

KERL PROPERTY

- Peter Kerl granted the township a conservation easement
- December 23rd, 2008
- 75 acres near the village of Kintnersville
- Mr. Kerl also granted an easement to Durham on a contiguous 18 acres that adjoins Durham Township
- A total of 93 preserved acres



Christmas 2009 came early to Nockamixon when on December 23rd Peter Kerl granted the township a conservation easement on 75 acres near the village of Kintnersville. In the cooperative project, Mr. Kerl also granted an easement to Durham on a contiguous 18 acres that sits in the adjoining township for a total of 93 preserved acres.

The Kerl property is part of the Highlands Region, a federally-designated area of significance. The land is wooded with open fields and a pond, creating a diverse wildlife habitat. Located between two farms preserved by the county and near other properties considering preservation makes it part of a wildlife corridor. But of particular importance is the water resource protection afforded by this preservation -- it contains nearly 3,800 feet along tributaries of the Gallows Run, the headwaters and most critical point for protection of the waterway.

Funds for the acquisition of Mr. Kerl's easement were obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Acquisition Grant Program, a Bucks County Natural Areas Program Grant, Nockamixon Township and, in the case of the additional 18 acres, from Durham Township. By accepting an acquisition amount less than the aggregate value of the easement he granted, Mr. Kerl effectively donated the difference.

Peter Kerl has fond memories of the property that has been in his family for almost 70 years. "My father loved this place – his heart was here. The solitude he found on this land was particularly attractive to him", Kerl says. "I have good memories of life here -- fishing in our pond, ice skating and working around the farm with my dad."

When asked why he decided to preserve the property Kerl doesn't hesitate. "I'd like to see it remain as is – for the nature and for others to enjoy, like we have. Preservation is good for everyone."