



We need your help.
Please:

- Do not bring dogs.
- Visit only between sunrise and sunset.
- Leave no trace (take out all you bring in).
- Pick up any trash you see.
- Report any unusual wildlife sightings or any occurrences that are degrading the preserve's natural features to land@wctrust.org or 610.353.2562.



We love dogs, but... Many people wonder why we do not allow dogs at Kirkwood Preserve. While it may appear harmless for pet owners to walk their dogs here, constant response to predators (which is how birds perceive dogs) is stressful to birds, and may lower their ability to reproduce and successfully raise their young. Most grassland species are ground-nesting birds, which would make them especially sensitive to disturbance and predation by dogs. Therefore, in order to protect grassland birds and their nesting areas, dogs are prohibited at Kirkwood Preserve.

Invasive species management is an ongoing priority. Invasive plants such as multiflora rose, Japanese honeysuckle, Norway Maple and Canada thistle grow quickly and aggressively. These plants out compete native plant species and degrade the habitat that birds depend upon for reproductive success. Targeted mowing and careful removal using a variety of methods help us with this ongoing challenge.

Limited and timed mowing ensures that we won't interfere with nesting areas during the peak nesting season. Except for the grass paths and dense patches of invasive plants, we limit mowing to twice per year - in early April and September.

East where urban sprawl has fragmented and degraded grassland habitats. Kirkwood Preserve is home to many declining grassland species, including the American Kestrel, Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, Vesper Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Northern Harrier, and Barn Owl. The Willistown Conservation Trust employs many strategies to protect Kirkwood's grassland birds.

Grassland birds have been declining at alarming rates, especially here in the Kirkwood Preserve is a treasure for many future generations to enjoy. diversity of habitat and existing populations of rare, threatened and declining birds, development forever, nurtured by good land management practices, and blessed by a program area provides important habitat and resting areas for birds. Protected from Area (IBA), the open countryside of the Willistown Conservation Trust



WILLISTOWN CONSERVATION TRUST

KIRKWOOD PRESERVE



Welcome to Willistown Conservation Trust's Kirkwood Preserve. This 83 acre preserve has been protected forever through a partnership with Willistown Township, Chester County, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and several private donors.

Natural and Recreational Resources
The majority of Kirkwood Preserve is grassland, which serves as an important haven for birds and other wildlife. The preserve also contains pedestrian and equestrian trails, a half-mile stretch of the Crum Creek, approximately 21 acres of wet areas, and 1.5 acres of upland and riparian woodland. Under the Trust's ownership and management, Kirkwood Preserve provides excellent habitat for a great number of species, and the opportunity for people to enjoy an exquisite landscape in its natural state.



Getting Here

The Kirkwood Preserve is located in Willistown Township, in Chester County, Pennsylvania.

From Rt. 3, West Chester Pike

Take Providence Road north. Turn right at the stop sign at Goshen Road. Turn left at Grubbs Mill Road. The Kirkwood Preserve parking lot is on the right.

WILLISTOWN CONSERVATION TRUST

925 Providence Road
Newtown Square, PA 19073
(610)353.2562
www.wctrust.org

Photo credits: Mary McLoughlin, Betsy Block, Bonnie Van Alen, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Printed on recycled paper.

WILLISTOWN CONSERVATION TRUST

KIRKWOOD PRESERVE

A sanctuary for people and wildlife

