



Aerial view of Lederach, PA – home of MCLT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Montgomery County Lands Trust Awarded Grant to Increase Technical Expertise in Conservation

August 6, 2004. The national organization Land Trust Alliance recently awarded Montgomery County Lands Trust a grant for enhancing the local land preservation organization's geographic information systems and digital data. The upgrades will enable the non-profit land conservancy to plan more conservation projects throughout Montgomery County.

Two other regional organizations, Natural Lands Trust and Heritage Conservancy, worked in partnership with Montgomery County Lands Trust in applying for and receiving the \$13,760 in grant funds. Montgomery County Lands Trust funds are being used to upgrade geographic information system software as well as to obtain county-wide

digital data complete with geographically referenced aerial photographs. “Maps are great teaching and inspirational tools,” says Executive Director Dulcie Flaharty, “These clear aerials with parcels identified allow people to know just where we are working and how good planning can positively impact the places that they care about.”

Jake Lea, Director of Land Preservation for Montgomery County Lands Trust notes that “these substantial enhancements to our technical capability will assist us as we coordinate our efforts with the county and other non-profits. The new data and upgrades will also advance our technical expertise as we continue to serve individual municipalities throughout the county.” As a non-profit conservancy, Montgomery County Lands Trust works collaboratively with citizens, municipal leaders, community organizations, and other conservancies to permanently preserve land and to foster the wise stewardship of open space in our county.

--Montgomery County Lands Trust

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