



Volume 32
Issue 3



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Saturday, July 15: Nearly New Moon Star Party

*** THIS EVENT IS WEATHER-DEPENDENT!***

Enjoy a Summer evening around a campfire under the waning crescent moon. It should be a fairly dark night, perfect for checking out the stars and planets. You might even listen for owls! We'll provide the fire, you bring the marshmallows at 8:30PM.

Park at lot #1, on the left side of Morosini Farm Road at the bend after coming under the trestle. Our events are always free; but **PLEASE** register on our website www.westmorelandconservancy.org/event-registration



Saturday, August 12: Perseids Meteor Shower Star Party

*** THIS EVENT IS WEATHER-DEPENDENT!***

The Perseids are one of the most-watched events of the summer night sky. Peak watching conditions are expected August 11 & 12, so we ***SHOULD*** see quite a show! Outdoors, gazing at the stars makes this event **WEATHER DEPENDENT**, since looking up in the rain seldom produces great results.

We'll provide the fire, you bring the marshmallows at 8:30PM. And really, what could be more fun than sitting around a campfire making new friends??

Park at lot #1, on the left side of Morosini Farm Road at the bend after coming under the trestle.

Our events are always free; but **PLEASE** register on our website: www.westmorelandconservancy.org/event-registration

Saturday, August 19: Export Ethnic Food & Music Festival

Westmoreland Conservancy will be participating in the Annual Export Ethnic Food & Music Festival! Stop by our tent and see what kinds of projects and events we've been working on this year! The festival features live music ALL DAY (noon – 9PM), food and craft vendors, free children's area, all day specials from local businesses and **MUCH MORE!** There really IS something for everyone!



Saturday, September 9: Reintroducing the Caywood Reserve, 10AM

The Caywood Reserve is undergoing some major makeover plans... specifically, a new parking lot! So, we want to invite everyone to experience **NOT ONLY** the new improved parking area and restructured trailhead, but to make their way around this beautiful reserve and enjoy the homestead memorial.

Meet at the Caywood Lot on Hills Church Road (N 40° 27.622 W 079° 38.302) at 10AM. Bring your walking stick and register on our website:

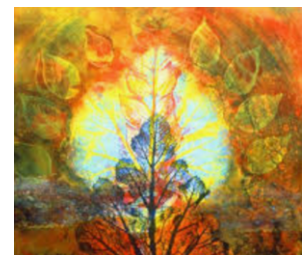
www.westmorelandconservancy.org/event-registration.

Friday, September 22: Autumn Equinox Walk at Morosini: 6:30PM

Autumn officially begins at 2:50AM EST Saturday, September 23. In lieu of an "0-dark-thirty" event, we'll take our walk at the Morosini Reserve and observe the last day of Summer. Sunset will be at 7:01PM. Meet at the upper parking lot at the end of Morosini Farm Road. We'll leave the trailhead at 6:30PM and go up to the observation platform to watch the sky.

This event is **FREE**, but please register on our

website: <http://www.westmorelandconservancy.org/event-registration>



2023 Second Quarter Activities



May 6: SHADOWS OF THE PAST HIKE THROUGH FORGOTTEN



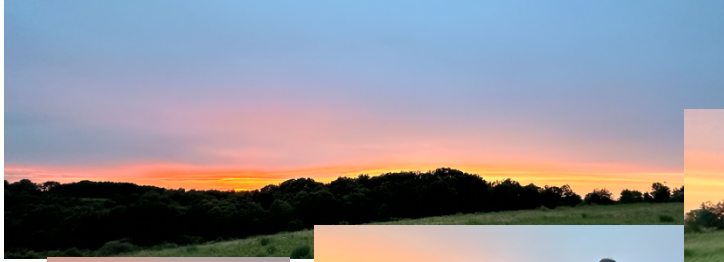
May 14: MOTHERS' DAY BIRDWATCHING



May 27: ENCHANTED FOREST



June 21: SUMMER SOLSTICE WALK



June 24: ENCHANTED EVENING / FIREFLY WALK



You can follow us on our Facebook and Instagram pages, as well as our calendar and newsletter. We enjoy sharing our news, our events, and our plans with you, and you can stay up-to-date with events added AFTER the newsletter publication! Get to know us! We're good to know!

April 26 Members' Meeting & Annual Elections:

April 26th marked Westmoreland Conservancy's Annual Members' Meeting and Elections. The Members' meeting was called to order. Joann Reisch stepped down from the Board after completing a 3-year term. We are grateful for her participation and service.

Alan Halperin, Graham (Chip) Brown, and Bob Sloboda all completed 3-year terms and expressed interest in additional service. With no other nominations from the floor, the slate passed and the **2023/24 Board** consists of 7 people: Rob Malley, Lindsey Praksti, Bob Sloboda, Chip Brown, Alan Halperin, Rob Bowman, Shelly Tichy.

The Organizational Meeting of the Board of Governors and presented the slate of Officers:

Rob Malley - Vice President

Bob Sloboda - Secretary

Chip Brown - Treasurer

Shelly Tichy - President

The slate was accepted and passed, after which Rob Malley opened and managed the April meeting. Shelly Tichy participated in the meeting via Zoom call, as she was attending the WeConservePA Conference in Reading, PA on behalf of Westmoreland Conservancy.

2023-24 Officers

Shelly Tichy – President

Rob Malley – Vice President

Bob Sloboda – Secretary/Stwd Coord.

Chip Brown– Treasurer/Stwd Coord.



2023-24 Board of Governors

Alan Halperin - Board

Rob Bowman - Board

Lindsey Praksti – Board

Westmoreland Conservancy Reserves are privately owned lands that are open to the public for permitted use. Dogs are to be on-leash, **NO** motorized vehicles aside from mobility aids.

PLEASE observe **Leave No Trace** sensibilities and **take out anything you take in.**

Do **NOT** leave trash at the reserves.

<https://lnt.org/why/7-principles/>



Westmoreland Conservancy Online:

Website: <http://www.westmorelandconservancy.org> Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/WestmorelandConservancy> Instagram:

https://www.instagram.com/westmoreland_conservancy/

Annual Donations

It's that time of year again! Your donations and support are ALWAYS welcome, however we recommend June 1st annually, since that is the beginning of our fiscal year. Your donations help to support our projects and events. They help us achieve our goals and continue to grow, making nature available to EVERYONE!

- Student (under 18):\$10
- News Recipient.....\$25
- Conservation Ally.....\$50
- Steward Supporter.....\$100
- Resource Partner.....\$500



Your commitment to making an annual donation helps us plan our operating budget, knowing what amount we can expect to receive every year. Any tax-deductible donation of \$25 or more qualifies for free membership. You can renew your annual donation through the site or support us with a new donation.

Any donation can be easily managed through our website:

<http://www.westmorelandconservancy.org/donate>

or mailed directly to Westmoreland Conservancy, 1 Priority Lane, Unit 446, Murrysville, PA 15668.

Westmoreland Conservancy and You. Making the BIG PLANS.

WE LOVE LAND. Land gifts are awesome! We hope that you will talk with us before making such a gift. It's a big step, and we want to make certain that everyone understands one another's expectations. There is no more land being made, so let's work together to protect what we can!

We appreciate all the support you've given Westmoreland Conservancy through the years. There is always an open invitation to attend the monthly meetings and learn more about the "what, why and how" of this organization. Are you interested in helping? Contact us! We always have room for helpful hands to maintain trails. Does your business support community service days? We're happy to provide hours and projects.

As for donations of something other than your time, we have a whole list of those "needed things". The Morosini Reserve receives a lot of attention for being the most universally accessible. It also **requires** a lot of attention. For instance, we will eventually need to acquire a tractor with various attachments to take over effective management of the reserve. Before any of that can come to pass, we need to raise the funds to construct a multi-use building. It must safely store necessary equipment. It will need to have an indoor meeting room and accessible bathrooms. And it should have outdoor pavilion area for events. This will require segmented construction and several years of planning and fundraising. That's for only one of our nine (currently) reserves. As always, your support is vital.

Ultimately, any means you choose to support Westmoreland Conservancy is appreciated. Your time, your expertise, your generosity ALL help keep this organization growing. Because of your support, people can find a place to enjoy nature close to home. And we are grateful.



Westmoreland Conservancy
1 Priority Lane, Unit 446
Murrysville, PA 15668
contact@westmorelandconservancy.org



Our Vision

To preserve natural, rural, and historic landscapes for Nature's benefit and the enrichment of future generations.

Our Mission

Westmoreland Conservancy preserves, enhances, and connects land, habitat, and green space through acquisition, stewardship, and cooperation with local communities and other organizations.

Schedule of Events

****Watch our Facebook page or sign up for email reminders for work days!****

Please wear sturdy shoes, leg protection and weather-appropriate attire.

Scheduled Events may be canceled in the event of Unsuitable Weather.

07/15 Nearly New Moon Star Party, Morosini Reserve Lot #1, 8:30PM

07/26 Monthly Meeting, Delmont Public Library 7PM

08/12 Perseids Meteor Shower Star Party, Morosini Reserve Lot #1, 8:30PM

08/19 Export Ethnic Food & Music Festival, Downtown Export, 12-6PM

08/23 Monthly Meeting, Delmont Public Library 7PM

09/09 Caywood Reserve, Hills Church Rd, 10AM

09/22 Autumn Equinox Walk, Morosini Reserve UPPER LOT, 6:30PM

09/27: Monthly Meeting, Delmont Public Library 7PM

10/14: Enchanted Forest, Morosini Farm Road, UPPER LOT, 11AM – 1PM

10/21: Witch Hazel Hike, McGinnis Reserve Lot Hunter Drive, 10AM

10/25: Monthly Meeting, Delmont Public Library 7PM

10/28: Autumn Excursion to Raccoon Creek