

# Governor's Award for Environmental Excellence 2022 Winners

DEP honored 15 projects done by schools, businesses, and community organizations around the state with the 2022 Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence.

"Every year the Environmental Excellence honorees show the creative and innovative ways we can improve our environment, and this year is no different," said Governor Tom Wolf. "The projects highlighted this year show tremendous diversity in how they are making Pennsylvania a better place."

"It is always a privilege to spotlight people going above and beyond to improve the environment and make our great outdoor spaces more accessible," how we can all access it," said DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell. "Each of the projects awarded this year will leave a positive lasting legacy for Pennsylvania."

Applications were evaluated for their degree of environmental protection, innovation, partnership, economic impact, consideration of climate change, sustainability, and environmental justice, and outcomes achieved.

Collectively, the award-winning projects engaged hundreds of partners and resulted in:

- 2,470,000 gallons of treated stormwater
- 118 trees planted
- 32,552 shrubs planted
- 2,000 feet of trail created
- 200,000 pounds of acid mine drainage treated
- 8 miles of streams treated
- 242 acres of greenspace created

- 15 electric vehicles purchased
- 2,400 metric tons of CO2 reduced
- 1,700,000 kilowatt hours saved
- 500 tons of material recycled

The 2022 Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence were awarded to:

## **Robindale Energy Services for Stineman Refuse Pile – Path of the Flood Trail**



This project remediated an abandoned waste coal pile, placed on a steep hillside where the unconsolidated acidic material would wash directly into the South Fork of the Little Conemaugh River after rainfall events. Prior to Robindale's remediation, the deposition of the acidic material into the river had gone for decades creating hazardous washouts on the pile and impacting a portion of the River's environmental stability. During this project, Robindale also completed the construction of a 1.6-mile walking and biking trail envisioned by the Cambria County Conservation & Recreation Authority was realized. The 1.6-mile trail would be part of a much larger project to further develop a trail to the Historic Flood Park in remembrance of the Great Flood of 1889 severely impacting lives and property in Johnstown.