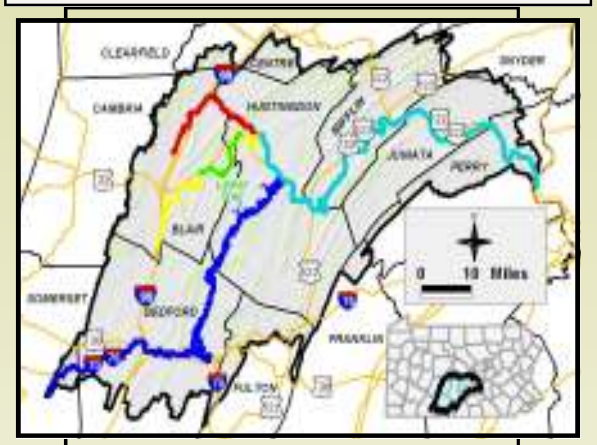
ONE OF NATURAL BIODIVERSITY'S FOCUS AREAS:



The Juniata River is the second largest tributary to the Susquehanna River. **The Juniata** is formed by the confluence of the **Little Juniata River**, the **Frankstown,** and, about 10 miles down stream, the **Raystown Branch.**

The Juniata Watershed drainage area is 3,406 square miles.

We do not inherit the land from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.
-Native American Proverb

PARTNERS

Juniata Clean Water Partnership

National Fish & Wildlife Foundation

National Wildlife Federation

PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Southern Alleghenies Conservancy

Southern Alleghenies Resource Conservation and Development Council

USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

Congressman John P. Murtha, 12th District, PA

The Western Pennsylvania Watershed Program

Westsylvania Heritage Corporation

Juniata Project Office:

NATURAL BIODIVERSITY

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JUNIATA PROJECT

NATURAL BIODIVERSITY

A Conservation Strategy

Our Mission:

To develop and implement a strategy for conserving the diverse natural heritage of the landscape, ensuring harmonious interactions within populations, communities and ecosystems of southwestern and south-central Pennsylvania watersheds.

Restoring Our Natural Heritage In The Juniata Watershed

Our Goals

Natural Biodiversity's primary goals within the Juniata Watershed are to:

- Reduce the presence of invasive non-native plants and animals.
- Enhance the natural diversity of plants and animals.
- Educate people about the damage caused by invasives and the importance of restoring the landscape's previous biological diversity.
- Recruit volunteers willing to embark upon these challenges.

Volunteer Weed Whackers

We hope more people and organizations will join us in accepting the challenge of restoring natural biodiversity to the ecosystem – not only here in the Juniata Watershed - but nationwide.

Weeding Invasives

Tree-of-Heaven

Herbicidal Treatment

Currently, three methods are used to control invasive species:

*** Biological ***
The introduction of a particular species to prevent the reproduction of another.

*** Mechanical ***
Weed whacking, hedge pruning, manual weed pulling, and even chain sawing for large tree species.

*** Chemical ***
Herbicide is applied selectively on invasive plants.

Within the Juniata Watershed, Natural Biodiversity utilizes the Mechanical and Chemical approach to control Japanese knotweed, Tree-of-Heaven, and other invasive non-native plants within the control area.

Benefits of planting with natives

- Develops riparian buffers to reduce stream bank erosion and in-stream sedimentation
- Establishes a canopy cover to slow the growth of light-loving invasives.
- Improves aesthetics and increases the recreation potential of a site.
- Creates food and cover for a variety of wildlife species.

Juniata Invasive Species Projects

Lower Trail Demonstration

At the Water Street section of the Lower Trail, Natural Biodiversity has called on volunteers to help with the removal of invasive species. Japanese Knotweed is a big invader at the Lower Trail, but due to the large help of our "Weed Whacker" volunteers we have completed the first step necessary to reintroduce natives back to their natural environment. Upon completion of the whacking, the knotweed was chemically treated with selective herbicide application. Along the trail, the invasive species Tree-of-Heaven was also treated and will be followed with native plant revegetation.

Planning for the Future

Natural Biodiversity, in conjunction with the Southern Alleghenies Conservancy and Southern Alleghenies RC&D are working along the Raystown Branch within the Juniata Watershed to restore riparian and stream bank fencing areas. We are working with agricultural land owners on how to identify invasive species and problems associated with them. With a variety of partners, we will compile a comprehensive invasive species management plan for the Raystown Branch Watershed.