



York County Department of Parks and Recreation

2015 Annual Report



Northern Extension Grand Opening



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

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.

Significant Accomplishments

- Officially opened to the public a new section of rail trail from Emig Road to Route 30. This includes 2.5 miles of trail and a 29 space parking lot.
- The 32nd edition of Christmas Magic set an all-time attendance record with 44,473 visitors.
- Substantially completed wetlands construction and stream improvements at Nixon Park
- Improved the visitor's experience at Highpoint through the use of QR code technology providing information to visitors on the area's history and physical features.
- Constructed an overnight shelter in Apollo Park for Mason Dixon trail hikers
- Replaced the deck around the New Freedom Train Station
- Reorganized, rejuvenated the Park Ambassador program under the leadership of the Park Rangers
- Generated record revenue at the Lake Redman boat concession.
- Mapped trails at Rudy, Rocky Ridge, Kain and the Rail trail using GPS technology. Thanks to the assistance of York County Planning Commission improved trail hiking maps are available.
- Provided expanded program opportunities throughout the parks with both returning and new events including winter wildlife weekend, maple syrup festival, nature at night, natural inspired creative arts, butterfly weekend and reptile week.
- Removed over 900 tires (23 tons) dumped along the Heritage Rail Trail County Park

2015 Awards and Recognition

- ◆ Heritage Rail Trail County Park Named 2015 PA Trail of the Year



- ◆ Heritage Rail Trail County Park - Inducted into the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy's Hall of Fame
- ◆ Francis Velazquez is serving as Board President of the Association of Nature Center Administrators for a two year term ending in June of 2017. The Association of Nature Center Administrators' promotes and supports best leadership and management practices for the nature and environmental learning center profession.
- ◆ Barry Myers elected as a member of the Pennsylvania American Public Works Association board for a three year term.

Our Leadership

York County Board of Commissioners

Steve Chronister, President
Doug Hoke, Vice President
Christopher B. Reilly, Commissioner, Liaison to Parks

York County Parks

Advisory Board

Laura L. Smith, Chair
Stephen Lentz, Vice-Chair
Carolyn J. Pugh, Secretary
Amanda Dubbs • J. T. Hand
Jason McSherry • Theresa Major
Sherri Ierley • Robert Weikert
This volunteer board serves as a liaison between the Parks and the public. The public is encouraged to attend board meetings. The board meets in January, March, May, July, September, and November.

York County Parks Emeritus Board

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

John F. Barbor
Duane R. Close
Thomas F. Clough
Sandy Cooley
J. Richard Cooper
Reed "Jack" Dunn, Jr.

Skip Durgin
Voni Grimes
Donald G. Heisler
J. Robert Katherman
Carroll C. Luckenbaugh
Donald Patton

John Rinehart
Ellie Shoemaker
John Strine
Anne K. Wagner
John Wurzbacher
Anne Walko

York County Parks Foundation Charitable Trust, Inc

Luther B. Sowers, President
George "Skip" Lehmann, Vice President
Linda B. Davidson, Secretary
William T. Morris, Treasurer
Richard Cooper • Betsy B. Lehner
Milton J. Menchey • 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.

Professional Staff

Tammy F. Klunk
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

Patrick A. Noll
Asst. Superintendent of Bldg. & Grounds

Jeri L. Jones
Program Coordinator

Kelsey A. Frey
Naturalist

Mary E. Ronan
Naturalist

Deborah A. Carbaugh
Administrative Assistant

Stephanie L. Wilt
Administrative Secretary

Maintenance Staff

**Jerry Broome • Joseph Carbaugh
Richard Detter • Joshua Dewees
Kerry Flinchbaugh • Brad Gorsuch
Randall Grove • Tom Hansberry
Richard J. Himes • Randy Leiphart
Douglas Murphy • Eric Paules
Eric Roehm**

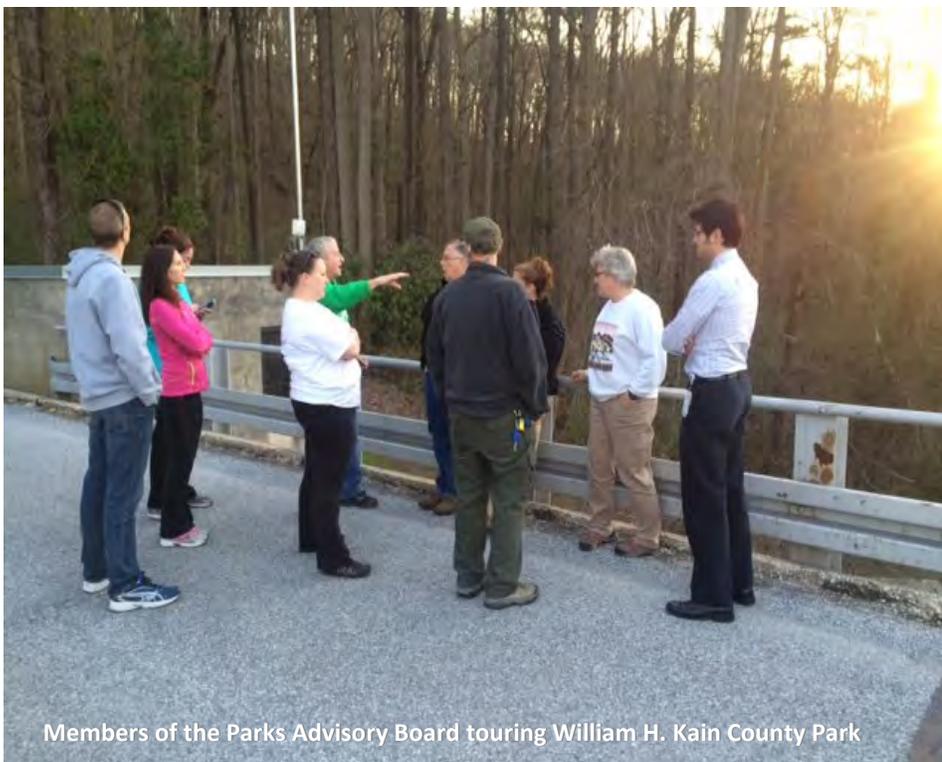
Rangers

**Scott Neely • David Breedlove
George Erskine**



York County Department of Parks and Recreation

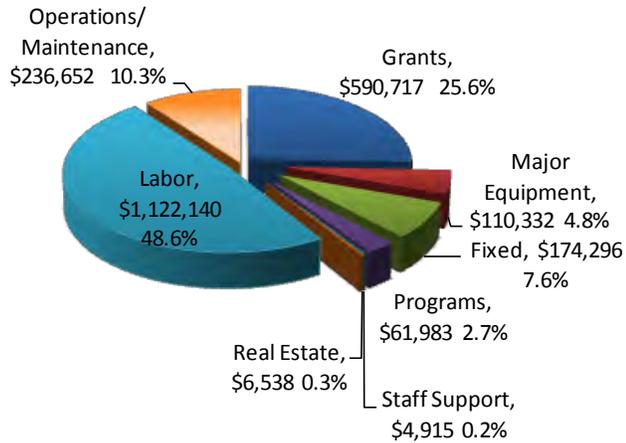
Administrative Headquarters
400 Mundis Race Road
York, PA 17406-9721
Phone: (717) 840-7440
Fax: (717) 840-7403
www.YorkCountyParks.org
parks@YorkCountyPA.gov
Twitter: @YorkCountyParks



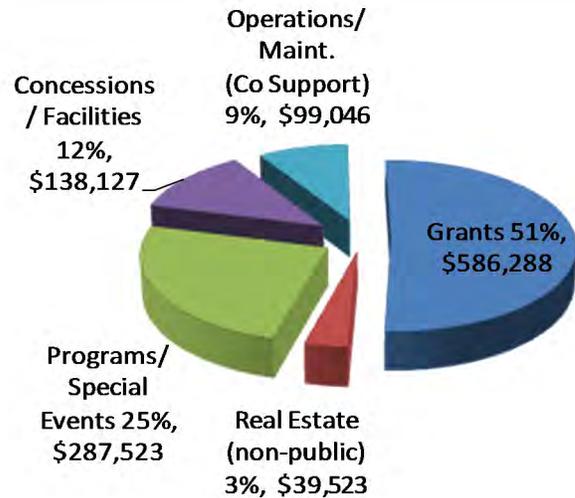
Members of the Parks Advisory Board touring William H. Kain County Park

Financial Charts

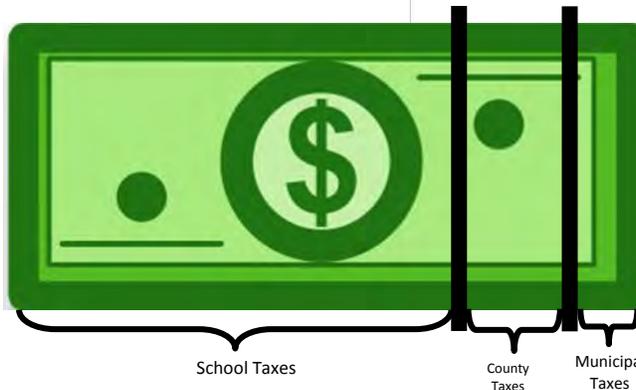
2015 Expenditure Budget: \$2,307,573



2015 Income: \$1,150,507



For every real estate tax dollar paid in York County.



The annual cost to York County residents to operate and maintain the county parks department in 2015 totals **\$ 3.52 per resident**

Expenditures:\$2,307,573
 + benefits\$392,749
 - revenue\$1,150,707
 Expenses less income.....\$1,549,615

York County Planning Commission's 2014 census estimate—440,775 residents

Budget History (Actual)

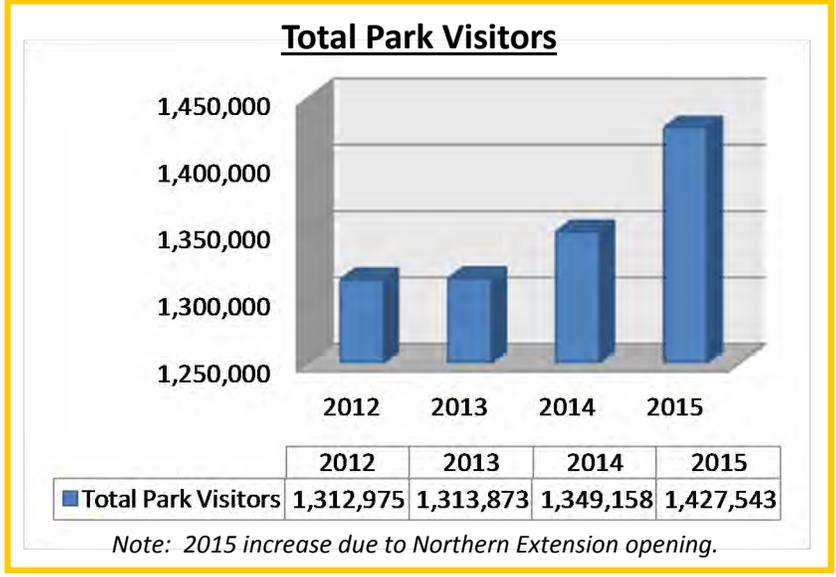


*October 2015 - Spending freeze instituted by County due to PA state budget impasse.

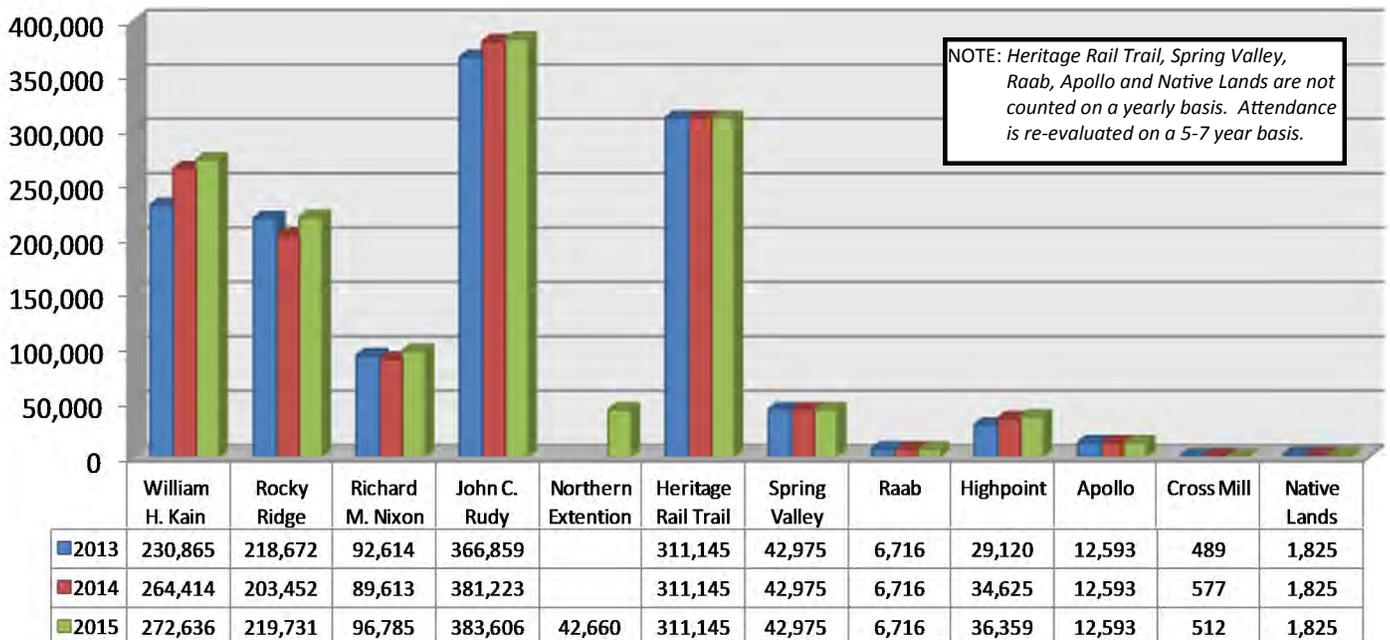
Enjoying our Parks



Park Visitation

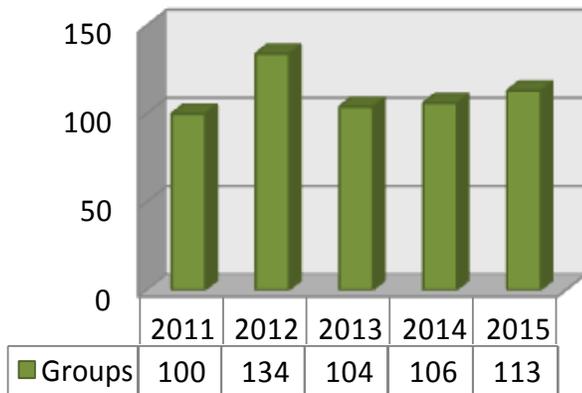


Total Visitors Per County Park

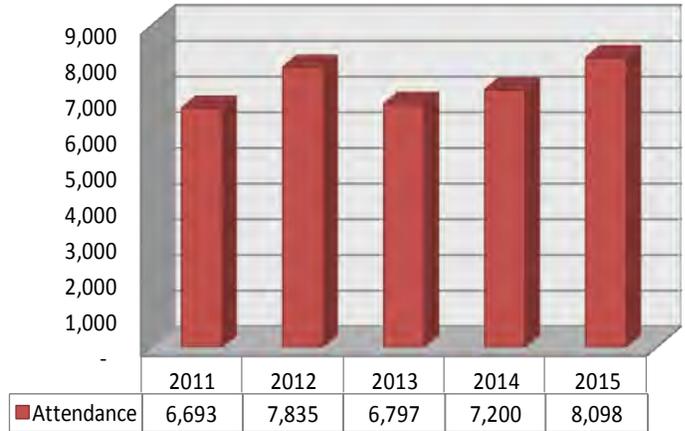


Public Programs

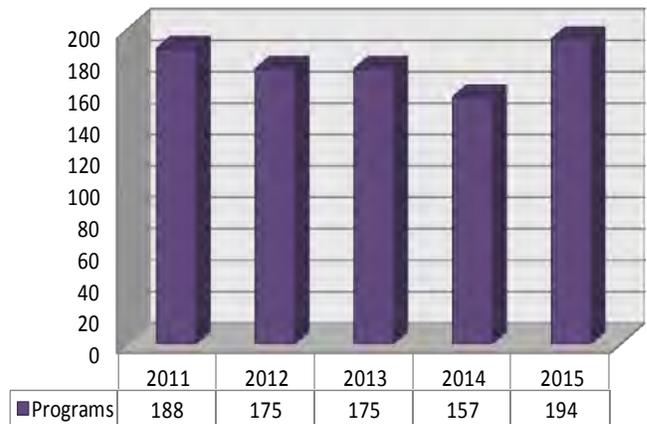
Number of Naturalist Led Groups



Attendance at Naturalist Led Groups

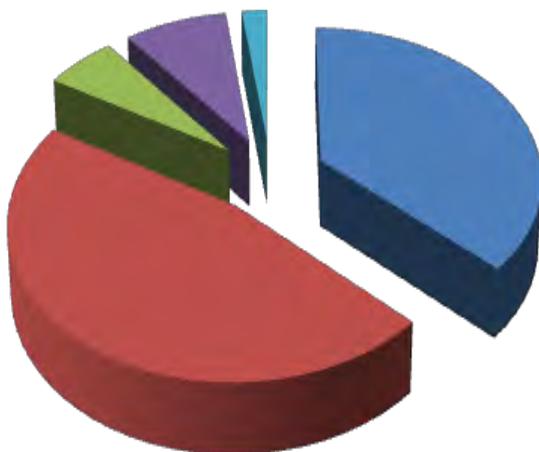


Number of Public Programs



Museum and Program Attendance

95,503



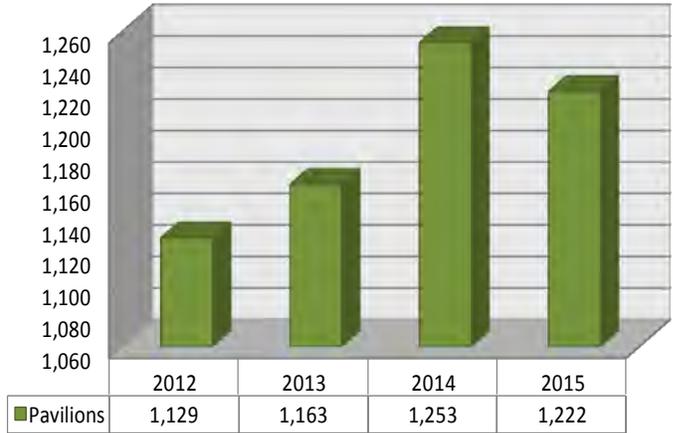
- Museum Visitation (35,330)
- Christmas Magic (44,473)
- Public Programs (5,616)
- School Groups (8,098)
- Other (1,986)



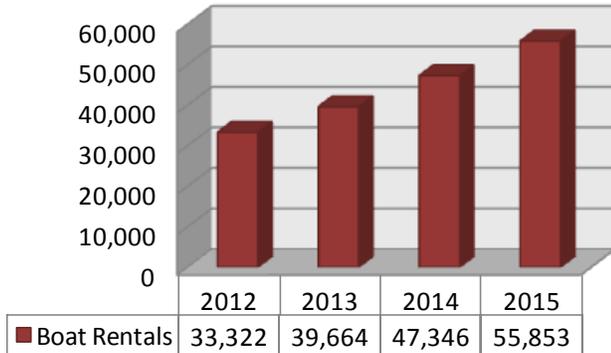
Pavilion & Sports Field Rentals



Kain, Rocky Ridge, Rudy and Spring Valley Pavilion Rentals



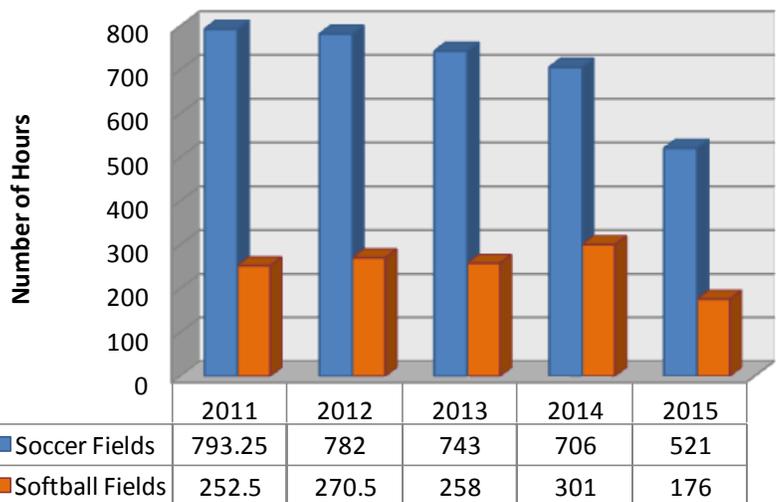
Lake Redman Boat Rental



2015 - Record Year - Highest Income

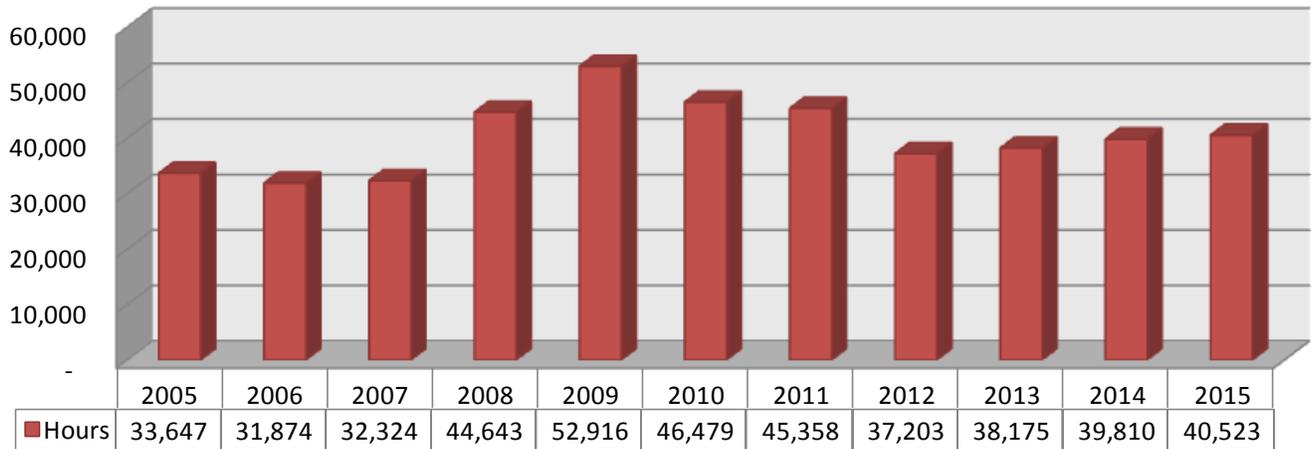


Sports Field Rentals



Volunteers

Hours Volunteered



* The Pennsylvania Conservation Corps program discounted statewide in 2012.



Thank you to all
who served in
2015!

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

2011 Eleanor Boggs Shoemaker

2012 Glenn Eyster, Jr.

2013 WGAL Channel

2014 York County Planning Commission

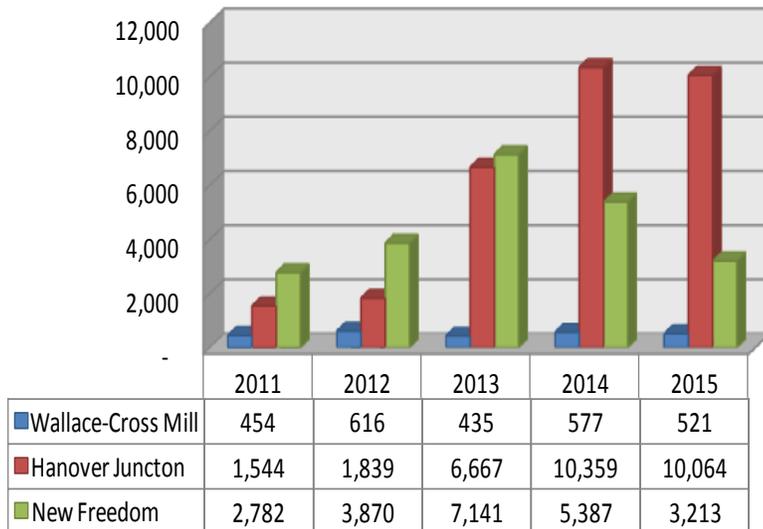
2015 Stan Brown, Brown Orchards



Stan Brown, 2015 PAA Recipient

Friends Groups Accomplishments

Museum Visitation Totals



Friends of Wallace-Cross Mill 2015 Accomplishments

- Partnered with two local mills to celebrate SPOOM Mid-Atlantic Milling Day.
- Hosted Sunday open houses June through September and special days through October with special events including Miller's Day, Ice Cream Social, Made in America Days, Bluegrass Day and Cider Day. All positions were filled with docents.
- Participated with York County Convention and Visitors Bureau's Made in America Days tour stops.
- For the first time, remained open on Sundays in September.
- Produced 2 postcards to be sold at the mill.
- Hosted a number of private tours for civic groups and schools.
- Provided assistance at the Christmas Magic food stand.

Friends of the Heritage Rail Trail 2015 Accomplishments

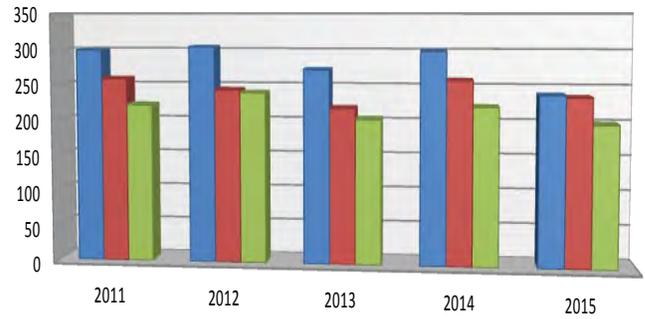
- Filled 149 time slots as greeters at both the Hanover Junction and New Freedom trains station May through October
- Conducted special tours for civic organizations and special interest tours
- Installed a TV-DVD system to show videos at Hanover Junction.
- Hosted annual summer picnic between the Friends group, Sunset Scramblers, volunteers and the public interested in history.
- Sunset Scramblers volunteer group became a part of the Friends group, attending meetings with the Friends group supplying support for the bike programs.
- Historian Scott Mingus volunteered his time to narrate a video on the Abraham Lincoln at Hanover Junction debate to be exclusively sold at the stations.
- Conducted public programs including Porch Talks in June and July, Moonlight Bike Rides programs in September, New Freedom Street Fair in September and Hanging of the Greens in December
- Greeters assisted with Steam Into History visitation at both stations upon request.
- 12 displays were either updated or changed including an aerial photograph of Hanover Junction showing historical structures, the Lincoln debate and a picture of Roger Shaffer's father in the telegraph office.
- Attended the historic train convention at the York County Heritage Trust promoting the stations.
- Provided support for the first "Pumpkin Walk" in Seven Valleys sponsored by the Rail Trail Authority.
- Provided assistance at the Christmas Magic food stand.



Natural Resource Management

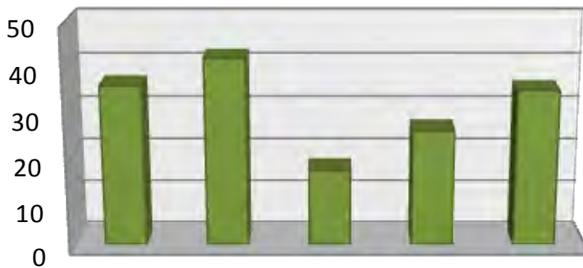


Bluebird Eggs, Hatchlings and Fledglings



	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Bluebird Eggs	299	304	273	299	239
Bluebird Hatchlings	259	244	219	259	236
Bluebird Fledglings	222	240	204	222	199

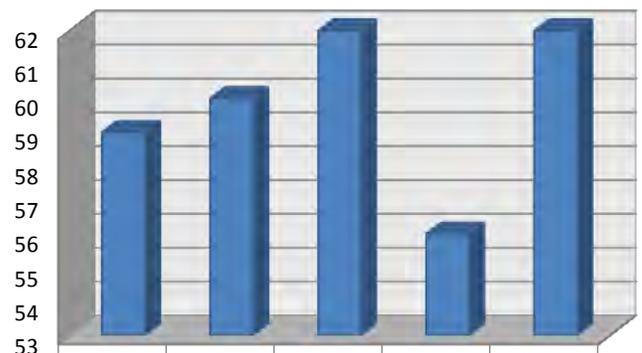
Early Season Goose Harvest - Kain Park



	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Geese	36	42	17	26	35



Parkwide Deer Harvest (Rocky Ridge, Kain, Apollo & Spring Valley)



	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
# of Deer	59	60	62	56	62

Maintenance Department

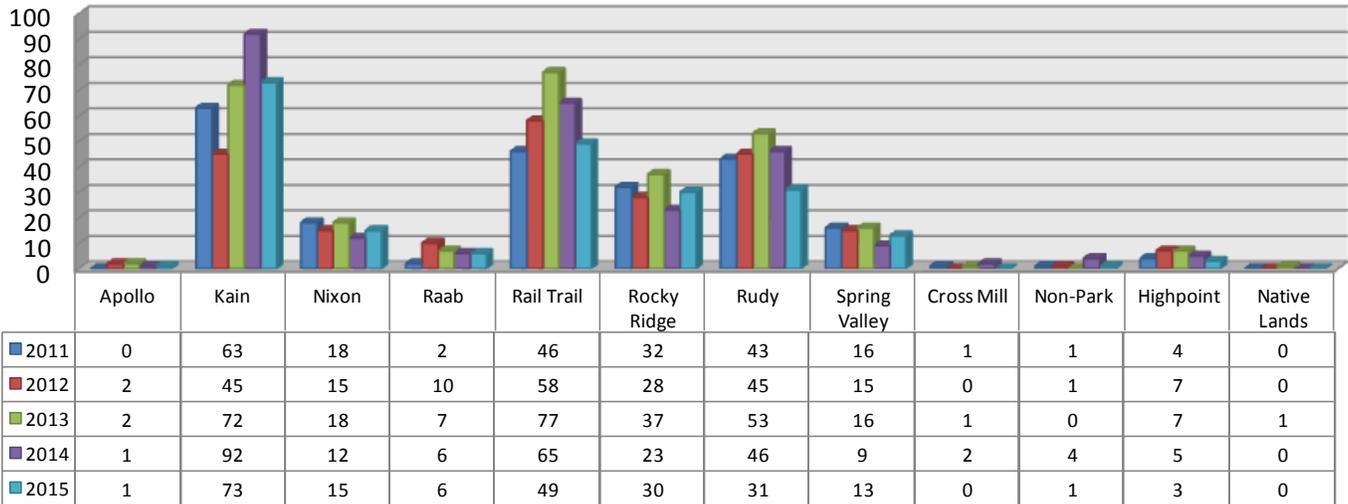
The York County Parks Maintenance Department consists of ten group leaders, two assistant superintendents and one superintendent. Their responsibility is to maintain over 4,300 acres of public parkland with a physical inventory consisting of:

- 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



Ranger Report

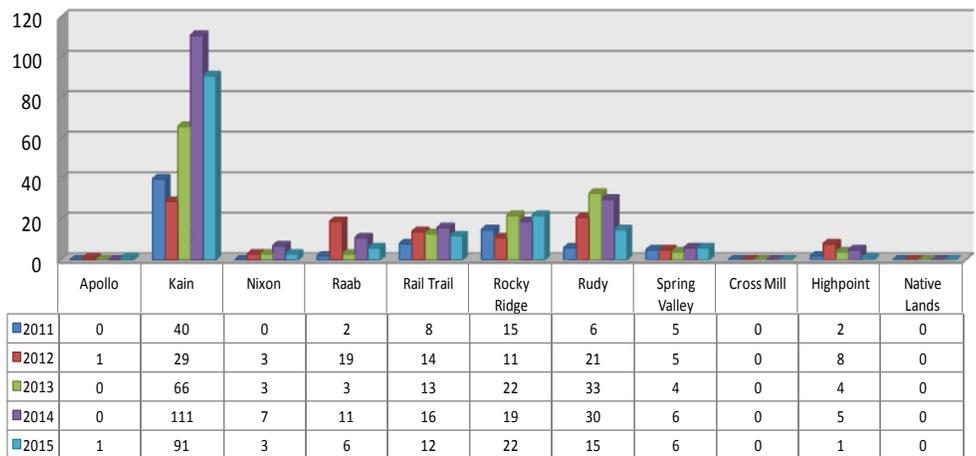
Incidents by Park including visitor injuries



Annual Mileage Driven Ranger Unit

2011: 87,326
 2012: 85,808
 2013: 88,847
 2014: 90,279
 2015: 94,707

Number of Citations by Park



Rangers provided traffic control, pedestrian safety, and parking at Christmas Magic - A Festival of Lights at Rocky Ridge Park, where 44,473 people attended in 2015. In addition, 1,240 pounds of food was donated to the York County Food Bank from the Christmas Magic Food Drive.

Rangers investigated and closed out 21 general complaints, submitted 80 work orders to the Maintenance Department, and collected 422 pavilion surveys from Rudy, Rocky Ridge and Kain rented pavilions.

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.



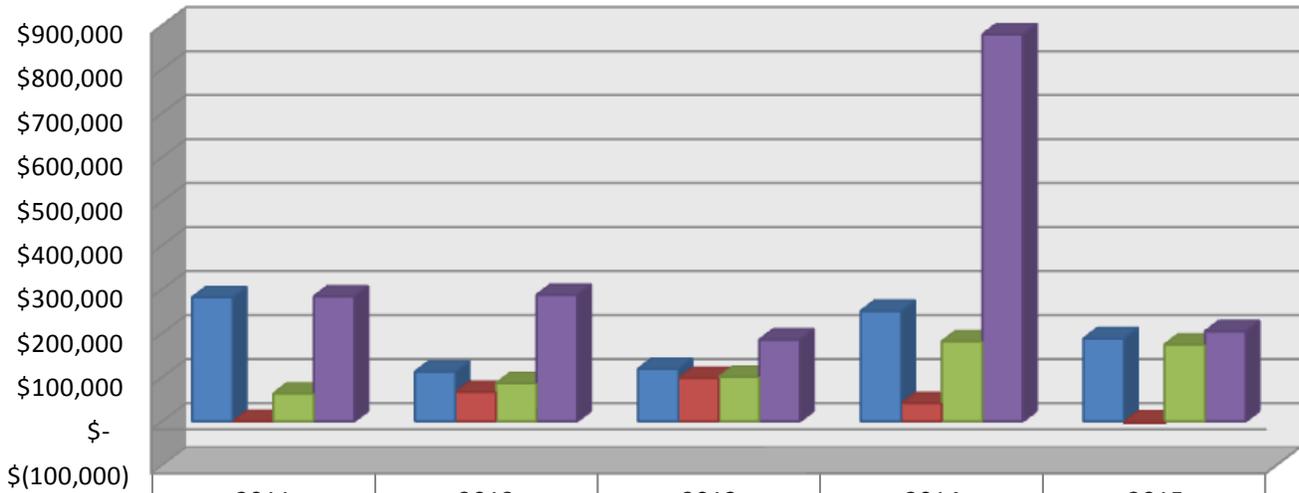
Volunteers in Action



York County Parks Foundation Charitable Trust

York County Parks Foundation Charitable Trust

The 501(c)(3) development board for the York County Department of Parks and Recreation



	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Income	\$282,082	\$113,216	\$119,398	\$250,943	\$188,559
Investments	\$575	\$66,983	\$98,565	\$41,514	\$(3,780)
Expenses	\$63,408	\$86,589	\$101,276	\$181,795	\$174,770
In Kind	\$284,175	\$287,535	\$185,835	\$879,174	\$204,811



Wetlands project at Nixon Park.
To be completed in 2016

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	\$28,251
Legacy Fund	\$329,980
Kain Memorial	\$5,359
Ralph Brooks Endow.....	\$92,462
Rail Trail Friends	\$23,239
Cross Mill Friends	\$75,242
Canine Meadows Friends .	\$9,391
YCAG	\$14,231
General Parks.....	\$332,880
<u>Grants and Estates.....</u>	<u>\$62,172</u>
TOTAL	\$973,207

The York County Parks has recently added a new interpretive tool at Highpoint Scenic Recreation Area. Visitors can now scan this QR code and be linked to a new interpretive website. The informative website will enhance on-site experience allowing visitors to see the layers of history in the panoramic view of the area.



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
 Winifred E. Bradley
 Tom & RuthAnn Brant
 Eileen & Duane Close
 Donald C. Dallmeyer
 Dave & Linda Davidson
 Ronald L. & Sharon A. Dorn
 Roberta A. Downs
 Shawn & Skip Durgin
 John L. Finlayson
 Ronald Foulis
 Michael P. Gavin
 Robert Glass
 Voni B. Grimes
 Judith Grove
 L. C. Heim
 Don Heisler
 Nancy F. Keiser
 L. Jeani Kiser
 Sue Ann Kline
 Truman & Darlene Kling
 Maxine & William Klunk
 Tammy F. Klunk
 Ann & George "Skip" Lehmann
 Betsy Lehner
 Larry S. Lehner
 Donna Meanner
 Sandy & Bud Menchey
 Edmund Miller
 Nancy S. Morris
 William T. Morris
 Mr. & Mrs. Irvin S. Naylor
 R. Scott Neely
 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

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
 James F. Donahue
 Shirley Glass
 Arthur J. Glatfelter
 Donallene Heisler
 Carroll & Irene Hunt
 Geneva Bowman Kaltreider
 Paul H. Keiser
 Raymond E. Knowles, Jr.
 Sydney Levitan
 Barbara Markel
 Paul E. Newcomer
 Roger E. Shaffer
 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



Park Membership



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.*

Albertin Vernon Architecture, LLC	John & Mary Keffer	Marian & Scott Savoie
Apple Honda	Kevin Rice Memorial Fund	Dale & Betty Schaeberle
Aquatic Resources Restoration, Inc.	Kinsley Materials	Kevin Schmidt
Automotive of York	Klean Kut Lawn Kare	Erica Shallcross
Bath Fitters	Kohl's Cares Program	Shallow Brook Intermediate School PTO
Arthur Bert	Thomas & Ramona Krout	Shank's Mare Outfitters
Ida & James Biel	Lancaster County Conservancy, Inc.	Harold & Julia Shaw
Karl & Kathleen Blankenship	Marc & Sarah Laucks	James Shifflett
Emelyn Blymire	Lisa Laughman	Shurfine Markets
Bob Potts Marathon	Rodger & Karen Lease	Skelly and Loy
Bon Ton Stores Foundation	Betsy Lehner	Richard Sloan
Margaret Boyd	John Lenhart	Smith Village
Winifred Bradley	Clyde Lentz	G. David & Sandra Smith
Brooks-Huff Tire & Auto	Loganville Borough	Keith & Diane Smith
Brown's Orchard	Louie's Auto Service	Tom Smith/York Audubon Society
Barry Bruggeman	Lowes East	Springfield Township
Ralph & Pauline Bucklen	Lowes West	Standard Concrete
Terry & Wayne Burg	Macy's West Manchester #201	Steam Into History
Jehra Cabarolo	Mamma's Pizza – Loganville	Stewart & Tate
Olivia Caldwell	Markey Building Maintenance	Stewartstown Elementary PTA
Julia Cauler	Patricia & Stanley Markis	Strathmyer Trees
Maureen & Richard Collins	Maryann & Richard Marks	Sylva Native Nursery
Columbia Gas of PA	Fred Marsik	TOPS Chapter 88
Cumulus Radio	Nelson & Joyce McLaren	David Tarbert
Donald & Lois Crumbling	Memorial Hospital	Task Force 50
D.E. Gemmill	Garret Mentzer	Rose Tharp
Warren Tracy Davis	Cheryl Migliarini	The York Water Company
James & Gloria DePury	Daniel Miller	Thornton Chevrolet
Robert Dickson	Edmund Miller	William & Judith Toms
E Tube & Wiring	Elaine Miller	Irene Trachtenberg
Michael & Debbie Eisenhart	Thomas & Louise Minnich	Trail Nurseries, LLC
F.W. Behler	Mignano Bros. Ristorante Italiano	Trinity Lutheran Church
Fastenal	Jeff & Melanie Miller	Tritt Family
Finch Services	Carroll & Linda Missimer	Michael Tucker & Family
John Finlayson	William & Nancy Morris	Turkey Hill Dairy
William & Olga Fleming	Rosemary Mountain	Alicia Tverberg
Framer's Workshop	Ned & Sherry Myers	Utz Potato Chips
Dwight Fuhman	Scott Neely	Jim Vesneski
Gable Family	New Freedom Café	Dan Walko
Robert & Susan Gentzler	North Hopewell Township	WGAL
Brian George	Geraldine Oliver	White Rose Women's Soccer League
Joseph & Suzanne Geubtner	PPC Lubricants	Wine Appreciation Society
Anne & Michael Gray	Paesano's – Jacobus	YAMBA
Judy Grove	Paesano's – New Freedom	Yohe Paving
Judy Grupp	PA Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources	York Building Products
Dale Halleran	Don Patton	York County Constable Association
Harry & Linda Hamilton	Jarrett Pflaum Family	York County Lumber
Happy Times Pre-School	Quaker City Paper	York County Master Gardeners
Herbert & Marie Harbold	PENNDOT	York County Marcellus Shale Fund
Christine & Paul Heine	Penn State-York Campus	York County Rail Trail Authority
David & Kerry Heppen	Frank & Nancy Reed	York County Solid Waste Authority
Paul & Sandra Hershey	Fred & Mary Reiss	York County True Value
Barbara & James Hill	Republic Services	Linda & David Yost
Michael & Caroline Hoffman	Steven Ricklefs	Mary Lee Zechman
Hondru Fleet	Edward Rogers	James Zimmerman
Kathy Jones	Lanny Rohrbaugh	

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
- 2006—Park visitation reaches 1,000,000 annual visitors
- 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
- 2012—York County Parks Foundation Charitable Trust donates 16.5 acres to the County of York as an addition to Nixon Park
- 2013—Online reservation system instituted
- 2015—Northern Extension Rail Trail—Phase II, Rudy Park to Route 30, completed