

# How Townships Can Use PA's Dirt, Gravel, Low Volume Road Program To Protect Recreational Uses in Streams

**September 26, 2018**



ENVIRONMENTAL  
FINANCE CENTER

# DGLVR PROGRAM BASICS

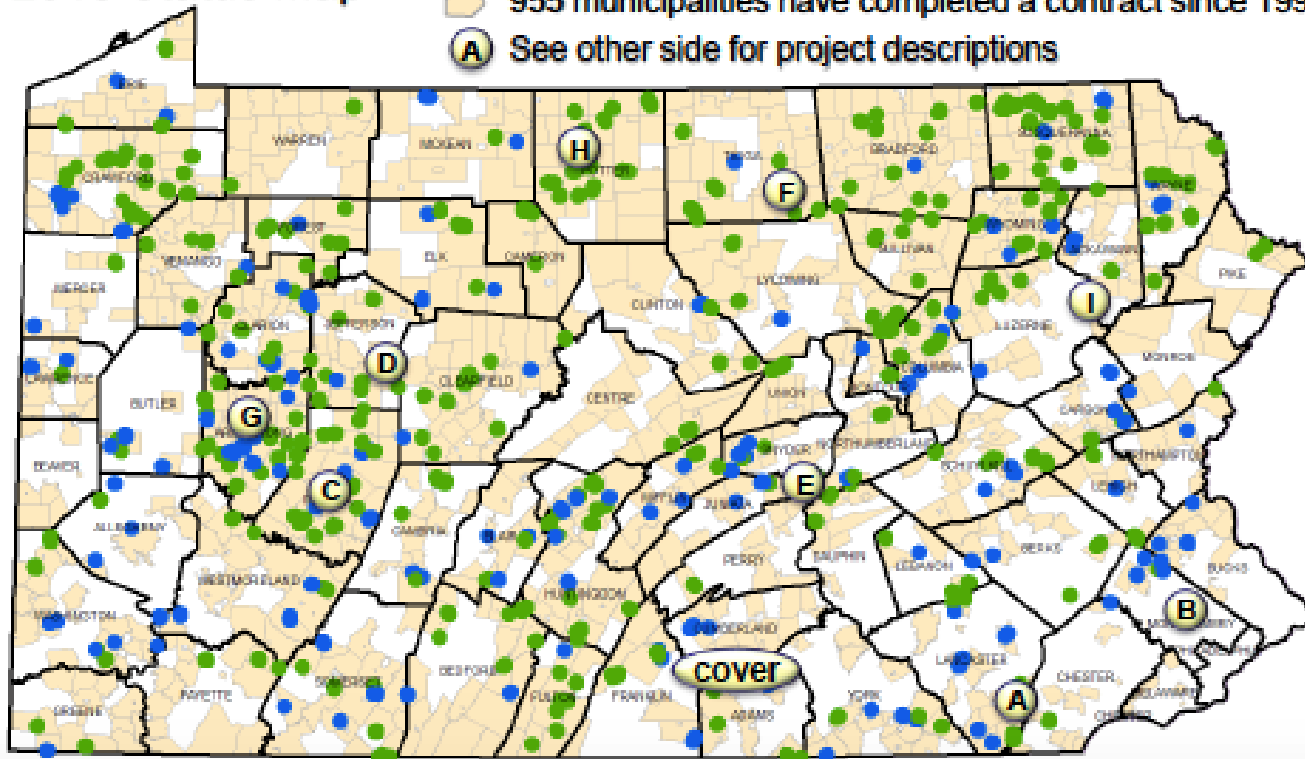
- ***Work of PA Chapter of Trout Unlimited!***
- **Established in 1997 under PA Motor Vehicle Code Title 75 Sec 9106**
  - 25,000 miles of unpaved roads in PA
  - 17,500 miles are owned by townships
- **Funds are used to implement environmentally sensitive management practices; 50/50 match**
- **Funding comes from fuel tax and license fees and flow from State Conservation Commission (Dept of Ag) to county conservation districts to townships**
- **Funding also to DCNR's Bureau of Forestry for dirt road management in state forests**
- **Low volume roads were added to the program in 2015; defined as roads that receive 500 vehicle trips or fewer per day**
- **Program support and training through Center for Dirt and Gravel Roads at Penn State**

## On the Ground: In 2017, the DGLVR Program:

- Completed 492 contracts in 333 separate municipalities
- Replaced 98 stream crossings (culverts and bridges)
- Replaced more than 600 road drainage culverts (crosspipes)
- Installed more than 800 new road drainage culverts (crosspipes)
- Placed more than 400,000 tons of road fill
- Placed approximately 80 miles of Driving Surface Aggregate
- Installed more than 18 miles of underdrain

### DGLVR Program 2018 Status Map

- 336 Dirt and Gravel Contracts completed in 2017
- 156 LVR Contracts completed in 2017
- 955 municipalities have completed a contract since 1997
- Ⓐ See other side for project descriptions



# ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES



- **Road/stream crossings**
- **Road surface**
- **Road base**
- **Vegetation management**
- **Road bank management**
- **Road ditch and outlet stabilization**
- **Off right-of-way practices**
- **Paved low volume road practices**

# WHAT HAPPENS AT THE COUNTY LEVEL

- **Trained conservation district staff administer the program**
- **Adopt QA/QC requirements and ranking criteria approved by the district's Quality Assurance Board**
- **All local government entities and road-owning entities are eligible**
- **Must ensure that one person who is going to oversee the project completes the two-day training course.**

# CHESTER COUNTY DGLVR PROGRAM

## Budget 2018-2019

- \$100,000 for dirt roads
- \$226,983 for low volume roads

## Projects completed to date:

- 32 dirt and gravel road projects covering 12 miles  
Total expenditures: \$590,365
- 4 low volume road projects covering 2 miles  
Total expenditures: \$726,197



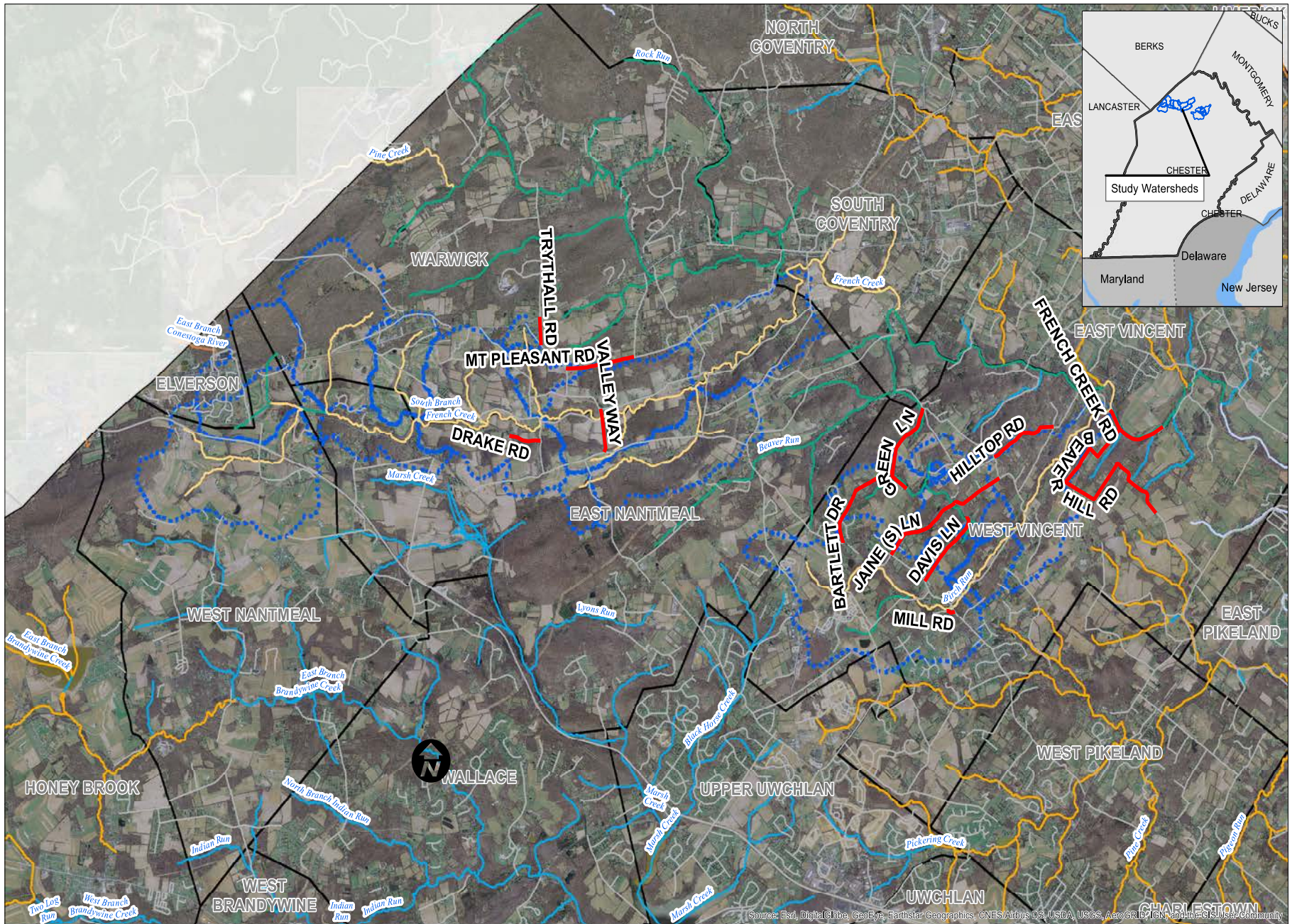


# CHESTER COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT CRITERIA

- **Special protection waters**
- **Proximity of project area to the stream**
- **Improved public safety**
- **Benefits for downstream fish populations**
- **Abatement of stormwater velocity or volume**
- **New entity to program**
- **Negative impact on water quality**
- **Any required permits completed**







Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



# FRENCH AND PICKERING CREEKS CONSERVATION TRUST'S PRESERVE



# BROWER'S BRIDGE





# VALLEY WAY ROAD

