

Quittapahilla Educational Wetland Preserve

The Quittapahilla Educational Wetland Preserve is ready to be discovered and explored!

A Healthy Community

The seven acre wetland site, now known as “the Quittapahilla Educational Wetland Preserve” provides a vital link to the health and welfare of the Lebanon community. In addition to providing a unique habitat for wildlife, the wetland protects our community from flooding, traps sediments and nutrients, and filters our local waters.

Our wetland is already full of bustling animal and plant life! Muskrats, turtles, frogs, ducks, geese, herons, fish, and aquatic plants and insects can readily be seen at the wetlands.

Educational Resources

We have been able to install boardwalks, interpretive signs, picnic tables, bathrooms, and educational resources and equipment at the Wetlands thanks to generous grant monies from the Chesapeake Bay Commission, the Department of Community and Economic Development, and the Department of Environmental Protection Environmental Education Grants Program. The facility is fully equipped to provide a natural, outdoor classroom where schools and community groups can experience, through hands-on learning, the value of wetlands and the creatures that inhabit it.

Steering Committee

The Quittapahilla Educational Wetland Preserve is owned by the Lebanon County Career & Technology Center and is managed by a group of volunteers known as the QEWP Committee. The Committee is made up of local educators from various schools districts including:

- from Cornwall-Lebanon: Beryl Stoddard and Rachel VanOrden
- from Lebanon City: Dawn Connelly and Sharon Rohland
- from Northern Lebanon: Deborah Bollinger
- from Palmyra: Gina Mason
- from Ephrata Area: Marcielayne Palko

Supported by Candice Falger, adjunct professor of LVC & HACC, and Leigh Beamesderfer, Forester/Naturalist with the Lebanon County Conservation District.

Plan Your Visit

As a teacher, you can help your students gain knowledge about watersheds, wetlands, and related content in preparation for Pennsylvania’s Environment and Ecology Academic Standards.

- Enroll in one of the teacher workshops and prepare to take your class on a field trip to the Wetland Preserve for a fun, hands-on, educational experience.
- Conduct water quality tests and take soil samples.
- Explore wetland habitats and observe the variety of plants and animals which live here.
- Use the interpretive signs to learn more about wetlands and watersheds.

We invite you to discover the many treasures hidden in ‘your own backyard’ at the Quittapahilla Educational Wetland Preserve. To schedule a trip to the site or for information on upcoming teacher workshops, contact Leigh Beamesderfer at 717-272-3908 ext. 4.

