



**HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY PARK**  
**RECIEVES \$87,000 GRANT FROM THE**  
**PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF**  
**CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES**  
**FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL FACILITIES**

Hopewell Township, situated in Beaver County, is a First Class Township with a population of 13,254 residents. Hopewell Township encompasses a land area of 17.2 square miles and borders the northwestern tip of Allegheny County. Hopewell Township has approximately 5,446 residential homes, as well as many business/commercial establishments and light industrial establishments. Over the years, the community has continued to grow and the Hopewell Township Board of Commissioners recognizes that with community growth comes an increased demand for recreational facilities and activities. Parks and recreation play a critical role in providing a high quality of life to residents within the community. Recreational assets attract business and encourage residential growth. In addition, as the park continues to grow and acquire additional property, a permanent green area within the community will be preserved for wildlife and conservation.

Hopewell Township has an outstanding community park, known as the Hopewell Township Community Park. The park encompasses 62 acres of primarily undeveloped woodlands, fields, and wetlands. Purchased in 1967, all recreation for the community is centralized at this site and is coordinated through the efforts of the Hopewell Township Park Board and Recreation Director. Some activities planned for 2013 include Winterfest; Easter Egg Hunt; Youth Fishing Derby; Adult Fishing Derby; Rec-on-the-Run summer program for children; Camp Lakewood; Concerts in the Park; Movies in the Park; Parkfest Celebration; Barbecue Cook-Off; Labor Day Car Cruise; Fallfest; and the Visit with Santa. Hopewell Township also works with its Planning Commission, Beaver County, and the Hopewell Area School District to share facilities and programming ideas.

In an effort to continue with improvements and growth of the Hopewell Township Community Park, Hopewell Township acquired an additional 17.5 acres of undeveloped land adjacent to the existing park. The newly acquired property is well suited for the proposed improvements, which include a pavilion, basketball court, toddler play area, swings, and parking lot.

Hopewell Township has been awarded an \$87,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) in support of proposed improvements at the Hopewell Township Community Park. The proposed improvements are consistent with existing facilities present on the adjacent Hopewell Community Park property. Portions of the newly-acquired property have steep slopes that do not make those areas suitable for development. The portion of the newly-acquired property located between Laird Drive and the stream is suitable for development, as is the upper portion of the property (future). The steep slope areas are entirely suitable for tree growth and nature watching.

The Hopewell Township officials work closely with the Parks and Recreation Board who operate and maintain park facilities and schedule recreational programming for area residents. The facilities and programs are open to both residents and visitors. The park expansion will follow similar protocol as the existing Hopewell Community Park, in which the natural terrain and wooded canopy are maintained to enhance wildlife and encourage nature watching. Minimal tree removal will occur for this project, including some brush, saplings, and lesser quality trees that are growing along the road bank, to provide room for grading and development. Trees and vegetation along the steep slope areas will not be disturbed.