

For Immediate Release

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(Emmaus, PA, March 28, 2007) – Nominations are currently being sought for the “Friend of the Lehigh River (FOLR) Award,” Wildlands Conservancy’s annual acknowledgement of individuals, groups, organizations, businesses, institutions, governmental bodies, and others who deserve to be recognized for their commitment to the Lehigh River. The deadline for nominations is May 1, 2007.

“For the past ten years, we have bestowed this honor upon those who cultivate appreciation, advance knowledge, and demonstrate responsible stewardship and use of the Lehigh River and Lehigh River valley,” says Chris Kocher, Wildlands Conservancy president.

This year's awards will be announced during the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Lehigh River Sojourn, being held June 23 – 27, 2007. "The actual award is a beautifully engraved river stone that has been shaped by the river itself," says Kocher.

In order to nominate an individual or organization, prepare a one-page summary of the nominee's accomplishments and justification for receiving the award, along with the contact information of the nominee and the group or individual making the nomination. Send the information, postmarked no later than May 1, 2007 to 2007 Friend of the Lehigh River Award Nomination Committee, c/o Wildlands Conservancy, 3701 Orchid Place, Emmaus, PA 18049.

Last year's winners were Jim Clauser, district manager of the Carbon County Conservation District; Charlie Brown, retired Director of Parks and Public Property in Bethlehem; and members of the non-profit Ironton Rail Trail organization.

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