

NOVEMBER 2023



Tree planting on Kitz farm



Stream crossing

Conservation Assistance to Farmers

John Kitz, who recently received the 2023 Conservation Farmer of the Year award from the Westmoreland Conservation District, is now the first farmer in the county to receive funding from the Agriculture Conservation Assistance Program, or ACAP. Conservation improvements on John Kitz's Mount Pleasant farm include fencing along streambanks, a stabilized cattle crossing, streambank stabilization, a water trough, stabilized animal heavy use area, subsurface drainage, a livestock watering ramp, subdivision fencing, and a riparian buffer with approximately 385 trees and shrubs. Upon completion, approximately 3,500 feet of stream will be improved.

ACAP was created through the Clean Streams Fund to reduce nonpoint source pollution in Pennsylvania's waterways. It provides funding and technical assistance for the implementation of best management practices on agricultural lands. Funding for the program is provided through local conservation districts. If you have questions about the ACAP program in Westmoreland County, contact [Chelsea Gross](#), Non-point Source Manager.



L to R: Ronald Rohall, WCD Board Chairman; Robert Cronauer, District Manager/CEO; Charles Duritsa, WCD Board Vice-Chairman; Fred Slezak, WCD Board Member; and Westmoreland County Commissioner Douglas Chew, WCD Board Member.

Chamber of Commerce Recognition

The Westmoreland Conservation District received the 2023 Non-profit of the Year award from the Westmoreland Chamber of Commerce at their annual business meeting and award's celebration. The award recognizes the programs and partnerships that the District has made in its nearly 75 year history.

Learn more about the District and how it helps communities by watching this [video spotlight](#).

Westmoreland Conservation District

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