



Northampton County Park Board organizational meeting on March 11, 1974. Park Board Members L-R: William VanBuskirk, Paul Pfretzschner, Margaret Hay, Richard Kent, Louise Moore, August Buzas and Paul Lentz.



Louise Moore Park entrance is located on Country Club Road in Lower Nazareth Township



Contractors, volunteers and Northampton County Parks staff stabilizing & planting a steeply eroded streambank at Gertrude Fox Conservation Area last summer.

Left - Before Louise Moore Park was completed and opened to the public in 1978, Louise was instrumental in the original 1975 agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the County of Northampton to lease 311 acres of land and water that encompass today's Minsi Lake Park in Upper Mount Bethel Township. Via that agreement, Minsi Lake became the very first park to be managed for public outdoor recreation in the fledgling Northampton County Parks system

Women's History Month

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Beyond her accomplishments with Northampton County Parks, Louise Moore was a trained concert pianist and later traveled the world pursuing her interests in global population planning. She was vice chair of the Hugh Moore Historical Park and Museums in Easton for many years, and a principal in the Louise and Hugh Moore Population Project of the Methodist Church in Washington, DC. In 1985, Louise was the first woman to become a member of the 100-year-old Pomfret Club in Easton.

Established in 1987, Gertrude B. Fox Conservation Area encompasses seven acres of woodlands along Monocacy Creek in Hanover Township. This streamside conservation area was named in honor of 'Mrs. Monocacy,' Gertie Fox. Gertrude Fox (1917-1995) was a locally and nationally recognized educator, politician, environmentalist and engineer. In the mid-1940s, Gertie was an industrial biologist and metallurgical investigator

at Bethlehem Steel Corporation.

Gertie Fox later taught mathematics at Moravian Prep School, where she was head of the mathematics department. She also taught mathematics at Notre Dame High School and Lehigh County Community College. Gertie was an assistant director of the Lehigh County Cultural Center, where she was in charge of establishing innovative methods in environmental education for Lehigh County schools.

Gertrude Fox was an early and outspoken guardian of Monocacy Creek, always advocating for protecting the stream's water quality and streamside ecology. She was active for many years with the Monocacy Creek Watershed Association, where she was a past president, secretary and board member. Gertie was also a past Planning Commissioner for Hanover Township, an associate director for the Northampton County Conservation District, a member of the Mid-Atlantic Council of Watershed Associations, and a board member for the Pennsylvania Environmental Council.

President George H. W. Bush honored Gertie and 75 others in 1990 with the first Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Award. Gertie also received a Silver Conservation Award from the Pennsylvania Garden Clubs and the first Annual Conservationist of the Year Award from the Lehigh Valley Sierra Club.

Louise Moore and Gertrude Fox were 20th century pioneers in conservation, outdoor recreation and environmental education in Northampton County. Friends of Minsi Lake is grateful for their early hard work and proud to honor their legacies during Women's History Month, and all year long.