GRIST From the Mill

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PennDOT Contractors Agree to Restore Millrace and Ponds

After five years of negotiations, PennDOT and its contractors finally agreed to a financial settlement to undo the damage that Newlin Grist Mill's waterways have suffered. The long-awaited agreement with PennDOT, ROAD-CON, and J. D. Eckman, Inc. will provide necessary resources to remove silt from the millrace, frog pond and fishing ponds and replant trees in the watershed.

The settlement agreement was necessary after improvements to RT 322 resulted in repeated discharges of silt into the stream. In two-and-a-half years, the actions of the contractors resulted in silt deposits filling the millrace and ponds. This caused the mill's water wheel to not run properly, closed pond fishing, impacted educational programs at the Frog Pond, and impacted amphibian conservation efforts. After working with the PA Department of Environmental Protection, Delco Conservation District, PA Fish and Boat, and the Environmental Protection Agency, NGM finally was forced to take legal action to obtain relief.

Siltation impacted the millrace (above) and the fishing ponds (below) which now has to be removed.

Once the settlement was finalized, NGM set everything in motion to complete mitigation measures. Cedarville Engineering Group was engaged to develop engineering plans required to obtain permits for silt mitigation. Because the Wetland Expansion project connects to the millrace, the projects were combined into a single application to simplify the process.

Additionally, the construction project caused the removal of tree cover in the watershed above NGM. The lack of canopy cover led to increased water temperatures which have a negative impact on trout and water quality. The settlement includes funds for planting hundreds of trees to increase the canopy and reduce thermal impacts. A second application had to be submitted to the

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PennDot Settlment Continued...

PennDOT Adopt and Beautify Program to enable NGM to gain access to the right-of-way to conduct planting activities. In the fall of 2022, staff and volunteers cleared paths for access, prepared the area for planting, and made tree cages. They planted over 80 trees along the stream and its tributary. In April, they tended to the tree cages, picked up trash along Station Road, and performed health checks on the trees. None were lost! The 2023 goal is to plant the same amount this fall.

Final permit applications were submitted in June. If the permits arrive in time, Flyway Excavating Inc. will conduct the silt removal in September through October. If they do not arrive in time, we will plan to conduct the work in 2024. Timing is critical to lessen impact on wildlife.

Thanks to everyone for your patience as we restore our waterways!

WANT TO HELP WITH PLANTING?
Help reduce stream temperatures and bank erosion!

Save the Dates 10/3 and 10/14
Sign up at jshahan@newlingristmill.org

Welcome Eva Mergen

NGM welcomes its newest staff member, carpenter Eva Mergen. Eva brings a range of experience in woodworking, carpentry, maintenance, and reconstruction projects. She started working with her hands as a young child learning basic woodworking from her father which started a lifelong love of learning both modern and historic craft techniques. She has extensive experience with woodworking and textiles, and has dabbled in stone carving, metal working, rope making, basketry, paper crafts, and many others. She worked for many years as an independent educator giving demonstrations at schools and museums near her home in Southampton, PA.

She started working at Colonial Pennsylvania Plantation where she was able to broaden her historic skills and further her historic woodworking skills. She recently completed a

Master's Certificate from University College Dublin in experimental archaeology, with a final project about the manufacture of early stone querns. She is excited about all the work that is being done at Newlin Grist Mill and is looking forward to being a part of it and the opportunities to learn new things!

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Bringing Back the Birds Project: Wild Birds Unlimited Donation

This year, Newlin Grist Mill has begun a new conservation project in partnership with Wild Birds Unlimited- Glen Mills. Store owner Chris Weaver approached the park about sponsoring a habitat restoration project specifically focused on birds in the park. We identified a small patch of land between the main trail and the mill dam that had high potential, but it had become degraded by invasive plant species after the 2020 floods.

In March, volunteers worked to clear an amazing quantity of Japanese honeysuckle and multiflora rose! Following this, a planting plan was developed to reestablish a diverse understory and canopy. Several dying ash trees were removed to prevent falling limbs from damaging plantings, and another dead tree was trimmed but left standing to provide woodpecker habitat and nesting sites.

During Earth Month, volunteers planted over 40 trees and shrubs including sassafras, black cherry, and service berry, which will supply resident and migratory birds with abundant food throughout the year. Other species, including bayberry and mountain laurel, were selected to improve winter cover. Overall, the plants were installed to create small view-sheds where the birds feel safe to move while still being easily viewed by people. Future work will include expanding existing shaded wetlands, constructing a new sunny wetland, planting ferns and wildflowers, and installing a comfortable bench for bird watching!

Wild Birds Unlimited volunteers show off a newly-planted tree

Bird Walk Dates

May 27, *8-11am*
June 24, *8-11am*
July 29, *8-11am*
August 26, *8-11am*
September 30, *8-11am*
October 28, *8-11am*
November 25, *9-11am*
December 16, *9-11am*

Sponsor Profile – Chris Weaver of Wild Birds Unlimited

Chris Weaver and Wild Birds Unlimited - Glen Mills have been long-time supporters of the park, its birds, and our conservation-related programs and initiatives. The support from Wild Birds Unlimited positively impacted programs, gardens, and now landscapes. Chris recently described the collaboration.

"Newlin is such a natural fit for our store. We simply have a similar philosophic view and have a love of nature and a passion for conservation. My wife Lisa and I feel very strongly in supporting organizations that prioritize nature and that provide opportunities for public enjoyment and learning. Not only is it the similarities of beliefs, but the absolute uniqueness and beauty of the Newlin Grist Mill property that drew us in. One of my favorite areas of the property is the Dawn Redwood Grove which borders so many of the unique ecological features of the park such as the Beech tree woods and the Mill Race and pond area. I always feel transported in time walking through here and imagine what it was like here in the 17th and 18th centuries. Thankfully, Newlin is still here to help us with that imagination, and I'm proud to support it going forward."

A Coronation Dinner!

At this year's Tasting Through Time dinner, everyone enjoyed trying foods suitable for a king. In honor of the coronation of King Charles III, the evening menu was based on the dishes from King James II coronation of 1685. It was a meal remembered for its grandeur. It only boasted two courses, but the first course included over 145 dishes and second 30 dishes. We narrowed the menu to five plates of food which was made easier by removing dishes with ingredients that could not be obtained, with endangered or unacceptable species, and those where receipts (recipes) were not readily available. The evening was filled with salad, stews, pies, custards, and jellies. The two seatings of guests enjoyed the food of a royal table along with a selection of period beverages to go with each dish.

Tasting Through Time allows participants to experience the aromas and tastes from another time and gain understanding of how food has changed (or not changed) and perspective on living in the past. The funds raised with these dinners help the historic foodways program and provided additional furnishings for the new 1739 Trimble Kitchen.

Cornmeal is now available in the gift shop! We have partnered with our friends at Castle Valley Mill to make sure we can again supply quality cornmeal while the wheel is being completed. Castle Valley Mill provides high quality grain products, stone ground in their 1730 grist mill.

Sip Along the Stream on Thursday Nights

For the past few years, NGM has invited local brewers, vintners, distillers, and other craft beverage makers to share their talents one Thursday each month during the spring and fall season. These Sip Behind the Scenes events provided our community with a chance to sample locally made beverages and learn about NGM, what it does, and the latest news. During these events, we heard from many of you that it would be great to do this more often. Now we are offering a weekly opportunity with our local partner Deer Creek Malthouse.

Join us on Thursday evenings from 4:00pm to 8:00pm, for an evening along the picturesque West Branch of Chester Creek! Our friends at Deer Creek Malthouse will have a pop up stand with beer, barley teas, grain products and more. NGM will be set up with information, displays, games, and demonstrations.

The events provide an opportunity to purchase cornmeal and locally made honey, talk with staff and volunteers about upcoming events and programs, or ask questions. It is also your chance to enjoy the park and its trails for an extra hour during this special weekly program. Bring a picnic or order in food from your favorite local restaurant.

Don't worry, the Sip Behind the Scenes Happy Hours with special guest craft beverage producers will continue to be held during selected Thursdays (June 8 and Aug 3 Penns Woods Winery, Sept 14 Penns Woods Winery and Liquid Alchemy Beverages, and Oct 12 Penns Woods and Springhouse Spirits). These craft producers will be set up from 6:00pm to 7:30pm during these evenings.

Look for Deer Creek and Newlin Grist Mill tents on Thursday nights!

Archaeology Program Receives Grant

The Ethel Sergeant Clark Smith Memorial Fund has provided a grant to support the Archaeology Lab at Newlin Grist Mill. The newly created lab is an important part of the Public Archaeology Program, supplying the facilities to process, catalog, and store artifacts recovered during excavations. This grant will provide equipment and supplies to make that process easier and more efficient.

The grant will allow NGM to acquire a dissecting scope and ultrasonic cleaner to improve our cleaning and cataloging process. Additional archive storage boxes and shelves will help us organize the thousands of artifacts recovered each season and make them easier to access. This grant will have a substantial impact on the Public Archaeology Program!

Archive Grant for Pennsylvania Mill Materials

The Newlin Grist Mill and the Society for the Preservation of Old Mills (SPOOM) received a PHMC Historical and Archival Records Care Grant. The SPOOM collection in the Newlin Grist Mill Archive contains a unique collection of records and photographs of thousands of Pennsylvania mills. The grant will advance our ability to preserve the collection and create a well-organized and publicly accessible resource for researching Pennsylvania mills. All materials will be rehoused using appropriate archival methods. Newspaper clippings and other delicate materials will be photocopied onto archival paper. Photographic images and slides will be scanned and organized for easy access by researchers.

In 2010, SPOOM moved its archival collections to NGM hoping to make it more accessible. Since that time, NGM has managed and organized the collection for SPOOM with the help of staff, volunteers, and several interns. The current team of archive volunteers have been working to inventory the collection and process new donations. This grant will provide much needed scanning equipment and a contractor to help them accomplish their goals.

The collection of Pennsylvania mill related materials represents 50 years of effort by SPOOM members to collect, document, and preserve the history of mills. Sadly, many of these mills are gone, living on only in this archive. Reorganizing these collections and increasing public access to the Pennsylvania mills collection will allow us to share it with researchers. The grant will help ensure the survival of the rich mill and milling history of Pennsylvania.

Log House Project Receives Governor's Award

On April 12, representatives from Newlin Grist Mill were invited to Harrisburg to participate in the 2023 Governor's Awards for Local Government Excellence. Newlin Grist Mill and Concord Township were awarded a Building Community Partnerships Award in recognition of their work on the Newlin Log House preservation project.

The Newlin Log House preservation project was a model community partnership consisting of township government and local non-profit organizations working with specialists, individual donors, and volunteers to save the historic resource. The township acquired the property, donated the building, and obtained an architectural study. The Concord Township Historical Commission played an important advisory role, while the Concord Township Historical Society conducted research and provided funding. Newlin Grist Mill staff and volunteers conducted additional analysis, dismantled the structure, and moved it into storage. Additional financial support was provided by Regina Alibert and MOR Construction.

Thanks to everyone who played a role in preserving this important structure! Plans are now being developed for reassembly of the Log House at Newlin Grist Mill.

Race for the Watershed

Newlin Grist Mill and Concord Township invited the community to help protect our watershed during the Race for the Watershed 5K Trail Run and Duck Race on Saturday, June 17. Healthy waterways impact plants and animals as well as the people who live in the watershed, and this event will provide water quality monitoring equipment to monitor the streams at Newlin Grist Mill.

The day started at 8:30am with a 5K Run/Walk, followed by rubber duck races from 10am to 2pm. Hand-forged medals, crafted by NGM blacksmiths, were awarded to the top three finishers of the 5K, with top finishers in each age group receiving gift cards from local businesses. The duck races started at 10:00am. The top two winners of the first three heats were awarded cash prizes up to $100. Each sponsored duck had four chances to win cash prizes including the championship race with a prize of $1000. There was plenty to see and do, including games, activities, informational displays, music, and food.

Local organizations, including Delaware County Conservation District, Bike Delco, Watershed Stewards, the EPA, and Wild Birds Unlimited (Glen Mills), will have displays and activities. Concord Township hosted duck-themed games for kids, a balloon artist, and face painting. Food and drinks were available from Fast Eddie's Jag Stop, Deer Creek Malt House, Mr. Softee, Penns Woods Winery, and The Cow and the Curd.

Thank you to our sponsors Opdenaker Trash & Recycling Services and Illumanize, along with Amerihealth Caritas, Brinker Simpson, MOR Construction, Pescatore's Restaurant, and United Tire of Concordville. Additional donations were provided by Avenue Kitchen, Bryn Mawr Running Company, Fava, Ashley's Restaurant, Philadelphia Runner, Texas Road House, and Two Brothers Restaurant.

This year's event raised enough money to purchase water testing device.
Thank You!

Above: A 5K Run/Walk and Rubber Duck Race to support water monitoring equipment. Below: The ducks are assembled, numbered, and ready to race!

Water Monitoring Program

Water and water quality are vitally important to all parts of the mission of Newlin Grist Mill. NGM maintains a water monitoring program to measure changes in water chemistry, temperatures, and streambank morphology. These measurements are mainly chemistry-focused, and include things like dissolved oxygen levels, nutrient loads, pH, conductivity, and turbidity. We used this data to show the rising nutrient loads and temperatures associated with the Route 322 expansion project initiated in 2016.

Last spring, NGM added two remote sensing stations, one on Concord Creek and the other on the West Branch of Chester Creek. These stations allow for continuous monitoring by taking measurements of temperature, conductivity, and stream depth every five minutes. Those measurements are sent via cellular network to a data dashboard that can be monitored from the office. Since their installation, these sensors have documented changes in conductivity related to road salt use and precipitation patterns, tracked depth fluctuations to create a baseline for future streambank stabilization projects, and been used to monitor temperatures as they relate to trout health!

The data is publicly available to view. Go to www.monitormywatershed.org and click on "Browse Sites" at the top of the page. Typing "Newlin" into the organizations search bar on the left will bring up a map showing the location of both sensors. Click on one of the pins to view that site's data. The top three boxes (marked "Medium: liquid aqueous") show measurements from the creek. The other boxes keep track of station performance and identify problems in the data loggers.

Several upgrades are planned for the water monitoring program in the next few years. The purchase of a YSI meter will provide more accurate measurements for monthly sampling. Additional remote sensing stations will help us understand water quality impacts at a finer geographic scale. We also hope to purchase small temperature sensors that can be deployed in locations that are too shallow for the larger stations.

Double Your Impact with a Matching Gift

Corporate matching programs are established by companies as a way to focus their contributions to nonprofits on organizations their employees care about. Each company has their own set of rules and requirements, but generally they will match your donation dollar for dollar, up to a certain amount. For example, if you donate $50, your company will match it, turning that donation into $100! Some companies will also provide donations based on volunteer hours. The best way to know if your company participates is to check with HR or ask your colleagues. Some of the companies in our area that have matching programs are Boeing, Exelon Corporation, Agilent Technologies, and SAP. Perhaps your employer is on this list as well! Next time you donate to Newlin Grist Mill, or volunteer for a workday, increase your impact with an employer matching gift.

The Importance of Sponsorships

Corporate sponsors help to make Newlin Grist Mill a vibrant resource that benefits all members of our community. In 2022, sponsors contributed a total of $18,300, funds which help support special events like the Archaeology and Fall Harvest Festivals, period meals like Tavern Night and Tasting Through Time, and programs such as Tales on Trails and the Newlin Series. Sponsorships also support Bird Walks and habitat restoration. Sponsorships impact our mission, through historic restoration projects, tree and grassland management, trail maintenance, internships, and water quality monitoring. As a local business owner, being a sponsor shows your customers that you care about our community and are invested in the same things that they care about. We feel very fortunate to have so many community business partners that are helping to create a place that connects people with history, nature, and learning.

"As a business owner, supporting local nonprofits is very important to me. Having a place like Newlin Grist Mill strengthens our community and gives people a place to relax, have fun, and learn. I am proud to support their work and mission."

- Lisa Diskin, Team Toyota

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Around the Mill

Keith Doms and Mike Boughner search for a water leak behind the Archive.

Students from Chesterbrook Academy meeting Tommy the toad.

Kacie from Penns Woods Winery serving during a Sip Behind the Scenes.

Ellen Cassidy inventorying mill photographs in the Archive.

Volunteers preparing to protect a newly planted tree.

New stone path to Cabin restrooms improves accessibility.

NGM Representatives accept Delaware County Preservation Award for Trimble Kitchen Restoration.

A Stream Fishing Club Member enjoys opening day on West Branch of Chester Creek.

Keith Doms uncovers timbers of recently discovered wooden spillway gate.

Around the Mill

Dave Collins recognized for 1000 hours of volunteering.

Bryan Ersek displays his award for 1000 hours of volunteer time.

Michael Knight receives his award for over 1000 volunteer hours.

Removing layers of modern debris from the barn foundations.

One of Mayfly Stations helping to monitor water quality.

Participants enjoying a Sip Behind the Scenes.

Results of a cooking demonstration!

Installing new bridge railing.

Jessica and Mackinsey hanging the shades screen in the Greenhouse.

Earth Month

Each year, Newlin Grist Mill celebrates Earth Day with an entire month of projects that strive to make the park a better place! In 2023, our focus was on invasive plant removal, tree planting, and getting the park ready for spring field trips and summer camps. Agilent Technologies volunteers removed lots of bittersweet vines and multiflora rose shrubs from the vernal pools above the mill dam, to prepare for a mapping project that will inform a future restoration plan for this important amphibian breeding location. The Constable family swept the Frog Pond Classroom boardwalk and improved pond-side access for younger students, while Girl Scout Troop 553 helped to remove Japanese honeysuckle vines from the Forest Classroom.

Scout pack 168, troop 22, and troop 168 began the multi-year task of removing Japanese barberry and bush honeysuckle from the hillside between the Forest Classroom and softball field. Garnet Valley High School's Interact Club and troop 112 pulled over 20 bags full of garlic mustard from along the Industrial Trail, while students from Elwyn's Davidson School worked on garlic mustard around the Visitor Center.

Not all groups worked on removing plants! The Wills family planted eastern redbuds and American sycamores along the Industrial Trail. They also added some ginkgo trees near the dawn redwood grove. These trees are an important part of our Prehistoric Newlin nature walk and are now within walking distance for young students. Finally, Girl Scout troops 42090 and 4125 planted 23 trees in the Forest Restoration area to help mitigate damage from Emerald Ash Borer beetles. Thanks to everybody's hard work, our programs and habitats are going to thrive in the coming years.

Loss Of A Newlin Mill Icon

In March, one of the Dawn Redwood trees to the south of the entrance to the parking lot was cut down. This tree was planted around 1960 by founder E. Mortimer Newlin. Tradition says this was one of two trees given to him for supporting the expedition sent to China to recover seeds. The tree had only been known in the fossil record prior to 1948 when a secluded grove was located. The tree was taken down after being killed by salt runoff from Cheyney Road. Plans are in place to replace these trees with seedlings grown from the original trees.

Trees for Sale

This is a chance to have a living piece of history. We have a limited number of Dawn Redwood (Metasequoia glyptostroboides) seedlings for sale at $50 each. The trees are part of a project to grow replacements for the two by the entrance driveway. One was damaged by lightning and other was killed by road salt runoff. These trees were propagated in our new greenhouse from cones of these trees. The species has a high germination rate, so we have more than we expected and decided to share these wonderful trees with you. Proceeds will be used for a future project focused on diversifying the Beech Forest so a single disease or pest will have less of an impact on the overall health of the forest.

Year of Food

With the restoration and furnishing of the Trimble House's original 1739 kitchen and pantry nearly complete, we have declared 2023 to be the "Year of Food" at Newlin Grist Mill!

Last November we were joined by food historian Marc Meltonville for a day in the kitchen, where we prepared dishes from *The English Art of Cookery* by Richard Briggs, the subject of a new book by Meltonville which is now available for purchase in the gift shop.

Starting in June, we will be exploring historic influences on the foodways of our region with a series of coordinated Newlin Series lectures and History at Work demonstrations under the theme "The Mid-Atlantic Melting Pot."

The Fall Harvest Festival on October 7th will focus on "Food Traditions." In addition to the typical activities of the event, we'll be featuring displays, demonstrations, and vendors that highlight how food shaped the lives of 18th-century Pennsylvanians.

Volunteer Meetings

In response to your requests, we are now hosting monthly meetings for NGM volunteers. The meetings provide updates on projects, activities, and recent discoveries. They also offer an opportunity for volunteers to ask the staff questions and chat with volunteers in other areas of the mill's operations.

The meetings will alternate between morning breakfast meetings and evening gatherings to accommodate the needs of all our volunteers. Light snacks and refreshments are included. In May, we met during the Thursday night Sip Along the Stream for a Happy Hour.

The next meeting is scheduled for 8:30 – 9:30 am on Wednesday June 21st. Other meetings will be posted in future volunteer newsletters

Eagle Scout Project Restores Forest Classroom

In October, Eagle Scout Jackson McGehean completed his Eagle project, which focused on the Forest Outdoor Classroom near the Springhouse. This classroom is a popular location for field trips and summer camp programs, where students explore the plants and animals that call a forest home. Unfortunately, the area was badly damaged by off-trail hikers during the pandemic, impacting its ability to support quality programs. Jackson's project cleared invasive and thorny plant species from the classroom, then built new brush and stacked rail fences around its boundaries. The scouts also installed a variety of new shrub and tree species, chosen for their high wildlife and educational value.

Thanks to Jackson's project, the restored classroom is now big enough to support two groups of students at the same time, and is already being used in programs this spring!

Volunteer Profile – Habitat Stewards

Since the Spring of 2022, the Habitat Stewards volunteer group has come together once a month to work on conservation-related projects in the park. Many of these projects have been focused on invasive plant species removal, including Japanese Honeysuckle vines along the Industrial trail and in the Christmas Tree Farm. Habitat Stewards also planted wildflowers in the new Monarch Waystation by the Bluebird Field and cleaned tree cages from the previous years' plantings. This is a great volunteer activity for anybody looking to help native plants and wildlife throughout the park, while also learning about habitat management and biodiversity! The group typically meets on the last Saturday afternoon of the month (excluding July and August), although some dates get moved around holidays. If you are interested in joining, please email Jessica at jshahan@newlingristmill.org.

A Volunteer Thank You

April 2023 brought the return of NGM's annual volunteer celebration! Volunteers and staff gathered in person for an evening picnic at the Log Cabin for the first time since 2020. In addition to delicious food, everybody was able to share their favorite volunteer stories from the past few years, and to celebrate the major accomplishments that have been achieved.

The picnic also marked the start of the new Volunteer Star program, which honors dedicated volunteers who have made a significant difference in the park. Bryan Ersek, David Collins, and Michael Knight were the program's first honorees. All three have donated more than 1,000 hours since they began working with NGM. Garnet Valley High School's Interact Club was designated as the first Group of Merit in recognition of the club's long history of service in the park. As an additional thank you, the staff marked National Volunteer Week with daily coffee, cold drinks, and snacks in the office, as well as a formal volunteer report and celebratory car magnet!

Altogether, volunteers donated over 6,000 hours of service to the park in 2022! Volunteers included over 120 individuals, families, and students, and 20 community groups from across the region. The past year has brought increases across the board in the number of volunteers and the amount of time devoted

to the site. Overall, the top three categories for engagement included grounds maintenance, environmental conservation activities, and education. Volunteers were also critical to the success of the site's special events, millwright and blacksmith shops, archaeology program, and archives management.

No matter how many hours a volunteer contributes, their work is important for helping the organization fulfill its mission and thrive. Volunteers do not just augment projects and initiatives, they are vital to the success of those activities. Volunteer support more than doubles the capacity of the site to provide well-maintained trails and picnic areas, high quality educational experiences, well-conserved historic and environmental resources, and fun experiences for all visitors!

Volunteers We Need You!

Volunteers are critical for the success of Newlin Grist Mill. Our volunteers help keep the park beautiful and accessible, deliver quality historical and environmental programming, and protect and conserve the unique resources of the site. Our volunteer program strives to be accessible to as much of the community as possible, across multiple ages, skills, and schedules. Projects are available for long-term volunteers and short-duration projects.

We often get questions about the skills necessary for participation. While some activities do require specialized skills, we will provide the training that you need to be successful and make significant contributions. If you or somebody you know are looking for a consistent volunteer position or need community service hours, please reach out!

Volunteers looking for weekday opportunities have the option to help with site management, education, archaeology, and special projects. Currently, we are looking for individuals to help with greenhouse management, including watering, weeding, and seed propagation. Our archaeology program also needs dedicated volunteers to assist with public archaeology days, ongoing excavations, and routine lab work like artifact cleaning and sorting. The buildings and grounds crew meets on Wednesdays through Fridays. This is a great group to join if you are looking for a volunteer position with a wide variety of tasks.

Community organizations like school clubs and classes, scout troops, corporate groups, and youth groups can sign up for larger-scale projects with schedules varying depending on the time of year and activity. Group-based projects often focus on conservation-oriented tasks like invasive plant management, trail maintenance, and habitat restoration tasks. Groups are also needed to help with special events like the Archaeology Festival and Fall Harvest Festival. We would love to have you join us today!

Water Wheel Update

When will the waterwheel be finished? This remains one of the most asked questions we receive. The water wheel project was temporarily halted by the pandemic and flood recovery, but the wheel remains unfinished for other reasons. Attention was diverted by grant deadlines and planning demands related to other projects. The primary reason the water wheel project remains unfinished is that its completion needs to correspond with the completion of the silt mitigation. The wheel needs to remain wet to protect the wood from deteriorating which should happen in late 2023 or 2024.

The slower pace of the project has allowed the team to learn more from the experimental archaeology project and concentrate on improving skills and techniques. The Millwright Shop reopened to the public in April so you can once again stop in to follow the progress of the water wheel every Friday and Saturday.

School Programs

Spring has sprung, and with it programs have blossomed! The NGM staff and volunteers have been busy with a jam-packed calendar. Visiting the site this spring for field trips, we anticipate about 1550 participants from two dozen different schools, homeschool groups, and organizations. Participants range in age from preschool to senior citizens, and the programs include nature explorations, history demonstrations and tours, archaeology activities, and more.

We are currently taking reservations for summer and fall group programs – teachers and group leaders should contact Laura Adie at ladie@newlingristmill.org to schedule a field trip before the calendar fills up!

Our Summer Discovery camps are also booked to near capacity for all three weeks at the time of this writing. Check the "Summer Discovery" section of our website for the most up-to-date availability.

In addition to the formal group programs and camp sessions, we have a variety of informal programs, self-guided tours, and drop-in demonstrations throughout the spring, summer, and fall. See the back page of this issue for a calendar of upcoming programs and events!

Now Available - The Tavern Cook!

The Tavern Cook: Eighteenth Century Dining Through the Recipes of Richard Briggs is now available in the Newlin Grist Mill gift shop. The new book by English food historian Marc Meltonville tells the story of Richard Briggs and explores food portrayed in his cookbook *The English Art of Cookery*. The insights gained from this cookbook are fascinating and the author weaves an entertaining narrative from his analysis. He also includes recipes for you to try.

The staff and volunteers at Newlin Grist Mill prepared several dishes from Briggs' cookbook and contributed to Meltonville's publication. We were one of several sites and hearth cooks ask to test the recipes and comment on them. *The English Art of Cookery* is the source for many of the dishes served at the annual Tavern Night.

You can get your copy of *The Tavern Cook* for $25 at Newlin Grist Mill.

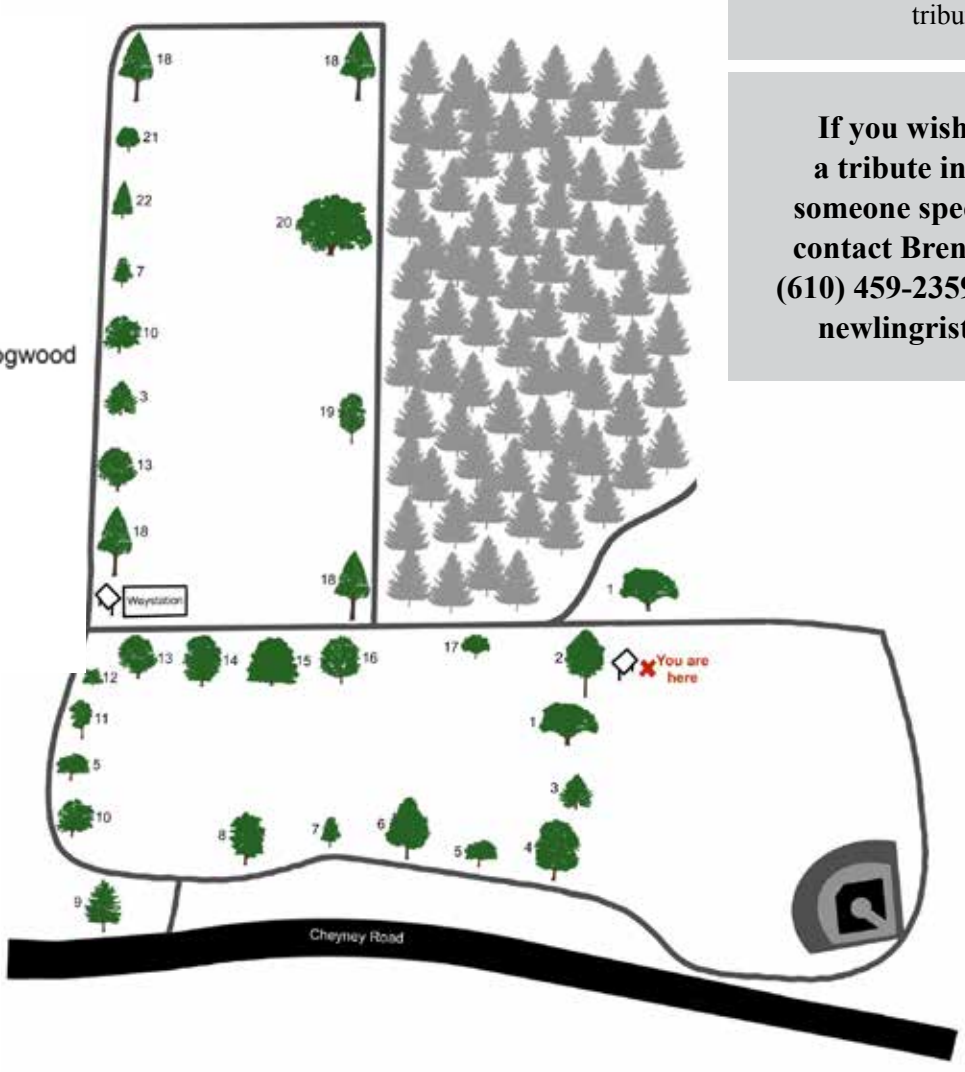
Tree Gallery Signs and Markers Coming This Summer

After unforeseeable delays, we are happy to announce that the signs and tree markers for the Tree Gallery will be coming this summer. The trees have been planted but signs had not been installed. The delay resulted from difficulties in completing the artwork that is critical to the signage. Each tree will have a marker with its name and interesting facts but will also feature illustrations of the leaves, fruits, and nuts associated with each tree. The two interpretive signs each feature several artwork illustrations that needed to be created. The final result will make it worth the wait.

The Tree Gallery is a recently introduced project designed to fulfill the wish of founder E. Mortimer Newlin to provide a place to experience trees found in an early Pennsylvania forest. The goal has been to create a space for people to explore the variety of trees, learn some interesting facts, and enjoy them in a beautiful setting. The former fields of Giant Redwoods created a gallery of trees and made the perfect location.

The gallery of trees will create a wonderful setting that both educates and inspires the public. Therefore, we felt it appropriate to offer the public an opportunity to be a part of the project. Individuals and families are able to sponsor the trees as tributes to important people in their lives. The plan and species is illustrated in the adjacent drawing and key. Approximately half of the trees have been sponsored and planted.

1. American elm
2. Tulip poplar
3. Black gum
4. Red maple
5. Eastern redbud
6. American basswood
7. Common persimmon
8. Kentucky coffeetree
9. White pine
10. Sassafras
11. Pignut hickory
12. Eastern flowering dogwood
13. Black cherry
14. Northern red oak
15. American chestnut
16. Chestnut oak
17. Hop-hornbeam
18. Giant sequoia
19. Bitternut hickory
20. White oak
21. Ironwood
22. Dawn redwood



A special Thank You to all of our Tree Gallery sponsors!

Your financial support is making this gallery of trees possible, and your generosity is helping us make our founder's dream a reality. By adding your tribute to this valuable collection of trees, you are helping to create a special space that honors both the distant past and your more recent traditions.

Your trees have been planted and are starting to flourish. We are very sorry for the delay in installing the tree markers with your personal tribute. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we have worked to overcome several unexpected challenges that were beyond our control. Thank you for sponsoring a tree and for trusting us to care for and nurture your tribute.

If you wish to make a tribute in honor of someone special, please contact Brenda Orso at (610) 459-2359 or borso@newlingristmill.org.

Nicholas Newlin Foundation

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219 South Cheyney Road
Glen Mills PA 19342

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VISIT US!

Park Hours:
Changes seasonally –
check website for times

Visitor Center Hours:
9am-4pm daily

Mill Tours:
Monday-Friday:
11am & 2pm
Saturday & Sunday:
10am, 11am, 1pm, 2pm

Phone: 610-459-2359
Email: info@newlingristmill.org
Web: www.newlingristmill.org

Find us on Facebook & Instagram!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sip Along the Stream with Deer Creek Malthouse every Thursday 4:00-8:00pm

July
15: Public Archaeology *(10am-3pm)*
29: Bird Walk *(8-10am)*

August
26: Bird Walk (*8-10am*)
History at Work: "Mushroom Dishes" (*10am-3pm*)
The Newlin Series: "Fungus Among Us: The Mushroom Industry of Kennett Square, PA" (*4pm*)

September
9: Archaeology Festival (*10am-3pm*)
23: History at Work: "Receipts from American Cookery" (*10am-2pm*)
The Newlin Series: "A Quest for the Author of the First American Cookbook" by (*4pm*)
30: Bird Walk *(8-10am)*

October
7: Fall Harvest Festival (*10am-4pm*)
21: International Archaeology Day (*10am-3pm*)
28: Bird Walk (*8-10am*)
History at Work: "18th-century Dairy" (*10am-3pm*)

November
4: Tavern Night
(Two seatings: *4:30-6:30pm & 7:30-9:30pm*)