

# Hermitage Natural Area Progress report March 2017

East of bike path, behind New Castle Elementary

Hermitage Before & After photos

Before clearing. Note 6' tall weeds, vines covering all trees. Summer 2016



After clearing March 2017, Note logs as benches, vines and trash still to be removed. possible outdoor classroom way down the hill beyond the very tall tree near the right.



## Possible alternatives for outdoor classroom

Log benches (already available in Hermitage)



Useful if we need to move to get best sun/shade location. Cheap. Already exists.

## Example from Greenwood Elementary, near Longwood PA

Constructed from commercial lumber for seats and supports. Digging required. But fixed location. Wood chips on ground.



Suggested sites for outdoor classroom behind Carrie Downie (West side of Hermitage Tract).

- 1) Near fence behind kindergarten wing. In natural circle, needs to be cleared. Slope near where fence gate would be added has only a slight grade. Downed tree nearby suitable for logs for benches.



Panorama from fence and suggested classroom site around thru woods to marsh



Through the fence to Kindergarten wing.



Suggested site for classroom behind Grade 5 wing. Large open area, to be cleared.



Tree for making benches

