

New Garden Open Space Review Board 2022 Annual Report



Smedley Preserve to open 2023

Thirty seven acres were added to New Garden Township's preserved lands as part of the 106 acre Smedley Park (aka Loch Nairn) to open in 2023. Additionally, the OSRB discussed land conservation with other properties owners representing over 200 acres.

The OSRB collaborated with the Candlewyck community, Park and Open Space superintendent Mike Buck, consultant Natural Lands and the Friends of the New Garden Trails to reconfigure the 2001 Candlewyck trail easement as well as extending negotiations to complete phases two and three.

Working with the Township's Manager and Council the OSRB clarified its responsibilities and timing of recommending or not recommending properties to the Board of Supervisors (BOS).

The OSRB completed a trail easement analysis of the White Clay Creek Corridor Trail, one of four trails from the 2019 Trail Priority Study conducted

by Natural Lands. And, initiated discussion with London Britain Township to connect the Landenberg Junction Trail with the Penn Dell Trail located in the White Clay Creek Preserve.

Finally, the Board completed the history of the funds expended to preserve twelve properties (550 acres) since the OSRB's inception, concluding no monies were needed from the Township's general fund. Landowner donations, grants from State and County agencies, funds from private organizations and revenue from the local Earned Income Tax have more than offset the funds needed to protect these properties.

Open Space Review Board Members

- Chris Robinson: Chair/Trials
- Randy Lieberman: Vice Chair
- Richard Meinzer: Secretary
- Joe Miscione: Treasurer
- Kecia Crowl: Secretary
- Steven Dooley: Secretary
- Suzanne Geouque/Jeremey Fisher
- Jack Stefferud: Consultant (Natural Lands)

Note: The OSRB meetings are held at 7:00 PM on the second Tuesday of each. The public session of the meeting is open to the public and all are welcome to attend. An executive session follows the public session where all Open Space Review Board discussions about proposed or ongoing property and easement acquisitions are kept confidential and privileged.

The Board of Supervisors holds a public hearing for the proposed expenditure of open space funds for each proposed acquisition. The OSRB invites residents to attend its public session to learn about the Township's protected lands, trails, wildlife, agriculture, history and the process to preserve land.

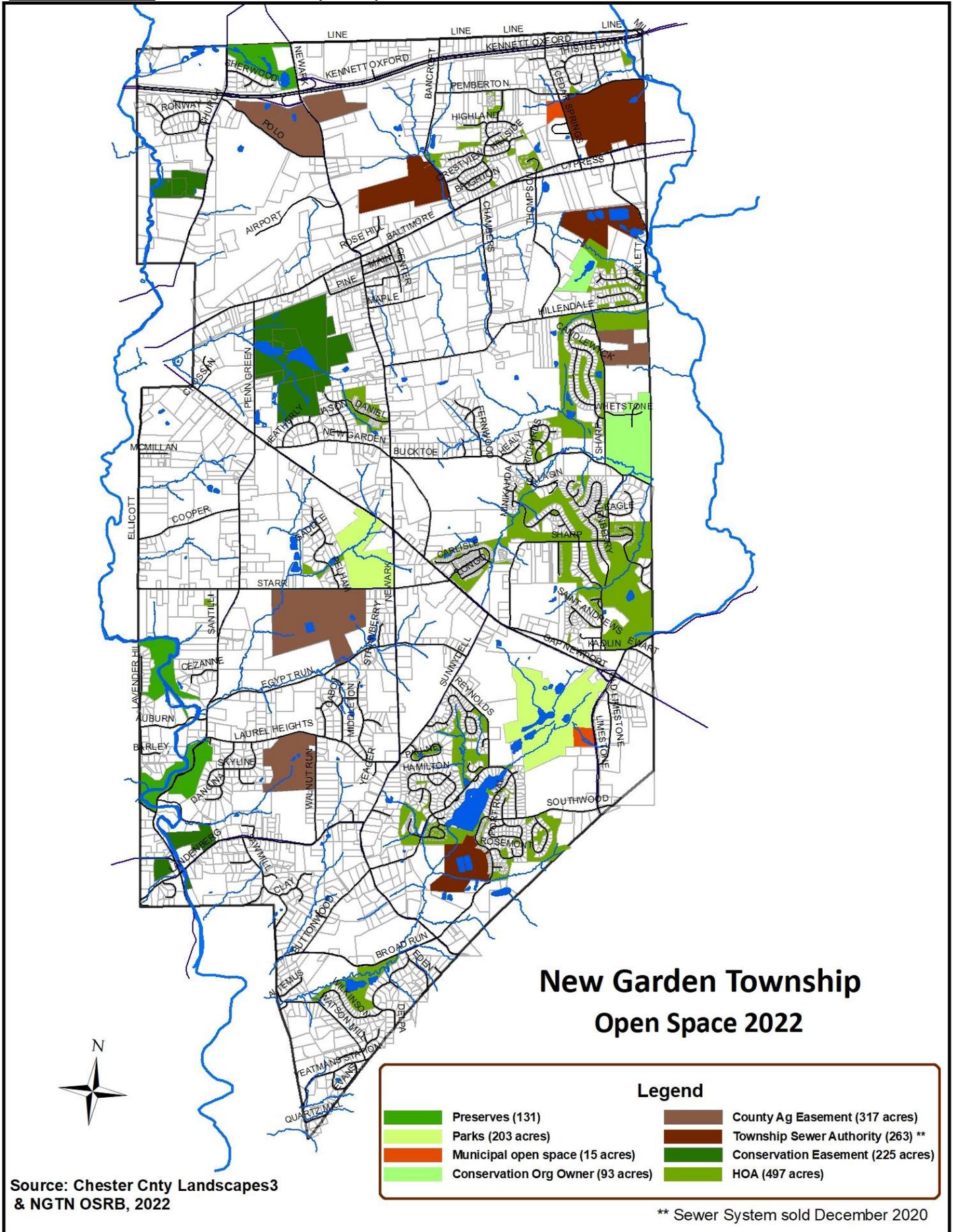
Attached to this report are four supplements that provide additional information.

- Supplement 1 - New Garden Open Space (2022)
- Supplement 2 - Protected, Prospective Open Space Properties (2021)
- Supplement 3 - New Garden Trail System, Existing and Proposed (2021)
- Supplement 4 - Land Protection Categories

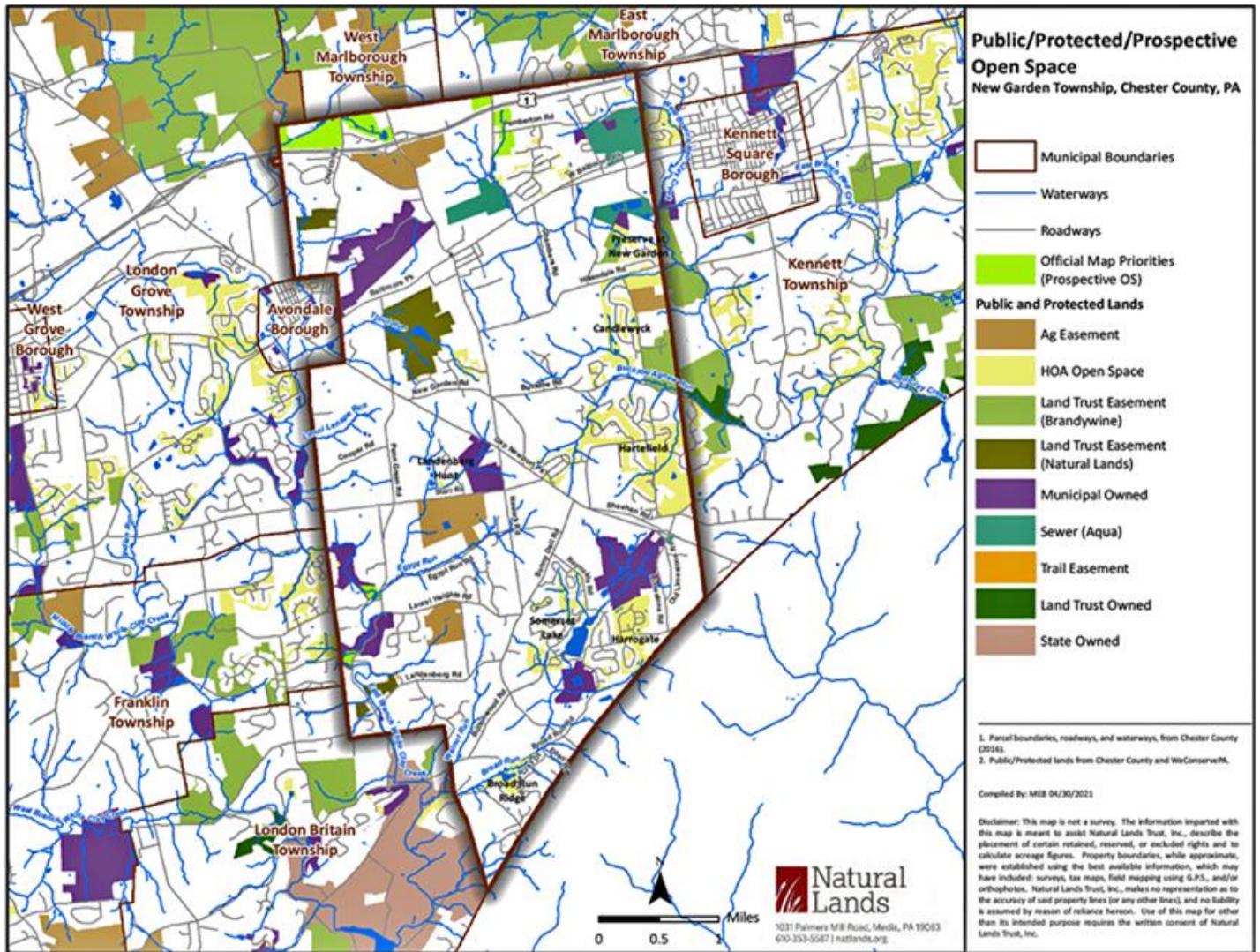


Tree planting in New Garden Hills (aka ST. Anthony in the Hills) 2022

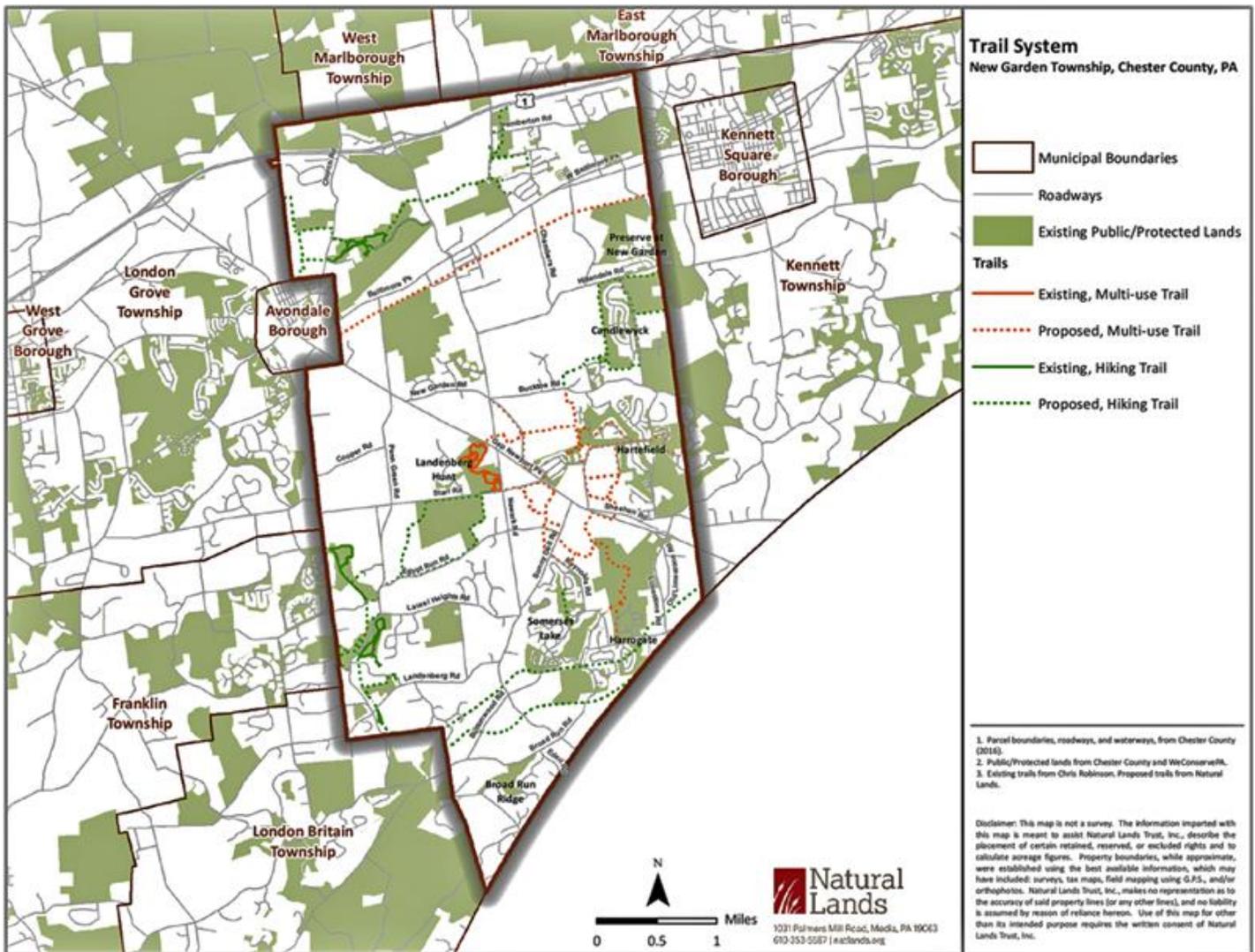
Supplement 1: New Garden Open Space, 2021



Supplement 2: NGTN & surrounding area Public, Protected, Prospective Open Space



Supplement 3: New Garden Trail System, Existing and Proposed, 2021



Supplement 4: Land Protection Categories

From 2003 to 2022 New Garden Township conserved or protected from development a total of 471 acres. 298 acres are protected by a conservation easement with a private owner. 252 acres are owned and protected from development by the Township.

Land protected by a conservation easement is assigned to the property owner with the agreed limits to development. Natural Lands, a third party to the easement agreement, is responsible to monitor the property owner's land use (agricultural, woodland) in accordance with the agreement.

Land purchased by "fee assist" is owned by the Township which is then responsible to monitor its use in accordance with the agreement.