This slag heap, a byproduct of steel manufacturing, shows conditions prior to development. The valley running up and right through the photo is Nine Mile Run, a stream corridor bisecting the site and connecting to an expansive urban wilderness.
This master plan shows the final design for this 20-year ongoing project. The influence of the landscape architect as master planner and lead designer can be seen in the topographic site sensitivity, ecosystem preservation, park organization, pedestrian connectivity, and placemaking.
Above is an aerial from 2014 showing phase one (complete) and phase two (nearly complete). With an ongoing waiting list to purchase home sites, the development is continuing with the third and final phase breaking ground early 2016.
Crescent Park, seen above, was the focal point of phase one, creating shared greenspace and shared views over the adjacent Nine Mile Run and Monangahela River. Steep slopes can also be identified in their early stages of natural vegetative succession.
The prominade overlooks the valley modeled after Grandview Avenue on Pittsburgh’s Mt. Washington, this streetscape orients the promenade, tree line, street, and houses to Summerset’s own ‘grand view’ of the Monongahela River valley.
Our careful attention to detail and lighting allow Summerset to come alive at night whether you are walking along the promenade, or approaching from Frick Park.
New streets at Summerset gently curve through the neighborhood and are lined with street trees and historic vernacular architecture. Small setbacks and front porches adjacent to walkways keep “eyes on the street” and encourage spontaneous conversation between neighbors.
Residential units with front porches overlook a series of new parks dispersed throughout the neighborhood providing all residents with access to green space within a five-minute walk of home.
Iconic trailhead pavilions we designed mark entries to Frick Park and the pedestrian trail network. Design of Summerset's entry structures and park pavilions make reference to the historically significant landscape and pavilions in Frick Park, capturing their architectural form and details.