



NEWS RELEASE

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Allegheny Land Trust Protects 40 additional acres along the Great Allegheny Passage

Elizabeth Township, PA. November 7, 2008 – Allegheny Land Trust (ALT) announced the protection of 40 acres along the Youghiogheny River and Great Allegheny Passage that will be added to ALT’s existing 400-acre Dead Man’s Hollow Conservation Area. The expanded ALT preserve is the largest privately protected conservation area in Allegheny County and encompasses 440 acres in Elizabeth Township, Lincoln and Liberty Boroughs.

With major support from Colcom Foundation, Allegheny Land Trust raised \$60,000 to acquire this important new parcel of highly significant wildlife habitat, highly visible from the Boston Bridge with a vertical drop over 400 feet to the Youghiogheny River. The Allegheny County Natural Heritage Inventory identified the Dead Man’s Hollow watershed as one of the county’s most significant Biological Diversity Areas.

“ALT sees Dead Man’s Hollow as a priority area for the preservation of the natural landscape and for the protection of biodiversity in the county,” said Roy Kraynyk, Executive Director of Allegheny Land Trust. “The conservation of these 40 additional acres along the Great Allegheny Passage expands forever the recreational, educational and ecological benefits that thousands of hikers, bikers, and naturalists enjoy along the trail each year.

In 2006, ALT’s Board of Directors adopted a new strategic plan that calls for the implementation of the *ALT GREENPRINT* – a regional land conservation plan and map of conservation priorities that provide the greatest public benefit. Acquired in March 1996 as ALT’s first land acquisition, the Dead Man’s Hollow property exemplifies a Greenprint



property with all three criteria: recorded biological diversity, water management capacity, and highly visible lands that define scenic character. “The protection of 40 more acres adjacent to Dead Man’s Hollow squarely meets all of our Greenprint criteria and demonstrates how ALT is focused on implementing priority conservation work on the ground,” remarked ALT’s Board Project Committee Chair Tim Stanny.

In keeping with its land conservation mission, Allegheny Land Trust will ensure the permanent conservation and care of the newly acquired property as part of its management plan to protect the natural features and benefits of Dead Man’s Hollow. “We are committed to the long-term care of Dead Man’s Hollow and encourage area residents to help us as volunteer stewards,” said ALT Stewardship Coordinator Doug France.

Allegheny Land Trust is celebrating its 15th year protecting land in Allegheny and Washington Counties. Since incorporating in 1993, Allegheny Land Trust has protected more than 1,415 acres in 20 municipalities.

The mission of Allegheny Land Trust is to help local people save local land that contributes to the scenic, recreational, educational and environmental well being of our communities. To learn more about Allegheny Land Trust and to ask about volunteer opportunities, please visit www.alleghenylandtrust.org or call 412-741-2750.

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