



There is an *urgent* need for a renewed commitment to Pennsylvania's communities and natural resources.

GROWING GREENER

Growing Greener has transformed Pennsylvania by empowering communities to *protect* working farms and *conserve* special landscapes, *clean up* rivers and streams, *create* and *improve* parks and greenways, and *revitalize* cities and towns. After a decade of success, the funding sources that support *Growing Greener* are nearly gone. Unless action is taken, the good work made possible by the *Growing Greener* programs will come to an end in 2011.

To ensure that our communities can continue their work, the Commonwealth needs to renew *Growing Greener* by investing \$200 million annually in vital conservation, restoration and community revitalization projects.



GROWING GREENER A Legacy of Success

Growing Greener has been hugely successful, directing critical investments to every county in the state. In the past four years alone, *Growing Greener* has helped people:

- Protect more than 33,700 acres of Pennsylvania's family farmland
- Conserve more than 42,300 acres of threatened open space
- Improve public recreation through 234 community park projects
- Restore more than 1,600 acres of abandoned mine land

The Need to Renew GROWING GREENER

The success of the *Growing Greener* programs is undeniable, but there is much more left to do to ensure Pennsylvania's treasures are here for our children and grandchildren to enjoy.

- We are losing three times as much forest, wildlife habitat, farmland and other open spaces to development as we are able to conserve.
- Our rivers and streams, and the communities that depend on them, are threatened by flooding and pollution. The Commonwealth currently has 16,000 miles of streams that are unfit for swimming or fishing.
- Abandoned mines scar 189,000 acres in 44 counties and are the cause of 5,300 miles of dead streams.
- Pennsylvania has made good progress in protecting productive farmland to safeguard our food supply but more than 2,000 families remain on a waiting list to protect their farms.
- 58% of the state's population lives in older communities that have an urgent need for investment aimed at improving livability and prosperity: rehabilitating parks, establishing trails, planting trees, managing stormwater, renovating waterfronts and redeveloping brownfields.

Support for *Growing Greener* and conservation funding is strong and bipartisan

Polls show strong and consistent public support for programs that improve our quality of life, our economy and our environment throughout Pennsylvania.

Governor Ridge initiated *Growing Greener* and Governors Schweiker and Rendell both signed into law major expansions and reauthorizations with overwhelming bipartisan support in the legislature.



Join the growing list of supporting organizations by signing the
STATEMENT OF SUPPORT!

GROWING GREENER

WE SUPPORT:

1 The renewal of Pennsylvania's *Growing Greener* with a state investment of \$200 million annually.

2 Establishment of a dedicated and sustainable source or sources of revenue to support the renewal of *Growing Greener*.

3 Ending the diversion of money from the state's Environmental Stewardship Fund to pay the debt on *Growing Greener 2* bonds -- a diversion that is contrary to the Commonwealth's normal practice of paying bond debt service out of general funds.

4 A renewed focus of Growing Greener on:

RESTORING OUR WATER & LAND

bringing streams back to life and protecting drinking water

CONSERVING OUR WORKING FARMS & FORESTS

securing our food and timber supplies

SAVING OUR SPECIAL PLACES

protecting and enhancing wildlife habitat, greenways, trails, hunting grounds, fishing areas and community open space, including local, county and state parks and forests

GREENING OUR COMMUNITIES

revitalizing waterfronts and parks, planting trees, creating neighborhood gardens, working with nature to reduce flooding and preserving history

CREATING OUTDOOR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

walking, biking, hunting, fishing, playing sports, picnicking and enjoying the quiet and peace of nature

We need your support!

Sign up TODAY by emailing Andrew Heath, Executive Director of the Renew Growing Greener Coalition, at aheath@renewgrowinggreener.org. Remember to include your organization's name and contact information.

renewgrowinggreener.org

TOGETHER WE CAN RENEW GROWING GREENER!