

# Whitman Woods Project



## You're invited to connect with "Whitman Woods" — Visit the aspirational passive park today & cap the afternoon with an **A-to-Z Whitman Woods Walk & Talk**

WALT FEST attendees are invited to explore "Whitman Woods" between noon and 4 p.m. to gain a better understanding of why this parcel is so uniquely worth preserving. Friends of Whitman Woods will answer project questions throughout the day, and at 3 p.m. environmental consultant and native plant expert Joseph Arsenault will lead a free and enlightening "A-to-Z Whitman Woods Walk & Talk."

A botanist and ecologist, Arsenault grew up in Laurel Springs and played as a child in the woods and creek. The renowned New Jersey native plant expert is now lead adviser on Whitman Woods Project. Arsenault is widely known for his captivating discourse, and is a veritable fount in regard to these 3.75 wooded acres and why preserving the site is so significant within the Timber Creek watershed and beyond.

The veritable environmental pied piper will illuminate his audience with an exploration of the site's history from archaeological to zoological. "The eagles and bees are here for a reason," Arsenault observes, "hopefully our walk will strike a chord for anyone wondering why Whitman Woods needs to be established as a passive park."

Setting aside these 3.75 wooded acres presents an organic opportunity for the greater Delaware River Valley community to help intended steward **North American Land Trust** (based in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania) establish a passive park in the very area where Whitman penned much of the powerful, enduring work that WALT FEST celebrates. Forging a conservation Whitman legacy will pay homage to the immortal poet whose words so eloquently celebrate Nature.

Endowing the park in advance of Whitman's 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bicentennial, and dedicating it as part of the regional and national festivities, is the project's near-term goal. Anyone with a love of Whitman, Open Space and Nature can become a stakeholder in the "Whitman Woods" project at [whitmanwoods.org](http://whitmanwoods.org) where it is easy to Give, Volunteer or Pledge. Similarly, one can learn more about the project at [nalt.org](http://nalt.org).

**Entry to the lakefront site is by foot at the terminus of Glen or Beech avenues. Visitors are advised to wear long pants and closed-toe shoes. (Street parking only; no restroom facilities.)**

**Whitman Woods Project Mission** — Distill art, nature, history and science into a living land legacy that will preserve precious passive open space in perpetuity, serve as an open classroom and pay homage to the iconic American poet Walt Whitman