

The West Vincent Land Trust, Inc.

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PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT OF WEST VINCENT TOWNSHIP

P.O. Box 235 • BIRCHRUNVILLE, PA 19421

October 23, 2016

Erica Batdorf, Township Manager
The Board of Supervisors
West Vincent Township
729 St. Matthews Road
Chester Springs, Pennsylvania 19421

Dear Ms. Batdorf and the Board of Supervisors,

The West Vincent Land Trust is grateful for the Township's past support for its programs, which since 2013 have generally focused on underwriting the costs of conservation easements for township residents willing to protect their properties in perpetuity. Such conservation helps to maintain West Vincent's rural character and its relatively low population density, which in turn lessens impacts on infrastructure and schools.

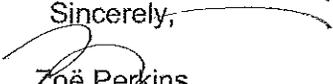
West Vincent Township's donations are dedicated strictly to our Free Easement program, which offsets the costs that can be daunting for property owners. This program is meant to encourage conservation by making it a more affordable option. Prior to 2013 we applied WVT's donations to general operating expenses related to township-wide conservation, that is, yield plans, appraisals and closing costs. Township funds are an important stimulus to our annual fund raising which relies on the generosity of township residents.

Under our Free Easement program, we have three properties currently in process: 16 Years LLC (so named for the number of years involved in conserving the former Wilson/Dettra property flanking St. Matthews Road near Pughtown Road); the Benton property on Hilltop Road; and the Roberts/McPhee property on Hollow Road.

We expect that each of the three properties will require appraisals, generally costing between \$2500 and \$4000, as well as fees, closing costs and title work which run between \$5000 and \$7500. We have made commitments to each property owner to cover expenses to the extent of our ability, and we have earmarked WVT's generous 2014, 2015 and 2016 donations for these properties. As you will note, conservation takes time: 16 Years LLC is a well-named example given how long these projects are in the pipeline; Bryn Coed Farms is another.

I would be happy to meet with the Board of Supervisors to discuss the West Vincent Land Trust and its programs. We welcome the township's on-going support through this process.

Sincerely,


Zoë Perkins
Chairman

Perkins
10-26-16
SEB