

AUSTINTOWN TOWNSHIP

MAHONING COUNTY, OHIO
82 OHLTOWN ROAD
AUSTINTOWN, OH 44515

SPECIAL MEETING OF MAY 20, 2026

A Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Austintown Township was held May 20, 2026 at Town Hall, 82 Ohltown Rd, Austintown, OH.

The meeting opened at 1:06 pm with a salute to the flag led by Chairperson Robert Santos. Roll Call was as follows: Mrs. Deavers, present, Mr. Shepas, present, and Mr. Santos, present.

Also in attendance were Administrator Mark D'Apolito and Assistant Fiscal Officer Amy O'Brien.

Assistant Fiscal Officer, Amy O'Brien, will serve as the Fiscal Officer for purposes of this meeting pursuant to Ohio Revised Code 507.021

RESOLUTION #26-05-20-01: Motion by Mr. Shepas to approve a grant application filing for the "Nature Works Grant" from The Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

- If awarded, funds will be used to resurface tennis courts at Austintown Township Park.
- The maximum amount of the grant has not been released by the State of Ohio, but in the past, approximately \$54,000.00 has been awarded.
- A 20% match by the Township would be required.

Mrs. Deavers seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Shepas, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mrs. Deavers, yes.

RESOLUTION #26-05-20-02: Motion by Mrs. Deavers to adjourn meeting at 1:09 pm.

Mr. Shepas seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Shepas, yes; Mr. Santos, yes; and Mrs. Deavers, yes.

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MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING OF MAY 20, 2026
PAGE 2

This is to certify that the foregoing is an accurate record of the proceedings of the board of township trustees at its meeting held on the date listed above.

Date: June 1, 2026

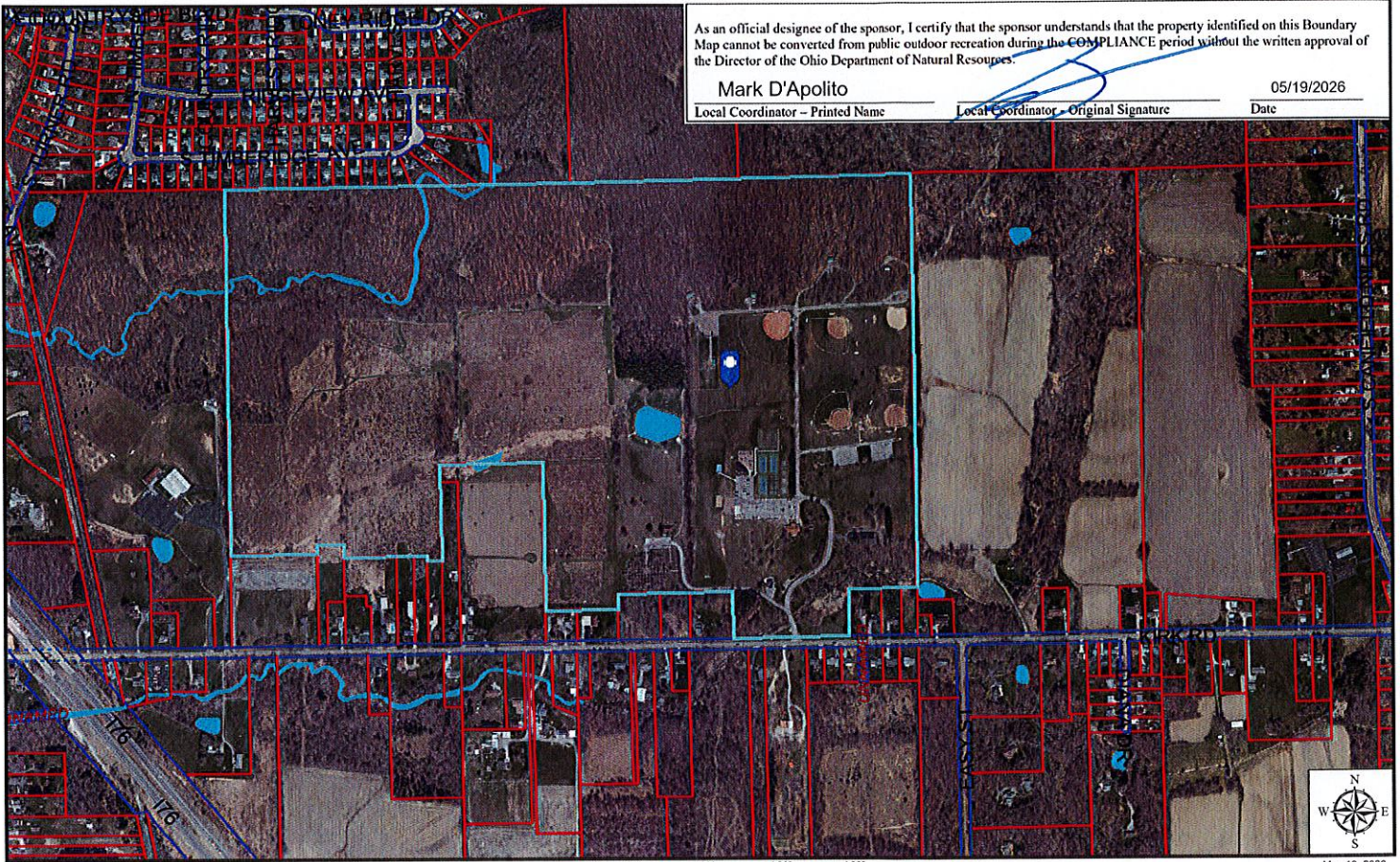
Amy O'Brien
Amy O'Brien, Assistant Fiscal Officer

Approved:

[Signature]
Robert Santos, Chairperson Board of Trustee

As an official designee of the sponsor, I certify that the sponsor understands that the property identified on this Boundary Map cannot be converted from public outdoor recreation during the COMPLIANCE period without the written approval of the Director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Mark D'Apolito _____ 05/19/2026
 Local Coordinator - Printed Name Local Coordinator - Original Signature Date



Mahoning County GIS

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------|------------------------|
| DISTRICT LINES | VILLAGE-LINE | CONDO-UNIT | ROAD-ROW-H | PROPERTY BOUNDARIES |
| CITY-LINE | ROAD NAMES | PARCEL | RR-ROW | LAKES AND PONDS |
| COUNTY-LINE | PAPER ROAD NAMES | PARCEL-H | RR-ROW-H | LAKE |
| SCHOOL-LINE | PROPERTY LINES | PHASE | SCHOOL-LINE | RIVER |
| TOWNSHIP-LINE | BUILDING | ROAD-ROW | WELL-LINE | SWAMP |



May 19, 2026

FORM No. 2: RESOLUTION OF AUTHORIZATION

The applicant must utilize an ordinance or resolution documenting authorization for filing this NatureWorks application. A hand signed certified copy of the ordinance or resolution must be included with the NatureWorks application. *However, if the next meeting of the governing body occurs after the July 1, 2026 grant application deadline, the certified Resolution may be submitted to ODNR up to one month after the grant deadline, or by August 1, 2026.* If this situation applies, the applicant must include a brief explanation with their grant application.

Below is an example format for a resolution of authorization to be passed by the governing body of the local government agency. The applicant may use this example format or its own standard format. If applicants are able to obligate the funds required to satisfactorily complete the proposed project within their resolution, they should do so.

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, administers financial assistance for public recreation purposes, through the State of Ohio NatureWorks grant program and

WHEREAS, the Austintown Township desires financial assistance under the NatureWorks Grant Program,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Austintown Township
(name of applicant)

That the Austintown Township approves filing this application for financial assistance.
(name of applicant)

That Township Administrator is hereby authorized and directed to execute
(local coordinator)
and file an application with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and to provide all information and documentation required to become eligible for possible funding assistance.

That the Austintown Township does agree to obligate the funds required
(name of applicant)
to satisfactorily complete the proposed project and become eligible for reimbursement under the terms of the **NatureWorks Grant Program.**

REQUIRED CERTIFICATE OF RECORDING OFFICER

I, the undersigned, hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of resolution adopted by the Austintown Board of Trustees held on the ___ day in the month of _____, 2026, and that I am a duly authorized to execute this certificate.

(original signature)

Township Administrator

(title)

FORM No. 5: INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENT

If two or more local public or private agencies are cooperating for purposes of funding or operating the grant project, such an agreement is considered an inter-agency agreement.

A lease for the property on which the grant project will be developed is also considered an inter-agency agreement.

OPTION ONE: INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENTS EXIST

If an inter-agency agreement exists, or is in process, a copy of the agreement(s), or draft agreement(s), must be submitted with the application. Describe in detail any division of responsibility that may exist, or be planned, for completing the acquisition, development, and/or operation and maintenance of the project.

OPTION TWO: INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENTS DO NOT EXIST

If an inter-agency agreement does not exist and is not anticipated, complete and sign the statement below and submit this form with the application.

Applicant Austintown Township

THIS APPLICATION FOR Austintown Tennis Court Rehabilitation
(PROJECT TITLE)

IS NOT SUBJECT TO ANY INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENTS.

Mark D'Apolito

Local Coordinator – Printed Name


Local Coordinator - Original Signature

5/4/2026

Date

FORM No. 6
CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE
STATE OF OHIO
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

As the authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant agrees that, as a condition to receiving any state assistance it will comply with all federal laws relating to nondiscrimination. These laws include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 200d-1) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin; (b) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap; (c) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; and applicable regulatory requirements to the end that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, handicap, military status, or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity conducted by the applicant. **THE APPLICANT HEREBY GIVES ASSURANCE THAT it will immediately take any measures necessary to effectuate this agreement.**

THIS ASSURANCE shall apply to all aspects of the applicant's operations including those parts that have not received or benefited from state financial assistance.


If any real property or structure thereon is provided or improved with the aid of financial assistance extended to the Applicant by the Department, this assurance shall obligate the Applicant, or in the case of any transfer of such property, any transferee, for the period during which the real property or structure is used for a purpose for which the financial assistance is extended or for another purpose involving the provision of similar services or benefits. If any personal property is so provided, this assurance shall obligate the Applicant for the period during which it retains ownership or possession of the property. In all other cases, this assurance shall obligate the Applicant for the period during which the financial assistance is extended to it by the Department.

THIS ASSURANCE is given in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining any and all grants, loans, contracts, property, discounts, or other financial assistance extended after the date hereof to the Applicant by the Department, including installment payments after such date on account of applicants for financial assistance which was approved before such date.

The Applicant recognizes and agrees that such financial assistance will be extended in reliance on the representations and agreements made in this assurance, and that the State shall have the right to seek judicial enforcement of this assurance. This assurance is binding on the Applicant, its successors, transferees, assignees, and sub recipients and the person whose signature appears below who is authorized to sign this assurance on behalf of the Applicant.

Mark D'Apolito

Local Coordinator – Printed Name



Local Coordinator - Original Signature

5/4/2026

Date

FORM No. 7: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

Upon ODNR selection of this application as a NatureWorks assisted project, the applicant agrees to the following compliance period requirements of the State of Ohio:


1. All new and/or replacement utility lines within the project boundaries will be placed underground.
2. The NatureWorks project area must be operated and maintained solely for outdoor public recreation or outdoor natural resource interpretive purposes. The area cannot be converted in use or title without prior approval by the Director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.
3. A NatureWorks acknowledgement sign will be placed in the grant assisted park as required by the NatureWorks grant program.
4. The area will be open to the general public. Differences in admission and other fees may be maintained on the basis of residence. However, these differences must be reasonable and discrimination on this basis is prohibited.
5. Considerations for the accessibility of disabled persons must be incorporated in the planning stage of any improvement on the site, regardless of whether not that improvement is grant-assisted. Applicants must adhere to the latest accessibility guidelines under the Americans and Disabilities Act (ADA) and Architectural Barriers Act (ABA). Any development funded must adhere to these guidelines. See <http://www.access-board.gov/>.

Mark D'Apolito

Local Coordinator – Printed Name

5/4/2026

Date


Local Coordinator - Original Signature

FORM No. 8: NatureWorks SIGN AND LOGO

Upon acceptance of this application as an assisted project, the applicant agrees to the following requirements of the State of Ohio:

☒ An acknowledgement signs recognizing NatureWorks assistance is required at an assisted site(s).

- Development projects: A sign must be installed at the main entrance to the park or at the site of the development.
- Acquisition projects: A sign must be installed at the main entrance to the park.

Temporary Signing – Temporary signs are required for all development projects with a total cost of \$500,000 or more.

Temporary Signing Standards – Unless precluded by local sign ordinances, temporary signs shall be no less than 2 ft. by 3 ft. The size of lettering should be based on the amount of information placed on the sign. The selection of colors is at the sponsor's discretion; however, there should be sufficient contrast between the background and the lettering to make the sign readily visible without being intrusive. The sign should include the source, percent and dollar amount of all Federal, State, and/or local funds. Indicate on the second line whether the project is acquisition or development. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources must be acknowledged as a partner on all NatureWorks projects.

NatureWorks Permanent Sign Requirements – NatureWorks signs must not be smaller than 9 X 12 inches. Color combinations for NatureWorks signs should be the following: cardinal – red, cardinal's beak – yellow, buckeyes – brown, buckeye leaves – green. The black area shown in the insignia should be black on the sign. Lettering color and method of sign construction may be determined by the recipient; however, signs must be permanent.

Use of LOGO – The logo shown below can be used at entrances to outdoor recreation sites, at other appropriate on-site locations, and in folders and park literature. The logo format may not be altered.



Mark D'Apollito

Local Coordinator – Printed Name

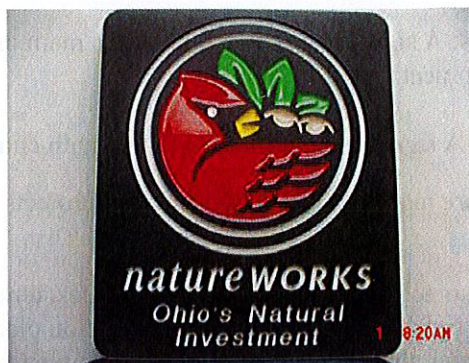


Local Coordinator - Original Signature

Date 5/4/2026

NatureWorks Sign Information

Project sponsors are NOT required to purchase signs from ODNR. However, for the convenience of project sponsors, ODNR offers NatureWorks signs for purchase.



RECYCLED black and white plastic materials
Vertical dimension: 15.5 inches
Horizontal dimension: 13.5 inches
Sign thickness: ¾ inch

Price: \$100, postage is included

To request a NatureWorks sign from ODNR, (or to request NatureWorks logo artwork for locally manufactured signs), email Dee Burlison at dolores.burlison@dnr.ohio.gov.

Please include your name, address, number of signs requested, and NatureWorks project number. Upon receipt of your request, a NatureWorks sign(s) and invoice will be mailed to you, payable upon receipt.

One sign only, per grant project site, is recommended.

If a NatureWorks sign - in good condition - already exists in the funded park, an additional sign may not be required.

FORM No. 9: ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Project: Austintown Tennis Court Rehabilitation

(Please complete Environmental Checklists on p.32-34)

Environmental Review through ODNR

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) manages state listed species along with a variety of other natural resources. The applicant may submit an Environmental Review (ER) request to ODNR. Please refer to the link below for detailed instructions what to submit and how to submit for Environmental Review:

<https://ohiodnr.gov/wps/portal/gov/odnr/discover-and-learn/safety-conservation/about-ODNR/real-estate/environmental-review/>

The Office of Real Estate - Environmental Review Services Section is responsible for coordinating and facilitating environmental reviews and comment response letters generated by the ER. For many projects, demonstrating coordination with ODNR is a requirement that must be fulfilled to secure funding, licensing, or permitting, at both the state and federal level. Coordination letters that are prepared through ODNR's ER Program are done so under the authority of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA), the Clean Water Act (CWA), the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), and other applicable laws and regulations.

Please note that the Environmental Review will include a database report for the Ohio Natural Heritage Database (ONHD) along with departmental comments and recommendations related to threatened/endangered species as well as other natural resources that ODNR has regulatory oversight for.

For further information on ODNR Environmental Reviews, please contact:

Mike Pettegrew
Environmental Services Administrator
Office of Real Estate
Ohio Department of Natural Resources
2045 Morse Rd., Columbus, OH 4322
Phone: 614-265-6387 Email: Mike.Pettegrew@dnr.ohio.gov

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST		
All applicants must contact the appropriate government agency when there is an environmental RED FLAG issue. Please provide a copy of such correspondence with your application.	YES (This is a RED FLAG issue)	NO
<p>Does the project involve development (ground disturbance) within 1000 feet of a National and/or State Scenic River? If Yes, contact the ODNR Division of Parks & Watercraft, Scenic Rivers Section @ Robert.gable@dnr.ohio.gov.</p>		X
<p>Does the project scope involve in-water work in a stream/river, reservoir or lake; or in a drainage ditch with a hydrological connection to a stream/river, reservoir or lake? If YES you may need a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permit. There are four USACE Districts in Ohio. See map @ http://www.usace.army.mil/Locations.aspx for the USACE district for your project site, and contact the USACE district representative.</p>		X
<p>Does the project scope involve in-water deposit of dredged or fill material? (A Water Quality Certification may be required.) If YES, contact the Ohio EPA's Water Quality Certification Section @ (614) 644-3020.</p>		X
<p>Does the project scope involve development in a floodplain? Please submit a (FEMA) floodplain Firmette map for the location of the project site. Firmettes may be produced online on the FEMA website @ https://msc.fema.gov/portal. If the project is located within a floodplain, attach a letter or other documentation of compliance from the local Designated Floodplain Administrator (DFPA). See http://water.ohiodnr.gov/portals/soilwater/pdf/floodplain/Community%20Contact%20List11062019.pdf for a list of DFPA's. If you are not able to obtain this letter by the application deadline, a please submit a copy of your letter to the DFPA requesting a project review.</p>		X
<p>Do hydric soils exist at the location where grant funded development will occur? A soils map and hydric soil report for your site can be made online @ http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/. Submit the map and report with your application. OR Contact your county's National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) office to determine if the project site contains hydric soils. https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/oh/contact/local/ Submit NRCS site report and/or correspondence with your application.</p>		X

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST cont.

<p>All applicants must contact the appropriate government agency when there is an environmental RED FLAG issue. Please provide a copy of such correspondence with your application.</p>	<p align="center">YES (This is a RED FLAG issue)</p>	<p align="center">NO</p>
<p>Does the project scope involve development on submerged land in Lake Erie or Sandusky Bay? (A Submerged Land Lease may be required.) If YES, contact the ODNR - Office of Coastal Management at (419) 626-7980. Information regarding submerged land leases can be found @ http://coastal.ohiodnr.gov.</p>		<p align="center">X</p>
<p>Does the project scope involve development in or impact to a jurisdictional wetland?</p> <p>Under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act a jurisdictional wetland has a hydrological connection to Water of the United States (river, stream, lake, reservoir or flowing ditch).</p> <p>If YES, please contact the following agencies to coordinate permitting requirements (the project may be covered under a Nationwide Section 404 Permit):</p> <p>US Army Corps of Engineers (district appropriate for project) See map @ http://www.usace.army.mil/Locations.aspx for the USACE district for your project site.</p> <p>Ohio EPA http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/401/index.aspx.</p> <p>Local Soil and Water Conservation District https://agri.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/oda/divisions/soil-and-water-conservation/find-a-local-swcd</p>		<p align="center">X</p>
<p>Does the project scope involve development in, or impact to an isolated wetland?</p> <p>The Ohio EPA regulates wetlands that do not have a hydrological connection to waters of the United States. These are known as Isolated Wetlands.</p> <p>If YES, an Isolated Wetland Permit may be required. The Ohio EPA encourages all potential permit applicants to review their web page for the process at http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dsw/401/index.aspx.</p>		<p align="center">X</p>
<p>Are federally or state threatened or endangered species present and/or is critical habitat present on the project site?</p> <p>If this is a reasonable possibility, please submit an Environmental Review request (with appropriate information and attachments as described to the following email address: environmentalreviewrequest@dnr.ohio.gov).</p> <p>For additional information please see guidance at: https://ohiodnr.gov/discover-and-learn/safety-conservation/about-ODNR/real-estate/environmental-review</p>		<p align="center">X</p>

Project: Austintown Tennis Court Rehabilitation

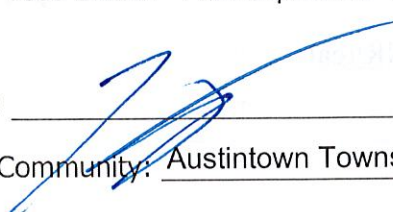
Explain all 'yes' and 'to be determined' answers on a separate sheet. In such cases clarify how each resource will or could be adversely impacted; any direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts that may occur; and any additional data that still needs to be determined. Also explain any planned mitigation, if applicable. **For purposes of this Environmental Review, the terms *impact* and *effect* have a negative or adverse meaning.**

Does the proposed NatureWorks project...	Yes	No	To be determined
1. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places? Attach State Historic Preservation Office comments, if applicable. http://www.ohiohistory.org/state-historic-preservation-office		X	
2. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?		X	
3. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands, wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (E.O. 11990); floodplains (E.O 11988); and other ecologically significant or critical areas?		X	
4. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2)(E)]?		X	
5. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		X	
6. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		X	
7. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		X	
8. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?		X	
9. Violate a federal law, state or local law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		X	
10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		X	
12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area, or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?		X	

The following individual(s) provided input to the completion of FORM No. 9: ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

List one or more reviewers, including name, title, agency, field of expertise. Keep all environmental review records and data on this proposal for any possible future review.

- Mark D'Apolito - Township Admin. - Austintown Township - Law/Public Works
- Todd Shaffer - Park Supervisor - Austintown Township - Public Works
-

Signature:  Date 5/4/2026

Applicant Community: Austintown Township

Thank You & Good Luck with Your NatureWorks Grant Application!