

The Marjorie L. and Arthur P. Miller Fund

The Marjorie L. and Arthur P. Miller Fund was created by Marjorie and Arthur Miller to protect and conserve open space in Chester County. By creating the fund, their aim is to educate, spread awareness, and provide funding for environmental preservation and conservation in Chester County.



As the authors of several books on environmental and historic topics, and as members on numerous non-profit boards, they are very passionate about environmental education and getting involved in their local communities. Marge currently serves on the boards of Green Valleys Watershed Association and the American Red Cross Retiree Association. Arthur, or Art as he prefers, serves on the Lower Providence Township Library Board. The Millers also enjoy teaching and leading hikes through the national scenic and historic trails, along the Delaware Valley with the Main Line School Night Hiking Club.

The Millers established their fund at the Chester County Community Foundation to award an annual grant in perpetuity. The Miller Fund awards a challenge grant each year to support a non-profit organization that provides creative solutions to open space preservation and intelligent use of environmental resources. The focus of the Fund's grant is to provide nonprofits with the resources to complete a project that is specific, tangible in nature, and that provides "a measurable sense of accomplishment" for their efforts.

The grant can be used for the creation of a park, the implementation of a school-based environmental education effort, or research about an important environmental issue. An important part of the grant is a "match" in dollars or in-kind support. One past recipient, the Willistown Conservation Trust, used the grant for the completion of their bird-banding station. The "match" was provided by the in-kind volunteer construction support of a local Eagle Scout. The Millers believe that seeing a project come to fruition validates an organization's mission by providing evidence of a tangible success, and supports the hard work of its staff, members and volunteers.