

Handshake Partnership Program Report - FY 2016 Recipients

1. Name of Corps Project/Lake: Loyalhanna Lake
2. District / Division of Corps Project/Lake: Pittsburgh District
3. Handshake Project Name: Installation of Mile Markers
4. Amount of Handshake Funds remaining: \$0
5. What has been accomplished? Please provide photographs; before, during, and after!:







	Total
Handshake Program Funding Amount	\$5008
Local Corps Office Funds (total expended on labor, materials, contracts, etc.)?	\$1800
Partner's Contributions (total value of funds, goods, services, volunteer hours, etc.)	
Partners Name	Total Value of Contributions
1 BSA Troop 47	\$2040
2 Loyalhanna Watershed Association	\$1000
3 PA DCNR Keystone Lake	\$1500
4 Derry Area Revitalization Committee	\$500
5	\$
6	\$
7	\$
8	\$
9	\$
10	\$

6. Handshake Program Recipient Feedback

Please take this opportunity to provide feedback on all aspects of the Handshake Program and the Challenge Partnership Agreement authority. Your productive comments are important to the ongoing improvement of the program. Make sure to let us know how the Handshake funds have benefited your efforts to initiate and/or strengthen your partnerships.

We are grateful for the funding. I feel that it definitely strengthened our partnerships. It helped us reconnect with a group that we had worked with in the past, but lost touch with. The downfall to the handshake program is the hidden legwork and additional administrative time it takes for the Corps employee to create the proposal and all of the additional paperwork. We have received positive feedback from paddlers that they really like the signs. It helps them navigate and know that they are not lost on the lake.

7. Handshake Summary:

Please also include a separate newspaper type article describing the project and the benefit to the Corps of Engineers and to the public as a result of this partnership project. Examples can be found on the gateway under Handshake Success Stories.

Loyalhanna Lake Partners Complete Challenge Handshake Partnership Agreement

In August 2016, the Loyalhanna Lake Staff entered into a Challenge Handshake Partnership Agreement with local partners to increase public safety along the Loyalhanna Creek Water Trail. The project consisted of purchasing and installing mile marker and launch identification signs to aid paddlers and boaters in recognizing their location on the water.

Signs were acquired with handshake funding and Loyalhanna Staff coordinated with the Loyalhanna Watershed Association and the Boy Scouts of America, Troop #47 to install the signs. After 85 hours of volunteer work, 26 miles of the water trail are clearly marked on Corps property. Sustainability of the trail will be addressed by members of Keystone State Park, LWA, and the Derry Area Revitalization Committee. These volunteers have all agreed to perform inspections of the trail in the future.

All in all, the project was simple, but the impact is significant. Improved mileage identification will provide critical safety information for recreationalists and first responders on the water. The installation of the mile markers completes the Loyalhanna Water Trail by making the trail a better experience for the recreationalist and increasing visitor safety. This project has fostered a long lasting partnership among state, federal and community groups and has highlighted the Corps' commitment to public safety.