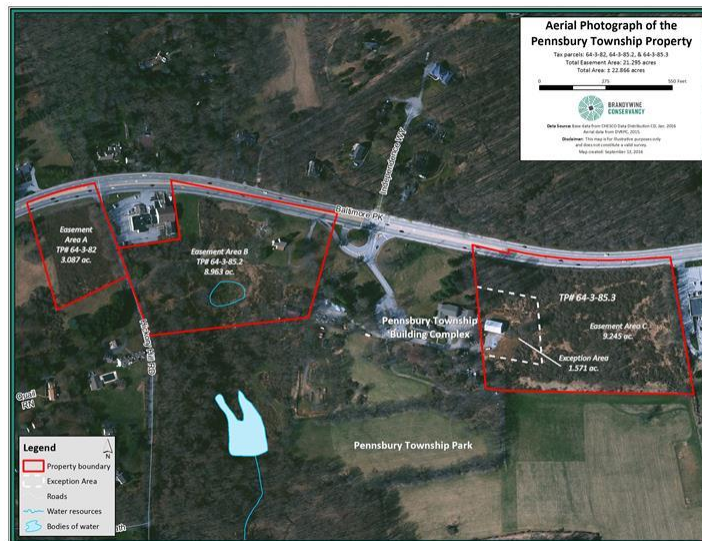


## Pennsbury Township Permanently Protects Critical Parcels



This past December, Pennsbury Township granted a conservation easement to the Brandywine Conservancy to permanently protect three separate parcels (23 acres in all) fronting on U. S. Route 1 that also border the township's municipal building and its 55-acre park. The easement restricts all three parcels and is designed to protect the land in a relative natural condition. Development is prohibited. Only minor construction is permitted and only for preserve-related uses. The historic Hope House will remain but may not be enlarged. A 1.5-acre exception area is not restricted by the easement and is reserved for other municipal uses.

This project is the culmination of a very long negotiation between the township and Toll Brothers, which intended to intensively develop the parcels for townhouses and carriage houses. Two years ago, the township and Toll reached a negotiated settlement wherein the township purchased the three parcels.

Working closely with township officials and representatives from Pennsbury Land Trust, which helped finance the purchase, Brandywine Conservancy staff crafted the easement to meet their mutual preservation goals. The parcels are heavily overgrown with non-native invasive plant species, so extensive restoration work will be required before the land is suitable for visitation. Township and land trust representatives have already begun developing an open space management plan for the restoration and maintenance of the parcels.

Brandywine Creek Greenway is a regional planning initiative of the **Brandywine Conservancy**. The Brandywine Conservancy conserves and protects the land, water, natural and cultural resources of the Brandywine-Christina watershed. The Brandywine Creek Greenway initiative is one of many means to achieve the mission. For more information, visit <http://www.brandywine.org/conservancy>.