore more than 1,600 acres of abandoned mine land
- 🍃 Conserve more than 42,000 acres of open spaces
- 🍃 Reduce flooding and pollution of our waters through 400 watershed protection projects
- 🍃 Plugged over 1800 wells - \$13 million investment



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Funds Available for Growing Greener Projects (in millions)



Almost all of the *Growing Greener Bond Funds* are committed to projects and soon most of the *Growing Greener Environmental Stewardship Funds* will be diverted for debt service.



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What's at Stake?

- 🍃 ***Air Quality.*** Pennsylvania is losing three times as much forest, wildlife habitat, farmland and other open spaces to overdevelopment than we are able to conserve
- 🍃 ***Water Quality.*** The Commonwealth currently has 16,000 miles of streams that are unsafe for fishing or swimming
 - 🍃 Abandoned mines scar almost 190,000 acres in 44 counties and are the cause of over 5,000 miles of dead streams
- 🍃 ***Food supply.*** More than 2,000 family farms remain on a statewide waiting lists



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What's at Stake?

- 🍃 ***Economy.*** Preserved open space is more than just a pretty place. It generates hundreds of millions of dollars in economic benefits.
- 🍃 ***Recreation.*** Growing Greener ensures we all have outdoor places to enjoy - whether you are a sportsman who likes to fish, a mom who likes to take her child to the park or a senior who likes to walk on the outdoor trails.
- 🍃 ***Flood Control.*** Protecting our watersheds protects us against flooding, the high cost of clean up, and negative impact to wildlife habitats.



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What to Do?

- 🍃 Restore funding for Growing Greener
 - 🍃 Stop Diversion of Growing Greener Environmental Stewardship Funds paying Growing Greener II Bond Debt
 - 🍃 Transfer to the General Fund, where all other Bond Debt is paid from, or use State Surplus
- 🍃 Natural Gas Extraction Fee
- 🍃 Oil & Gas Lease Fund



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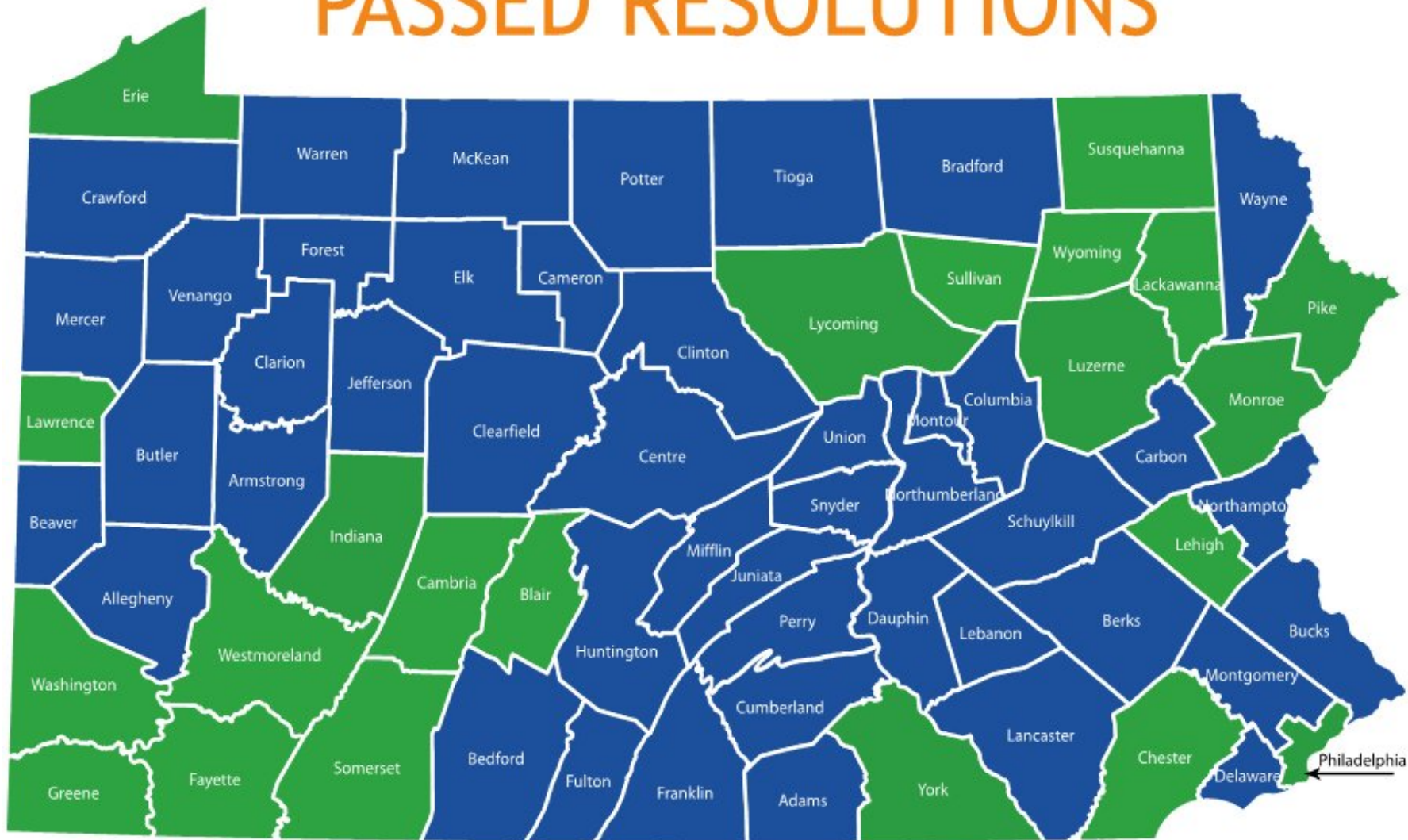
Get Involved

- ✔ Sign our Statement of Support as an individual and as an organization
- ✔ Contact your legislators
- ✔ Write letters to the editor
- ✔ Approach your municipalities
- ✔ Talk to people



GROWING GREENER

PASSED RESOLUTIONS



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www.GrowingGreener.info
(Education Website)

www.RenewGrowingGreener.org
(Campaign Website)

atheath@renewgrowinggreener.org

'The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural scenic, historic and aesthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As Trustees of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people.'

Pennsylvania State Constitution, Article 1, Section 27



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