

York County Department of Parks and Recreation



Rocky Ridge County Park

Richard M. Nixon County Park

Apollo County Park

Spring Valley County Park

John C. Rudy County Park

William H. Kain County Park

Wallace-Cross Mill Historic Site

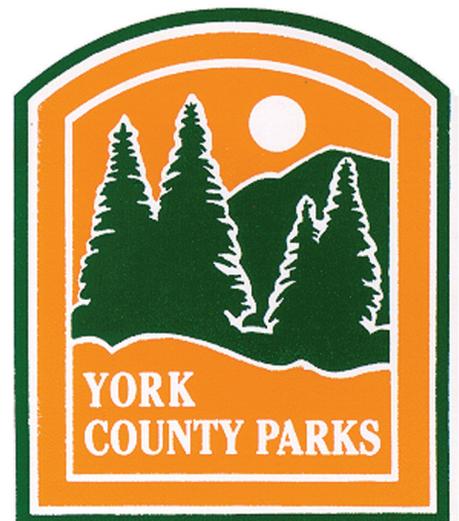
Heritage Rail Trail County Park

P. Joseph Raab County Park

Highpoint Scenic Vista & Recreation Area

Native Lands County Park

2010 Annual Report



Mission Statement

York County Department of Parks and Recreation enhances the quality of community life acting as a steward for the environment. In this capacity, it acquires, conserves and manages park lands and offers a variety of recreational and educational opportunities.

Value Statement

As steward of the County's park lands, York County Department of Parks and Recreation:

- Creates customer-friendly environments
- Provides a diversity of natural areas to promote passive recreation
- Conserves and interprets the natural and historical aspects of park resources
- Emphasizes preservation and creation of wildlife and plant habitat
- Listens and responds to park users
- Encourages safe and responsible use of park resources
- Maintains the highest level of professionalism
- Enters into partnerships and pursues networking
- Promotes and honors volunteer participation
- Fosters innovation and creativity in fulfilling mission responsibilities
- Cultivates new sources of support and funding

Vision Statement

York County Department of Parks and Recreation strives to be the county leader in environmental conservation, preservation and education. Programs and projects in these areas reflect sound management and stewardship principles and a strong organizational commitment to innovation and public service.



Learning never stops. Riders on a senior excursion exit Howard Tunnel on the Heritage Rail Trail.

During its 42nd year of operations, the York County Parks has continued to strive to improve community life. This has been done by keeping the best of the past and welding that to the needs of today and tomorrow. The York County Parks are first and foremost land. This year much effort has been invested by staff, partner agencies, community businesses and volunteers to improve, restore and ensure quality habitat on park land. With an eye on the budget and your pocket book, careful fiscal management has allowed the parks to continue to offer quality affordable programs and superior facilities year round.

Natural Resources: In 2010, the Parks Natural Resource Unit continued the multi-year effort of invasive plant control and reforestation. To ensure the long-term health of newly planted tracts, maintenance and additional work and plantings were conducted. The bat populations in Raab Park continue to grow and are now being monitored for the new threat of White Nose Syndrome. Working with citizen scientists, the Bluebird Box program continues to operate in six parks. These are a few of the efforts that go on behind the scenes to assure you quality water, forests and wildlife on your next trip to a county park.

Community Life: Since 1968, the York County Parks has grown to become a part of the fabric of York County life. The open green spaces dotting the county provide needed recreation for body and soul. It would be difficult to imagine living in York County and not having the 4,300-plus acres of free open lands. The staff, aided by an exceptional group of volunteers, spent 2010 striving to continue to provide the best in facilities and service while maximizing the budget.

Buildings and Grounds: The maintenance of the parks requires a skilled staff with an array of construction trade skills plus turf management, arborist, and many additional talents. Keeping the parks ready for your next visit is a large job. Additional effort in preventative and long-term maintenance is an investment in keeping the parks beautiful for years to come.

Rangers: To fulfill the mission of providing safety and security to visitors, park facilities, and the natural resources, the Ranger department redeployed its resources in 2010. Using recommendations from a peer review by the PA State Parks, the rangers have increased their visitor visibility especially during peak usage. Through the continued work of the Park Ambassadors, additional eyes are on the parks and additional hands are available to assist visitors.

Our Leadership

York County Board of Commissioners

Steve Chronister, President
Christopher B. Reilly, Vice President
Doug Hoke, Commissioner
Charles R. Noll, Administrator/Chief Clerk

York County Parks Advisory Board

John Strine, Chairman
Thomas Englerth, Vice Chairman
Anne Walko, Secretary
Amanda Dubbs • Deirdre Folkers
Jan Klinedinst • Stephen Lentz
Nancy Sieling • Charles Smith
This volunteer board serves as a liaison between the Parks and the public. The public is encouraged to attend board meetings, held the fourth Tuesday of each month, at 7 p.m. at Pleasant Acres.

York County Parks Emeritus Board

An honorary board of past Advisory or Trust Board members
George "Skip" Lehmann, Honorary Chair

J. Kerr Anderson
John F. Barbor
Ed Bievenour
Duane R. Close
Thomas F. Clough
Sandy Cooley
Reed "Jack" Dunn, Jr.
Voni Grimes
Donald G. Heisler

York County Parks Foundation Charitable Trust

Luther B. Sowers, Chairman
George "Skip" Lehmann, Vice Chairman
Linda B. Davidson, Secretary
William T. Morris, Treasurer
Betsy B. Lehner • Milton J. Menchey
Don Patton • Steven Ricklefs
Dale L. Schaeberle • Timothy E. Senft
This volunteer board is dedicated to raising and managing funds to expand our park lands and facilities.

Carroll F. Hunt
J. Robert Katherman
Carroll C. Luckenbaugh
Donald Patton
John Rinehart
Ellie Shoemaker
Anne K. Wagner
John Wurzbacher

Professional Staff

Tammy F. Klunk
Executive Director

Barry L. Myers
Superintendent of Bldg & Grounds

Gerald K. Ford, Jr.
Chief Ranger

Francis A. Velazquez
Manager of Education and Outreach

Michael E. Fobes
Manager of Natural Resources

George H. Howett
Asst Superintendent of Bldg & Grounds

Todd A. Hampson
Asst Superintendent of Bldg & Grounds

Jeri L. Jones
Program Coordinator

Kelsey A. Frey
Naturalist

Amber L. Carothers
Naturalist

Deborah A. Carbaugh
Administrative Assistant

Kay A. Kraft
Administrative Support

Maintenance Staff

Grant Bolton • Jerry Broome
Roger Brunner • Joseph Carbaugh
Joshua Dewees • Kerry Flinchbaugh
Terry Grothe • Tom Hansberry
Keith Hawkins • Randy Leiphart
Rangers
Scott Neely • David Breedlove

2010 Accomplishments

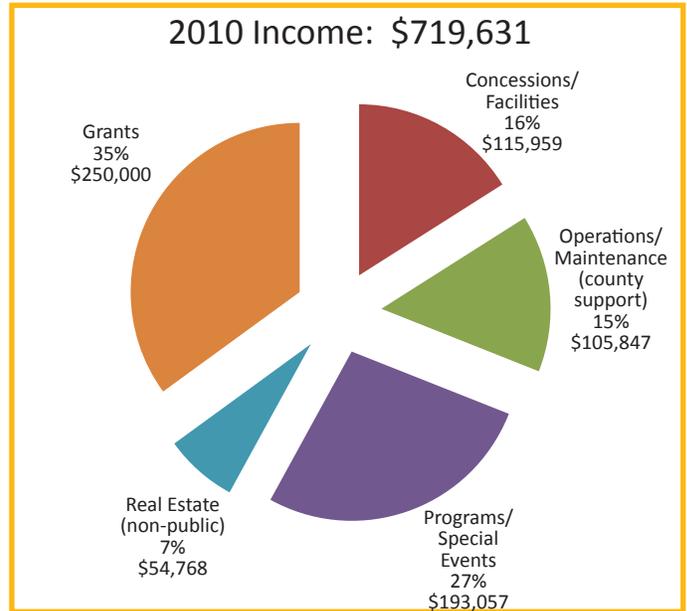
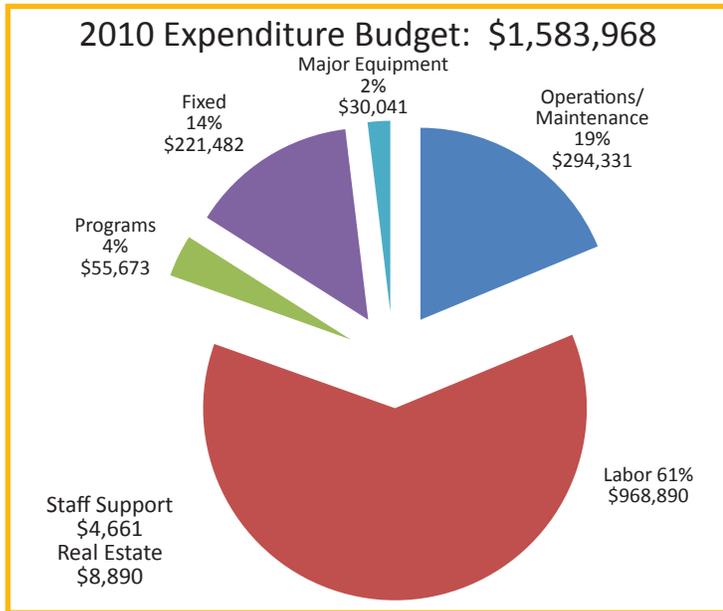
- Park history book ("Parks, People, Preservation and Public Policy" by Eleanor Boggs Shoemaker) published
- New look for Parks website
- New look for Parks newsletter
- Cable internet installed at Nixon Park. WIFI added for park visitors.
- Beautification of shoreline at Lake Williams, Kain Park
- Invasive plant removal and forest restoration work at Kain Park
- Tot lot installed at Lake Redman, Kain Park
- Natural playground installed at Rocky Ridge Park
- Electronic locks installed on six restroom facilities
- Parks Trust acquires 17.5 acres of land that adjoins Nixon Park
- Dog Fancy magazine names Canine Meadows (#20) as one of America's top 40 best dog parks
- Hosted International Mountain Biking Association Trail Care Team for training of volunteers on best management techniques of trail maintenance
- Small Wonders programs established



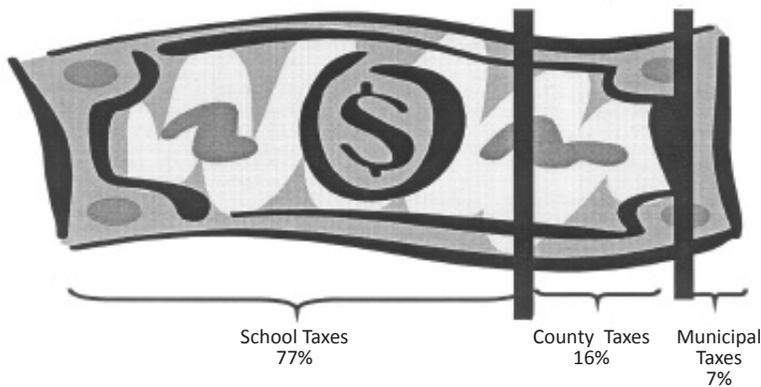
York County Department of Parks and Recreation

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400 Mundis Race Road
York, PA 17406-9721
Phone: (717) 840-7440
Fax: (717) 840-7403
www.YorkCountyParks.org
parks@york-county.org

Financial Charts



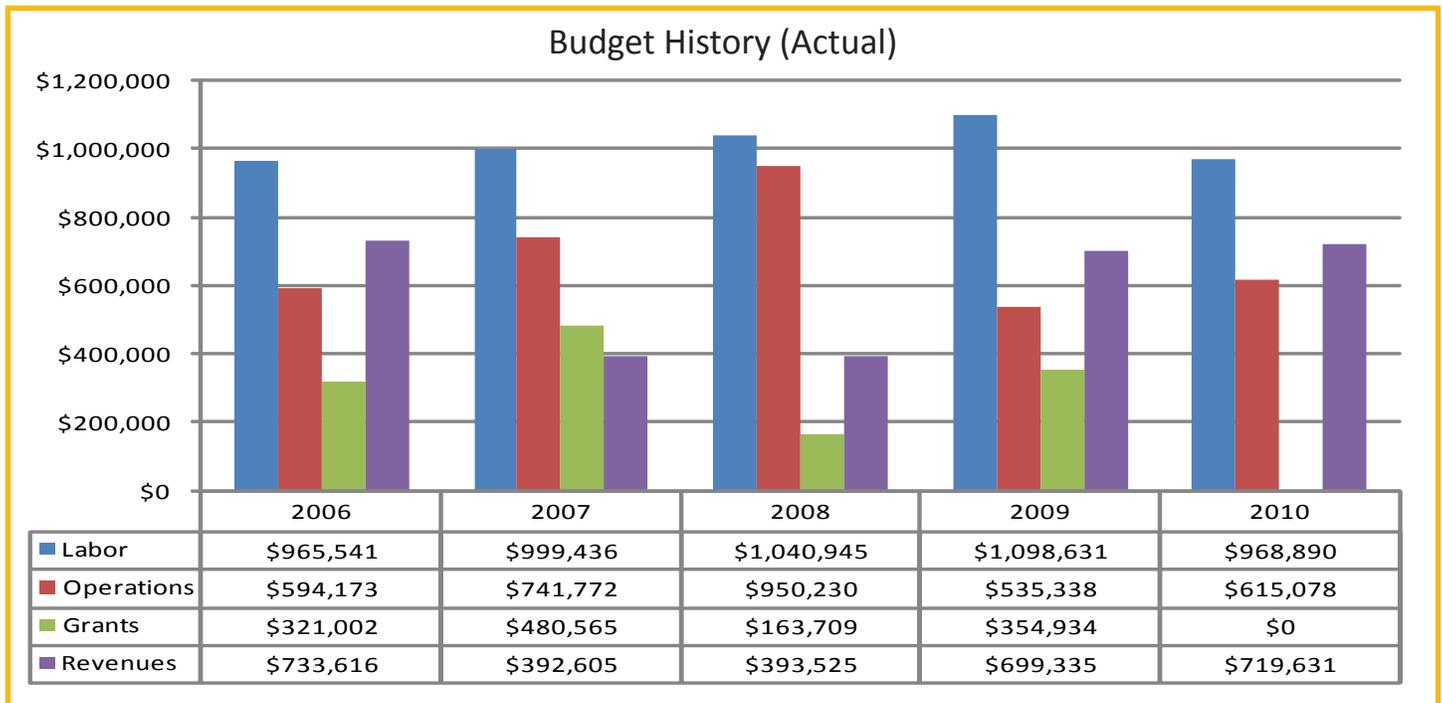
For every real estate tax dollar paid in York County



The annual cost to York County residents to operate and maintain a county parks department in 2010 totals **\$2.75/resident**

Expenditures: \$1,583,968
 + benefits..... \$313,375
 - revenue \$719,631
 Expenses less income \$1,177,712

York County Planning Commission's 2009 census estimate—428,937 residents





Beating the bushes for winter signs of insects during a Marshmallow Hike at Rocky Ridge Park.

Park Intern Amanda Kissel demonstrates tree tapping to an eager audience.



Young man enjoying the best part of Maple Syrup Weekend at Nixon Park.



A summer evening filled with light, learning and a view at Highpoint Park.

Park Visitation

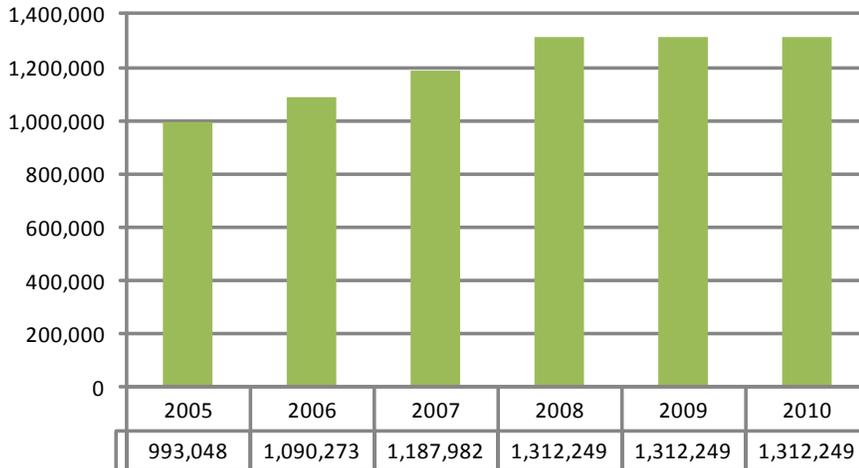


Conservation education doesn't stop with a little rain at Nixon Park.



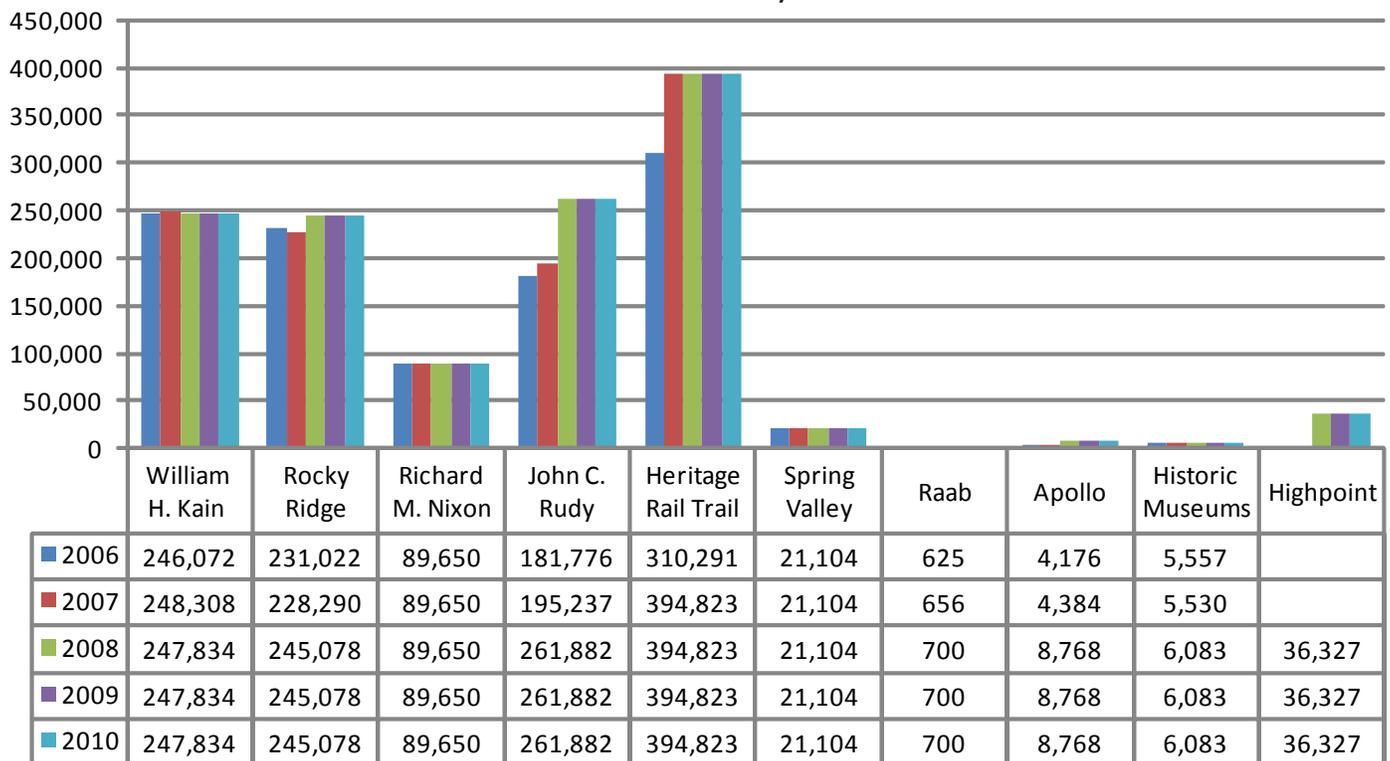
Amy, a York College teaching science student, shares a sensory exploration with a kindergarten student from York Suburban.

Total Park Visitors



2010 figures reflect car counters' 2008 numbers. Counters will be placed in the parks every third year to monitor park usage.

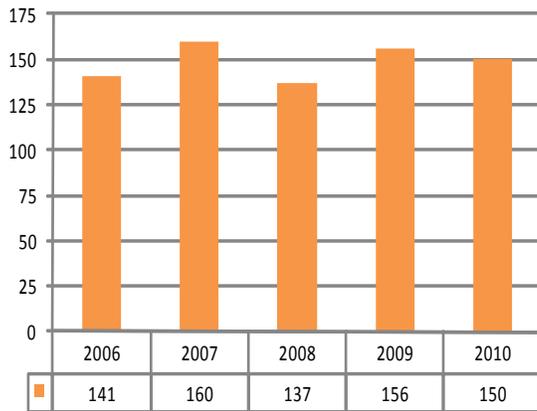
Total Park Visitors by Location



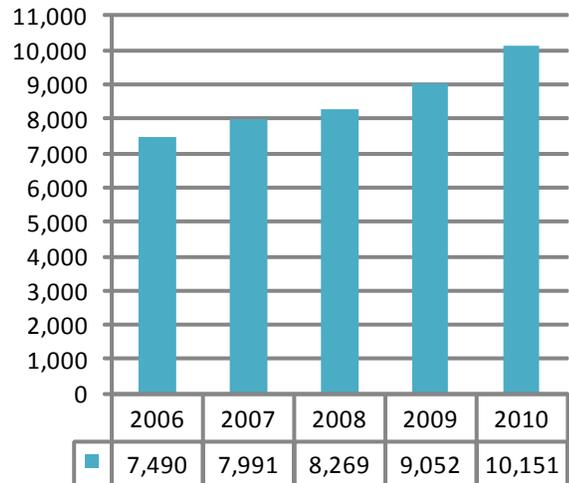
2010 figures reflect car counters' 2008 numbers. Counters will be placed in the parks every third year to monitor park usage.

Public Programs

Number of Naturalist Led Groups

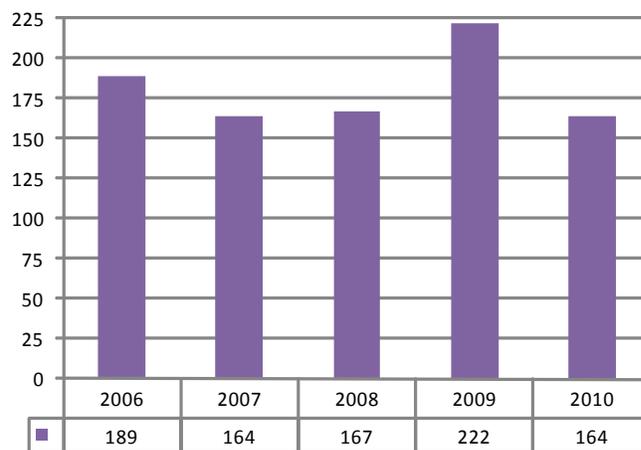


Attendance at Naturalist Led Groups



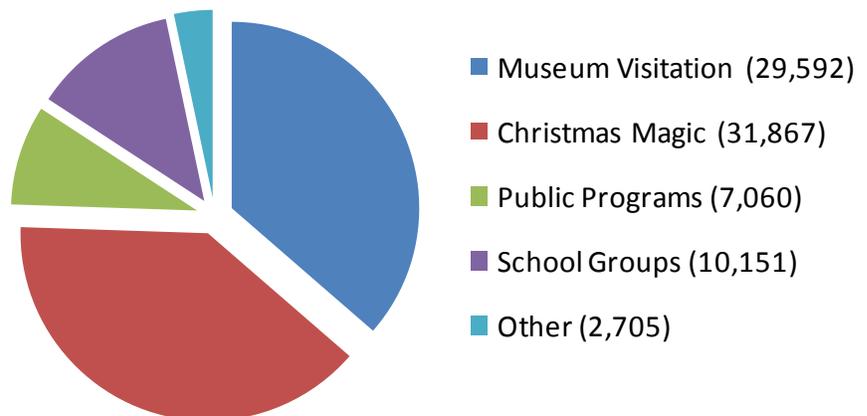
Hands on learning during Maple Syrup Weekend at Nixon Park.

Number of Public Programs

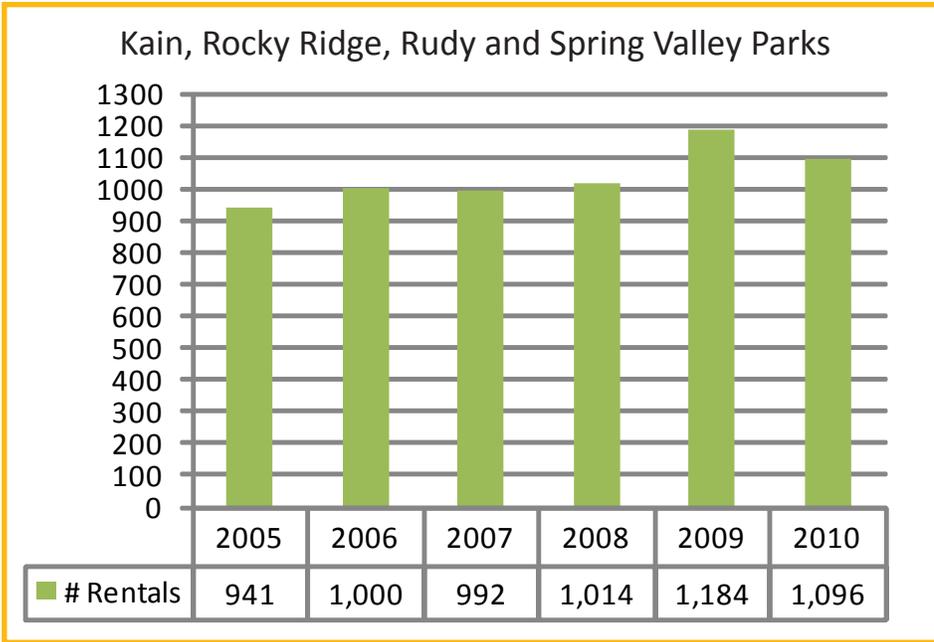


A young visitor tries her hand at making a craft during Maple Syrup Weekend at Nixon Park.

Museum and Program Attendance Total: 81,375



Pavilion Rentals

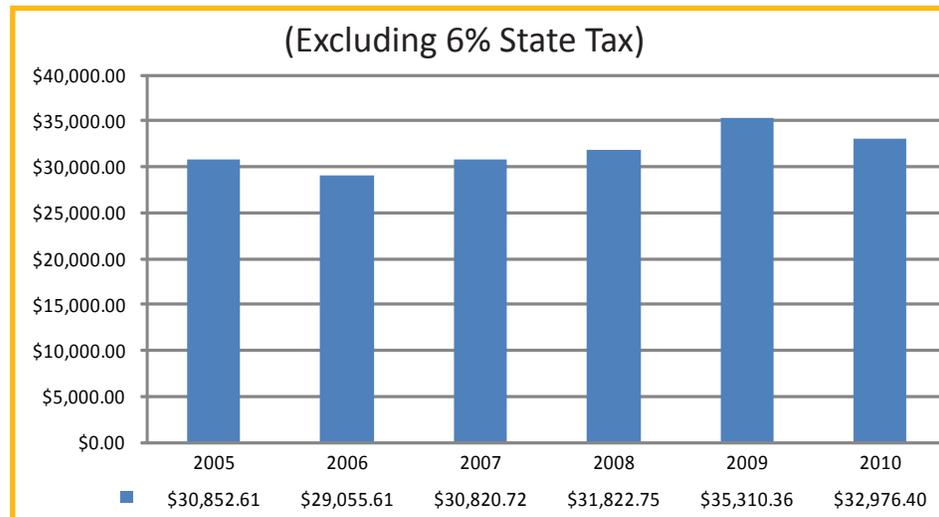


Canopy picnic tables welcome users throughout the parks system.



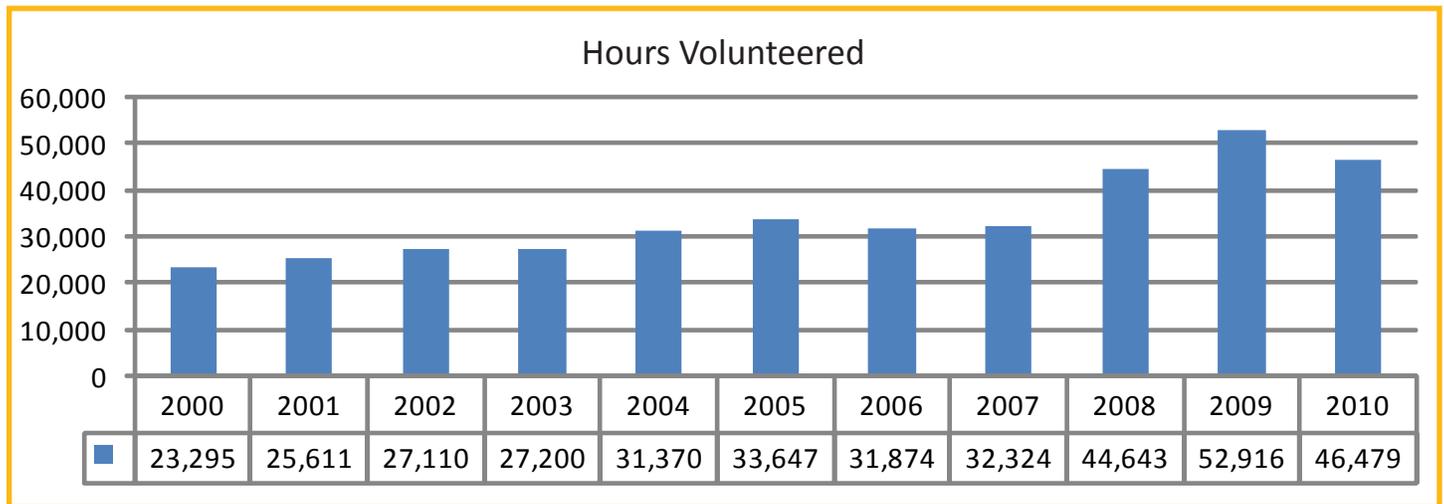
Pheasant Pavilion at Rocky Ridge Park is one of 30 pavilions available throughout the county parks.

Lake Redman Boat Rental



Volunteers

During 2010, volunteers within the parks served a total of 46,478.50 hours (equivalent of 22.52 full-time employees)



York County Horseman's Club pitch in on a rainy day to improve trails in Spring Valley Park.

Thank you to all who served in 2010!



Exelon Corporation volunteers turn their hands to reforestation in Kain Park after invasive plant removal.

Park Achievement Award

Presented to recognize an individual, group or organization for extraordinary service and dedication to the York County Department of Parks and Recreation.

- 2002 Founding Board Members
- 2003 Jack "Reed" Dunn, Jr
- 2004 York-Adams Area Council—Boy Scouts of America
- 2005 Luther B. Sowers
- 2006 The York Water Company
- 2007 York Area Mountain Biking Association
- 2008 York County Rail Trail Authority
- 2009 The Conservation Fund
- 2010 Kinsley School of Technology

Friends Groups Accomplishments

Friends of Wallace-Cross Mill (established 1999)

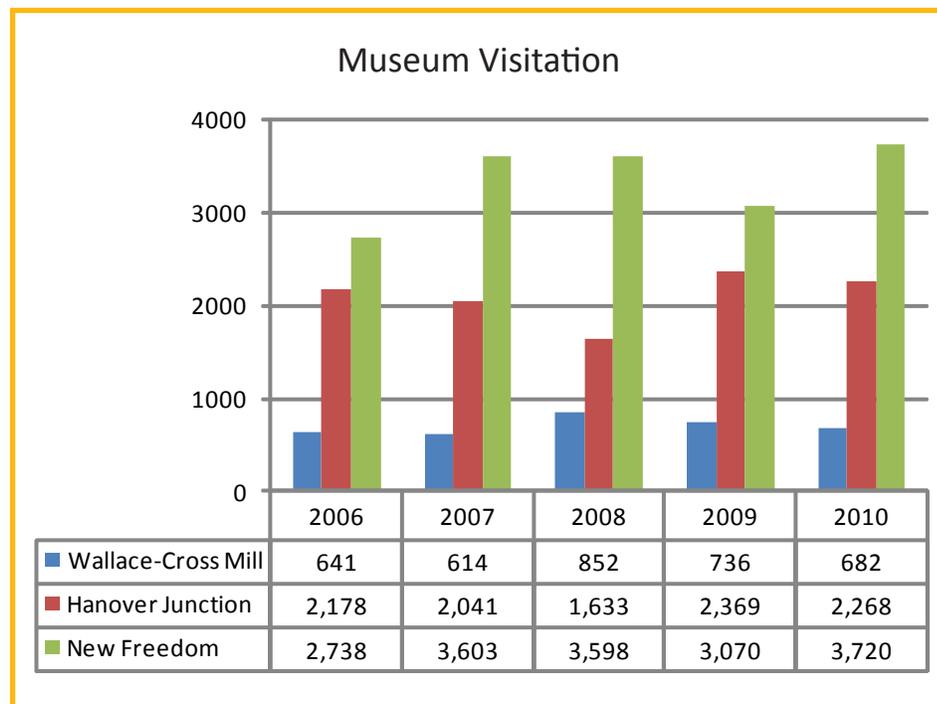
- Conducted tours for schools and civic organizations.
- Hosted open houses June through August with special events, including Miller’s Day, Corn Roast, Art at the Mill and Cider Day.
- Continued developing new displays including addition of life size Harry Cross model.
- Partnered with York County Heritage Trust on display items.
- Further investigated the family and mill history with the donation of seven ledgers covering some of the years between 1860 and 1949.



Friends of the Heritage Rail Trail Corridor (established 2001)

- Greeters hosted open houses at both train stations May through October and were open Memorial Day and Fourth of July for holiday visitors.
- Greeters hosted numerous special group tours.
- Facilitated historic first- and third-person “Porch Talks” on four Wednesday evenings during the summer.
- Group hosted Hanging of the Greens in December at Hanover Junction and was part of New Freedom’s tree lighting ceremony.

Volunteer Judy Grove explains the inner workings of Wallace Cross Mill during a tour.



Natural Resource Unit



Forest Portrait, a velvet buck at Native Lands Park.

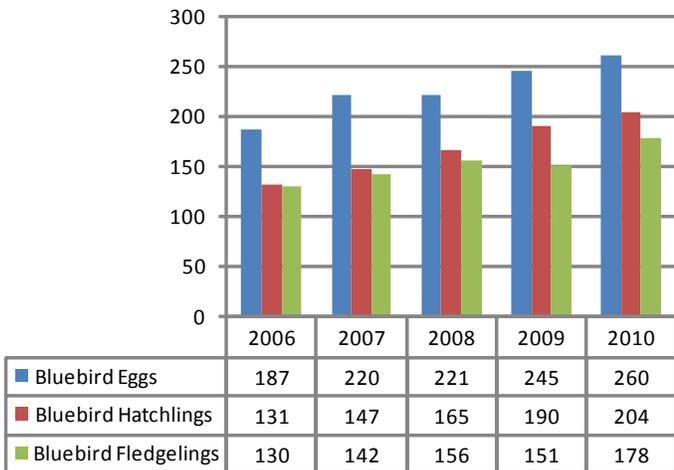


A big one from Lake Williams, Kain Park, that did not get away.



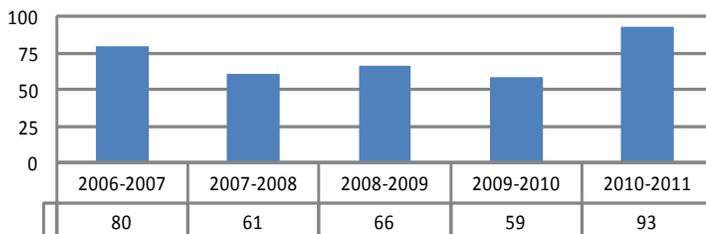
Eastern Bluebird on nesting box

Bluebird Eggs, Hatchlings and Fledgelings

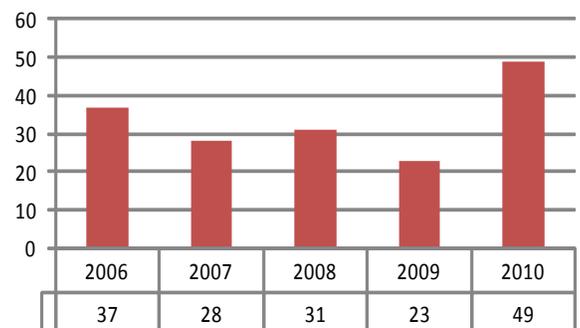


Parkwide Deer Harvest

Rocky Ridge, Kain, Raab, Apollo & Spring Valley Parks
(archery, shotgun, muzzleloader)



Early Season Goose Harvest in Kain Park



Maintenance Unit

The York County Parks Maintenance Unit consists of ten group leaders, two assistant superintendents and one superintendent. Their responsibility is to maintain over 4,300 acres of public parkland with a physical inventory consisting of:

- 57 Picnic Pavilions/Structures
- 30 Restrooms
- 10 Historic Sites
- 140+ Acres of Field/Grass
- 400+ Picnic Tables
- 34 Parking Lots
- 1,600+ Parking Spaces
- 22 Sports Fields/Playgrounds



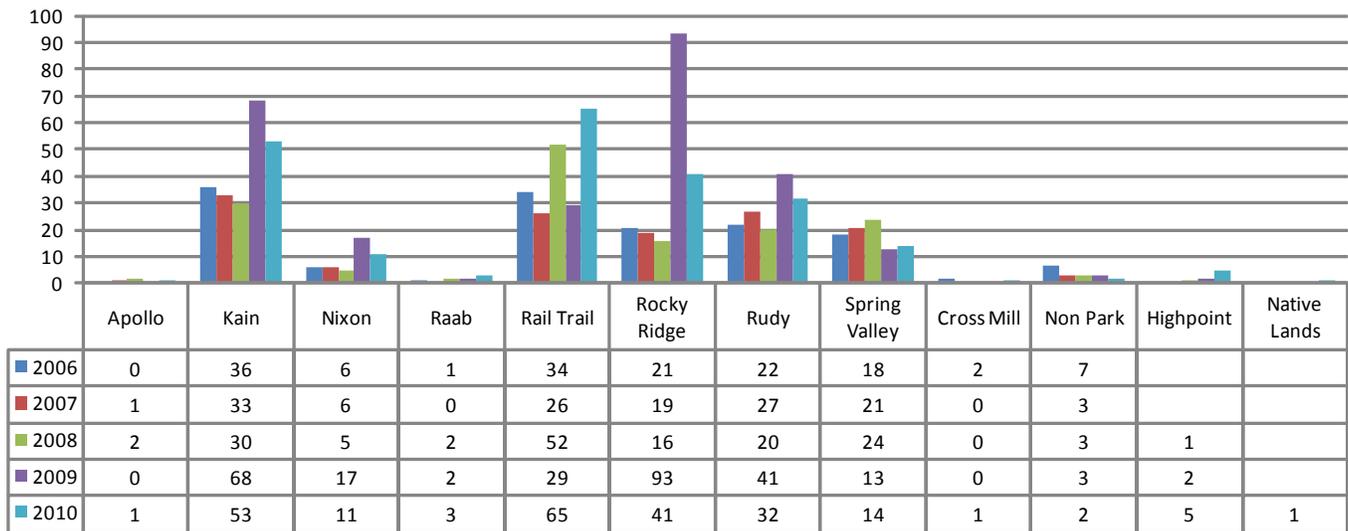
Bluegill pavilion, Lake Redman Activity Area, Kain Park, gets a new metal roof.



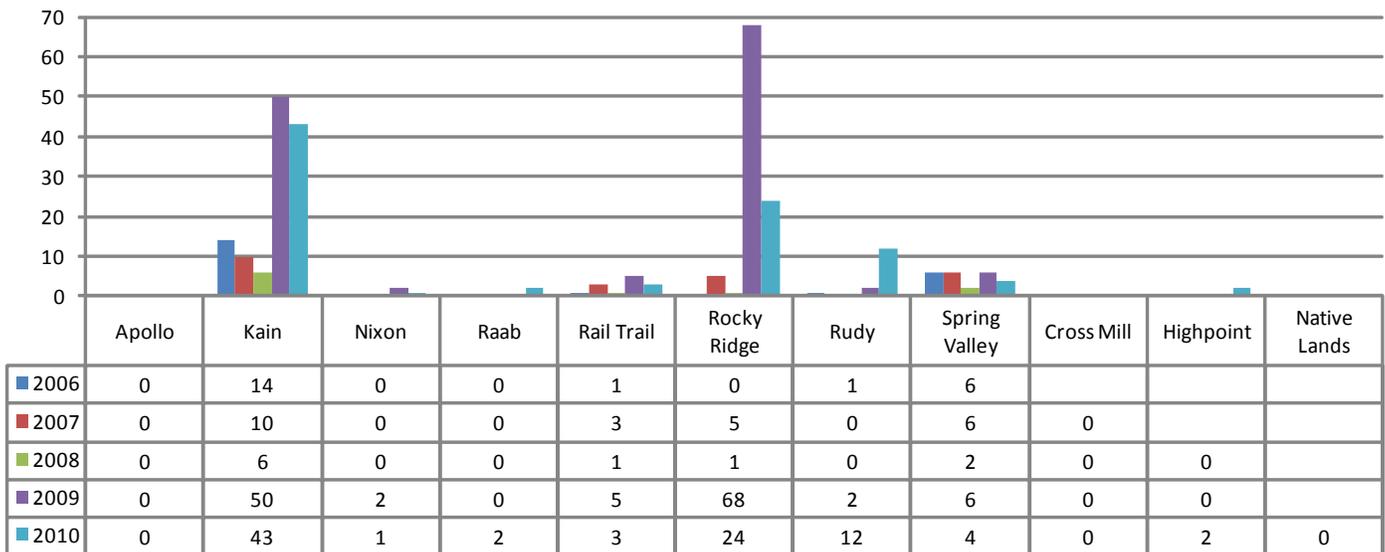
Railroad parking area, Heritage Rail Trail Park and adjacent rail trail receive a face lift.

Ranger Report

Incidents by Park including visitor injuries



Number of Citations by Park



In 2010, the Rangers issued 91 citations and 380 written warnings, and investigated 229 reported incidents. Rangers investigated and closed out 17 general complaints and submitted 107 work orders to the maintenance department .

Ranger's Vision Statement:

The York County ranger division is dedicated to the principle of providing education and enforcement to ensure protection for the parks and provide the visitors a meaningful and enjoyable, safe and secure park and recreation experience.

Rangers provided traffic control and parking at Inspiration by the Lake at William H. Kain Park, and Christmas Magic—A Festival of Lights at Rocky Ridge Park, where 31,867 people attended (1,850 pounds of food was donated to the York County Food Bank from the Christmas Magic Food Drive.

Annual Mileage Driven

Ranger Unit

2006:	107,382
2007:	99,385
2008:	93,319
2009:	74,949
2010:	72,828



Setting trail conditions, to ensure long term trail quality, is one on many ranger duties.

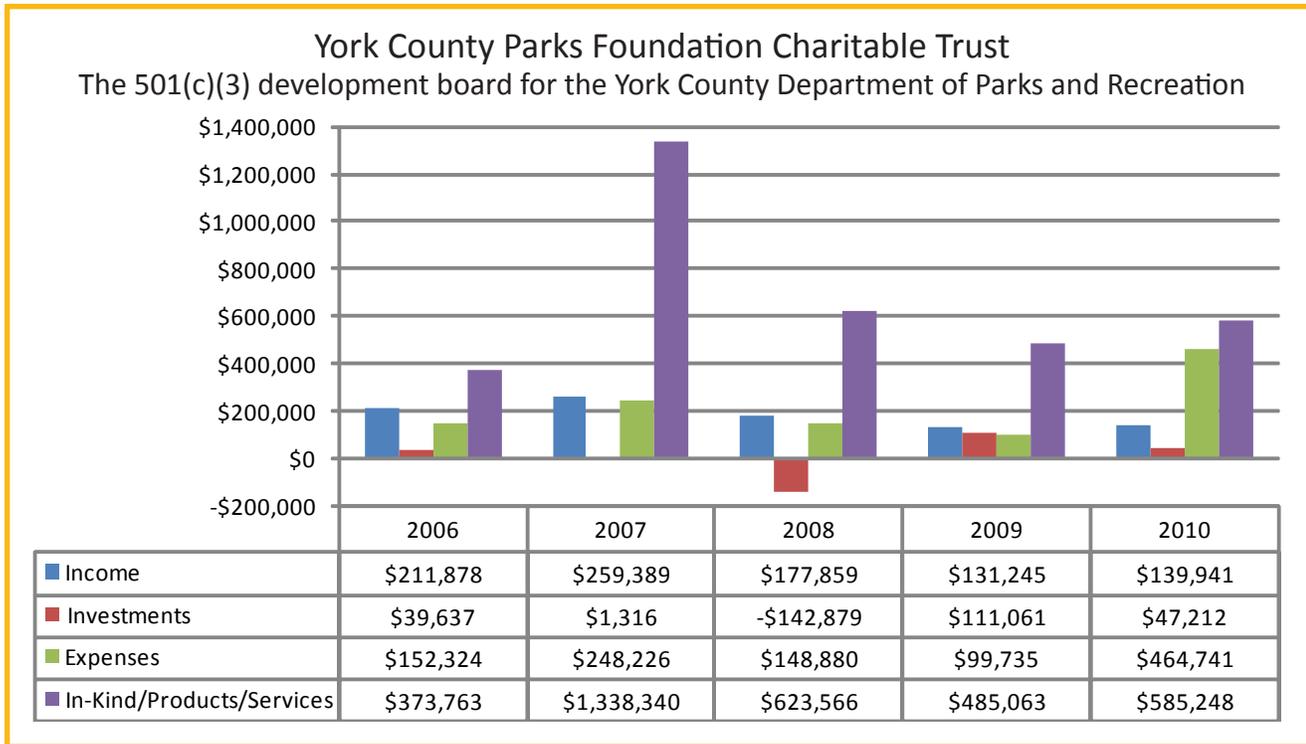


Ranger checking ice thickness for public skating.



Memorable snows gave the Parks maintenance crew a winter to forget.

York County Parks Foundation Charitable Trust



The Charitable Trust Board manages donations to the York County Parks. Park improvements, support of special events and the expansion of public park lands are the primary objectives of the Trust Fund and its board.

Gathering Leaves.....	\$16,277
Legacy Fund.....	\$53,928
Kain Memorial.....	\$6,092
Ralph Brooks	
Endowment	\$62,262
Rail Trail Friends	\$60,462
Cross Mill Friends	\$12,876
Canine Meadows Friends.....	\$4,343
YCACG	\$15,022
General Parks	\$109,360
Grants and Estates.....	\$22,444
TOTAL.....	\$363,066



York County Parks was center stage in Martin Memorial Library's atrium for a week in October.

Gathering Leaves Society

The York County Parks Foundation Charitable Trust announced the creation of the "Gathering Leaves Society" in October 2002. The Society honors those who have provided for the stewardship of the York County Parks over the long term either through a planned gift or cash donation to the endowment fund. Grateful acknowledgement to the following Gathering Leaves Society Members:

John F. Barbor
Mary Boyd
Tom & RuthAnn Brant
Eileen & Duane Close
Donald C. Dallmeyer
Dave & Linda Davidson
James F. Donahue
Ronald L. & Sharon A. Dorn
Roberta A. Downs
Shawn & Skip Durgin
John L. Finlayson
Ronald Foulis
Michael P. Gavin
Robert Glass
Arthur J. Glatfelter
Judith Grove
L. C. Heim
Don & Donallene Heisler
Nancy F. Keiser
Paul H. Keiser
L. Jeani Kiser
Sue Ann Kline
Truman & Darlene Kling
Maxine & William Klunk
Tammy F. Klunk
Raymond E. Knowles, Jr.
Ann & George "Skip" Lehmann
Betsy Lehner
Larry S. Lehner
Donna Meanner
Sandy & Bud Menchey
Nancy S. Morris
William T. Morris
Mr. & Mrs. Irvin S. Naylor
R. Scott Neely
Paul E. Newcomer
Tom & Joan Norris
Don & Dee Patton
Chris and Lisa Reilly
Fred D. & Mary E. Reiss
Steve & Elizabeth Ricklefs
John M. & Rebecca Rinehart
Dale L. Schaeberle
Timothy Senft
Roger E. Shaffer
Eleanor Boggs Shoemaker

Jim & Nancy Rae Sieling
Ruth & Luther Sowers
John & Lisa Strine
Paul & Kathryn Summers
John & Joan Ulrich
Anne & Jack Wagner
In remembrance of members:
J. Kerr Anderson
Cooper Boyd
Burnell Diehl
Shirley Glass
Carroll & Irene Hunt
Geneva Bowman Kaltreider
Sydney Levitan
Ruth M. Sponsler
Eleanor M. Thatcher



If you have provided for the York County Parks through your estate or a planned gift, and are not listed, or if you want information on how to become a member, please contact us.

York County Parks Foundation
Charitable Trust
400 Mundis Race Road
York, PA 17406
717.840.7227



Morning fog sets the mood along the shore of Lake Redman, Kain Park.

Investing in our County Park System

Many of our offerings would not be possible if not for the kindnesses of others.

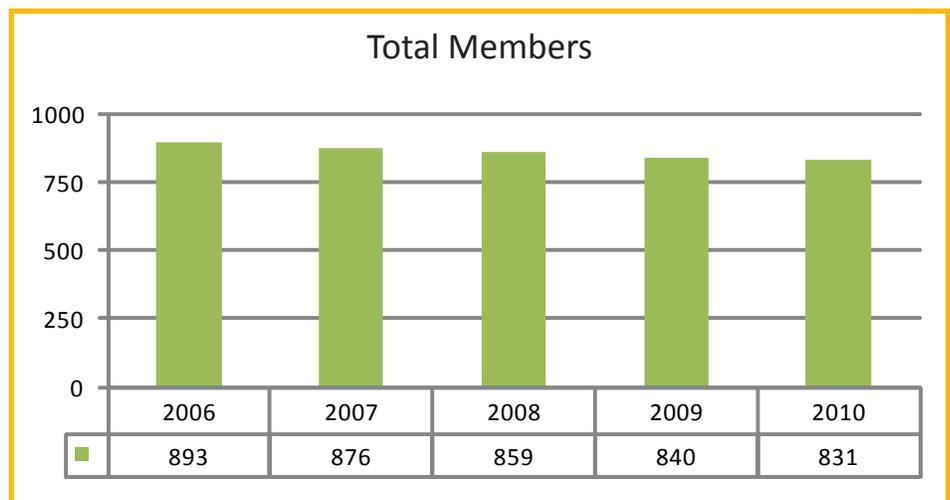
Thank you to those individuals and organizations who have contributed to York County Parks.

AWI/Shurfine
 Joyce Allison & Eber Gordon
 Automotive of York
 Backyard Bird Store
 Better Living Patios and Sun Rooms
 Bob Potts Marathon
 Joseph P. Brillhart
 Brooks-Huff Tire & Auto Center
 Brown's Orchard
 Carl Beasley Ford
 Central York School District
 Codorus Stone & Supply Co.
 Cumulus Radio
 D.E. Gemmill Line Painting
 Devin Bunn Memorial Trust
 George & Cinthia Dotzel III-In memory of Kerr Anderson
 Amanda & Matthew Dubbs
 E Wire and Tubing
 East York Chiropractic Center – Melodie Mitchell
 East York Pet Center
 Estate of Eleanor Thatcher
 Fastenal
 Framer's Workshop
 David Fromme
 Varlen & Phyllis Gibbs – In memory of Carl & Dorothy Morton
 Edward E. Gillette
 Judy Grove
 Barbara & Ron Hager- In memory of Dorothy Morton
 Harley Davidson Motor Co.
 Eleanor Henry
 Heritage Valley Federal Credit Union
 Holidaygas
 In Memory of Ann Itzoe
 In Memory of Lois Bollinger
 Kevin Rice Memorial Fund
 Kleen Kut Lawn Care
 Melody Kraus
 Lancaster Capter NRHS
 Joy & Marc Lederman
 Betsy Lehner
 Mamma's Pizza – Loganville
 Mindy & Jason McSherry

Barbara Miller
 Martha Miller
 David & Kay Mohler – In memory of Carl Morton
 Dave & Wendy Mohler – In memory of Dorothy Morton
 William & Nancy Morris
 Mary Morton – In memory of Carl Morton
 Sharon & John Mosser – In memory of Dorothy Morton
 Pat Muller - In memory of Lee Chopin
 Brian & Stephanie Mundis
 Nell's Shurfine
 Our Gang Riding Club
 Paesano's Pizza – Jacobus
 Paesano's Pizza – New Freedom
 Don Patton
 Patton Veterinary Hospital
 Perrydell Farm Dairy
 Pleasant View PTO
 Quaker City Paper
 Jacalyn Reed
 Dave & Peggy Schlichter
 Rose Schoff – In memory of Lee Choppin
 Serenity Station
 Shipley Energy
 Constance Sidler – In memory of Carl & Dorothy Morton

Ken Smith
 Smith Village
 Chris Snyder
 Southern York Truf & Tractor
 Luther B. Sowers
 Ann Sprenkle
 Standard Concrete
 Strathmeyer Forests, Inc.
 Leslie & J. Lynne Stover
 Tri-Boro Construction
 James & Elizabeth Troutman
 True Value Hardware
 Twin Pine Farm Country Store
 United Natural Foods, Inc.
 Joann Urey
 W.W. Grainger
 WGAL – TV 8
 Anne & Jack Wagner
 Anne & Dan Walko
 Dorothy Warfield
 Robert Watkins – In memory of Dorothy Morton
 Donna Williams
 West Manheim Elementary School
 Daryl Wilhelm
 Windsor Recreation
 YCAG
 York Culinary School of Arts
 Sally Zimmerer
 Paul Zimmerman

Park Membership



York County Parks Mileposts

- 1968—Commissioners (President Commissioner P. Joseph Raab) established York County Board of Parks & Recreation
- 1968—Rocky Ridge Park purchased
- 1968—Nixon Park established through a land donation from Bob Hoffman in honor of newly elected U.S. president
- 1969—Apollo Park established through a land donation from P.H. Glatfelter in honor of the Apollo moon landing
- 1972—Spring Valley Park acquired partially through eminent domain
- 1973—John Rudy Park established through a land donation in memory of John and Mary Rudy
- 1976—William H. Kain Park established through an agreement with The York Water Company (landowner)
- 1978—Nixon Park Nature Center opens
- 1979—Wallace-Cross Mill established through land and mill donation by Harry Cross
- 1984—First Christmas Magic program
- 1986—York County Parks Foundation Charitable Trust established
- 1988—U.S. President Nixon visited Nixon Park
- 1990—Heritage Rail Trail Park purchased from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for \$1.00
- 1992—Treasury of Wildlife Wing dedicated (Nixon Park Nature Center)
- 1993—P. Joseph Raab Park established through a land donation from Waste Management, Inc.
- 1996—First Park-wide Strategic Plan (2nd plan completed 2001, 3rd plan in 2008)
- 1998—Park-wide membership/newsletter Fox Tracks created
- 1998—Park Endowment Heritage Fund formed with the York County Community Foundation
- 1998—John Rudy Park Master Site Plan completed
- 1999—Friends of Wallace-Cross Mill established
- 1999—Heritage Rail Trail Park trail construction completed (into York City)
- 2000—Trail system designated as a Millennium Trail by the White House Millennium Council
- 2000—Emeritus Board established
- 2001—Friends of Heritage Rail Trail Corridor established
- 2001—Hanover Junction Train Station Restoration completed and dedicated
- 2002—Gathering Leaves Society established
- 2003—Rocky Ridge Park Master Site Plan completed
- 2003—Park Watch Ambassador program established
- 2003—New Freedom Train Station Restoration completed and dedicated
- 2003—Howard Tunnel restored and dedicated
- 2004—Maintenance Complex built at Rudy Park
- 2004—Inaugural Hot Air Balloon Festival
- 2006—Park visitation reaches 1,000,000 annual visitors
- 2007—Northern Extension Rail Trail—Phase I completed
- 2007—Apollo Park expands by 191 acres from land donation through Conservation Fund of PA
- 2008—Commissioners designate Highpoint as tenth park
- 2008—Heritage Rail Trail designated as National Recreational Trail and Rail Trail network member
- 2009—Native Lands established as eleventh county park
- 2010—York County Parks Foundation Charitable Trust purchased 17 acres of land that adjoins Nixon Park