

**NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

CONTACT: Shelby Michalek  
WESTMORELAND COUNTY LAND BANK  
[smichale@co.westmoreland.pa.us](mailto:smichale@co.westmoreland.pa.us)  
724.830.3085

**“Love That Lot” Contest Announces Winner**

**GREENSBURG (April 12)** - The Board of Directors of the Westmoreland County Land Bank (WCLB) today announced the winner of its first annual *Love That Lot* contest, a competition highlighting community projects that transform vacant, abandoned, and deteriorated properties into assets for neighborhoods.

Voters on the county’s Facebook page selected the City of Jeannette’s Community Garden as the inaugural winner of the \$500 “public display of affection” award for further revitalization efforts. The award’s sponsor, Enercon Services Inc., “Supports community revitalization projects like these that provide a positive impact to our neighborhoods”, according to Jeff Parobek, P.E.

Enercon Services Inc. is a nationwide engineering, surveying, environmental, technical, and management services firm with a local office located in New Stanton.

After the lots were acquired by the WCLB, a blighted building was demolished, making way for a community garden. The Jeannette Greenspaces Community Garden is now a focal point for residents who are curious about healthier nutrition and has hosted several students, volunteers, and residents working and socializing in the garden. “The space offers residents the opportunity to maintain their own garden and to harvest their own produce”, according to Jeannette Mayor, Curtis Antoniak, “but more importantly, it provides an educational component on the benefits of healthy eating”.

Other nominated community projects include the Blooming Pocket Park in Latrobe and the Sewickley Township Flag Park; both had removed blighted structures and were transformed by community members for local residents to enjoy.

Westmoreland County Land Bank Executive Director April Kopas adds, “These projects are successful due to the community champions that so strongly support revitalization in their towns”.

To learn more about the projects of the Westmoreland County Land Bank and to view properties, please visit [www.westmorelandlandbank.com](http://www.westmorelandlandbank.com).

###