

NETWORKS

DIGITAL NEWS

Community Conservation Partnerships Grant An investment in outdoor recreation

Investing in outdoor recreational improvements plays a vital role in strengthening Blair County's economy and enhancing quality of life. Expanding and maintaining parks, trails, and recreational spaces attracts visitors, supports local businesses, and encourages new economic development centered around tourism and outdoor activity. These projects also make Blair County a more appealing place to live and work, helping to retain young professionals and families.



Achieving these goals can often come at a cost making viable financing options essential for success. Grant programs can play a crucial role in making that happen. One such grant program, Community Conservation Partnerships, managed by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Bureau of Recreation and Conservation (BRC), builds connections between Pennsylvanians and the outdoors by supporting recreational improvements, natural resource conservation, and community revitalization efforts.

Eligible organizations for DCNR grants vary by project type, but generally include county and municipal governments, municipal agencies, 501(c)3 non-profit organizations, and for-profit businesses (limited options). For most grants, DCNR accepts applications once annually. The application period opens the third Tuesday in January and closes the first Wednesday in April. However, some grants have unique application periods. For specific dates for all DCNR grants, visit the [Apply for a DCNR Grant page](#) at dcnr.pa.gov.

For more information, contact your DCNR Bureau of Recreation and Conservation regional advisor. For Blair County contact Lindsay Baer at 717-858-1185 or libaer@pa.gov.

When making your gift list,
don't forget to...

Shop
LOCAL
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!



SEE YOU WEDNESDAY

Celebrate the
holidays at
After Hours!

Dec.
10
5-7 p.m.



Join us for some holiday
fun, food & merrymaking!
Register [here](#)

Congratulations!

...to [Norfolk Southern](#) for awarding a \$15,000 grant, through its Safety First Grant Program, to the County of Blair. The funding will support the Blair County Drone Project helping to improve public safety and community response capabilities.

...to [Advantage Resource Group](#) for not only celebrating its 40th anniversary but by marking this milestone with its "40 Years of Service, 40 Acts of Kindness" campaign that will focus on giving back to the community.

Leadership Blair County Youth volunteers make an impact

Leadership Blair County Youth students spent a day giving back to six local nonprofits and lending a helping hand where they were needed most. Volunteers divided into teams and visited Saint Vincent de Paul, American Rescue Workers, Quaint Corner Children's Museum, Family Services Incorporated's Teen Shelter, Family Services' Family Shelter, and The Healing Patch.

Throughout the day, participants rolled up their sleeves to organize donations, clean shared spaces, tidy program areas, and help prepare ongoing projects. Each site offered a unique window into the daily needs of organizations working tirelessly to support Blair County.



The experience allowed class members to connect directly with these organizations, learn more about the challenges these nonprofits navigate, and see how small acts of service create meaningful impact.

Showcase your business with an After Hours event in 2026!

Do you have something exciting happening in 2026? Want to spotlight your business and connect with fellow Chamber members? We're now scheduling After Hours events for 2026, and spots are filling up fast! Currently, available months are: June, August, and December. After Hours events are a fantastic opportunity to:

- **Highlight your business and what makes it unique**
- **Celebrate huge milestones**
- **Network with other Chamber members and community leaders**
- **Build meaningful connections in a relaxed, social setting**

These popular events fill up fast, and we don't want you to miss out on this



exciting opportunity to put your business in the spotlight! Reserve your 2026 date today! For more information or to schedule your Business After Hours, please contact Jessie Covert at jcovert@blairchamber.com.

SAVE *the* DATE

THE STATE OF THE COUNTY:

THE YEAR IN REVIEW
& OUTLOOK FOR 2026

BREAKFAST CLUB

JANUARY 15 • 7:45-9 AM

BLAIR COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER

Sponsorship guide packed with value!

We're excited to share some fantastic news – our reach has soared to over a million people! What does this mean for you? It means YOUR business can



shine brighter than ever! We're on a mission to spotlight our incredible members and the business community, and we want YOU to be a part of it.

There are countless ways to get involved, but the best way is by showing your support through sponsorship! Imagine your business getting in front of thousands of potential customers, business partners, and future employees. It's an exciting opportunity to elevate your brand and connect with our growing audience!

We have a variety of sponsorship packages ready to cater to your needs – each one designed to put your business in the spotlight and make a real impact. Just take a look at the numbers included in the guide; they speak for themselves!

If you're curious about how to get your business in front of our audience, reach out to Jessie Covert at jcovert@blairchamber.com. Click [here](#) to view the digital guide.

Anywhere! Anytime! Register for events online
www.blairchamber.com