

## NATURAL BIODIVERSITY'S FOCUS AREAS:

### KISKI - CONEMAUGH WATERSHED



Natural Biodiversity  
manages projects  
within:  
1,887 Square-Mile  
Kiski-Conemaugh  
River Basin  
AND  
3,400 Square Mile  
Juniata Watershed

### JUNIATA WATERSHED



# PARTNERS

Conemaugh Valley Conservancy  
Juniata Clean Water Partnership  
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 Resource  
Conservation Service  
Congressman John P. Murtha,  
12th District, PA  
The Western Pennsylvania Watershed  
Program  
Westsylvania Heritage Corporation

## NATURAL BIODIVERSITY

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## NATURAL BIODIVERSITY *A Conservation Strategy*

### *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 Nature's  
Diversity in  
Pennsylvania's Alleghenies*

# GET INVOLVED

Natural Biodiversity utilizes citizen volunteers to research, monitor, and manage invasive plants as well as restore natural diversity in parks, along public trails, at river access points, on historical sites, and at other community places.

## Weed Watchers

- are the eyes of Natural Biodiversity. They learn how to detect and report species of invasive plants in the Kiski-Conemaugh and upper Juniata watersheds.

## Weed Whackers

- remove invasive plants by pulling, cutting, and spraying when necessary.



*Volunteer Weed Whackers*

## Streambank Stewards

- collect data on all plant, animal, and aquatic life in riparian areas. They also plant and maintain native species to restore riparian forest buffers.

## Habitat Stewards

- create wildlife habitats in their own backyards and guide similar efforts in community settings. Natural Biodiversity is a host of this National Wildlife Federation program.

# WEEDING INVASIVES



*Kudzu Before Treatment — Kudzu After Treatment*

Natural Biodiversity uses a scientific approach in its efforts to control Japanese knotweed, kudzu, and other invasive non-native plants.

**Currently, three methods are used at knotweed control sites:**

### **Biannual herbicide application:**

Each spring and fall, herbicides are applied selectively on invasive plants.

### **Summer cutting/fall herbicide application:**

Invasive plants are cut by the end of July to allow for limited re-growth and then sprayed after Labor Day but before the first killing frost.

### **One-Time rhizome disturbance/ herbicide application:**

Also known as “excavation,” this process breaks up the rhizomes in the fall—usually via a backhoe turning over the soil—to expose more plant surface area, which is then sprayed each spring and fall

# PLANTING NATIVES

Along with removing invasive plants in riparian areas, Natural Biodiversity strives to encourage the growth of native plant species. At sites where native-plant propagation needs some help, we plant species that are appropriate for the setting.

**Native plantings may be used to:**

Establish a tree canopy that will eliminate light-loving invasive species.

Enhance wildlife habitat

Create privacy screenings

Improve the aesthetics of a site

Develop riparian buffers, improving stream quality

Insulate and shade urban and residential communities



*Park of 1889 After Photo*