

# Summer Event

by Mount Fitzpatrick

Among the things that make Murrysville such a great place to live and work are our parks and nature reserves. Throughout the spring and summer, Murrysville Recreation and the Westmoreland Conservancy host monthly morning Park Chat Walks. These casual walks provide a fine introduction to many of our parks and reserves. Those already familiar with the walks know them as an opportunity for further exploration while having fun and enjoying good company and conversation.

On a perfectly crisp and clear morning of June 20<sup>th</sup>, 14 walkers met at Pleasant Valley Park. Each of Murrysville's parks is distinctly different, and PV Park is becoming a destination of choice for mountain bikers, hikers, and – in the winter – cross-country skiers. A group of hardworking volunteers has been building an impressive series of mountain-biking and hiking trails to complement the park's old farm roads and fields that were favored last winter by cross-country skiers.

Participants in the PV Park Chat Walk explored many of the new trails, admired the sturdy bridges recently built by volunteers, took in beautiful scenery (including a farm pond and a bog), sampled blackberries and raspberries, and speculated about the sources of a variety of fresh pawprints.