

OFFICERS

- President*
Andrew Homsey
- Vice President*
Brent du Pont
- Secretary*
Edward Leo
- Treasurer*
Thomas Varley

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Ray Ajalli
- Lisa M. Brubaker
- Steve Castorani
- William F. Cooke, Jr.
- Amanda DeWeese
- James Gawthrop
- Brenton R. Grant, III
- Kerry R. Haber
- Thomas Gantt Hubbard
- James E. Jordan, Jr.
- J. Kai Lassen
- Dr. Richard Lighty
- David Lyons, Jr.
- Diana McCarthy
- David McKeon
- Collin McNeil
- Lauressa J. McNemar
- John Rush
- John P. Supplee
- Peter Temple

DIRECTOR EMERITUS

- Harry Alberts
- Carl J. Meister, Jr.
- David L. Myers
- Josephine C. Parman
- A. Duer Pierce
- Dr. Eva L. Verplanck

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CEO

James E. Jordan, Jr.

Cleaning Our Communities

COVID CAN'T STOP OUR CLEAN UPS

Red Clay Valley Clean Up

Early on Saturday morning, March 27, nearly 275 volunteers assembled to help with the Annual Red Clay Valley Clean Up. Although the clean up looked and felt much different this year, the objective was the same as in years' past – remove trash from roadways in the Red Clay Watershed to prevent it from ending up in the water.

In order to maintain social distancing and follow CDC recommended guidelines, the number of volunteers was purposefully reduced, clean up crews were limited to small family groups, and supplies were provided utilizing contactless pick up at two locations within the Red Clay Watershed. We accomplished our goal by assigning crews to pick up trash on over 90 miles of roadways which resulted in 5.1 tons of trash and 89 tires removed from the watershed. But most importantly, we completed this clean up event safely during these difficult times.

Continued on page 3



Thank you to our generous Red Clay Valley Clean Up sponsors:

- WSFS Bank
- Constellation, An Exelon Company
- Flyway Excavating, Inc.
- Phillips Mushroom Farms
- Chandler Funeral Homes
- Mt. Cuba Center
- Bike Delaware
- Kennett Area Park Authority
- SUEZ Delaware
- Draper & Kramer Mortgage Corp.
- Wild Birds Unlimited – Hockessin
- Marty's Contractors



Photo credit: Chris Barber

NOTICE:

**Myrick Center Closures
During Summer Camp
(June 21-August 13)**

Beginning June 21 through August 13, BRC will be hosting our annual Summer Camp Programs at our Myrick Conservation Center. **During this time, the property will be closed to visitors from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday** to better serve our campers. We appreciate your increased interest in visiting the Myrick Center during the last year and we thank you for your support of our mission. **Note:** Our summer camps are 99% full and we have recently expanded camp openings. **Please check our website or call 610-793-1090 for more information or to sign up for camp.**

Dam Removal on the Brandywine Creek

The Lenape Dam (D15-388) was a 280-foot-long, rock-fill dam on Brandywine Creek located in Pocopson Township, originally constructed in the early 1900s to create an impoundment of water for boating and recreational purposes. Several years ago, the dam was breached leaving an 18-foot gap, lowering the impoundment water levels, and adding to the boating hazard created by the dam. The Pennsylvania DEP Division of Dam Safety notified the owner of the dam that it no longer met current safety standards and needed to be replaced or removed. The owner elected to remove the dam as it was not economically or practically feasible to replace the dam to meet current standards. The dam was removed in February 2021 with project oversight and support from Brandywine Red Clay Alliance.

BRC is proud to be a member of Brandywine Shad 2020 which has identified 11 dams on the PA portion of the Brandywine Creek as obstructions to the migration of anadromous fish from the Delaware Bay. American Shad are an historically significant fish that was once abundant in the Brandywine before hundreds of dams were built that obstructed their annual migration. Removing dams across the country is a growing technique with many benefits for humans and wildlife making streams safer and more accessible to all.

This project was funded by the Lenape Cabin Club and a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation with funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Brandywine Red Clay Alliance is the grant recipient and provided in-kind project administration and support.



Lenape Dam before removal



Lenape Dam after removal creating a free flowing stream

Stream Restoration Phase 2 begins on the Red Clay at Nixon Park

If you've visited Anson B. Nixon Park this spring, you may be wondering what's going on with the work on the stream that runs through the park. This stream restoration project is a partnership with Brandywine Red Clay Alliance (BRC) and Kennett Area Park Authority (KAPA) to reduce sediment, nitrogen and phosphorous pollution and improve water quality and habitat in the East Branch of the Red Clay Creek.

With the completion of this project on 4,400 feet of stream, BRC will have completed five projects on nearly two miles of stream. The project at the park addresses deeply incised stream banks that are actively eroding and contributing sediment to the stream that impairs aquatic life by embedding the gravel and cobble stream bed with soil, reducing the biodiversity for aquatic insects that support fish and waterfowl in the stream. In some areas the eroding banks threaten park trails and other park infrastructure.

Phase 1 of this project was completed in March 2021 and construction on Phase 2 is currently in progress. Funding for this project has been provided by PA Department of Environmental Protection Growing Greener Grants and a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant with support from the William Penn Foundation. Support was also provided by the Borough of Kennett Square and Kennett Township.



Nixon Park restoration

10 Million Trees in PA by 2025

BRC is pleased to join the Keystone 10 Million Trees Partnership in an ambitious endeavor to plant 10 million trees throughout Pennsylvania by 2025.

We're partnering with the Chester County Conservation District to distribute the trees to Chester County landowners. We have already received and distributed 2,000 trees in March, but there is still time to participate. Learn more about the fall tree distribution by contacting the conservation district at chesco.org/205/Conservation-District or tenmilliontrees.org.



Exploring nature virtually

BRC provides engaging and hands-on environmental education programs for thousands of local students at our Myrick Conservation Center each year as an alternative to classroom learning. For some students, their time at BRC is one of the few, if not only, opportunities for them to learn about nature in nature throughout the school year. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, BRC was not able to conduct in-person school programs on site for the spring and fall of 2020. With this activity removed from their curriculum, some students may never fully understand the importance of environmental conservation and how it will affect them in the future.

To fulfill our mission of providing environmental education and to remain a valuable resource to teachers and students in the Brandywine and Red Clay Watersheds, we set out to create and offer high quality, live, and interactive environmental education programs conducted via Zoom for students during this pandemic. Thanks to a grant received from the Chester County Community Foundation we were able to accomplish our goals.

To date, we have developed six different virtual programs focusing on native wildlife, owls, wetlands, insects, birds, and the Lenape Indian Tribe. These programs are hosted and taught by BRC's Education Coordinator and an Environmental Instructor via Zoom to classes of 20-150 students at a time. By the end of the 2020-21 school year, we will have presented 38 virtual programs to more than 996 students in five schools. To better serve area schools facing funding shortfalls, BRC chose to provide these virtual programs at no cost to the schools. We plan to safely welcome students back to the Myrick Conservation Center in the fall for school programs, but we will also continue to offer virtual programming as long as it remains a need for local schools and teachers.

Please contact Alexa Hart, Education Coordinator at 610-793-1090 or ahart@brandywineredclay.org for more information or to schedule a program.



Environmental Instructor, Kathy Yaccuci, presenting to a group of students virtually

Cleaning Our Communities

Continued from page 1

Brandywine Valley Clean Up

For over 30 years we've held the Brandywine Valley Clean Up and we continued the tradition this past April. While we were unable to do our traditional canoe clean up, we adapted and transitioned to a road clean up out of three locations including Modena/Coatesville, BRC's Myrick Conservation Center and the Pocopson area, as well as First State National Park and Beaver Valley on the PA/DE state borders. This year, 128 volunteers cleaned up 28 miles of roads and 2.7 miles of streams and filled 2 dumpsters with just over 4 tons of trash.

Though we wish there was no longer a need for an annual litter clean up, we know that we made a difference keeping trash off our roadways and ultimately out of our streams. As we are now learning, litter from plastics not only stays in our environment for decades, it breaks down into microscopic particles that are found in nearly every waterway and ocean across the planet.



Employees from AQUA assist with the Brandywine Clean Up.



Employees from Pennsylvania American Water cleaned the Coatesville Reservoir and Hibernia Park.

We want to thank our sponsors for supporting this year's clean up:

- Flyway Excavating
- Aqua
- Pennsylvania American Water
- Victory Brewing
- Draper & Kramer Mortgage Corp.
- Republic Services
- Chester County Solid Waste Authority
- SECCRA

The Race Continues!

BRC hosts the 78th Annual Brandywine Hills Point-to-Point Races without Spectators

Following the cancellation of the races in 2020 due to COVID-19, for only the second time in the event's history, we were determined to host the 78th Annual Brandywine Hills Point-to-Point races at BRC on April 4, 2021. After much consideration, BRC agreed that the safest way to conduct the races was without spectators. Additional health and safety procedures were enacted as well to protect the riders, volunteers, and support teams on the day of the races.

It was a beautiful and successful race day at the Myrick Conservation Center, but we missed seeing our most loyal and supportive racing fans. We look forward to welcoming you back next year.

For many years, the funds received from Point-to-Point sponsorships, admission fees, and raffle sales have been utilized by BRC to support our mission. The Brandywine Hills Point-to-Point event remains a significant fundraising event for BRC each year because of your support and the support of our sponsors.



Participant Hoof Hearted with Will Slater



(Winner Fiona Gray) with Ellett Sharp & Small Pony Winner Mallory with Carly Kern



Doc with Pauly Aguilera



Left Jr. Senator (Eddie Keating) and Right Brooklyn Speights (McLane Hendriks)

Thank you to the 78th Annual Brandywine Hills Point-to-Point sponsors.

Presenting Sponsor

Radnor Hunt Foxhunters
The Hounds Foundation

Course Maintenance Sponsor

Franny & Franny Abbott
Charles S. Fitzgerald Jr.

Raffle Ticket Sponsor

J. Gallagher Septic & Wastewater Control Inc.

Race Sponsors

Mark & Cindy Bedwell
J. Clifton Edgar
Amos Fenstermacher
Sally Hagele & Hank Lloyd
Manito Abstract Company Inc.
Britton H. & Janice H. Murdoch
James & Diana Perella
R. Phillips Service, LLC
Nancy & John Swayne
Outback Trading Company, Inc.

Supporting Sponsors

Lyle & Dede Frederick
William Gotwals
Perry Bolton & Ben Griswold
Wes & Mary Hardin
Dr. & Mrs. Donald J. Rosato
Nick and Pam Volpone

Racing Enthusiasts Donations

Clover Nicholas & Edmond R. duPont
Paul & Esther Gansky
Dale & Betsy Krapf
John & Nancy Mohr
Edgar Scott
Gary & Alex Warzecha
Bill & Abigail Wylie

In Kind

Little's John Deere
Oxford Feed & Lumber

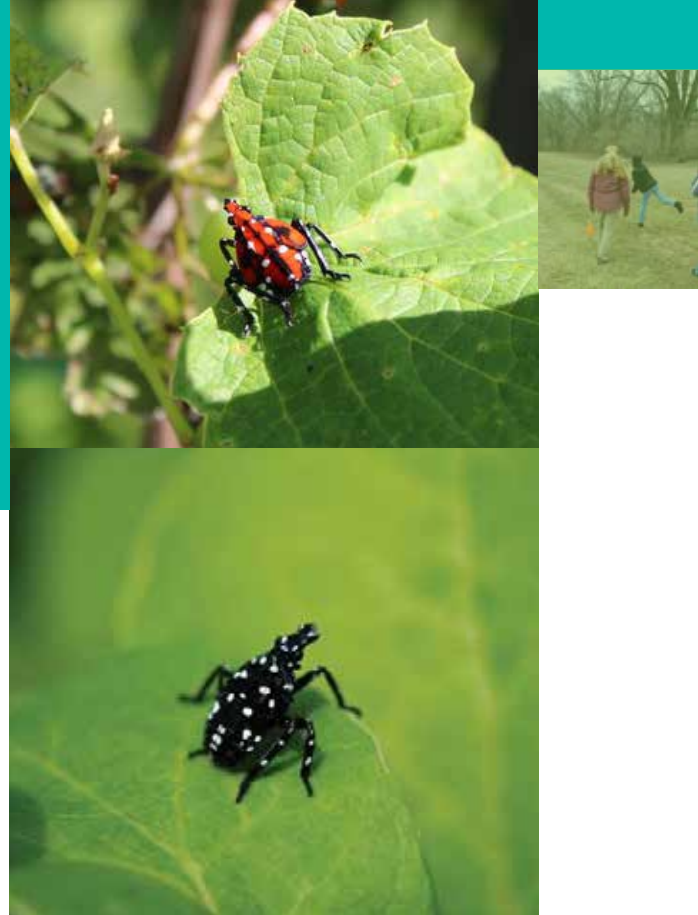


Fishing on the Brandywine this spring

In March, BRC partnered with volunteers and the PA Fish and Boat Commission in stocking trout on the West Branch of the Brandywine at Hibernia Park.

LOOK OUT! Spotted Lanternfly

Be on the lookout for this pesky bug again this spring. The Spotted Lanternfly is an invasive insect threatening the agricultural industry and plant life in our area. At this time of year, you may see nymphs that are about the size of a ladybug and colored black and white, or the slightly matured nymphs that are about the size of a stink bug and colored red and black. Kill any nymphs you find or use sticky bands around trees to capture them before they mature enough to mate and lay eggs for next year. **Visit brandywineredclay.org for more effective management techniques you can try at home.**



Annual Campaign 2021

Thanks to the BRC community of supporters and our generous challenge donors, we ended 2020 with an incredible Annual Campaign total, far exceeding our goal of \$125,000. We are so impressed with the outpouring of support for our mission.

Last year was difficult for many nonprofit organizations, BRC included, but we anticipate this year will be just as difficult, if not more so. The effects of COVID on our programming, our property maintenance, our fundraising efforts, and our general operations go beyond the 2020 shut down.

As we get back to something resembling normalcy, we can not forget or ignore the refuge of nature that kept us going throughout the pandemic. Conservation can not stop and can not wait simply because we are returning to school and work. We ask you consider an Annual Campaign donation to BRC in 2021 so that we can continue our watershed conservation and environmental education efforts to preserve our natural resources for tomorrow, next year, and future generations.

We hope to replicate last year's success by raising at least \$125,000 for our Annual Campaign. To help us get there, two generous donors have issued a challenge to the BRC community. Mr. Sam Slater and Ms. Lornie Forbes, and Ms. Joy Slater have pledged a total of \$25,000 to match your donations to BRC's Annual Campaign in 2021.

If you've already made a gift to BRC's Annual Campaign this year, thank you! Please share these opportunities with friends and family or consider an additional gift to help us reach our challenge goals.

Leaving a Legacy

Did you know that you can support BRC for generations to come with a planned gift? Donors who include Brandywine Red Clay Alliance in their estate plans create a lasting legacy supporting watershed conservation and environmental education well after their own lifetime.

For more information about how you can do the same, or if you have already included BRC in your estate plans, please contact our office at 610-793-1090.

New Members

November 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021

Mr. John Adams	Ms. Melissa DiRocco	Ms. Christina Holloway	Ms. Melissa Matrippolito	Mr. Lawrence Barry Jr.	Ms. Laura Shields
Jamie Atkins	Jordan Dorgan	Ms. Jennifer Hubbell	Ms. Sarah Maxton	& Ms. Dana Pound	Ms. Elizabeth Shoemaker
Ms. Haley Baxter	Ms. Heather Edelblute	Mr. and Mrs.	Ms. Pia McCann	Ms. Susanna Soley Prieto	Jaime Simon
Ms. Nancy Beard	Ms. Maureen Elias	William Jury	Mr. Julius Meisel	Ms. Laura Raws	Mrs. Kate Farnham
Ms. Brittney Bernfeld	Ms. Morgan Ellithorpe	Temple Kearns	Ms. Heather Metzger	Dr. Barton and	Ms. Jaclyn Stahl
Ms. Mary Bond	Ms. Lindsay Evans	Ms. Allison Kerwin	Ms. Shannon Milberg	Mrs. Kathryn Reese	Ms. Jennifer Stevenson
Myles Burke	Ms. Caroline Fritschle	Ms. Jen Kiewel	Ms. Jennifer Mincer	Ms. Julie Reid	Ms. Rebecca Sweeney
Jamie Cappelletti	Ms. Kirsten Gausch	Ms. Elizabeth Kim	Jamie Minella	Panthini Ritz	Ms. Emily Visco
Mr. Bradley Carlson	Mr. Al Giordano	Jan King	Ms. Sara Miskiewicz	Ms. Jessica Rodrigues	Ms. Kim Walters
Ms. Kristina Carosella	Mr. Jonathan Goodman	Ms. Meghan Klotzbach	Pab Moskovitz	Megan Rosenberg	Mr. Eric Weaver
Ms. Sophia Cisler	Mr. Jack Guida	Dr. Jena Kobeski	Ms. Meg Muller	Ms. Norah Roth-Moore	Ms. Natasha Weeks
Ms. Cathy Colella	Taralyn Guidotti	Joe and Nicole Krajewski	Ms. Desiree Nabors	Ms. Lisandra Santiago	Ms. Leah Whyte
Ms. Suzann Collins	Patricia and	Ms. Alison Latta	Ms. Rita Paradise	Lew and Sharon Sears	Yuan Yan
Ms. Lori Daneker	Greg Gurev	Ms. Rachel Lindeman	Ms. Nikki Patton	Ms. Anna Sechrist	Ms. Sheri Young
Ms. Heather	Ms. Alexa Gutter	Ms. Olivia Lorello	Ms. Carlotta Paulsen	Ms. Jean Shervais	Ms. Christine Yurick
DiPietrantonio	Ms. Stephanie Harmeson	Ms. Deborah Malley	Ms. Sherry Pinamonti	and Mr. Bill Leber	

STAY TUNED to our website and social media for upcoming events.

2021 SPRING

UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

DEADFEST

Friday, September 10, 2021 | **Tickets on sale late summer**

ANNUAL DINNER AND SILENT AUCTION

Thursday, October 14

Please visit our website for updates on dates for Volunteer Work Day and the return of Summer Music Series.

BRC is excited to host our annual events in person in 2021. We continue to monitor the COVID-19 statistics and guidelines and various safety precautions will remain in place for each event so that we all can enjoy them safely.

WISH LIST

BRC now has an Amazon wish list!
Visit our website for more information.

Gently used (or new) fishing equipment

Wildlife taxidermy native to our region

Morrell Archery Target Faces

4 Inflatable Kiddie Pools (2 or 3 ring)

Nature themed photos taken in the Brandywine or Red Clay Watersheds for BRC marketing purposes

Email photos to ebernardini@brandywineredclay.org and include where the photo was taken, the date the photo was taken, and how the photographer would like to be recognized.

