

Contact:

Kim Lewis

Berks County Conservancy

25 North 11th Street

Reading, PA 19601

610-372-4992 ext. 109

kim.lewis@berks-conservancy.org



For Immediate Release:

Saony Trail Dedication Celebrates Preservation of Saony Creek and Watershed

Kutztown, PA — Several years ago members of the greater Kutztown community worked together to raise funds to help protect the Saony Marsh. This group of citizens and businesses, **Friends of Saony Marsh**, is still active today. Together, with the Berks County Conservancy, Maiden Creek Watershed Association, County of Berks grant funds, and the Borough of Kutztown, the “Friends” have done much more than protect the marsh. They’ve helped the dedicated staff of the Borough create trails, install benches, develop signs, and plant native vegetation along the creek.



On Friday, October 24th at 2:00PM, the Saony Trail in Kutztown, PA will be dedicated to all of the work that the Kutztown Borough has done to create this beautiful trail.

Refreshments will be served. Rain or Shine.

Students from the Kutztown Area School District will be at the event to participate in this celebration. Please arrive 15-20 minutes early to enjoy the walk along the Saony Creek to our Observation Deck. Parking is available at the Kutztown Borough Swimming Pool. A volunteer will be at the parking lot to direct you to the event.

Saony Creek and Watershed Background

Protecting the surface water and groundwater that flows through the entire Saony Creek Watershed and Kutztown Borough Wellheads is important to the quantity and quality of the drinking water that is ultimately available in our homes. The Berks County Conservancy has utilized grant funds to install best management practices along the Saony Creek to improve eroded areas. In August, the Borough completed the construction of an observation deck that overlooks the creek and marsh. The Conservancy is assisting the Borough with the installation of educational signs to be mounted on the deck so that visitors can appreciate the importance of the natural resources that are surrounding them.

Now, one can enjoy a walk or bike ride along the completed trail that takes you from the Saony Marsh and observation deck over to the Borough’s property near the Kutztown Pool. This educational trail is along the school district’s property line...so the “Friends” hope to see hundreds of elementary and Jr/Sr High School students utilize the trail to learn about the importance of the creek and marsh.

Directions from Kutztown University: On Main Street in Kutztown, turn right onto Constitution Blvd (Turkey Hill on corner). Continue to first stop sign and make a left onto Normal Avenue. Travel approximately one block just over the bridge and turn left onto Industrial Avenue to the pool.

Visit the Berks County Conservancy’s website at www.berks-conservancy.org to learn about other conservation projects in your community. *We’re Saving a Place for You...*