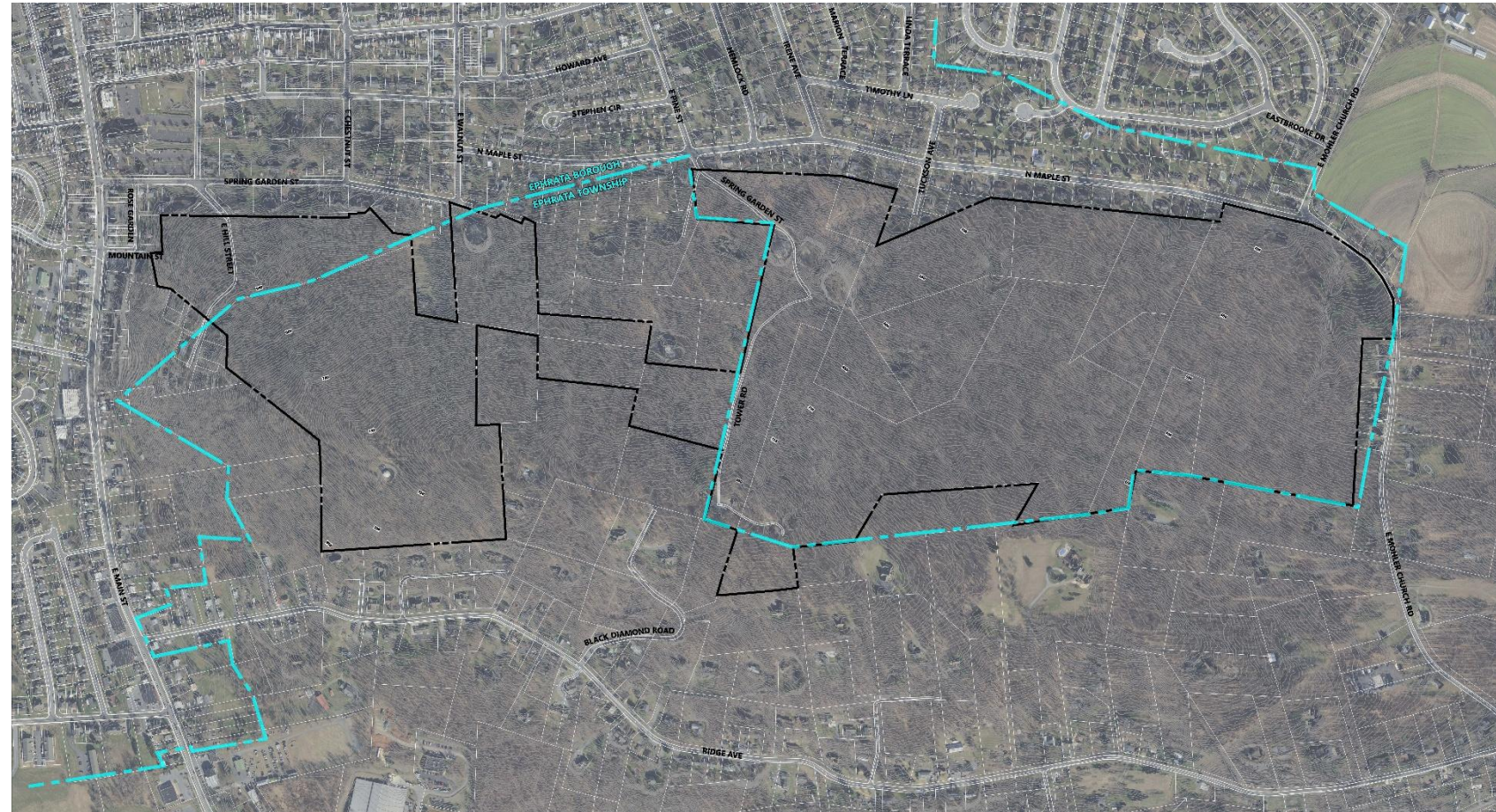


Mountain Springs Recreational Preserve
Ephrata Borough / Ephrata Township,
Lancaster County, Pennsylvania

Agenda

- Planning process
- Benefits/Goals/Vision
- Program
- Pre-Final Design Presentation
- Discussion
- Next steps



Planning Process

- Goal Setting
- Site Analysis
- Needs Assessment / Research
- Public Meeting / Open House
- Conceptual Alternative Designs
- Pre-Final Master Plan
- Public Meeting
- Final Master Plan
- Cost Analysis / Phasing
- Operations / Maintenance / Security Analysis



Recreational Preserve

A Recreational Preserve is a designated area of land managed to balance natural resource conservation with public outdoor recreational activities. Recreational Preserves:

- Prioritizes the protection of natural resources
- Focus on facilitating public access and enjoyment of nature through infrastructure like trails, boat launches, etc.
- Include opportunities for low impact outdoor activities like hiking, bird watching, kayaking, etc.





Benefits of Urban Forested Natural Areas

Enhance Livability

- Time in nature reduces fatigue, anxiety, etc.
- Provides an escape from noise and replaces with sounds of nature
- Provides opportunities for environmental education
- Provides opportunities to volunteer and recreate with neighbors; improving social ties and sense of community



Benefits of Urban Forested Natural Areas

Ecological Benefits

- Provide native biodiversity
- Absorb stormwater and slow runoff velocity.
- Reduce soil loss
- Absorb airborne pollutants

Project Goals

- Protect the natural resources of Ephrata Mountain in perpetuity
- Expand public use of Ephrata Mountain through the low impact improvements desired by residents and visitors
- Prioritize improvements that provide opportunities to spend time experiencing and enjoying nature
- Provide safe pedestrian connections from downtown Ephrata and the WERT to Mountain Springs Recreational Preserve
- Restore native plant communities and enhance habitat diversity
- Minimize the impacts of stormwater runoff
- Enhance the recreational preserve in a manner that minimizes maintenance requirements





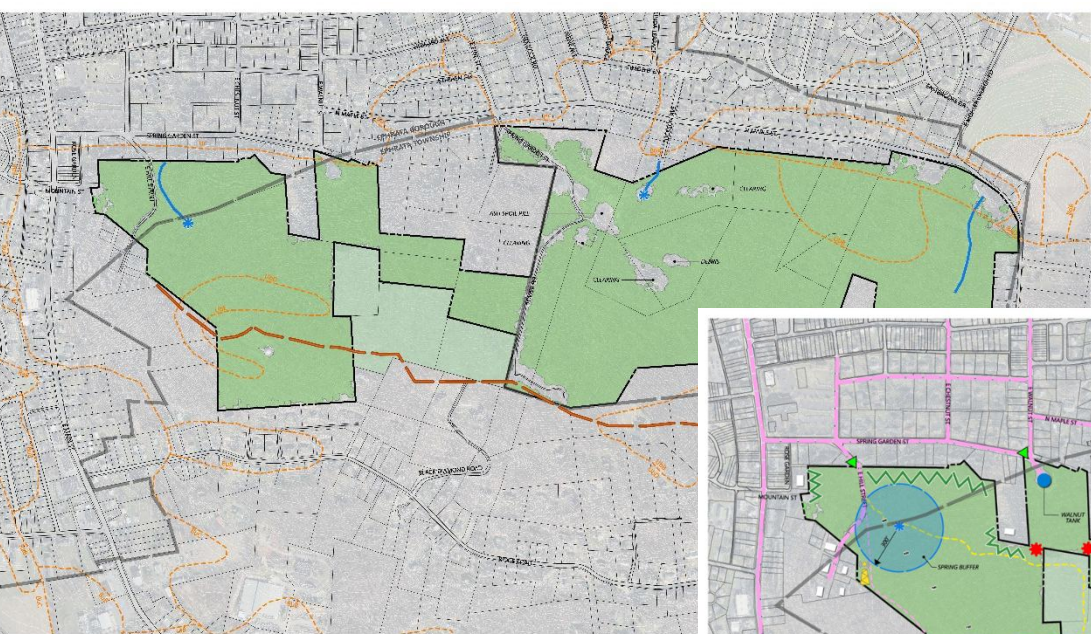
Conservation Goals

- Minimize disturbance
- Protect native vegetation
- Stabilize clearings and erosion
- Control invasive species
- Stabilize slopes (native plantings, slash dispersion, erosion control blankets)
- Slow stormwater runoff (water bars, grade reversals, rolling grade dips)
- Promote infiltration (Infiltration berms and basins)

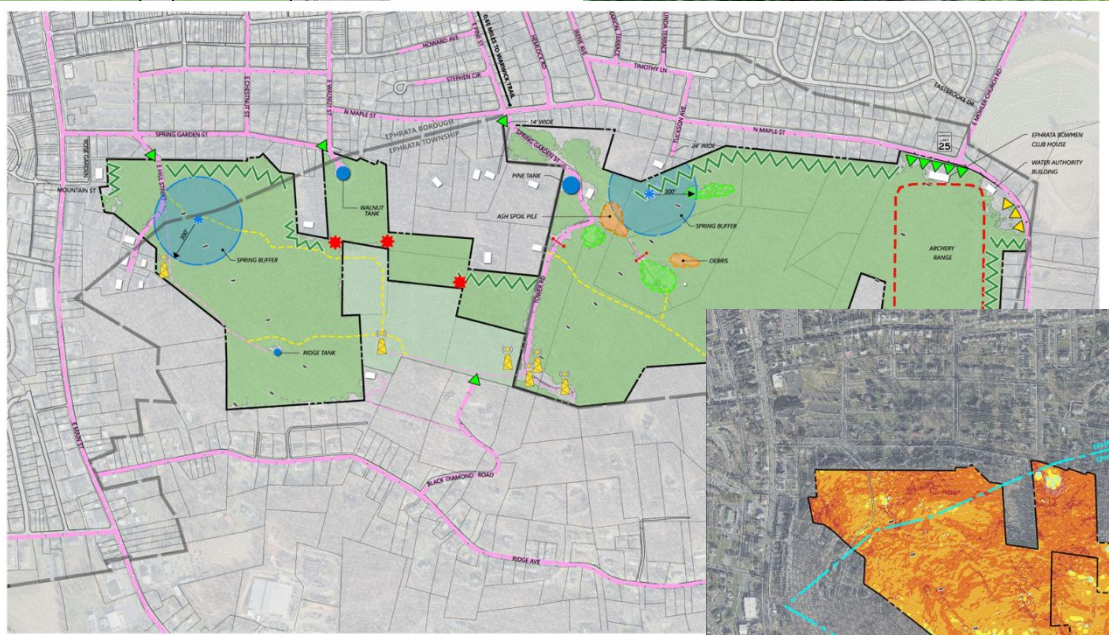
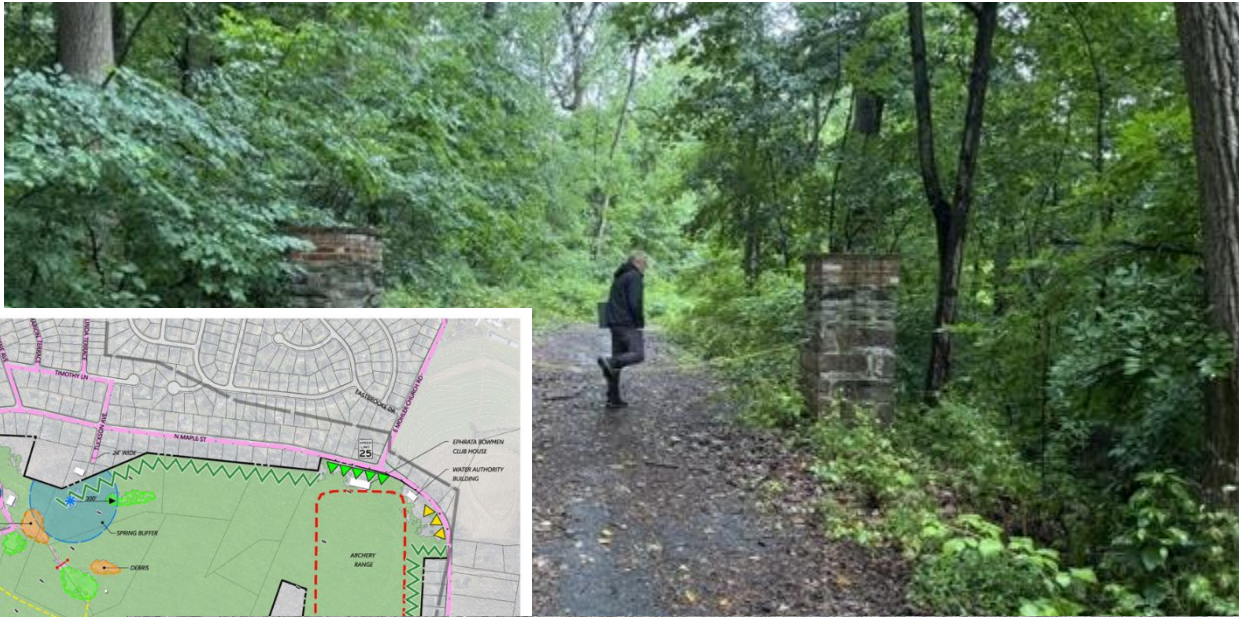


Mountain Springs Recreational Preserve Vision Statement

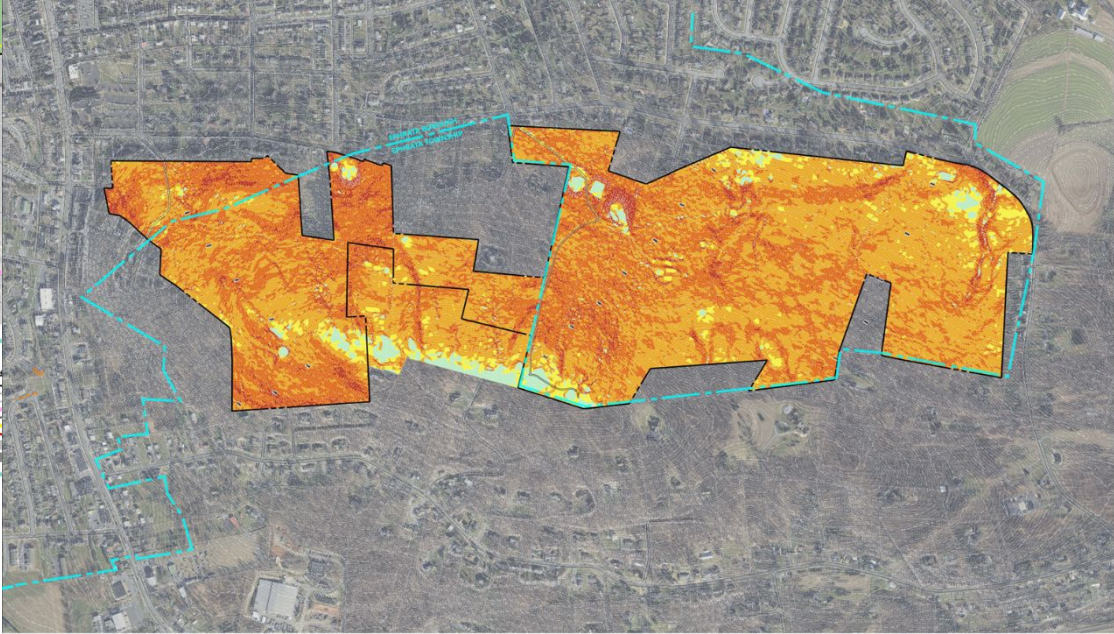
To protect Ephrata Mountain as a thriving, accessible natural treasure that connects people of all abilities to nature, inspires stewardship, and strengthens our community and downtown for generations to come.



Mountain Springs Recreational Preserve
NATURAL RESOURCES MAP
 Ephrata Borough / Ephrata Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania
 May 2026



Mountain Springs Recreational Preserve
MANMADE FEATURES MAP
 Ephrata Borough / Ephrata Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania
 May 2026



Ephrata Mountain Recreational Preserve
SLOPE ANALYSIS MAP
 Ephrata Borough, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania
 April 2026

SLOPE LEGEND

0 - 5% Slope	15 - 25% Slope
5 - 8% Slope	>25% Slope
8 - 15% Slope	

--- Property Line --- Municipal Boundary

Scale: 1" = 200' North Arrow

mainspring



Recreational Preserve Program

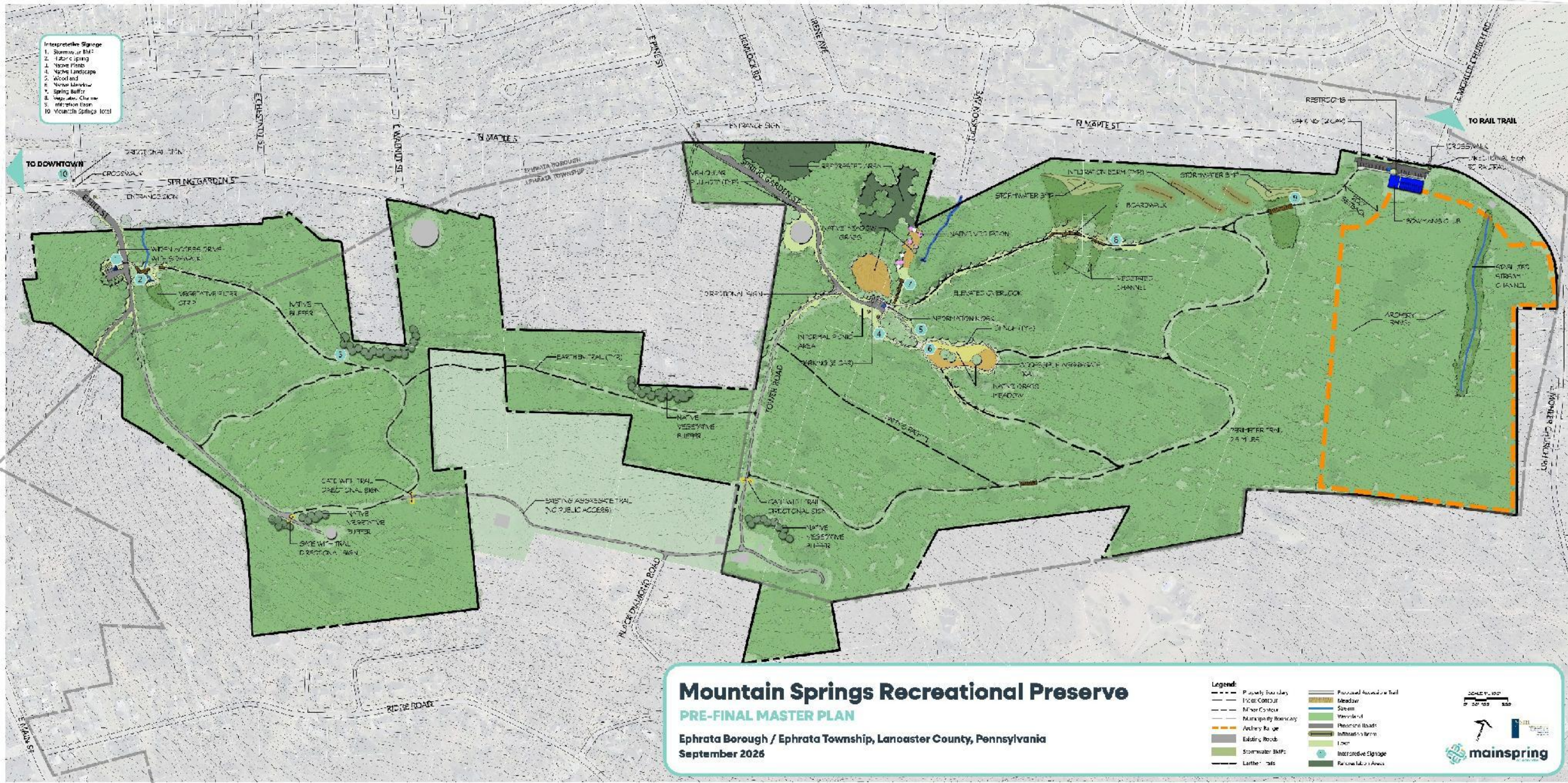
Recreational Program Items

- Trails
- Elevated Overlook
- Interpretative Signs
- Informal Picnic
- Information Kiosk

Ecological Program Items

- Invasive Species Control
- Native Grass Meadow
- Native Vegetation Buffer
- Stormwater BMPs
 - Infiltration Berms
 - Infiltration Basins
 - Vegetated Channel
 - Stabilized Stream Channel
 - Vegetated Filter Strip

- Interpretive Signage**
- 1. Stormwater BMP
 - 2. Visitor's Spring
 - 3. Native Plant
 - 4. Native Landscape
 - 5. Native Meadow
 - 6. Spring Buffer
 - 7. Native Plant
 - 8. Native Plant
 - 9. Native Plant
 - 10. Native Plant





Mountain Springs Recreational Preserve

PRE-FINAL PLAN - HILL STREET ENTRANCE

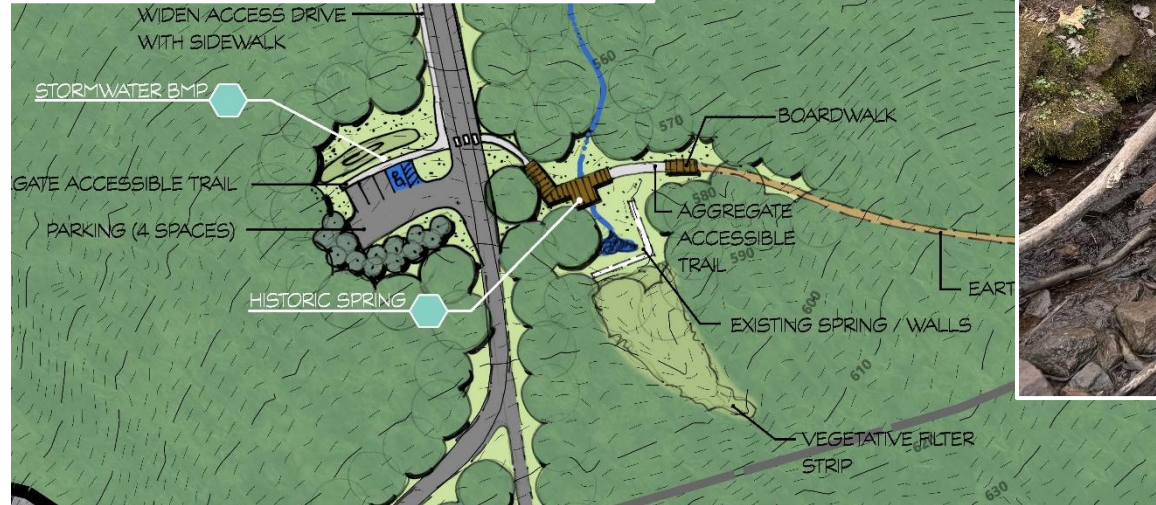
Ephrata Borough / Ephrata Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania
September 2026

Legend:

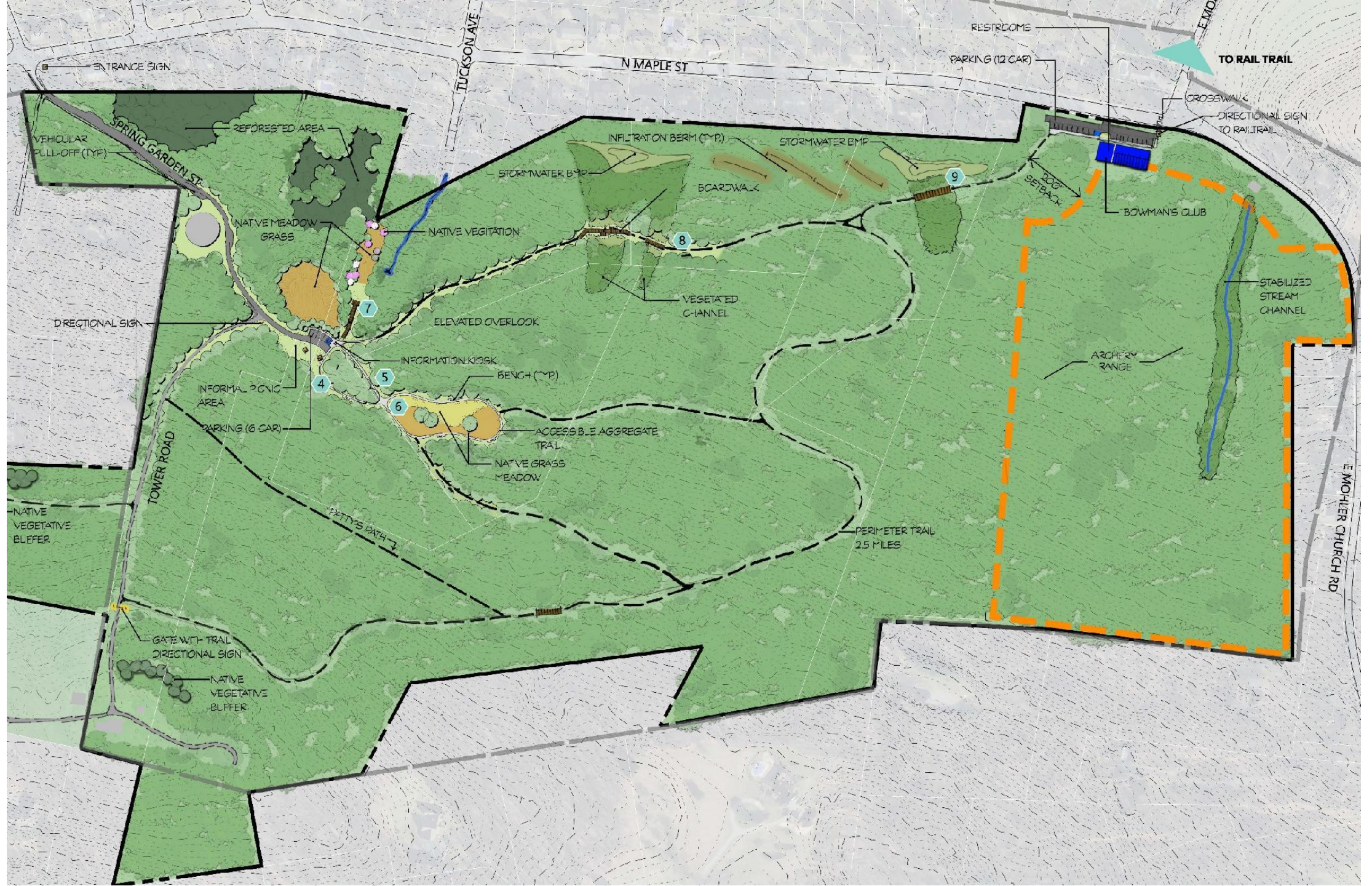
- Property Boundary
- Index Contour
- Municipality Boundary
- Scatter Plot
- Lawn
- Feature Tree
- Proposed Accessible Trail
- Stream
- Woodland
- Proposed Road
- Vegetative Filter Strip
- Is Requested Sign

SCALE: 1"=40'

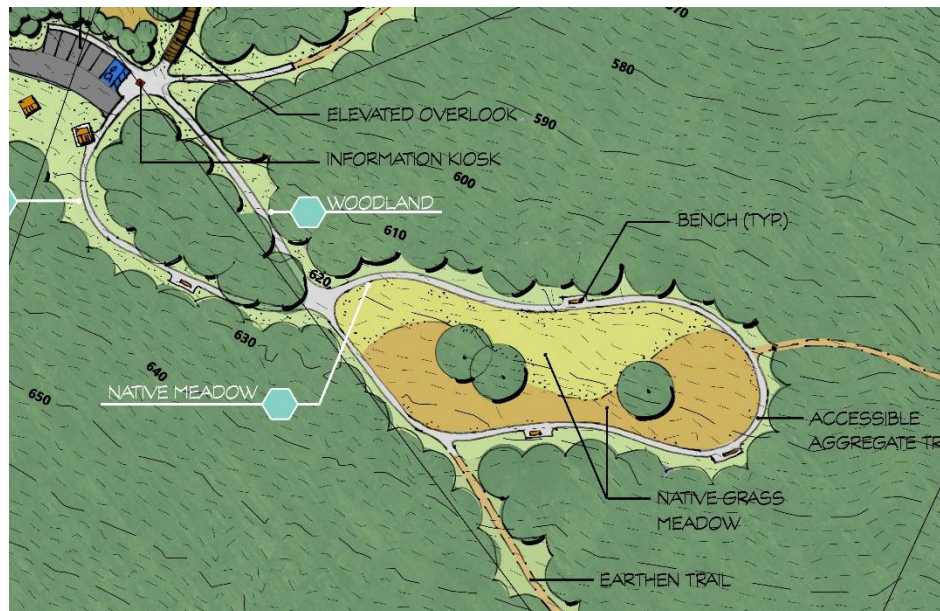


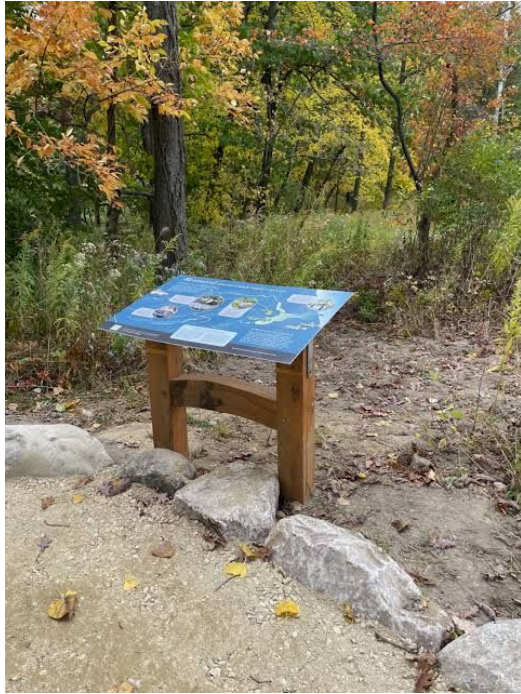




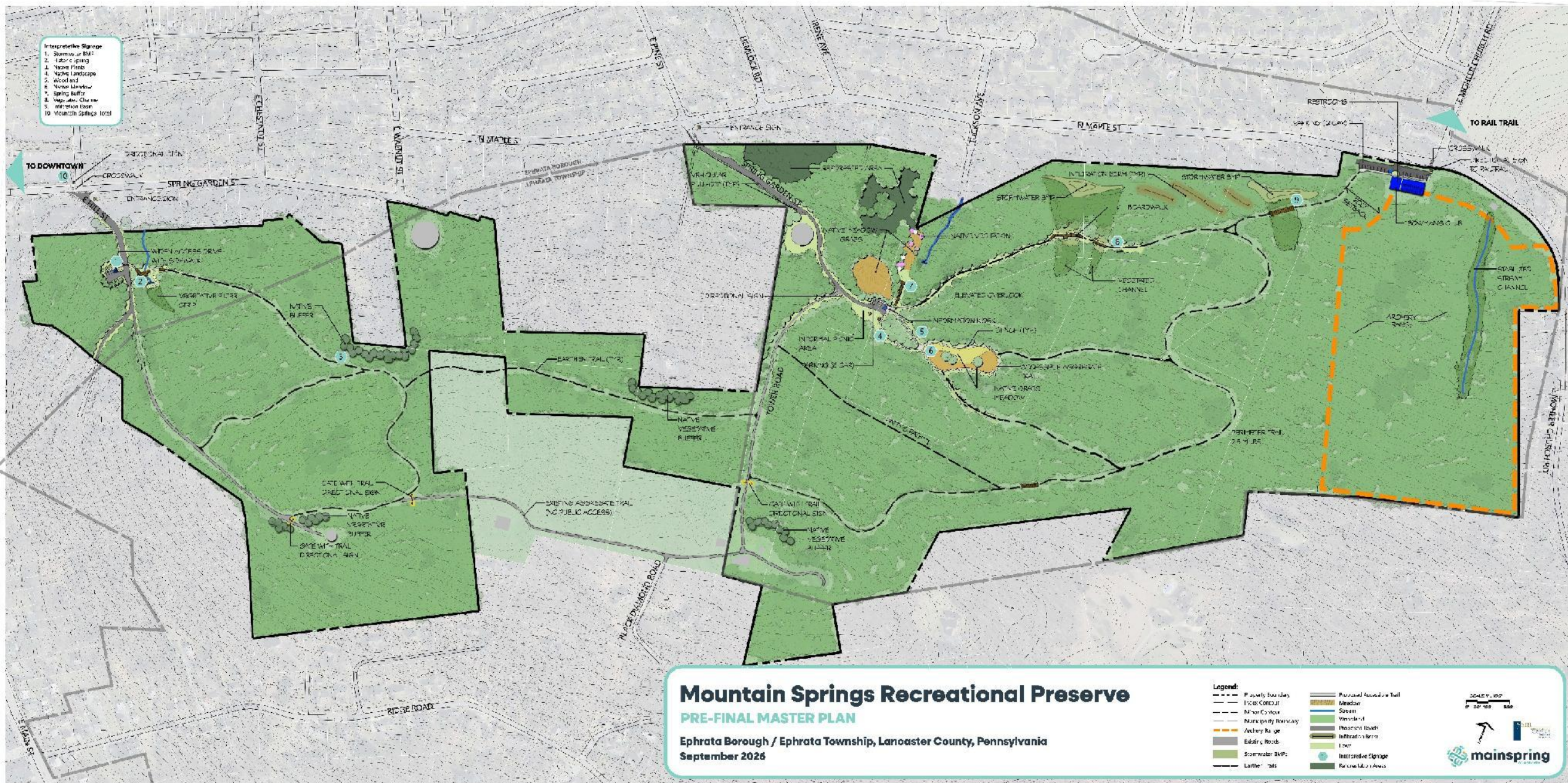












Next Steps

- Goal setting
- Site analysis
- Needs assessment and research
- Public meeting / Open House
- Conceptual alternative designs
- Pre-final design
- Public meeting
- Final design
- Cost analysis
- Phasing plan
- Operations, maintenance, security analysis



Thank you for Participating!

This presentation has been recorded and will be available to view on Mainspring Youtube channel and website by Friday, 10/9, 5:00 PM.

<https://www.youtube.com/@mainspringofephrata>

<https://mainspringofephrata.org/>

If you did not have the opportunity to speak tonight, please use the index card provided to write down your thoughts.

Feedback will be taken up until October 15. Scan the QR code to access the Feedback Form.

