



**SOCIAL
DISTANCING**

Volume 29 Issue 2 April 2020

First Day at Flinn: 1/1/2020

Our happy revelers met at the new Flinn parking area on Boxcartown Road Wednesday, January 1st for the first official event at the reserve. The trail begins at the west side of the parking lot and meanders around 3/8 mile through the densely wooded parcel. The trail ends at the east side of the lot. Parking coordinates are: N 40 24.031, W 79 39.277.



The Flinn Reserve is also the location of our Earth Day project on April 25, 2020.



Apple Tree Rehab and Restoration: 2/22/2020

Our annual project revitalizes the old apple trees at the Morosini Reserve! We have seen these trees bloom and

produce the very same year! This is the third year hosting this event, and we saw several new faces as well as the familiar ones! Rob Malley knows a thing or two and shares his experience. We provide a tree on which to practice before taking on the project at home.

There were 16 attendees, and they were able to work on several trees, the most visible being a stand-alone near the red trailhead in the field immediately west of the main parking area. It was affectionately named "George" in honor of the event being held on George Washington's birthday.



March For Parks: 3/21/2020

Westmoreland County March for Parks, which had been scheduled for Saturday, March 21st, was canceled due to the onset of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. [March for Parks](#) is sponsored by the Westmoreland County Parks & Recreation Citizens Advisory Board.

If you would still like to contribute to Westmoreland Parks or Westmoreland Heritage Trail, please send a check made payable to:

"WCPRCAB" to:

March For Parks

194 Donohoe Road

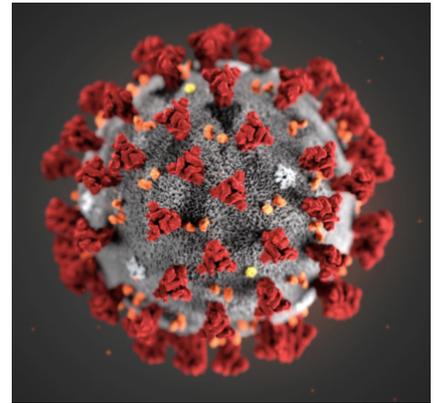
Greensburg, PA 15601

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY and the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

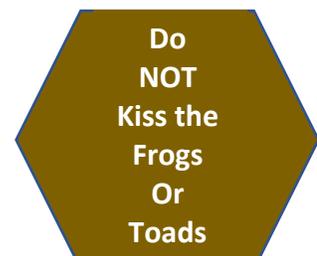
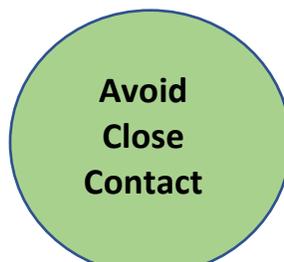
The viral respiratory disease that has been declared a global pandemic has impacted Westmoreland Conservancy. State and Federal guidelines discourage gatherings of 10 or more people. Our March meeting was changed to a conference call to observe these guidelines. If the restrictions are not lifted by the April 22nd Annual Members Meeting and Elections, the meeting will again be held via conference call and the elections will be postponed to the meeting of May 27.

Likewise, if necessary, the Earth Day at Flinn event scheduled for April 25 would be moved to May 16. Notice of such changes will be posted on both our website and our Facebook page.

All Westmoreland Conservancy Reserves will remain open to the public. Many families will be looking for activities to burn off some energy. Being out of doors, away from closed up homes, is the best place to be. Sunshine and fresh air are a virus' bane. Go take a hike. **PLEASE** observe Leave No Trace sensibilities and take out anything you take in. Do not congregate and take unnecessary chances with your health or that of your family. The virus won't stop Spring from blooming and there will still be wonderful things to observe.



It's Okay to Go Outside! Please observe the recommendations!



Kiosks

Spring is here! Time to freshen up! One project that we have underway is a bit of



a facelift for our unique kiosks. Some years ago Bruce Knepper and the late Bill Byers, designed functional and beautiful kiosks for Westmoreland Conservancy. They feature a large panel to display our maps and announcements as well as a bench and a curved roof. There are several panels displaying the name of the reserve, the kiosk donors, and Westmoreland Conservancy. The lettering has unfortunately not worn well. Those signs being replaced serve as a welcome introduction to the various reserves. If you happen to catch us in between panels, please forgive our state of undress! We want to properly acknowledge our supporters, and think you'll like the new look!

Annual Members' Meeting - April 22nd AND Change of Meeting Venue

Westmoreland Conservancy's Annual Members' Meeting and Elections are scheduled for Wednesday, April 22nd, 2020.

Meetings beginning April 22 will be held at the Delmont Public Library, 77 Greensburg Street, Delmont, PA 15626 at 7PM.



Earth Day at Flinn: 4/25/2020

Celebrate the 50th Earth Day at the Flinn Reserve! An opportunity to engage in community service and to appreciate just how far this region has come because of local environmental pioneers!

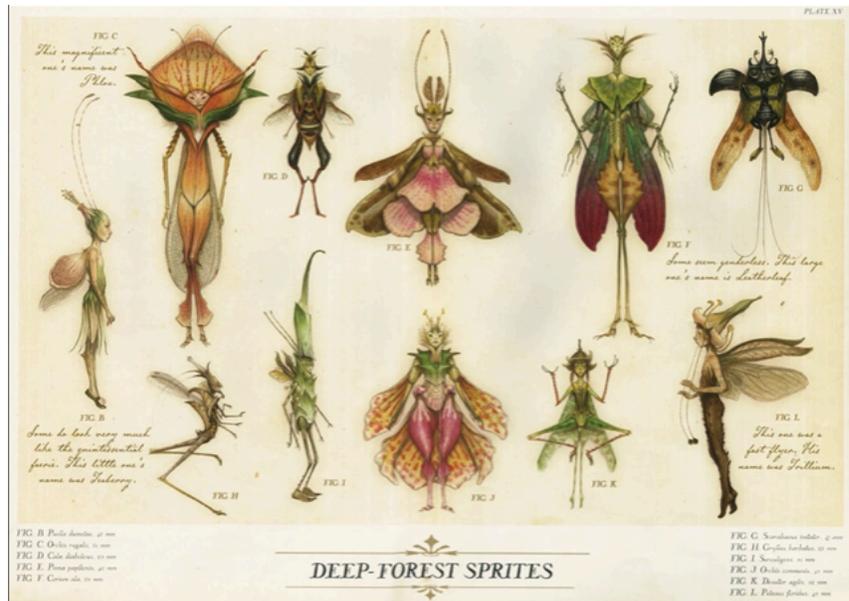
The Flinn Reserve boasts a nice parking lot. We've got plans for a new kiosk and creative native plantings! What else could we need? **YOU!!**

Earth Day will give us another opportunity to show off the new trail and our plans for the future. We'll also be able to remove some accumulated trash, get at some of the non-native growth, and install boundary markers around the parcels!

Westmoreland Conservancy can even credit Community Service hours requirements. Parking coordinates: N 40 24.031, W 79 39.277. We recommend reserving a PARKING SPACE via our Facebook Event Page or by emailing us. Parking is limited. The day will start at 9AM, when we'll break into project teams. We'll meet back in the parking lot at 12noon for lunch. Who knows where the day will take us!
<https://www.earthday.org/campaign/earth-day-earthrise/>

The Enchanted Forest at the Morosini Reserve

Westmoreland Conservancy invites you to join us at the Morosini Reserve from 1-3PM Saturday, May 30th. Find fairy houses and troll huts in the woods. Learn about the mysterious magic of Nature! Come dressed as your favorite sprite or woodlands creature! On this day some of the local Fae Folk will appear in human form to guide the way! We'll make a fun craft for everyone to take home!



Please reserve a **PARKING SPACE** via our Facebook event page or by emailing us at contact@westmorelandconservancy.org. We are limited to 28 parking spaces, so we encourage carpooling!

Geocaching at Morosini July 18

Be at the main parking lot of the Morosini Reserve at 9:30AM Saturday, July 18 to seek out the NEW cache series. The wonderful WHEREIGO feature is still available as well.

We'll take a group photo at 9:30AM, and then the fun begins! Be ready to get your steps in for the day as you get to know this 183-acre treasure! Can you find them all by 2PM?



Looking at the Night Sky

We love sitting around the campfire and looking at the night sky.... Especially when we can do it with friends at the Morosini Reserve. While it's not advisable at this time to create a gathering, we still think you might like to share these events with your family. Find someplace dark, without streetlights and other distracting lights that inhibit your view, and look up!



Wednesday, April 8: Pink Moon/Supermoon
 Tuesday & Wednesday, April 21 & 22: Lyrid Meteor Shower
 Tuesday & Wednesday, May 5 & 6: Aquarid Meteor Shower
 Thursday, May 7: Full Moon (Flower Moon)
 Friday, June 5: Strawberry Full Moon
 Sunday, July 5: Buck Moon

And remember that June 20th is the Summer Solstice... the longest day of the year

2019-20 Officers

Shelly Tichy – President
 James Zimmerman - VP;
 Steward Coordinator
 Howard Weigold – Treasurer
 Nicole Smith - Recording Treasurer

2019-20 Board of Governors

Alan Halperin - Board
 Lindsey Praksti – Board,
 Steward Coordinator
 Rob Malley - Board
 Steve Shotts - Board

Our Vision

To preserve natural, rural, and historic landscapes for Nature's benefit and the enrichment of future generations.

Our Mission

Westmoreland Conservancy preserves, enhances, and connects land, habitat, and green space through acquisition, stewardship, and cooperation with local communities and other organizations.

Westmoreland Conservancy
1 Priority Lane, Unit 446
Murrysville, PA 15668
contact@westmorelandconservancy.org



Schedule of Events

****Watch our Facebook page or sign up for email reminders for work days!****

Please wear sturdy shoes, leg protection and weather-appropriate attire Scheduled Events may be cancelled In case of Extreme Weather.

- 4/22: Annual Members Meeting & Elections, 7PM, Delmont Public Library, 77 Greensburg Street, Delmont
- 4/25: Earth Day at Flinn 9AM, Boxcartown Road Parking Lot: N 40 24.031 W 79 39.277
- 5/27: Monthly Meeting, 7PM, Delmont Public Library
- 5/30: Enchanted Forest at Morosini, 1-3PM, Morosini Reserve
- 6/13: Geocaching on the Reserve 9:30AM – 2PM
- 6/24: Monthly Meeting, 7PM, Delmont Public Library
- 7/09: Explore the King Addition with Lindsey Praksti, 6PM
- 7/22: Monthly Meeting, 7PM, Delmont Public Library
- 7/25: Walter Reserve hike with Friends of Murrysville Parks/Loree Speedy, 10AM

Westmoreland Conservancy Online

Membership: <http://www.westmorelandconservancy.org/donate>

Website: <http://www.westmorelandconservancy.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WestmorelandConservancy>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/westmoreland_conservancy/

Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/groups/westmorelandconservancy/>