

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



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REPORT DISCLAIMER

The Montour Area Recreation Commission's 2018 Annual Report is intended to provide a summary of the organization's operations, financial condition and general outlook as of December 31, 2018. This report has been prepared by Bob Stoudt, MARC Director, using information which has not been independently audited or reviewed. Any opinions expressed in this report are those of Stoudt alone and may not represent the opinions of the Montour Area Recreation Commission, its other staff, Commission members or the entities it represents.

All photos have been taken by MARC staff unless otherwise noted.

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DIRECTOR'S INTRODUCTION

2018 was an extraordinary year in many ways on a local, national and global scale. Our society continues to face challenges both natural and man-made and struggles to find solutions to countless complex problems. While it feels at times that our divisions outweigh our common interests, I take heart from knowing many individuals and organizations working diligently to make our world a better place for all. It is my hope that readers of this report will better understand some of the challenges faced by the Montour Area Recreation Commission (MARC) while also learning about some of those individuals and organizations dedicated to the improvement of Montour County and our world.



As I compiled the information needed for MARC's 2018 Annual Report, several themes emerged time and time again. On the one hand, we had black bears, chronic fundraising challenges and rain so much rain! But, on the other hand, we had friends, both old and new, who stepped forward to help us meet our challenges.

This report is not intended to be an all-encompassing review of everything that MARC did in 2018. Rather, our goal is to provide the reader with an overview of some of the more significant issues we've faced and will continue to face in 2019. I hope it might serve as a catalyst for some who might be willing to become more engaged when they realize the difference they might make in our community.

2019 will be my ninth year with MARC. While we will be facing some of the same challenges this year that we have faced every year since MARC was created in 2005, I'm sure there will be plenty of new challenges to keep things interesting. I can honestly say that, for better or worse, I've never been bored with this job. I'm grateful for the many friends who have come forward to help us overcome our difficulties and I thank all those who work with MARC to make and promote Montour County as a healthy and desirable place to live, work and play.

- Bob Stoudt

January 6, 2019

MARC HISTORY

MARC is a volunteer-led organization, committed to providing the best possible outdoor recreational facilities for the people of Montour County and the surrounding region. We live and work here and are dedicated to creating a great place to live, work, play, learn and raise a family.

MARC grew out of the Montour County Recreation Authority (MCRA). The MCRA was originally created as a funding mechanism for the Danville Area Community Center more than thirty years ago. Long after that original purpose was accomplished, it was re-formed to pursue ideas and funding to improve recreation facilities and programs in Montour County and the Danville Area School District.

For many years, Danville Borough taxpayers funded most of the outdoor recreation in our area – not all, but most. This inequitable funding of community facilities and programs was finally posed as a question, “Why aren’t all municipalities participating in funding recreation?” And, “Why do we build things and never provide for maintaining them?”

In 2002, a change in organizational structure was proposed to move the responsibility for recreation from an appointed authority to a commission which would be composed of representatives of every participating municipality. These recommendations followed statewide trends in recreation and, more importantly, recreation funding. The PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) had moved toward a system of rewarding regional partnerships with grant opportunities.

In 2003, MCRA assembled a team of volunteers to travel around the state to observe other communities to learn how they ran their organizations. DCNR provided a list of successful, sustained programs that were similar in size to our region. The team found the common threads among successful organizations were partnerships and wide-based community support.

MCRA representatives returned to Montour County to explore options that might be acceptable to local elected leaders and residents. Numerous proposals were presented, including various methods of funding a recreation commission. It eventually became clear that the exact structure of a commission – its funding, scope of responsibilities, structure, etc. – would have to be decided by representatives of whichever entities voluntarily chose to participate in the organization; no municipalities would be forced to participate. A large group meeting was held in March 2004, followed by numerous small group discussions. Some municipalities decided to join with MCRA in the creation of a recreation commission; others took more of a ‘wait and see’ approach.

The Montour Area Recreation Commission (MARC) formally began to operate upon the signing of an Intergovernmental Agreement of Cooperation by Montour County, Washingtonville Borough, Riverside Borough and the Danville Area School District on May 18, 2005. The Borough of Danville later joined MARC on January 10, 2012. MARC is structured as a ‘multi-governmental organization which is non-profit by intent’. MARC is incorporated in Pennsylvania under 15 Pa C.S., Section 5306, as a Domestic Nonprofit Corporation; MARC is not a 501(c)(3) entity.

Dave Decoteau served as MARC’s first Director, serving from MARC’s founding in 2005 until October 2010. Dave then stepped down to open the Riverside Adventure Company in Riverside, PA, though he continues to remain actively involved in MARC’s operations as a park/trail stewardship volunteer. Bob Stoudt, formerly MARC’s Deputy Director, was promoted to Director in October 2010 and continues to serve in that capacity today. Jon Beam joined MARC’s staff as Assistant Director in January 2015. Dennis Piatt, MARC’s Maintenance Technician, joined the organization in February 2016. Lesley Yeich was hired in May 2018 as MARC’s Seasonal Maintenance Technician.

MARC MISSION

MARC's mission is 'to make and promote Montour County, PA as a healthy place to live, work and play'.

MARC's stated goals are to:

1. (BUILD AND MAINTAIN) Improve the quality and quantity of outdoor recreational opportunities in and around Montour County, PA
2. (PARTNER) Collaborate with volunteers and public and private partners to create, maintain and promote an interconnected network of trails, parks, natural areas and other green spaces
3. (PROMOTE) Promote the economic, natural and cultural resources of our community
4. (FUND) Create an endowed funding source for the long-term operations of the Montour Area Recreation Commission and the stewardship of Montour County's outdoor recreational resources
5. (ASSIST) Serve as a clearinghouse for information, technical and planning assistance related to outdoor recreation in and around Montour County

MARC 2018 COMMISSION MEMBERS

MARC is governed by a 13-member Commission, comprised of representatives of each member entity, including: five representatives of Montour County, two representatives of Washingtonville Borough, two representatives of Riverside Borough, two representatives of Danville Borough and two representatives of the Danville Area School District. All Commission members are unpaid volunteers and serve three-year terms, renewable at the discretion of the member entities.

The Commission is led by an elected Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary and Assistant Treasurer. Officer positions are elected annually.

(E = elected official; R = resident)

MONTOUR COUNTY

Commissioner Dan Hartman (E)
Michael Mills (Chairperson / Assistant Treasurer) (R)
Joseph Ward (R)
Heather Good (R)
Dr. Kendra Boell (R)

WASHINGTONVILLE BOROUGH

Frank Dombroski (Vice-Chairperson) (E)
Tyler Dombroski

DANVILLE BOROUGH

Kevin Herritt (E)
Dr. Dan Rogers (R)

DANVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Chris Johns (Secretary)
VACANT

RIVERSIDE BOROUGH

Bill Lavage (Treasurer) (R)
Dr. Victor Marks (R)

MARC STAFF

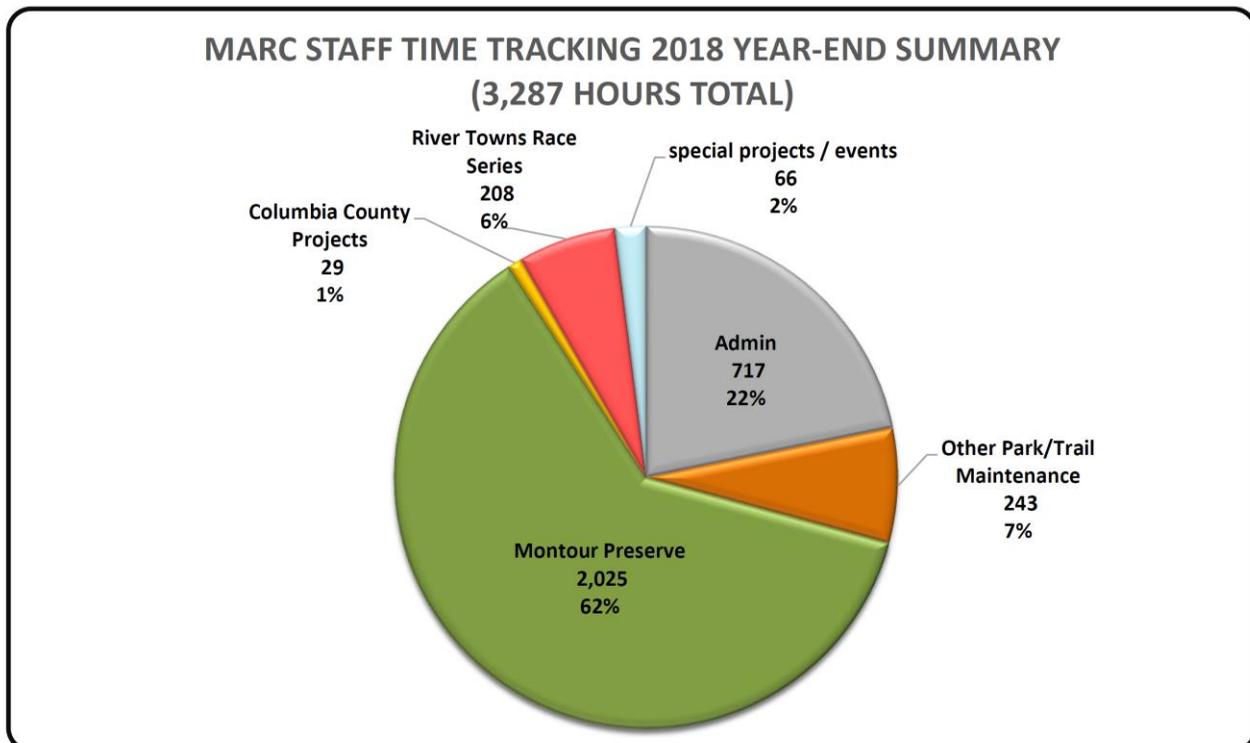
As of December 31, 2018, MARC is staffed by four employees, including: Bob Stoudt, Director; Jon Beam, Assistant Director; Dennis Piatt, Maintenance Technician; and Lesley Yeich, Seasonal Maintenance Technician.

All MARC staff members are part-time hourly employees. 2018 hourly labor rates ranged from \$15.00/hour to \$22.00/hour. Staff receive no benefits, no paid holidays and no paid vacation. Staff provide their own vehicles, computers, cell phones and work clothes, without reimbursement. MARC's 2018 payroll compensation, including taxes, totaled \$74,580.16.



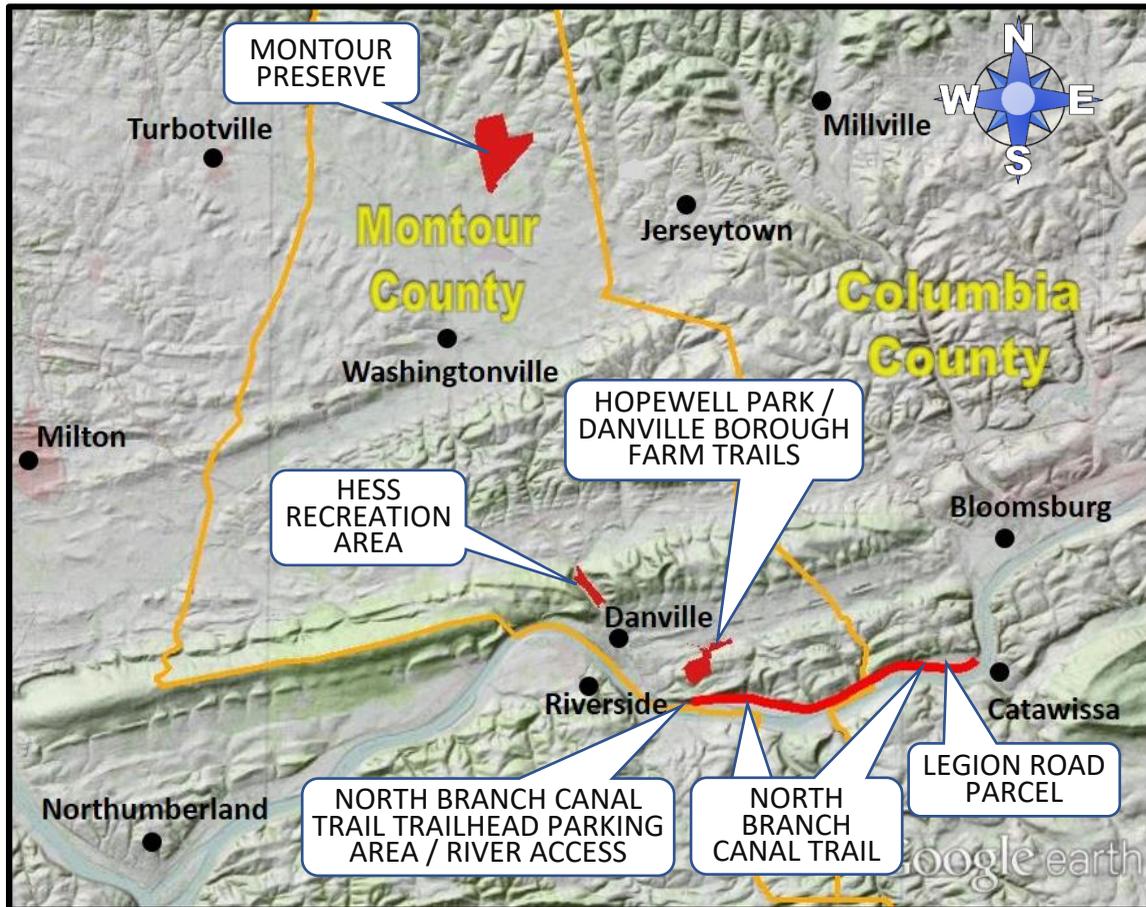
MARC STAFF

(L to R) Lesley Yeich, Bob Stoudt, Dennis Piatt and Jon Beam



MARC MANAGED PROPERTIES

As of December 31, 2018, MARC manages six properties in Montour and Columbia Counties, PA. All properties are managed on behalf of other landowners; MARC owns no real estate.



MARC MANAGED PROPERTIES				
PROPERTY	OWNERSHIP	MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE	PROPERTY SIZE (ACRES)	MANAGED SINCE
Hess Recreation Area	Danville Borough	long-term lease	102	2005
Hopewell Park / Danville Borough Farm Trails	Montour County and Danville Borough	memorandum of understanding	180	2013
Legion Road parcel	Montour Township	license agreement	0.6	2015
Montour Preserve	Montour, LLC (Talen Energy)	lease agreement	657	2015
North Branch Canal Trail	Montour County and Columbia County	lease agreements	37	2010
North Branch Canal Trail Trailhead Parking Area / River Access	Montour County	agreement	3	2012

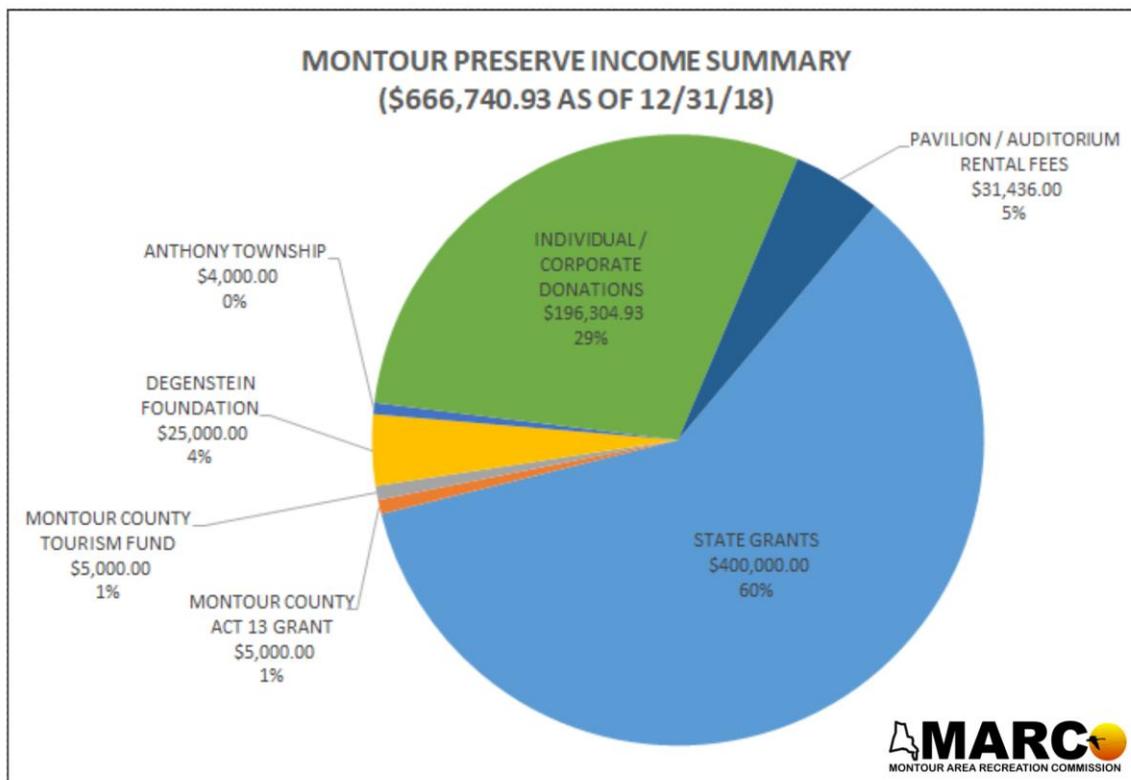
2018 KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND SUCCESSES

MONTOUR PRESERVE CONTINUED OPERATION



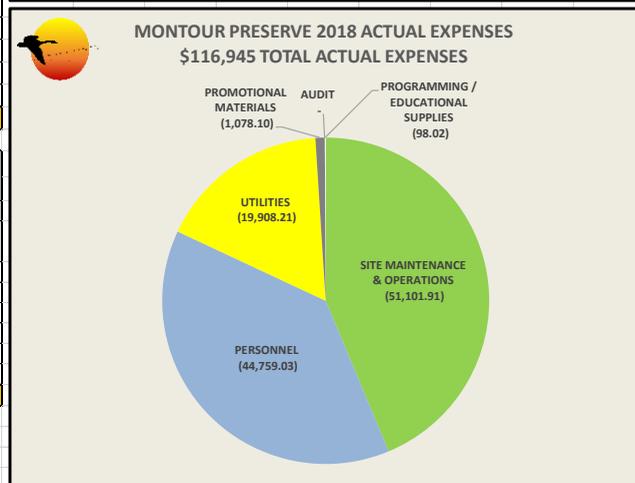
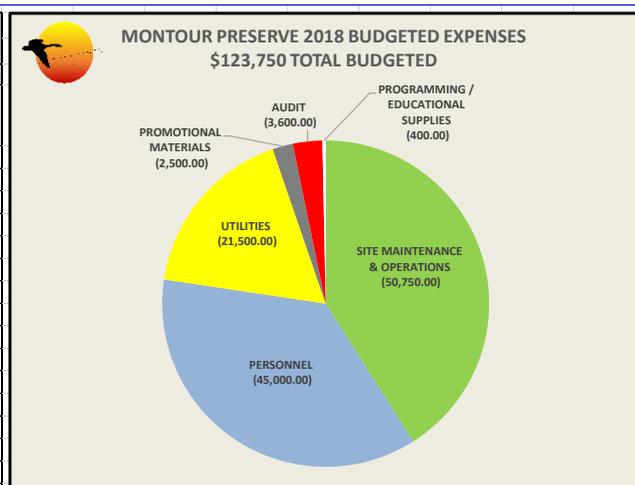
MARC assumed responsibility for the operation and maintenance of portions of the Montour Preserve in Anthony Township, Montour County, in October 2015. It did so under the terms of an annual lease agreement with Montour, LLC (Talen Energy), renewable for up to ten one-year terms.

MARC has worked since late 2014 to raise the funds needed to operate and maintain the recreational amenities at the Montour Preserve. As of December 31, 2018, MARC has raised \$635,304.93 in donations and pledges from roughly 500 donors, including a total of \$400,000 from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). MARC has generated an additional \$31,436.00 in revenue from Montour Preserve pavilion and auditorium reservation fees. In all, MARC has raised a total of \$666,740.93 for the Montour Preserve.

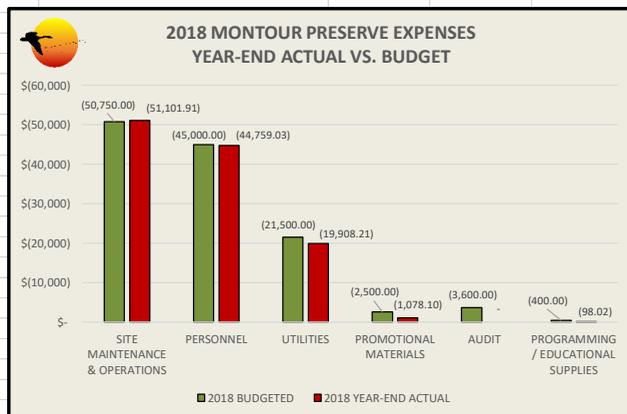


In 2018, MARC spent a total of \$116,945.27 to operate and maintain portions of the Montour Preserve. A detailed accounting of MARC's 2018 expenses is provided below.

MONTOUR PRESERVE 2018 BUDGET YEAR-END FINAL ACCOUNTING REV. 12/31/18 BUDGET ADOPTED 2/26/18; UPDATED 6/25/18			
EXPENSE	2017 ACTUAL	2018 BUDGETED	2018 YEAR-END ACTUAL
personnel	(42,455.88)	(45,000.00)	(44,759.03)
cleaning service	(4,480.00)	(4,500.00)	(4,000.00)
HVAC system maintenance	-	(2,500.00)	(1,700.00)
HVAC system replacement	-	-	-
lawn care	(14,910.00)	(17,500.00)	(10,875.00)
parking lot / road maintenance	-	(2,500.00)	-
security system	(645.85)	(1,000.00)	(1,263.84)
sewage pumping	(1,558.00)	(1,800.00)	(955.00)
snow plowing	(945.00)	(500.00)	-
supplies / misc.	(8,555.35)	(18,000.00)	(29,668.11)
water testing	(1,440.00)	(650.00)	(562.00)
wildlife management	(1,241.50)	(1,800.00)	(2,077.96)
electric	(15,948.92)	(16,000.00)	(14,713.72)
internet service	(1,814.06)	(2,000.00)	(1,918.54)
telephone	(1,460.98)	(1,300.00)	(1,252.39)
trash service	(1,500.00)	(1,600.00)	(1,565.00)
website hosting / email service	(524.29)	(600.00)	(458.56)
promotional materials	(3,915.99)	(2,500.00)	(1,078.10)
programming & educational supplies	(759.89)	(400.00)	(98.02)
audit (two-year)	-	(3,600.00)	-
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$(102,155.71)	\$(123,750.00)	\$ (116,945.27)



MONTOUR PRESERVE BUDGETING VS. ACTUAL EXPENSES UPDATED 12/31/2018			
EXPENSE	2017 ACTUAL	2018 BUDGETED	2018 YEAR-END ACTUAL
SITE MAINTENANCE & OPERATIONS	(33,775.70)	(50,750.00)	(51,101.91)
PERSONNEL	(42,455.88)	(45,000.00)	(44,759.03)
UTILITIES	(21,248.25)	(21,500.00)	(19,908.21)
PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS	(3,915.99)	(2,500.00)	(1,078.10)
AUDIT	-	(3,600.00)	-
PROGRAMMING / EDUCATIONAL SUPPLIES	(759.89)	(400.00)	(98.02)
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$(102,155.71)	\$(123,750.00)	\$ (116,945.27)



As of December 31, 2018, MARC has a combined total of \$351,189 in funds earmarked or grants receivable for the Montour Preserve. Barring any unforeseen major disasters or changes to the site's lease agreement and assuming MARC is able to continue to find funding for its general operations, MARC expects to be able to continue operating and maintaining the Montour Preserve through at least September 30, 2020.

Without the financial support of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and our other donors, the continued cooperation of Montour, LLC (Talen Energy) and MARC's efforts to raise the required funding to maintain/operate the site, it is likely that most of the recreational amenities at the Montour Preserve would have been removed or closed, including the picnic pavilions, boat launch, restrooms, sugar shack, fossil pit, etc. MARC remains committed to securing the long-term future of the site and continues to seek funding and other support to accomplish this important goal.

MAJOR 2018 PROJECT SUPPORTERS



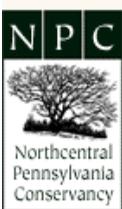
NORTH BRANCH CANAL TRAIL CLEANUP



On Sunday, May 20, local residents and volunteers from the Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy, Northumberland County Conservation District, Service 1st Federal Credit Union and MARC removed a total of 209 tires and roughly fifteen cubic yards of trash from the North Branch Canal Trail corridor and adjacent railroad and road edge in Montour and Columbia Counties.

Special thanks go to the Northumberland County Conservation District's Mosquito-Borne Disease Control Program, funded by the PA Dept. of Environmental Protection, for assisting with the cleanup and covering the costs of the tire disposal. Thanks also to Booth Scrapyard & Recycling Center for properly disposing of the tires. MARC's labor and trash disposal costs were reimbursed by a generous donation from one of our long-time supporters. Finally, MARC thanks Wayne Kashner, our volunteer Trail Steward for the North Branch Canal Trail, for his tireless efforts to care for and improve the trail. Wayne was instrumental in organizing and executing the cleanup and has probably removed more tires and trash from Columbia and Montour Counties than just about anyone we know.

PROJECT SUPPORTERS



EQUIPMENT TRAILER PURCHASE



After years of renting equipment trailers whenever MARC needed to transport equipment, tools and materials, in 2018 MARC was able to purchase an 18ft Belmont Trailers skid steer / tilt-deck trailer thanks to the generous support of the Danville Area Community Foundation and its supporters.

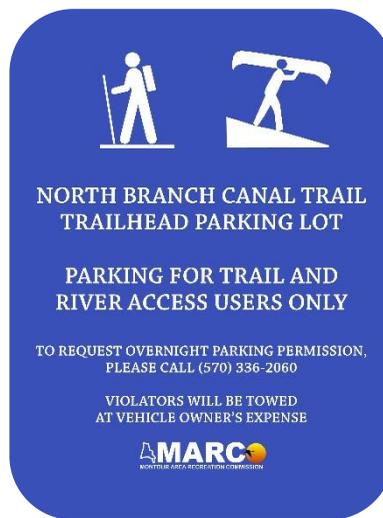
The new trailer is a great asset for MARC's work at the Montour Preserve, Hess Recreation Area, North Branch Canal Trail and other sites and has been used to support the Montour County Emergency Management Agency's training exercises. MARC anticipates a cost savings of as much as \$2,500/year thanks to this purchase.

PROJECT SUPPORTERS



***Neighbors Helping Neighbors Fund
Cole Family Fund
Holdren Family Fund
Joan & Fred Miller Family Fund***

PARK AND TRAIL SIGNAGE

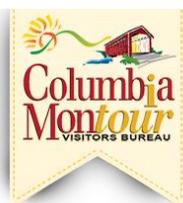


As part of MARC's ongoing effort to provide better signage at the parks and trails throughout Montour County, MARC designed, purchased and installed new signage at the Montour Preserve, Hess Recreation Area, Montgomery Park, North Branch Canal Trail and the North Branch Canal Trail Parking Area / North Branch Susquehanna River Access. Signage included new trailhead signs, warning / caution signage and informative signage. A total of 126 new signs were installed.

Assuming MARC can secure the necessary funding, MARC hopes to further improve signage at parks and trails throughout Montour County in 2019 with the next phase of this project.

PROJECT SUPPORTERS

Montour County Commissioners' Tourism Fund



EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS

As noted throughout this report, MARC relies heavily upon the many volunteers who freely give their time and talents to help MARC accomplish its many goals. Perhaps no group of volunteers has more consistently been involved with MARC's projects than the local troops of the Boy Scouts of America. In fact, as noted in the table below, MARC has benefitted from twenty-one Eagle Scout candidate projects since 2010, with at least three more projects currently in the planning stages.

In 2018, three Eagle Scout candidates completed projects at the Hess Recreation Area in Danville. MARC is sincerely grateful for the hard work of these young men, their families, friends and fellow Scouts and looks forward to continuing this great working relationship with the many Boy Scout troops in Montour and Columbia Counties.

EAGLE SCOUT CANDIDATE PROJECTS		
SCOUT	YEAR	PROJECT
Dylan Friday	2010	Hess Recreation Area Tree Identification Signage and Guide
Frank Ulrich	2011	Hess Recreation Area Trail Bridge
Ian Maize	2011	Hess Recreation Area Bike Skills Area Rehabilitation
Joe Baker	2012	Hess Recreation Area Trailhead Kiosks
Alek Matunis	2013	Hess Recreation Area Entrance Rehabilitation and Garden
David Gunther	2014	North Branch Canal Trail Trailhead Sign and Picnic Tables
Porter Snowden	2014	Hess Recreation Area Benches
Aaron Keehan	2015	Hess Recreation Area Picnic Tables and Handicapped Parking Areas
Randy Marks	2015	North Branch Canal Trail Construction
Hunter Latranyi	2015	North Branch Canal Trail Trailhead Garden and Site Cleanup
Goody McCormick	2015	Hopewell Park Orienteering Course
Dave Kratzer	2015	North Branch Canal Trail Picnic Tables
Nate McDonald	2015	North Branch Canal Trail Benches
Bradley Yeich	2017	Montour Preserve Bike Racks
Shawn Marks	2017	Montour Preserve Hummingbird Trail Rehabilitation
Ethan Bulger	2017	Montour Preserve Braille Trail Rehabilitation
Spencer Snowden	2017	Hopewell Park Trail Signage
Eli Henning	2017	Hopewell Park Gazebo Restoration
Aiden Matunis	2018	Hess Recreation Area Bat Boxes
Michael Holmes	2018	Hess Recreation Area Wildlife Observation Blind Rehabilitation
Hunter Wagner	2018	Hess Recreation Area Mahoning Flats Trail Bridge Repair

PROJECT SUPPORTERS

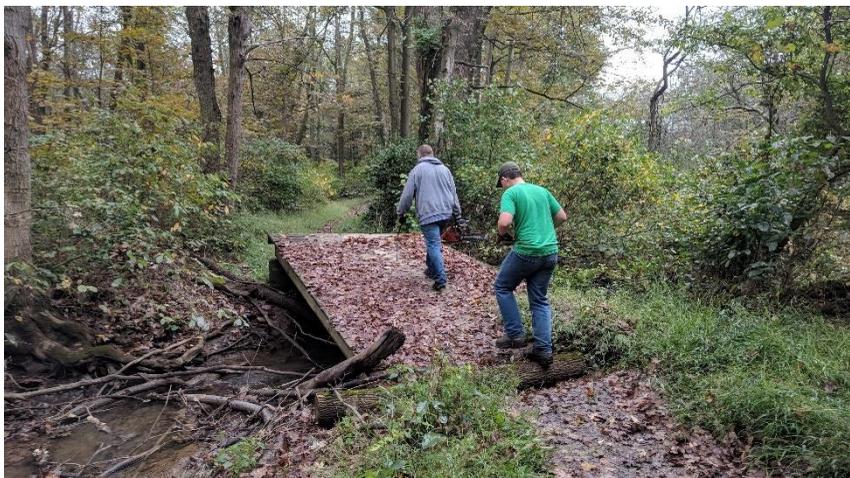
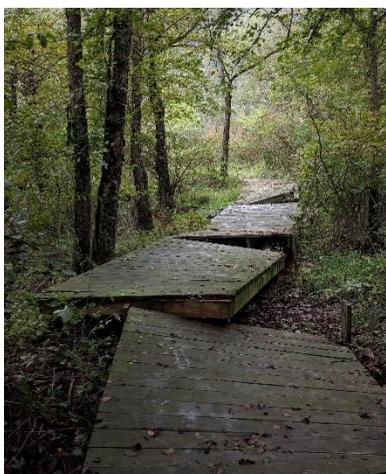


BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

2018 KEY CHALLENGES AND FAILURES

FLOODING EVENTS





According to the National Weather Service, with more than 62” of precipitation, 2018 was the 2nd wettest year on record for our region, behind only the staggering 70+” of precipitation recorded in 2011. Though it seemed to rain nearly every day, MARC-managed properties were hit with two particularly damaging storm events in late July and mid-August.

MARC spent a significant amount of time and money to repair the damages at the Montour Preserve and the Hess Recreation Area. To date, MARC has spent more than \$7,500 on flood damage repairs at the Montour Preserve alone, with more work remaining to be done in 2019.

Unfortunately, MARC faces three major challenges in 2019 as it continues to repair the flooding damages:

- 1) MARC’s Bobcat utility vehicle, used for everything from staff and tool transportation to earth moving and snow plowing, is well past its useful life expectancy and is in constant need of repair. The vehicle was used very hard during the repeated flood cleanups and, as a result, suffered multiple breakdowns. MARC spent nearly \$9,000 in 2018 to repeatedly repair the vehicle – going without the vehicle for several weeks at a time – and ended the year with word from the repair shop that the vehicle’s front axle is broken and will cost more to repair than MARC can justify. MARC’s flood repair efforts (and regular Montour Preserve maintenance operations) will be severely compromised until a replacement vehicle can be obtained.
- 2) MARC’s ongoing funding challenges leave the organization with little funding to make the necessary repairs. MARC must make painful choices in 2019 regarding which trails can be repaired and maintained and which ones might have to be temporarily or permanently abandoned.
- 3) Chronic ground saturation at the Montour Preserve, Hess Recreation Area and elsewhere has compromised the structural stability of several trails, most notably the Robbins Trail and the Mahoning Flats Trails at the Hess Recreation Area. MARC has been dealing with multiple landslides on the steep slopes along the Robbins Trail and has been monitoring a slow, ongoing collapse of a portion of the trail itself into the adjacent Mahoning Creek. MARC is unable to slow or stop the collapse and fears that continued wet conditions may lead to the eventual failure of the trail. If this occurs, MARC will have no choice but to close the trail indefinitely until significant funds can be found to make the required repairs.

BLACK BEAR CONFLICTS



Before we had the flooding at the Montour Preserve and the Hess Recreation Area, we had the bears. Actually, we had the bears and the raccoons and the chipmunks and the squirrels and the mice and the geese we had lots of creatures that enjoyed eating the trash left behind by the roughly 100,000 annual visitors to the Montour Preserve and Hess Recreation Area.

Though that's probably been the case since the sites were first created, the issue became a major concern in May and June of 2018 when several bears lingered for weeks in and around the Montour Preserve and Hess Recreation Area, making nearly daily raids on the trash cans around the properties.

With the guidance of the PA Game Commission, MARC took steps to reduce the chances of surprise encounters between bears and park visitors, posting signage around the sites, keeping careful track of encounter locations and increasing the frequency of trash collection around the properties. Though these steps helped, MARC hoped to put in place a more effective long-term solution to the problem for the safety of our visitors and wildlife alike.

As a result, in August 2018, MARC removed all trash cans (32 of them at the Montour Preserve alone!) from the properties. In their place, MARC has purchased and placed two bear-resistant dumpsters, located near the Goose Cove and Heron Cove restrooms, at the Montour Preserve. MARC also rents a dumpster for the Hess Recreation Area, located near the skatepark. Signage has been placed in each pavilion and throughout the picnic areas advising visitors of the change and asks that visitors place all trash directly into the dumpsters.

MARC asks that all park visitors be respectful of others and properly dispose of any trash they generate during their visit. Though the weather and the rain are beyond our control, we can all work together to make our parks and trails safe, clean and enjoyable places for people and wildlife alike.



BOBCAT UTILITY VEHICLE FAILURE



With a combined total of roughly thirty miles of trails and three hundred acres of land at six properties under its management, MARC relies on off-road utility vehicles for many purposes, including: staff and equipment transportation, trash collection and removal, park and trail maintenance, snow plowing, earth moving, towing and visitor assistance.

MARC currently owns a model year 2005 Bobcat 2300 utility vehicle which was donated to MARC in 2016 by the US Gypsum Company (USG) plant in Washingtonville. The vehicle was donated in used condition and had been used very hard by plant staff. MARC has maintained the thirteen-year-old vehicle to the best of its ability to extend its useful life for as long as possible, but spent nearly \$9,000 in 2018 alone to keep the vehicle working. Unfortunately, after being used extremely hard in the summer and fall of 2018 for flood damage repairs at the Montour Preserve, the vehicle's front axle broke. When taken in for service, it was determined that other parts had also broken, and the repair would likely cost an additional \$5,000 with no guarantee for the long-term viability of the vehicle. MARC cannot afford to keep repairing the vehicle which is well past its useful life and must find a replacement.

MARC begins 2019 with a sizable backlog of flood damage repairs to be completed at the Montour Preserve, Hess Recreation Area, North Branch Canal Trail and the Hopewell Park / Danville Borough Farm Trail System. MARC is currently exploring options to borrow or rent one or more utility vehicles and has applied to several grant programs to possibly fund the purchase of a new vehicle.

RIVER TOWNS RACE SERIES

After several years in a row of declining attendance, declining sponsorships and financial losses, MARC made the difficult decision at the end of 2018 to discontinue the River Towns Race Series. Whereas MARC had once partnered with as many as seventeen races per season to be part of the series, by 2018 the number had been reduced to five.

MARC plans to continue the Humdinger Trail Races in 2019 – scheduled for Saturday, March 2, 2019 – but will no longer use the ‘River Towns Race Series’ branding. Other races may continue under the direction of other organizations.

2018 RIVER TOWNS RACE SERIES

- Humdinger Trail Races** **March 3**
- Scale the Trail 4 Kids** **April 28**
- Montour 24 Endurance Runs** **May 11**
- Old Forge Brewing Co. 5k Beer Run** **June 23**
- Hopewell Challenge Mountain Bike Race** **Sept. 1**

www.RiverTownRace.com

Sponsors:

Montour County Commissioners' Tourism Fund

	INCOME/EXPENSE	Humdinger	Scale the Trail 4 Kids	Montour 24 Endurance Runs	Old Forge 5k	Hopewell Challenge	River Towns Race Series (general)	TOTALS
INCOME	Racer Registration Fees	15,455.00	113.64	833.70	794.35			17,196.69
	Sponsorships	1,600.00						1,600.00
	2017 Commissioners' Grant						0.69	0.69
	2018 Commissioners' Grant	2,500.00	-	30.34	-	-	462.86	2,993.20
EXPENSES (GRANT ELIGIBLE)	T-shirts/ Promotional	(3,294.00)						(3,294.00)
	Advertising	(1.31)		(30.34)			(463.55)	(495.20)
	Event Timing	(959.00)						(959.00)
	MARC labor (Stoudt) w/taxes	(2,926.64)	(113.64)	(833.70)	(616.84)	-	(60.87)	(4,551.68)
	MARC labor (Beam) w/ taxes	(250.31)	-	-	-	-	-	(250.31)
	MARC labor (Piatt) w/ taxes	(512.80)	-	-	-	-	-	(512.80)
	MARC labor (Yeich) w/ taxes	(116.83)	-	-	-	-	-	(116.83)
	MARC labor (Durkin) w/ taxes	(66.22)	-	-	-	-	-	(66.22)
	Awards/Prizes	(1,878.68)						(1,878.68)
	Food/Drink	(1,581.70)						(1,581.70)
	Misc. Supplies & Fees	(454.20)					(188.95)	(643.15)
	Porta-Potties	(550.00)						(550.00)
	Refunds	(115.00)						(115.00)
	Tent/ Equipment Rental	(466.00)						(466.00)
	NET PROFIT/LOSS		6,382.32	-	-	177.51	-	(249.82)

PIG BARN VANDALISM AND THEFT



On November 27, MARC learned of a break-in, vandalism and theft from the 'pig barn', located along State Hospital Drive in Mahoning Township, Montour County. The structure is owned by the Borough of Danville and leased to the Montour Area Recreation Commission for storage and use.

In addition to damages to the building, the following MARC-owned items were stolen:

- 30 ten-foot long, 1 ¾" diameter galvanized steel pipes
- 80 five-foot long, 1 ¼" diameter galvanized steel pipes
- 3 fifty-foot long, five-light work light strings

The estimated value of the galvanized steel pipes is \$2,000. The three strings of work lights are valued at a combined \$175. MARC incurred an additional nearly \$1,000 in labor and material expenses to repair the damages to the building. In total, MARC's losses from this incident are believed to be approximately \$3,175.

MARC has worked with the Mahoning Township Police Department to document and investigate this incident and continues to appeal to the public for information which might lead to the identification and apprehension of the responsible individual(s).

FUNDRAISING / FINANCIAL STABILITY

A common theme that runs through this report is inadequate funding. Despite MARC's best efforts, after more than thirteen years of operation, MARC is no nearer today than it was at its founding to being financially self-sufficient. The causes of this are several-fold, including:

1. MARC is structured as a multi-governmental entity, but it does not have the traditional taxing authority of a governmental entity to fund its operations. Instead, MARC receives not less than \$10,000 in annual funding from Montour County (\$30,000 in 2018, including a \$3,000 grant from the Montour County Commissioners' Tourism Fund (Hotel Tax) to advertise and promote the River Towns Race Series, \$2,000 in grant funding from the Montour County Commissioners' Tourism Fund (Hotel Tax) to fabricate and install new park and trail signage, and a \$25,000 grant from Montour County's Act 13 (Marcellus Shale Impact Fee) funding). MARC also receives voluntary annual contributions from its members (in 2018, \$500 from Riverside Borough to MARC's general fund). In all, MARC can be assured of only \$10,000 in annual funding from its member entities; MARC must secure all other required funding from grants, donations, fees and other sources.
2. MARC's status as a multi-governmental entity, as opposed to a more traditional 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, hinders its ability to solicit tax-deductible donations. MARC has attempted to work around this difficulty by establishing funds at the Central Susquehanna Community Foundation where donors may make tax-deductible donations (to the extent allowed by law) which may be passed through to MARC as grants for eligible expenses. Unfortunately, some potential donors are unwilling to work through such an arrangement. Though MARC staff spent a significant amount of time in 2018 investigating alternative organizational structures and new partnerships, it was eventually determined that MARC's current organizational structure remains the most viable option.
3. MARC has, from its very beginning, taken on financial burdens and maintenance obligations that other entities declined. Whether it is the Hess Recreation Area in Danville which was proposed for closure before MARC stepped in to keep it open or the Montour Preserve that Talen Energy had similarly proposed for partial closure, MARC is bound by its founding Intergovernmental Agreement of Cooperation to be the organization dedicated to the protection and care of parks and trails in Montour County. As a result, for better or worse, MARC has chosen to bear a number of difficult burdens that other entities chose to decline. Our current financial condition is, in large part, a result of those decisions.

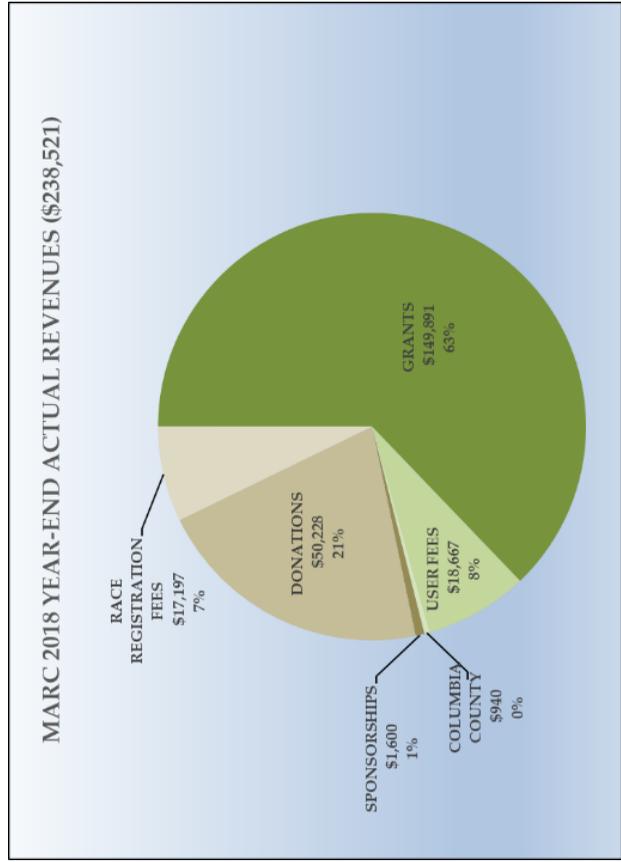
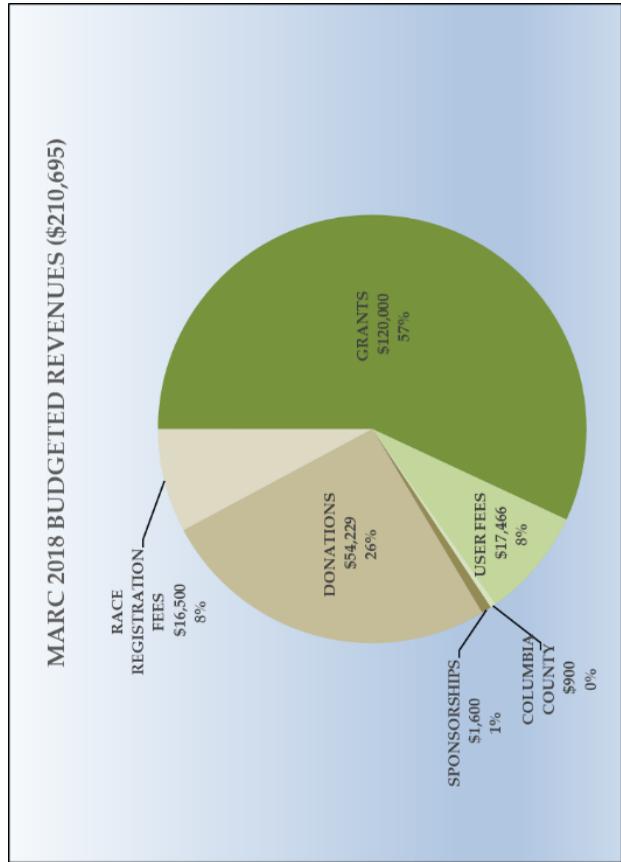
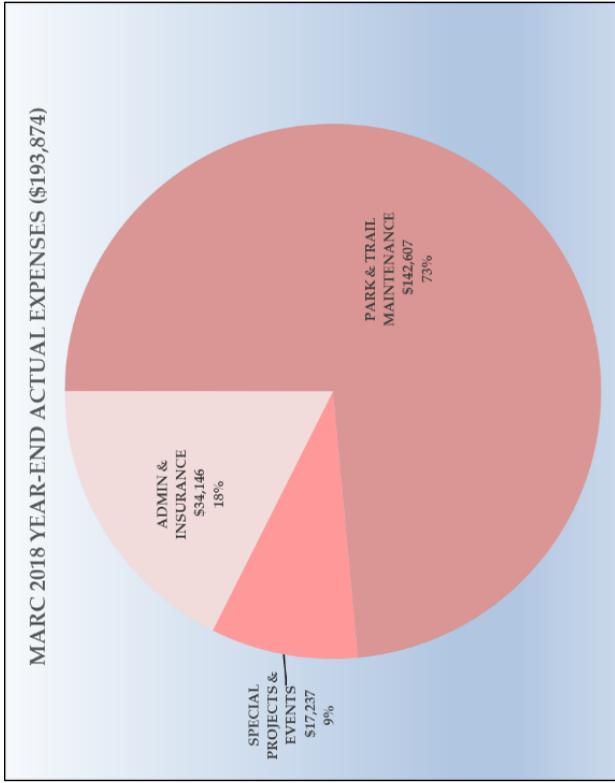
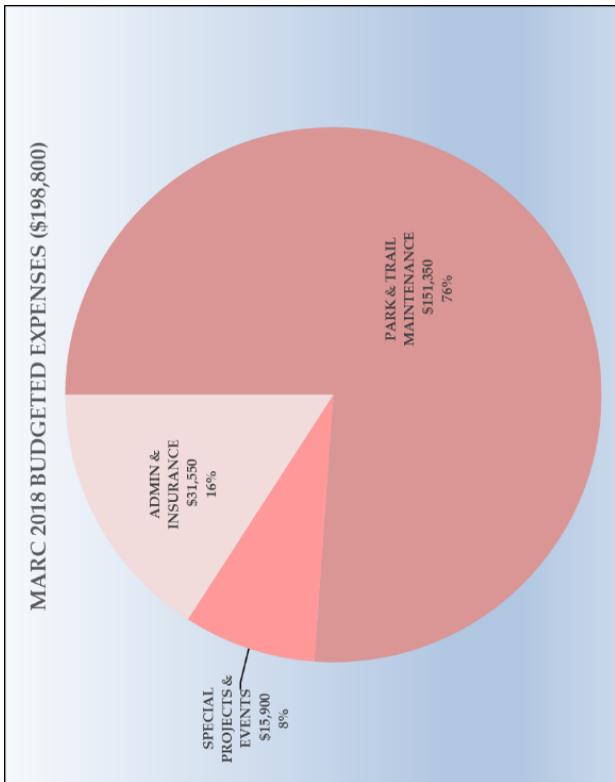
2019 OUTLOOK

MARC's outlook for 2019 remains challenging at best, though slightly better than that of one year ago. This is largely a result of difficult decisions made in 2018 and two significant financial contributions, totaling \$30,000, made during 2018.

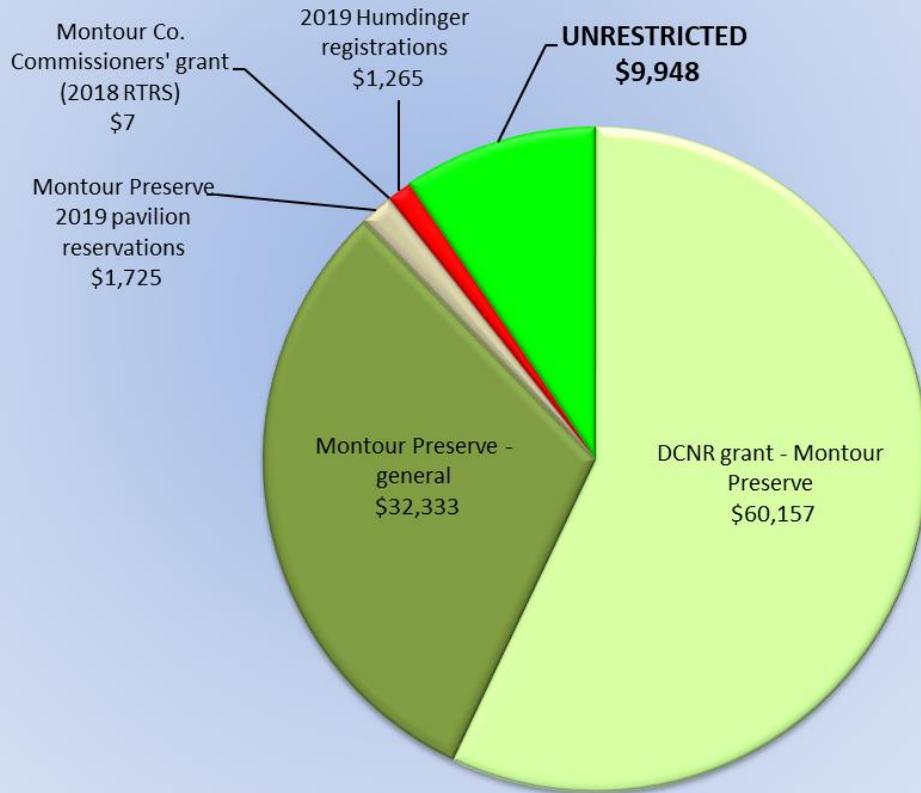
Faced with an extremely dire outlook at the beginning of 2018, MARC made a number of difficult decisions to survive the year, including: discontinuing several unprofitable races, reducing the areas to be mowed at several sites, cutting any remaining discretionary spending, including porta-potty service at the North Branch Canal Trail and MARC's support for several special events held in the Danville area, and deferring some maintenance activities.

Whereas MARC began 2018 with zero discretionary funds, MARC will begin 2019 with a balance of \$9,948 in unrestricted funds. Though MARC believes it has enough funding in hand or pledged to allow it to operate the Montour Preserve for roughly two more years, what MARC does not have is sufficient funding for all other obligations. As a result, 2019 must be a year of continued tough decisions for MARC. MARC will continue to seek new sources of grant funding and unrestricted contributions and will continue to keep tight control of all expenditures.

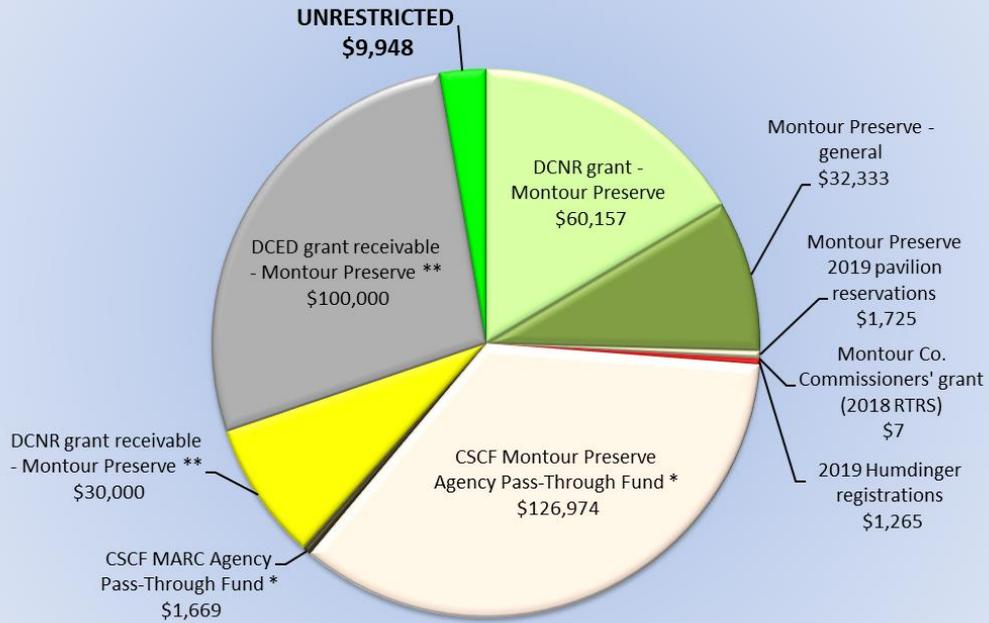
If MARC is unable to generate enough income to cover its expenses – whether through fees, donations, grants, etc. – MARC will have no choice but to cease operations at some or all of the properties it manages. MARC does not have the authority to borrow funds (nor would it do so to pay for routine operating expense), so when funding is exhausted, there is no alternative but for MARC to cease operations.



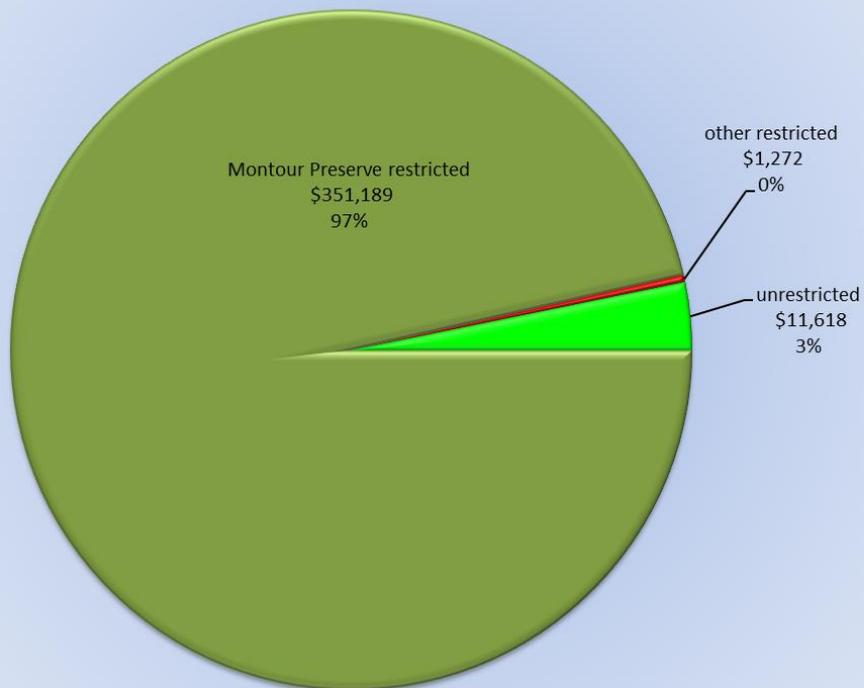
MARC FUNDS EARMARKS AS OF 12/31/18
COMBINED ACCOUNT BALANCE: \$105,436
(INCLUDES SAVINGS, GRANT CHECKING AND CHECKING ACCOUNTS;
EXCLUDES CSCF FUNDS AND GRANTS RECEIVABLE)



MARC TOTAL ASSETS AS OF 12/31/18
COMBINED VALUE: \$364,079

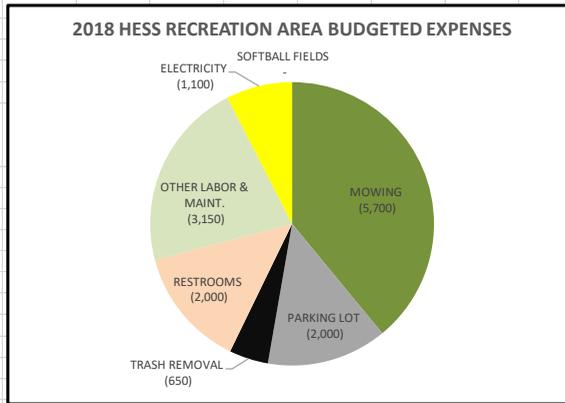


MARC TOTAL ASSETS AS OF 12/31/18
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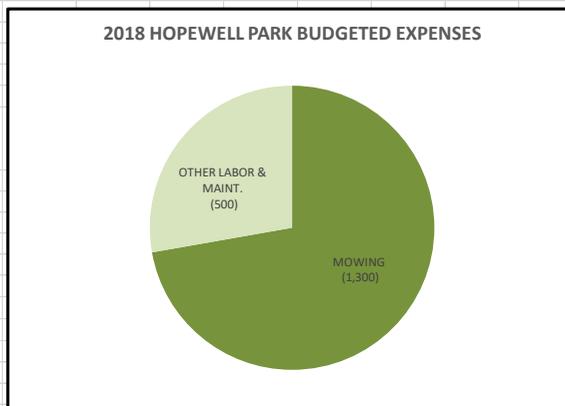


**MONTOUR AREA RECREATION COMMISSION MANAGED SITES 2018 BUDGETS
YEAR-END FINAL**

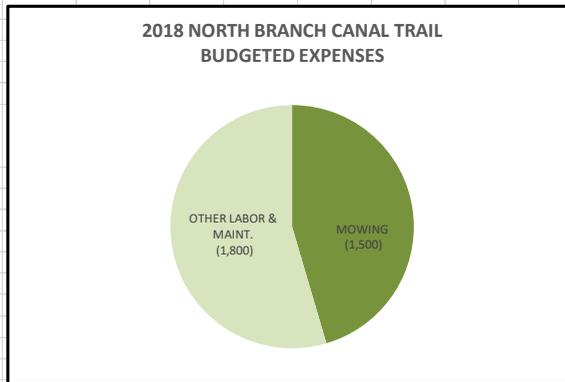
HESS RECREATION AREA 2018 BUDGET			
EXPENSE	2017 ACTUAL	2018 BUDGETED	2018 YEAR-END ACTUAL
MOWING	(5,260)	(5,700)	(4,999.00)
PARKING LOT	(1,152)	(2,000)	(2,812.41)
TRASH REMOVAL	(718)	(650)	(598.57)
RESTROOMS	(1,662)	(2,000)	(1,817.08)
OTHER LABOR & MAINT.	(3,012)	(3,150)	(2,247.50)
ELECTRICITY	(1,001)	(1,100)	(1,430.81)
SOFTBALL FIELDS	(1,683)	-	-
TOTAL	(14,488)	(14,600)	(13,905.37)



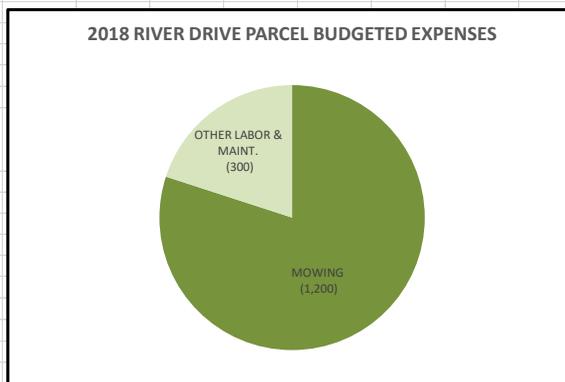
HOPEWELL PARK 2018 BUDGET			
EXPENSE	2017 ACTUAL	2018 BUDGETED	2018 YEAR-END ACTUAL
MOWING	(1,152)	(1,300)	(1,000.00)
PARKING LOT	-	-	-
TRASH REMOVAL	-	-	-
RESTROOMS	-	-	-
BIKE JUMPS AREA	(4,974)	-	-
OTHER LABOR & MAINT.	(1,364)	(500)	(141.57)
ELECTRICITY	-	-	-
TOTAL	(7,490)	(1,800)	(1,141.57)



NORTH BRANCH CANAL TRAIL 2018 BUDGET			
EXPENSE	2017 ACTUAL	2018 BUDGETED	2018 YEAR-END ACTUAL
MOWING	(875)	(1,500)	(750.00)
PARKING LOT	-	-	-
TRASH REMOVAL	-	-	(605.48)
RESTROOMS	(654)	-	-
OTHER LABOR & MAINT.	(1,389)	(1,800)	(1,626.34)
ELECTRICITY	-	-	-
TOTAL	(2,918)	(3,300)	(2,981.82)



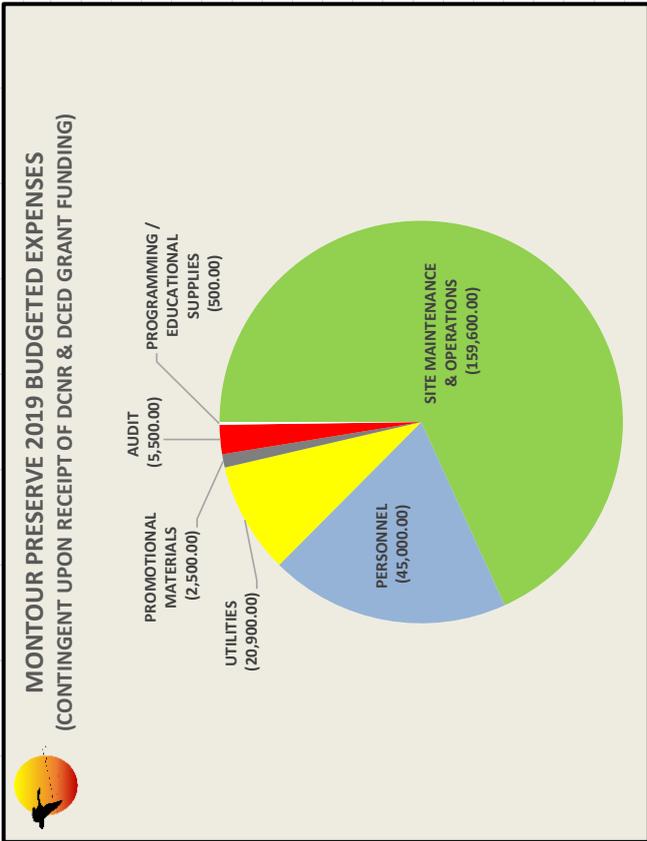
RIVER DRIVE PARCEL 2018 BUDGET			
EXPENSE	2017 ACTUAL	2018 BUDGETED	2018 YEAR-END ACTUAL
MOWING	(1,000)	(1,200)	(1,100.00)
PARKING LOT	-	-	-
TRASH REMOVAL	-	-	-
RESTROOMS	-	-	-
OTHER LABOR & MAINT.	(168)	(300)	(222.33)
ELECTRICITY	-	-	-
TOTAL	(1,168)	(1,500)	(1,322.33)



2019 BUDGETING

 2019 MARC BUDGET ADOPTED 11/19/18 MINIMUM FUNDING REQUIREMENTS (DEFERRAL OF ALL NON-ESSENTIAL MAINTENANCE; NO SAVINGS FOR ANTICIPATED FUTURE EXPENSES) NOTE: MONTOUR PRESERVE ACCOUNTING IS KEPT SEPARATE FROM OTHER ACCOUNTING						
	EXPENSE	BUDGETED AMOUNT	FUNDING SOURCES	BUDGETED AMOUNT	BUDGETED LINE ITEM SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	
PARK & TRAIL MAINTENANCE	Montour Preserve	\$(234,000.00)	DCNR grant funding	\$ 90,000.00		
			DCED grant funding	\$ 90,000.00		
			pavilion / auditorium reservations	\$ 12,000.00		
			donations	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -	
			transfer from Central Susquehanna Community Foundation Fund	\$ 22,000.00		
			carryover balance from 2018	\$ 15,000.00		
			MONTOUR PRESERVE TOTAL EXPENSES	MONTOUR PRESERVE TOTAL INCOME	\$ 234,000.00	\$ -
		Hess Recreation Area	\$ (15,000.00)	user fees	\$ 1,000.00	\$ (14,000.00)
		North Branch Canal Trail (Montour Co. portion)	\$ (3,500.00)			\$ (3,500.00)
		Columbia County Projects (incl. NBCT, Montour Twp. parcel)	\$ (1,500.00)	Columbia County	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
SPECIAL PROJECTS & EVENTS	Hopewell Park/Borough Farm Trails	\$ (3,000.00)			\$ (3,000.00)	
	River Drive parcel (NBCT parking)	\$ (2,000.00)			\$ (2,000.00)	
	tools & supplies	\$ (2,000.00)			\$ (2,000.00)	
	ATV purchase	\$ (9,000.00)		grant	\$ 9,000.00	\$ -
	trail signage project (Phase II)	\$ (4,000.00)		Montour County Commissioners' Tourism Fund grant	\$ 3,000.00	\$ (1,000.00)
	Humdinger Trail Races	\$ (12,800.00)		race registration fees	\$ 14,500.00	\$ 1,700.00
	other special projects & events	\$ (1,300.00)		donations		\$ (1,300.00)
	admin / misc. other (includes Stoudf admin labor)	\$ (18,000.00)				\$ (18,000.00)
	insurance (D&O, General, Workers' Comp and Employee Theft)	\$ (14,000.00)				\$ (14,000.00)
	accounting	\$ (1,800.00)				\$ (1,800.00)
ADMIN / INSURANCE	office supplies	\$ (1,000.00)			\$ (1,000.00)	
	dues & fees	\$ (1,300.00)			\$ (1,300.00)	
	public notices	\$ (1,800.00)			\$ (1,800.00)	
				Montour Co. Act 13 funding	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
				transfer from Central Susquehanna Community Foundation Fund		\$ -
OTHER			carryover balance from 2018	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	
			unrestricted donations	\$ 33,000.00	\$ 33,000.00	
			TOTAL REVENUES (EXCLUDING MONTOUR PRESERVE)	\$ 92,000.00	\$ -	
TOTALS		MONTOUR PRESERVE TOTAL EXPENSES	MONTOUR PRESERVE TOTAL INCOME	\$ 234,000.00	\$ -	
		GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES	GRAND TOTAL INCOME	\$ 326,000.00	\$ -	

MONTAUR PRESERVE 2019 BUDGET ADOPTED 11/19/18			
DRAFT CONTINGENT UPON RECEIPT OF DCNR AND DCED GRANT FUNDING			
EXPENSE	2017 ACTUAL	2018 ACTUAL	2019 BUDGET
personnel	(42,455.88)	(44,759.03)	(45,000.00)
cleaning service	(4,480.00)	(4,000.00)	(4,500.00)
HVAC system maintenance	-	(1,700.00)	-
HVAC system replacement	-	-	(60,000.00)
visitors' center roof repair	-	-	(10,000.00)
lawn care	(14,910.00)	(10,875.00)	(17,500.00)
parking lot / road maintenance	-	-	(5,000.00)
security system	(645.85)	(1,263.84)	(1,500.00)
sewage pumping	(1,558.00)	(955.00)	(1,300.00)
snow plowing	(945.00)	-	(1,500.00)
supplies / misc.	(8,555.35)	(29,668.11)	(20,000.00)
utility vehicle purchase	-	-	(35,000.00)
water testing	(1,440.00)	(562.00)	(800.00)
wildlife management	(1,241.50)	(2,077.96)	(2,500.00)
electric	(15,948.92)	(14,713.72)	(15,000.00)
internet service	(1,814.06)	(1,918.54)	(2,000.00)
telephone	(1,460.98)	(1,252.39)	(1,300.00)
trash service	(1,500.00)	(1,565.00)	(2,000.00)
website hosting / email service	(524.29)	(458.56)	(600.00)
promotional materials	(3,915.99)	(1,078.10)	(2,500.00)
programming & educational supplies	(759.89)	(98.02)	(500.00)
audit (three-year performance audit)	-	-	(5,500.00)
EXPENSE TOTAL	\$(102,155.71)	\$(116,945.27)	\$(234,000.00)

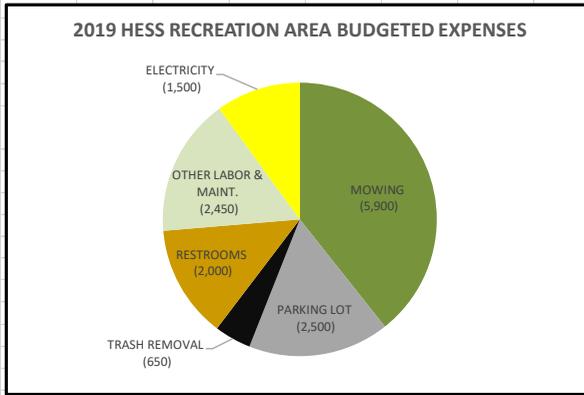


MONTAUR PRESERVE 2019 BUDGETED EXPENSES
(CONTINGENT UPON RECEIPT OF DCNR & DCED GRANT FUNDING)

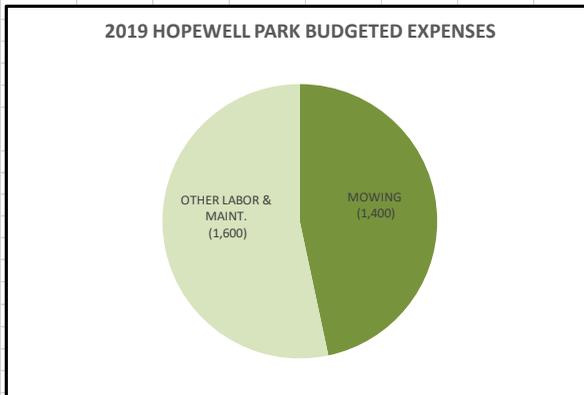
Category	Amount
Site Maintenance & Operations	(159,600.00)
Personnel	(45,000.00)
Utilities	(20,900.00)
Promotional Materials	(2,500.00)
Audit	(5,500.00)
Programming / Educational Supplies	(500.00)

MONTOUR AREA RECREATION COMMISSION MANAGED SITES 2019 BUDGETS
ADOPTED 11/19/18

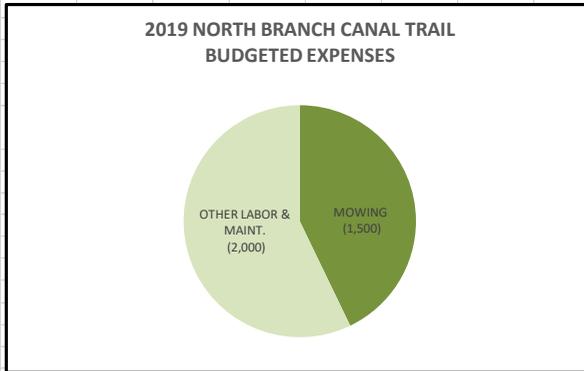
HESS RECREATION AREA 2019 BUDGET		
EXPENSE	2018 ACTUAL	2019 BUDGETED
MOWING	(4,999)	(5,900)
PARKING LOT	(2,812)	(2,500)
TRASH REMOVAL	(599)	(650)
RESTROOMS	(1,817)	(2,000)
OTHER LABOR & MAINT.	(2,248)	(2,450)
ELECTRICITY	(1,431)	(1,500)
TOTAL	(13,906)	(15,000)



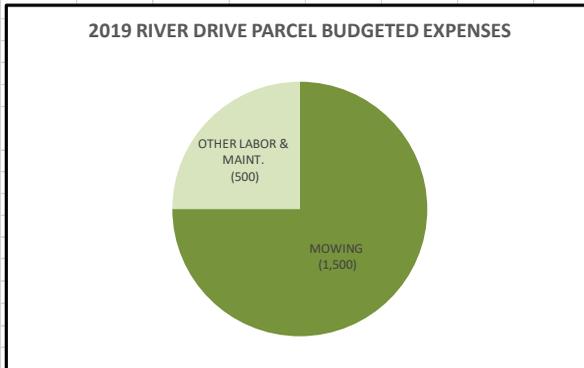
HOPEWELL PARK 2019 BUDGET		
EXPENSE	2018 ACTUAL	2019 BUDGETED
MOWING	(1,000)	(1,400)
OTHER LABOR & MAINT.	(142)	(1,600)
TOTAL	(1,142)	(3,000)



NORTH BRANCH CANAL TRAIL 2019 BUDGET		
EXPENSE	2018 ACTUAL	2019 BUDGETED
MOWING	(750)	(1,500)
OTHER LABOR & MAINT.	(1,626)	(2,000)
TRASH REMOVAL	(605)	
TOTAL	(2,981)	(3,500)



RIVER DRIVE PARCEL 2019 BUDGET		
EXPENSE	2018 ACTUAL	2019 BUDGETED
MOWING	(1,100)	(1,500)
OTHER LABOR & MAINT.	(222)	(500)
TOTAL	(1,322)	(2,000)



2018 SPONSOR / SUPPORTER ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Montour Area Recreation Commission is honored to acknowledge the following businesses, organizations and individuals who provided funding, goods or services in support of our work in 2018. Every effort has been made to acknowledge all donors and MARC sincerely regrets any errors or omissions.

2018 RIVER TOWNS RACE SERIES



Montour County Commissioners' Tourism Fund

MARC GENERAL OPERATIONS



anonymous
Appleman Financial
Kevin Bowie
Ms. Renee' Carey
Continental Fire Company
Danville Area Community Foundation – Cole Family Fund
Danville Area Community Foundation – Holdren Family Fund
Danville Area Community Foundation – Joan & Fred Miller Family Fund
Danville Area Community Foundation – Neighbors Helping Neighbors Fund
Danville Summer Camps
Genie Hannon
Mr. Karl A. Herzog
Wayne Kashner
Dr. Matt McElroy
Brig. Gen. & Mrs. Gerald E. Otterbein
Roth Reason
Riverside Borough
Larry Ryan
Harold Schrawder
Robert K. Vogt VFW Post 298 games account
Van Wagner
David Walker

Note: this listing includes donors to the Montour Area Recreation Commission Agency Pass-Through Fund at the Central Susquehanna Community Foundation who made donations between January 1, 2018 and June 30, 2018. Information regarding donors who contributed to this fund during the July 1 through December 31, 2018 timeframe is not available as of the time of the writing of this report. These donors will be acknowledged in an updated version of this report.

MONTOUR PRESERVE



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES



anonymous (numerous)
Anthony Township
Terry R. Baker
Gary Barnhart
Bloomsburg Christian School
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey & Kathleen Braim
Kathy Bridge
Matthew R. Buck
Mr. & Mrs. George & Michele Burgett
Central Susquehanna Woodland Owners Association
Chillisquaque Limestone Watershed Association
Mr. & Mrs. Brian T. & Deserae N. Clarke
Heather L. Coble
Columbia County Conservation District
Mr. John W. Conrad Jr.
Curry Life Consulting
Alexa E. Debaro
Mr. & Mrs. Richard & Diane DiGiacomo
Mr. & Mrs. William S. Faust, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew J. Fitzpatrick
Doug Fought
Robert Fought
Margie I. Frey
Mr. Fred Gaffney
Dr. William s. Gibson, Jr.
Heather Good
Green Thumb Industries
Gary Griffith
Kimberly Haizlett & Theresa L. Stauffer
Dick Hess
Christopher P. Hill
Ms. Helene V. Hoffman
Gerald Houseknecht
Randy Huff
Bonnie Ingram
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew B. & Crystal G. Kaiser
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth J. & Chere S. Kearney
Mr. & Mrs. Francis & Mary Kisner
Susan L. Klein
Kurt Knepley
Dr. & Mrs. Michael J. Komar
Anastasia M. Kovaschetz
Victor & Linda Marks Family Fund
Patricia I. & Stephen G. Miller
Hamid B. Mukhtar & Shagufta Firdous
John J. McCann & Dr. Jill A. Largent
Ken Mertz
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald & Lori Metzger
Mr. & Mrs. John Jr. & Louise Nogle
Brig. Gen. & Mrs. Gerald E. Otterbein
Pennsylvania Master Naturalist
Jeremy S. Pfleegor & Terri L. Wright-Pfleegor
Jack Rarig
Dr. Constance G. Reece
Ann & Alfred Reeves
Rev. Joshua & Mrs. Danelle L. Reinsburrow
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis & Patricia Ringling
Dr. & Mrs. Larry Mark Robbins
Sabbath Grace Fellowship
Sheila Barto's Jewelry & Gifts
Mr. & Mrs. Jacob E. & Donna M. Shreck
Thomas J. Shultz
Sisters of SS Cyril & Methodius
St. Cyril Academy
St. Joseph Church (Catholic Day Camp)
St. Joseph School
Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. & Debra Steransky
Mr. & Mrs. Sheldon K. & Jane B. Stine
Ben Stoudt
Brian Stoudt
Lauren Stoudt
Mr. Robert & Dr. Rebecca Stoudt
Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Amanda Styer
Towanda Creek Mennonite School
Turbotville Area Lions Club
Ms. Linda J. Unger
United States Gypsum (USG) Washingtonville
Harry N. Wanamaker
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin & Lorraine Wertman
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis L. & Barbara A. Wenrich
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph G. & Catherine A. Wenzel III
Linda Wideman
Annalise Yeich
Brad Yeich
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Yeich
Sam Yeich

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For copies of this report, please visit <http://montourec.com/annual-report/> or contact Bob Stoudt, MARC Director, at (570) 336-2060 or RStoudt@MontourRec.com

Montour Area Recreation Commission | PO Box 456 | Danville, PA 17821

