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For Immediate Release

Referendum Wins in all 62 Montgomery County Municipalities

November 5, 2003, Lederach, PA – Municipalities across Montgomery County, Pennsylvania voted with resounding approval in support of the Open Space Referendum on the ballot in the November 4th election. All 62 townships and boroughs endorsed the \$150 million bond question with an overwhelming 78% of voters saying “yes” to the proposed Green Fields – Green Towns Open Space Program and a new ten-year open space program. This powerful vote shows that the people of Montgomery County care deeply about their communities and are willing to spend tax dollars to save their special open spaces and to assure that their neighborhoods are green and livable. Endorsed by 54 municipalities prior to the vote, the referendum had bi-partisan support from both political parties and from all four candidates running for county commissioner. In a time of intensifying partisan politics, the support for continuing open space preservation and re-greening of our towns unified voters.

As a strong advocate of land preservation over the past decade, Montgomery County Lands Trust took a leadership role in the promotion of the new program, this time with

dedicated funding. The first Montgomery County Open Space Program officially ended on October 31, 2003.

Montgomery County Lands Trust launched an intense voter education program that included the publication and distribution of an education mailer in cooperation with its Partners for Land Preservation, a 36-page booklet titled *Open Space Success Stories*, and a targeted direct mail piece sent to 50,000 registered Montgomery County voters.

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