

My Story



A Community Gathering Place

Clifford Township Recreation Complex

By Jennifer Long, Community Member

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The transformation of the Clifford Township Recreational Complex began in 2006 with a \$20,000 grant from the Keystone Fund to install a new playground and add dugouts to the existing baseball field. Improvements have continued each year thanks to the commitment of the

Township Supervisors and the support of local organizations and community members. The complex is now a true neighborhood park complete with a regulation Little League field, playground areas for children ages 2-5 and 6-12, walking trails, access to the Tunkhannock Creek, and plenty of greenspace. The site also has a Community Center and a hands-on, exploratory Children’s Garden right next door. There is something for everyone!

Our level walking trail is by far the main attraction at the park. The trail offers safe,



Keystone Fund Investment: \$40,000

Total Public/Private Investment: \$109,760

inexpensive access to physical activity and our residents are embracing it. It is perfect for the elderly, the very young, and those with limited mobility. Visitors can be found taking a brisk walk, strolling with their dogs, or running laps. The peaceful

setting along the East Branch of the Tunkhannock Creek also provides the perfect backdrop for sitting on a bench and enjoying the view, or having a picnic while watching your children splash in the shallow water.

Baseball families especially benefit from the close proximity of the trail to the field. While their children are practicing, moms and dads are outside getting some exercise too--a win-win! The playgrounds are placed close to the field as well, and from April to July this area is filled with families and children, allowing them to make connections, engage in

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physical activity, and enjoy the outdoors. There is plenty of open space at the park, offering the opportunity for unorganized play and exploration.

The progress continues. Thanks to another grant received this year from the Keystone Fund, the township was able to purchase an additional ten acres adjacent to the park. Plans to expand the walking trails to surround this property are in the works. Construction of a heated, public restroom is almost complete. Installation of a DCNR-funded multi-purpose court is set to begin this spring, and the finishing touches are being added to the Children's Garden next door. This one-acre, fenced-in area offers an opportunity for adults to relax while young children can investigate activity stations that represent our local heritage.

The park improvements have been a welcomed addition to Clifford Township, offering safe, local outdoor activities for all ages and abilities. The park is a gathering place for residents to enjoy the outdoors and provides a great opportunity for them to develop relationships with the people in their neighborhood. Most importantly, the park offers a sense of community and contributes positively to the health and wellness of all who visit.

[Learn more at KeystoneFund.org.](https://www.KeystoneFund.org)