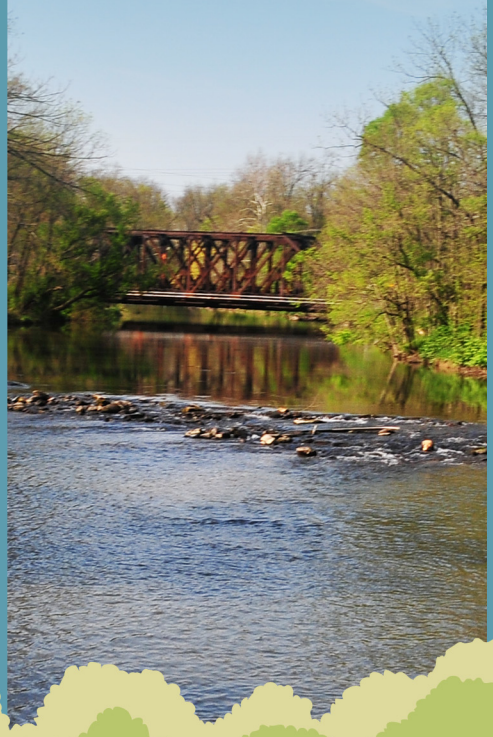
Cumberland County

Land Partnerships Plan

A Countywide Strategy

for

Agriculture Preservation, Natural Resource Protection and Parks, Trails & Greenways



Adopted March 4, 2013

Land Partnerships Plan

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Farmland, West Pennsboro Township

Introduction and Plan Purpose

Cumberland County is fortunate to have many unique natural and cultural resources that contribute to the high quality of life and strong economy. Preserving those resources, and in turn a high quality of life and business friendly climate, can prove to be especially challenging. In order to preserve the features that make Cumberland County a great place to live, work and play, it is essential to plan for the future.

Land Partnerships is a countywide strategy designed to maintain and improve the quality of life in Cumberland County through farmland preservation, natural resource protection and parks, trails & greenways. The plan seeks to encourage action in the community and facilitate partnerships among federal, state, county and local governments, non-profit organizations, businesses and landowners to achieve common goals.

Land Partnerships is a blueprint intended to help the County achieve a healthy balance between preservation and development. Land Partnerships will serve as a guidebook for the 33 municipalities in the County. Municipalities should use the County plan as a reference and point of departure for their own planning initiatives. Land Partnerships identifies the important features of the County and offers recommendations to protect those resources for current and future generations.

The purpose of this chapter is to provide a brief introduction and background on planning for agriculture preservation, natural resource protection and parks, trails & greenways in Cumberland County. This chapter includes a physical description of Cumberland County, a history of previous planning efforts and update on the successes of the 2006 Land Partnerships Plan. The chapter also describes the 2013 plan update process and plan organization.

County Description

Cumberland County is located in south central Pennsylvania. While the County originally included most of the western portion of the state, today it encompasses 550 square miles and is home to over 235,000 residents within its 33 municipalities. The County includes 11 boroughs and 22 townships. Adams, Dauphin, Franklin, Perry, and York are its neighboring counties (Figure 1-1).

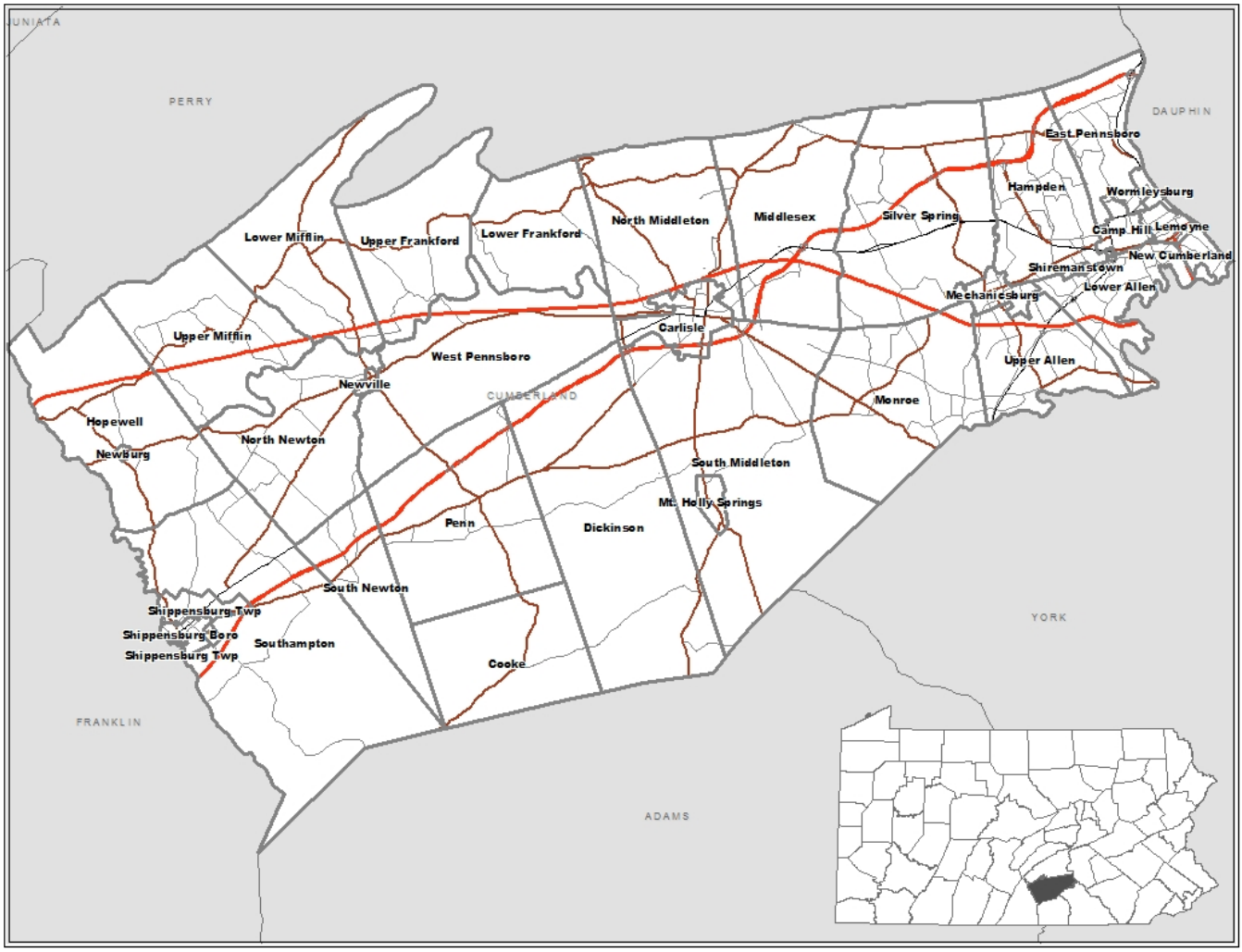


Figure 1-1 Cumberland County and its municipalities

The County's borders align with its distinct physical features, typical of the ridge and valley province. The Susquehanna River separates Cumberland County from Dauphin County and the state capital of Harrisburg. The Blue Mountain-Kittatinny ridge divides Cumberland County from Perry County. The County border with Adams and York Counties is formed by the Yellow Breeches Creek and the ridges and uplands of South Mountain.

Previous Planning Efforts

Cumberland County has been addressing the issues of agriculture preservation, natural resource protection and parks, trails & greenways over the last 15 years. A listing of relevant County planning activities and milestones is provided below:

- Cumberland County Conservation and Open Space Task Force Report, 1995

- Cumberland County Natural Area Inventory Report, 2000 & 2005 Update
- Cumberland Countywide Greenway Study, 2000
- Creation of Greenway & Open Space Coordinator Position, 2001
- Tri-County Regional Growth Management Plan, 2003 & 2011 Update
- Cumberland County Comprehensive Plan, 2003 & 2010 Update
- Bond Issues for Farmland Preservation & Pilot Land Partnerships Grant Program, 2004 & 2006
- Land Partnership Plan, 2006

2006 Land Partnerships Plan Implementation

Between 2006 and 2012, Cumberland County successfully implemented the first version of the Land Partnerships Plan. Continued implementation of the State Farmland Preservation Program and development of the Land Partnerships Grant Program were two major milestones. In addition to these two high profile initiatives, the staff of the Planning Department continues to work diligently through lower cost measures to integrate plan implementation into the daily County operations.

Farmland Preservation Program

To implement the agriculture preservation element of Land Partnerships, nearly $20 million in State, County and Federal funding was directed to the Cumberland County Agricultural Land Preservation Board to be invested in the Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Program over the past seven years. Through the Program, agricultural conservation easements were purchased from willing landowners on prime agricultural lands. In 2006, the $3.6 million County investment was strategically allocated to align with Pennsylvania's Growing Greener 2 Program to garner $6.3 million in matching state dollars. Between 2006-2012, 5,413 acres of prime farmland was permanently preserved as a result of Land Partnerships. Table 1-1 summarizes farmland preservation funding and acres preserved in that timeframe. From the Program's inception in 1989 until 2012, over 15,700 acres of farmland have been preserved. In October of 2012, the County held an event to celebrate the milestone of preservation of 15,000 acres of farmland.

Table 1-1 Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Program, 2006-2012				
Year	County Funding	State/Federal Funding	Annual Acres Preserved	Total Program Acres
2006	$3,637,092	$6,275,605	2838	13,142
2007	$251,470	$977,529	287	13,429
2008	$293,181	$1,705,268	491	13,920
2009	$301,357	$765,211	371	14,291
2010	$301,034	$1,204,955	394	14,685
2011	$1,053,898	$1,596,848	569	15,254
2012	$309,124	$1,271,045	463	**15,717**
	$6,147,156	**$13,796,461**	**5,413**	

Pilot Land Partnership Grant Program Overview

To provide financial incentives to implement the goals and objectives of Land Partnerships, $1 million in County funding was designated for implementation of the Land Partnerships pilot grant program. The pilot grant program provided grant assistance to municipalities and non-profit organizations in Cumberland County for land acquisition, park and trail development, land use ordinance assistance and comprehensive planning for greenways and open space.

Overall support for the Land Partnerships pilot grant program was extremely positive and demand for the program far exceeded grant funds available. 53 grant applications totaling nearly $2 million in projects were received from 24 municipalities and 6 non-profit organizations. 33 grants, totaling $1 million, were ultimately awarded. In addition, another $1 million in local, state and private dollars were leveraged.

Press Event for Simpson Park Development Project, Upper Allen Township

Grant Program Outcomes

As a result of the Land Partnerships grant offering, the following projects were completed:

- 5 land acquisition projects totaling 240 acres in high priority conservation areas
- 6 updated land use ordinances including innovative planning techniques such as conservation subdivision/land development
- 4 updated comprehensive land use plans including 1 multi-municipal plan
- 1 multi-municipal master trail/urban greenway plan
- 17 park & trail development projects including 11 park improvement projects, 4 new park projects and 2 new trail projects

Other Staff Initiatives

Staff implemented the goals and objectives of the Land Partnerships Plan on a daily basis through a variety of projects and initiatives. A sampling of 2006-2012 activities is provided below:

- Development of training programs and workshops including topics such as ASAs and Clean and Green
- Development of model ordinances including energy series and agricultural series
- Public presentations to community and stakeholder organizations such as Audubon Society, Master Gardeners, local schools and universities
- Implementation of the TreeVitalize Program
- Technical assistance to Cumberland Valley Rails to Trails Council
- Publication of the Simply Moving guide
- Publication of the Yellow Breeches and Conodoguinet Creek Water Trail Guides
- Trail, signage and parking lot improvements at the Mount Holly Marsh Preserve
- Invasive plant removal program at Mount Holly Marsh Preserve
- Publication of Local Food, Farm and Outdoor Recreation Guide
- Engagement with local conservation organizations and initiatives such as South Mountain Partnerships and Central Pennsylvania Conservancy
- Host an annual Farm Tour

Press Event For Waggoner's Gap Land Acquisition

2013 Land Partnerships Plan Update

Cumberland County obtained a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to update Land Partnerships in partnership with a planning consultant. The Land Partnerships planning process consisted of six steps:

1. Update the inventory and mapping of agricultural, natural, recreational and cultural resources
2. Reassessment of public opinion and level of support for farmland preservation, natural resource protection and parks, trails & greenways
3. Assessment of 2006 vision
4. Assessment of 2006 goals and objectives to achieve the vision

5. Development of strategies regarding agriculture preservation, natural resource protection and parks, trails & greenways
6. Establishment of recommendations and action plan

Plan Organization

Land Partnerships is organized in the following manner:

Michaux State Forest

Chapter 1
Introduction provides a brief overview, background and update on planning for agriculture preservation, natural resource protection and parks, trails & greenways in Cumberland County.

Chapter 2
Needs Assessment identifies and analyzes population trends, development patterns, development activity, status of land preservation and land use planning across the County.

Chapter 3
Public Participation describes the components and findings of the public participation process.

Chapter 4
Goals and Objectives details the vision, key focus areas and goals and objectives of Land Partnerships.

Chapter 5
Agriculture Preservation identifies the agricultural resources of the County, trends in agriculture and offers tools for agriculture preservation.

Chapter 6
Natural Resource Protection includes an inventory of natural resources, benefits and threats to the resources and offers strategies for protection.

Chapter 7
Parks, Trails & Greenways provides an inventory and assessment of park, trail and greenway resources in Cumberland County, trends in parks and recreation and offers tools to meet present and future needs.

Chapter 8
Implementation includes the strategies and potential funding mechanisms for implementation of Land Partnerships.

Big Spring Creek , North Newton Township

Introduction

The planning team evaluated a variety of demographic information and land development data to help quantify the need for agriculture preservation, natural resource protection, and parks, trails & greenways in Cumberland County. In turn, this chapter summarizes population trends, development activity, existing land preservation efforts and municipal land use planning practices that directly affect the need for farmland preservation, natural resource protection, and parks, trails & greenways. This assessment, together with the public participation findings, will serve as the basis for the goals and policies of Land Partnerships.

Population Trends

Population growth is an important demographic trend to be considered in this plan. Increasing populations place greater pressures on important agricultural and natural resources and require increased park and recreation services.

Table 2-1 depicts Cumberland County's population growth for 1930-2030 and pertinent population trends are summarized below:

- Between 1940 and 1970 the county's population doubled and since 1970 it has grown by nearly 50%
- Since 1980, the county has experienced a consistent growth rate of about 10% per decade
- Cumberland County's 2010 population was 235,406
- The county is projected to continue its 10% per decade growth through 2030

Table 2-1
Population Growth 1930-2030

Year	Total Population	Population Increase	
		Number	Percent
1930	68,667	NA	NA
1940	74,806	6,139	8.94%
1950	94,448	19,642	26.26%
1960	124,816	30,368	32.15%
1970	158,177	33,361	26.73%
1980	178,541	20,364	12.87%
1990	195,257	16,716	9.36%
2000	213,674	18,417	9.43%
2010	235,406	21,732	10.17%
2020*	258,880	23,474	9.97%
2030*	282,921	24,041	9.29%

Source: 1930-2010 US Census Data
*Population projections by PA State Data Center (2008)

Development Trends

Cumberland County is a diverse county with varying development patterns from the east to the west. In order to effectively plan for the County's needs it is important to understand and acknowledge the character and type of development in each region of the County.

Contemporary development in the County occurs markedly in the vicinity of employment centers and along major transportation corridors, and particularly where the two conditions coincide. Carlisle, Mechanicsburg and Shippensburg areas are the current growth centers in Cumberland County, though residential subdivisions are dispersed across the regions.

The eastern region of Cumberland County stretches from the Susquehanna River west to Mechanicsburg and contains the densest development of the County. The boroughs in this region – Camp Hill, Lemoyne, New Cumberland, Wormleysburg, Shiremanstown and Mechanicsburg – are approaching a completely developed condition. Residential lots are typically less than one acre, buildings are multi-story and street and sidewalk patterns are well connected. Housing is often smaller in size than in other regions. The townships in this region – East Pennsboro, Hampden, Lower Allen and Upper Allen – are accommodating growth and nearing build out as well. Commercial strip development is common along major road corridors, while residential subdivisions front minor arterials and connectors.

Corridor type growth extends south and west along US Routes 11/15 from the Susquehanna River. These routes have become major commercial corridors between Camp Hill and Carlisle (US Route 11) and between Camp Hill and Dillsburg (York County, US Route 15).

Growth centers in the eastern region include East Pennsboro, Hampden, Lower Allen and Upper Allen Townships. Frontage along US Route 15 is developing as a major commercial use, while residential subdivisions are locating along connecting roadways. Residential development is scattered along PA Route 944 at the base of Blue Mountain and connecting local roadways.

The central region is focused around the County seat of Carlisle and the transportation nexus of the Pennsylvania Turnpike, Interstate 81 and US Route 11. Carlisle is the largest borough and Mount Holly Springs and Boiling Springs provide well-developed small town environments. The neighboring townships – Middlesex, Silver Spring, North Middleton and South Middleton have received significant residential development in the past ten years; Dickinson and Monroe Townships have remained relatively rural to date. Commercial and industrial development remains in the vicinity of

the highway interchanges. Development in this region swells outward from Carlisle along the major thoroughfares.

In the central region, growth is occurring throughout the townships adjacent to Carlisle, particularly along US Route 11 and PA Route 641. Warehousing and related development continues to thrive in the Carlisle area where companies have access to east-west and north-south mid-Atlantic distribution corridors, as well as, driver services.

The western region of Cumberland County is characterized by crossroads, villages and rural landscapes with agriculture as the primary land use. The boroughs of Shippensburg, Newburg, and Newville, as well as Shippensburg Township are more densely developed and distinguish themselves from the rural landscapes of the remaining townships – Cooke, Hopewell, Penn, Upper and Lower Frankford, Upper and Lower Mifflin, North and South Newton, Southampton and West Pennsboro Township. The road network is sparse in some areas, where agriculture clearly dominates the scale of land use patterns. Large lot residential development with onsite water and sewer characterizes housing patterns in this region. Development pressure is centered in the Shippensburg area where sewer and water infrastructure attracts denser residential development and commercial and industrial services.

In the western region, Shippensburg and Southampton Townships have carried the greatest proportion of residential growth. Commercial development has occurred throughout the area, though at a more limited rate. Strong growth south of the Mason Dixon Line has intensified development pressure in this area.

Development Activity

New development activity creates the homes and jobs that drive demands for agriculture production, natural resources consumption, and parks and recreation facilities. The demands of new development opportunities must be balanced closely with the conservation needs of the County. An analysis of subdivision and land development activity was conducted to assess development trends and the pace of development across the County. Table 2-2 represents all final subdivision and land development activity approved in Cumberland County between 1990 and 2012 for residential, commercial and industrial uses. (Note: Acreage shown in Table 2-2 represents total site acreage, not actual acres of earth disturbed or impervious cover.)

- Current economic conditions have dramatically changed the amount and pace of the development in Cumberland County since the 2008 stock market crash and associated real estate crisis.
- Residential development activity has decreased substantially since 2007. Residential development decreased 54 percent between 2007 and 2008 and approximately 37 percent between 2008 and 2009. Residential development in 2010 and 2011 remained down, but on par with 2009 numbers. Total residential units decreased by 27 percent between 2011 and 2012, but the number single family residents more than doubled.
- Commercial and industrial activity experienced decreases similar to that of residential development activity between 2008 and 2012. Commercial activity was down nearly 42 percent between 2008 and 2009. Commercial activity remained down but level between 2009 and 2011 and then dropped 47 percent between 2011 and 2012. Industrial development decreased 68 percent between 2008 and 2009. Industrial development remained down, but fairly constant in 2010 through 2012.

Table 2-2

Approved Final Subdivision and Land Development Plans, 1990-2012, Units by Land Use Type

Year	Single Family	Multi Family	Town House	Total Residential Units	Commercial Units	Industrial Units	Other	Total Site Acreage
1990	837	831	494	2,162	76	24	146	3,226
1991	859	292	76	1,227	49	16	185	5,025
1992	781	12	427	1,220	71	15	115	2,344
1993	1,195	94	369	1,658	119	22	103	3,417
1994	851	311	173	1,335	100	32	111	3,347
1995	760	82	116	958	108	41	156	3,691
1996	938	552	678	2,168	114	35	151	3,865
1997	851	417	393	1,661	129	51	141	3,573
1998	999	45	475	1,519	134	34	223	3,994
1999	789	92	673	1,554	136	21	219	3,256
2000	1,111	237	416	1,764	102	29	235	5,166
2001	816	470	393	1,679	122	47	113	3,857
2002	883	123	258	1,264	69	25	144	4,295
2003	1,072	380	788	2,240	93	12	158	3,450
2004	836	276	113	1,225	70	8	155	3,481
2005	1,335	383	1,464	3,182	84	15	195	3,495
2006	1,537	7	265	1,809	50	21	190	3,628
2007	920	417	1,074	2,411	77	14	184	2,466
2008	625	58	417	1,100	72	19	197	2,634
2009	334	116	242	692	42	6	165	1,201
2010	250	190	242	682	41	7	119	1,203
2011	190	362	132	684	43	5	112	1,047
2012	401	-	100	501	23	4	67	1,260
Totals	**19,170**	**5,747**	**9,778**	**34,695**	**1,924**	**503**	**3,584**	**72,921**

SOURCE: CCPC Plan Review Submissions, 1990-2012

Status of Land Preservation

To establish a baseline of land protection for Land Partnerships, an inventory of developed and preserved land was prepared in 2004 and then subsequently revised for the plan update. Table 2-3 outlines land preservation status for 2004 and 2011.

Cumberland County is….

Developed	22%
Preserved	20%
Undeveloped	58%

Source: Tax Assessment & Existing Land Use Data, 2011.

The 2004 analysis of data from the Cumberland County Tax Assessment Office concluded that approximately 18 percent (63,000± acres) of the County was developed. For the analysis, developed land included all parcels identified as residential, commercial and industrial uses. 2011 land use data indicates approximately 22 percent (76,000 ± acres) of the County is currently developed. 13,000 acres or 4 percent of the County was developed between 2004 and 2011.

The 2004 inventory of preserved land indicated that approximately 18 percent (62,790± acres) of the County is preserved. 2011 data reveals that 20 percent (69,700± acres) of the County is now permanently protected for public benefit. 2 percent (6,910± acres) of the County was preserved between 2004 and 2011. Preserved land included parks and natural areas preserved by public and non-profit entities as well as permanently preserved farmland. Accordingly, approximately 58 percent (213,000± acres) of the County is currently undeveloped.

Table 2-3
Land Preservation Status, 2004 & 2011

	Developed Acres	Developed %	Preserved Acres	Preserved %
2004	63,000	18	62,790	18
2011	76,000	22	69,700	20

The Protected Land/Water Map (Map 2-1) is a composite illustration of lands that are currently protected. Table 2-4 details protected lands by ownership status. Together these areas provide economic, ecological and social benefit to the community. The land in federal ownership includes the Appalachian Trail and its associated land holdings. Over 67 percent of the protected lands in the County are owned by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as State Forests, State Game Lands, State Parks, or Fish and Boat Commission lands. The primary function of these areas is natural resource protection. These natural areas provide limited, passive recreation opportunities. The Mount Holly Marsh Preserve, Cumberland County's only open space area, is an important natural area and provides limited recreation. Municipal parkland accounts for 3

percent of the preserved lands in the County and serves the local recreation needs of the community. Farmland preserved through the County agricultural conservation easement program does not provide for public access, but rather serves to protect and enhance the agricultural industry.

Table 2-4
Protected Lands of Cumberland County, 2012

Ownership	Acreage
Federal - Appalachian Trail	3,584
State Parks	3,500
State Forests	38,477
State Game Lands	4,445
Fish & Boat Commission	815
Cumberland County	913
Municipal Parkland	2,168
Non-Profit Lands	508
Agricultural Easements	15,311
TOTAL	**69,721**
Percent of County Acreage	**19.81%**

Land Use Planning

Proactive plans and ordinances allow municipalities to promote agriculture preservation, natural resource protection, and parks, trails & greenways as a constituent part of municipal operations. Such plans must be current and reflect community priorities in order to be most effective. Inventory of municipal land use planning and regulatory documents was conducted to assess the current level of planning for agriculture preservation, parks, trails & greenways, and natural resource protection and to determine the need for additional planning assistance. Table 2-5 summarizes the pertinent planning documents for the 33 municipalities in the County. Table 2-6 provides detailed information on the plans and ordinances for each municipality in the County.

Table 2-5
Summary of Land Use Planning Tools, 2013

Planning Tool	Number of municipalities with planning tool	Number of planning tools under 5 years old	Number of planning tools 5-10 years old	Number of planning tools over 10 years old
Comprehensive Plan	32	8	16	8
Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance	33	11	4	18
Zoning Ordinance	29	12	9	8
Park & Recreation Plan	7	0	0	7

Table 2-6
Municipal Plans and Ordinances, 2013

Municipality	Comprehensive Plans	Zoning Ordinances	S & LD Ordinances	Park/Recreation OR Open Space/Greenway Plan
Boroughs	**Last Updated**	**Last Updated**	**Last Updated**	**Last Updated**
Camp Hill Borough	2009 (1)	2007	1993	2013 (3)
Carlisle Borough	2002	2009	2009	2008 (4)
Lemoyne Borough	2009 (1)	1980	1966	-
Mechanicsburg Borough	2007	1991	2002	2013 (3)
Mt. Holly Springs Borough	2008	1976	1976	-
Newburg Borough	-	1985	1985	-
New Cumberland Borough	2004	1981	1997	-
Newville Borough	2007 (2)	2002	2002	1995
Shippensburg Borough	2005	2003	1993	-
Shiremanstown Borough	1975	2008	2008	-
Wormleysburg Borough	2009 (1)	2006	1998	-
Townships	**Last Updated**	**Last Updated**	**Last Updated**	**Last Updated**
Cooke Township	2000	-	2009	-
Dickinson Township	2008 (2)	2008	2007	-
East Pennsboro Township	2005	2007	2007	2005, 2013 (3)
Hampden Township	1994	2009	2008	2013 (3)
Hopewell Township	1990	2010	2001	-
Lower Allen Township	2006	2009	1990	2013 (3)
Lower Frankford Township	2007 (2)	1994	1993	-
Lower Mifflin Township	2007	1993	1979	-
Middlesex Township	2003	2008	2008	1995, 2008 (3)
Monroe Township	2007	2008	2008	1995, 2013 (4)
North Middleton Township	2008	2011	2011	2008 (4)
North Newton Township	2007 (2)	-	2009	-
Penn Township	2007	2006	2009	-
Shippensburg Township	2005	2008	2008	-
Silver Spring Township	1995	2009	2009	2005, 2013(3)
South Middleton Township	2007	2007	2001	1995, 2008 (4)
South Newton Township	2007 (2)	2007	1997	-
Southampton Township	2007	2007	1994	-
Upper Allen Township	1999	2006	2006	2002, 2013 (3)
Upper Frankford Township	2008 (2)	-	1999	-
Upper Mifflin Township	2007 (2)	-	2007	-
West Pennsboro Township	2009 (2)	2008	1998	-

SOURCE: Cumberland County Planning Commission, 2013
(1) Imagine West Shore Joint Comprehensive Plan (2009)
(2) Western Cumberland County Joint Comprehensive Plan
(3) Eastern Cumberland County Trail Plan (2013)
(4) Letort Regional Authority Trail/Urban Greenway Feasibility Study (2008)

Needs Assessment Findings

A review and analysis of Cumberland County's population trends, development patterns, development activity, land preservation status and municipal land use planning identified a variety of needs. A summary of findings is detailed below:

Population Expansion

Cumberland County has experienced significant population growth over the last 50 years and population projections indicate steady population growth will continue for the next 20 years. As a result, development of parks and trails must continue to expand in order to keep pace with the population expansion.

An increasing population and thriving economy also create additional pressure on agricultural resources and the natural environment. To ensure ample, clean drinking water, fresh air and plant and animal habitat diversity, natural resource protection must be increased and balanced with economic development needs. The amount of environmentally sensitive lands that should be protected is determined by natural systems, not by human needs. The more sensitive the land the higher priority it should have for preservation. Agricultural resources should be preserved to ensure an ample, safe food supply and to preserve the agricultural heritage of the County.

Pace of Development

The amount and rate of development has slowed significantly since development of the 2006 Land Partnerships Plan. While the pace of development has slowed, agriculture preservation, natural resource protection, and parks, trails & greenways initiatives should continue. Not only do these activities generate their own economic development opportunities, but their successful implementation also lays a solid foundation upon which future economic development opportunities can thrive in the future.

Adams Ricci Park, East Pennsboro Township

Ribbon Cutting for White Rocks Land Acquisition, Monroe Township

Status of Land Preservation

Cumberland County is fortunate to have the amount and diversity of public land holdings, yet extensive acreage is undeveloped, unprotected, and may contain significant natural resource characteristics. Approximately 58 percent of the County is currently undeveloped and unprotected. The ratio of developed land to preserved land has increased (from 1 acres developed to 1 acre preserved to 1.1 to 1) between 2004 and 2011, despite the slow economic growth. The slump in conservation can likely be attributed to decreased funding for conservation from government sources and a decrease in private contributions to non-profit conservation organizations.

Land Use Planning

A review of municipal land use plans and ordinances established that planning documents are in need of revision. Cumberland County is changing and plans and ordinances must be up to date to plan for growth.

The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (Article III, Section 301(c)) requires municipal comprehensive plans to be reviewed at least every ten years. At present, 25 percent are 10 or more years old and are in need of immediate review and 50 percent of comprehensive plans are 5 or more years old and a review will be necessary in the next several years.

Municipalities collecting recreation fees must have an adopted recreation plan (MPC Article V, Section 503(11)(iv)). Currently, only 21 percent of the municipalities in Cumberland County have an open space, park and recreation plan. Unfortunately, all of the adopted park and recreation plans in place are over 10 years old and are in need of immediate update.

There also appears to be a need for subdivision, land development and zoning ordinance assistance and revision. At this time, four municipalities lack zoning ordinances and 28 percent of all zoning ordinances are over 10 years old. Additionally, 41 percent of zoning ordinances are over 5 years old. The need for revised subdivision and land development ordinances appears even greater. Of these, 55 percent are over 10 years old and 12 percent are over 5 years old and likely not reflecting current planning trends and best management practices.

Summary of Findings

To conclude, the following needs were identified during the assessment process:

- The population of Cumberland County is expected to continue to grow steadily. Conservation efforts are needed to respond to the agriculture preservation, natural resource, and parks, trails & greenways needs of the increasing population.

- Important natural resources of the County lack permanent protection.

- Despite a slowdown in land development, the current pace of development exceeds the pace of land preservation efforts.

- Conservation and economic development are not mutually exclusive concepts. Agriculture preservation, natural resource protection and park, trails & greenways are integral components to a thriving economy.

- Many municipal land use plans and ordinances are outdated and do not reflect current planning trends and best management practices. Planning for agriculture preservation, natural resource protection and parks, trails & greenways is an immediate need.

- A balanced and diverse implementation approach is needed to respond to the unique needs of the County.

Colonel Denning State Park, Lower Mifflin Township

Public Participation Program Components

Land Partnerships is rooted in public participation and outreach. Determining the needs, concerns, and ideas of the community is the foundation for the Plan's vision. The public participation and outreach process to develop Land Partnerships was comprised of multiple components. The main components included a steering committee, project website, public meetings and a public opinion survey.

Land Partnerships Steering Committee

A steering committee was formed consisting of nine members representing various Cumberland County organizations. The committee members were appointed by the Board of Commissioners. The committee met six times and provided guidance, direction and insight over the duration of the project.

Committee Members:

- Geoffrey Clymer, Member, Cumberland County Agricultural Land Preservation Board
- Shireen Farr, Director, Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau
- Bill Forrey, Former Chief, Pennsylvania Bureau of State Parks
- Robert Fisher, PLS, PE, President, R.J. Fisher Associates, Inc.; Member, Home Builders Association of Metropolitan Harrisburg Government Affairs Committee
- Larry Hatter, Government Relations, Greater Harrisburg Association of REALTORS
- Jay Schreibman, Regional Advisor, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- Kim Williams, Environmental Planner, Appalachian Trail Conservancy
- Jeff Williams, Director, Silver Spring Township, Park & Recreation Department
- Anna Yelk, Executive Director, Central Pennsylvania Conservancy
- Rebecca Yearick, Downtown Coordinator, Cumberland County Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Project Website

A project website was established at the onset of the project to ensure vital information was publically accessible. The website included information from the 2006 plan, meeting schedules/notes, maps, presentations, draft documents and links to the project surveys and other data. The website was regularly updated throughout the course of the project as new information emerged.

Public Meetings

In spring of 2012, two public meetings were held in the eastern and western areas of the County to introduce the plan update and determine the key issues and concerns of citizens in Cumberland County. Approximately 40 individuals attended the meetings. The meetings were also live streamed over the internet and recorded for review by those who could not attend in person. Over 250 people viewed the meetings online.

Public Meeting, Silver Spring Township

Following a brief overview presentation, attendees cycled through four stations engaging in separate and focused discussions on farmland preservation, natural resource protection, parks, trails & greenways and livable communities – the organizing elements of the 2006 Land Partnerships. Each station contained background information including updated demographic data, current tallies of preserved land, updated maps and other relevant information. Each station was staffed by experts from the County Planning department and consultants to field questions about each element of the plan. Ideas, issues and recommendations were recorded and consistent themes emerged to shape the outcome of the plan update. A summary of the feedback from the spring public meetings is provided in Appendix 3-1.

Public meetings were also held in the fall of 2012 in eastern and western Cumberland County, with approximately 40 individuals attending the meetings. The meetings were also videotaped and made available on YouTube for individuals who could not attend. Approximately 15 additional individuals viewed the meetings online.

Attendees were provided an overview of the plan and were given the opportunity to review and comment on the strategies presented in the plan. Overall feedback on the draft plan was overwhelmingly positive. Additionally, attendees were provided an opportunity to prioritize strategies by voting on their top three recommendations. A summary of the fall public meetings and results of the public prioritization of strategies are provided in Appendix 3-1.

Countywide Public Opinion Surveys

Public opinion surveys were conducted in 2012 using both random sample and user selected survey methods. The goal of the surveys was to assess the opinion of the public regarding farmland preservation, natural resource protection and parks, trails and greenways. The questions of both surveys were kept identical so results could be compared.

Random Sample Survey - This survey was mailed to 1,500 random households in Cumberland County and was conducted according to accepted survey methodology. 55 questionnaires were completed

and 105 surveys were returned undeliverable or vacant, resulting in an overall return rate of about 4 percent.

The number of responses to the random sample survey was less than the 47 percent response rate achieved with the 2006 random sample survey. The lower response rate is attributed to the change in survey methodology. The 2012 survey included a single postcard mailer directing you to an online survey, while the 2006 survey included 3 methods of correspondence: 1) pre-survey postcard 2) paper survey packet with pre-paid envelope and 3) post-survey reminder.

User Selected Survey – This survey was available to each household in the County and was conducted according to accepted survey methodology. The survey was publicized through newspaper articles, township newsletters, the project website and stakeholders meetings. These invitations produced 844 completed questionnaires yielding an overall return rate of about 4 percent of the County's total population or 9 percent of total households (assuming one response/household).

The results of 2012 random and user selected surveys were not identical, but recorded similar trends allowing both surveys to be combined for sake of analysis.. The 899 combined survey results are summarized below. The 2012 results are also compared to the results of the 2006 survey to evaluate changes in opinion for similar questions posed 5 years ago. Questions in the 2012 random sample and user selected surveys and the 2006 survey were intentionally kept similar in order to identify changes in opinion. The full results of each survey, as well as combined results, are detailed in the Appendix 3-2.

Public Meeting, Silver Spring Township

Combined Public Opinion Survey Results

1) What best describes the amount (not enough, about the right amount, too much) of farmland, natural areas, parks and trails in Cumberland County?

Majority responses:

- Farmland: About the right amount - 54%
- Trails: Not enough - 67%
- Natural Areas: Not enough - 62%
- Parks: Not enough - 50%, About the right amount – 48%

Interpretation - The majority of respondents indicate the current amount of farmland in the County is adequate. A strong need for more trails and natural areas was identified. The need for parks was nearly divided between not enough and about the right amount.

Comparison to 2006 Survey Results: The question was reworded in 2012 to clarify the different types of open space. In 2006, respondents indicated the following: 46% not enough open space, 46% about the right amount of open space, 2% too much open space.

2) What is your opinion on the amount of growth in Cumberland County?

Majority responses:

- Too much development - 67%
- About the right amount of development - 29%
- Not enough development - 4%

Interpretation - The majority of respondents feel that there is too much development.

Comparison to 2006 Survey Results: The number of respondents that feel there is too much development has increased 6% from the 61% in 2006.

3) Is enough being done to address the following issues (farmland preservation, natural resource protection, parks, trails & greenways and creation of livable communities) in Cumberland County?

Majority responses:

- Natural Resource Protection: More needs to be done - 70%
- Parks, Trails & Greenways: More needs to be done - 69%
- Farmland Preservation: More needs to be done- 67%
- Livable Communities: More needs to be done– 57%

Public Meeting, Silver Spring Township

Steering Committee Meeting

Interpretation - The majority of the respondents feel that more needs to be done to address farmland preservation, natural resource protection, parks, trails & greenways and creation of livable communities.

Comparison to 2006 Survey Results: The question was reworded in 2012 to clarify types of open space planning. The results were relatively unchanged from 2006 results of 70% that felt more open space preservation planning needs to be done. The livable communities category was not included in the 2006 survey.

4) How important are the following (farmland preservation, natural resource protection, parks, trails & greenways and livable communities) to you?

Majority responses:

- Natural Resource Protection: Very Important or Important - 90%
- Farmland Preservation: Very Important or Important - 84%
- Parks, Trails & Greenways: Very Important or Important - 83%
- Livable Communities: Very Important or Important – 71%

Interpretation - The majority of respondents feel all of these issues are very important or important. Natural resource protection was identified as the most important. Farmland preservation and parks, trails & greenways were ranked of similar importance.

Comparison to 2006 Survey Results: The question was reworded in 2012 to combine a lengthy list of types of open space into 4 categories of resources. Additionally, the levels of importance were reduced from 5 to 4 options. 2006 results contained a similar majority view (87-95%) of important throughout all categories. Variations occurred on level of importance from 2006 to 2012, but are likely attributed to the change in format of the question, specifically reducing the number of options for ranking importance. Importance of farmland decreased from 94% to 84%. Natural resource protection changed from 87-95% to 90% important. Parks, trails & greenways decreased from 88-90% to 83%. The livable communities category was not included in the 2006 survey.

5) Do you think the following (farmland preservation, natural resource protection, parks, trails & greenways and livable communities) are an appropriate use of public funds?

Majority responses:

- Natural Resource Protection: Yes, an appropriate use - 88%
- Parks, Trails & Greenways: Yes, an appropriate use - 83%
- Farmland Preservation: Yes, an appropriate use - 75%
- Livable Communities: Yes, an appropriate use – 59%

Interpretation - The majority of respondents feel it is appropriate to use public dollars to fund all four categories. Natural resource protection ranked first as most appropriate use. Second, was parks, trails & greenways, followed by farmland preservation.

Comparison to 2006 Survey Results: More people today feel that it is appropriate to use public dollars to fund the four main categories than in 2006. Previously, natural resource protection was seen as an appropriate use of public funds among 79% of respondents. Farmland preservation came in at 63% followed by parks, trails& greenways with 71%, 60% and 54%, respectively. The livable communities category was not included in the 2006 survey.

6) Would you be willing to pay an additional amount to preserve farmland, natural areas, parks, trails & greenways and help create livable communities in Cumberland County?

Responses:

- Yes, another $10/year – 19%
- Yes, another $20/year – 18%
- Yes, another $35/year – 7%
- Yes, another $50/year – 31%
- No – 16%
- Other – 9%

Interpretation - 75% of respondents are willing to pay additional dollars (between $10-$50/per year) to preserve these resources in the county. The majority of "yes" respondents indicated a willingness to pay another $50/year.

Comparison to 2006 Survey Results: A higher majority of residents are willing to pay more to preserve these resources today than the 66% recorded in 2006.

7) If we could do one thing to improve the quality of life in Cumberland County through farmland preservation, natural resource protection, parks, trail & greenways and creation of livable communities what would you want that one thing to be?

Public Meeting, Silver Spring Township

Respondents provided hundreds of responses to this open ended question. The comments were recorded verbatim and then grouped by topics that emerged. The full responses are detailed in Appendix 3-2.

Interpretation - The parks, trails and greenways topic was the most commented area. Within that theme, the majority of respondents indicated a strong desire for connected walking and biking trails. The second most commented area was related to overdevelopment and the proliferation of warehousing and truck traffic. The need to redevelop and utilize existing vacant structures was also strongly articulated within this topic area.

8) Demographics of Public Opinion Survey Respondents

Age:		Gender:	
18-24	2%	Female	47%
25-49	44%	Male	53%
50-64	37%		
65+	17%		

Residency:

Eastern Cumberland County	52%
Central Cumberland County	35%
Western Cumberland County	12%

Comparison to 2006 Survey Results: Age and gender distributions were very similar to 2006 survey results. From a residency perspective, 2012 results more representative of all regions of the county. In 2006, response rate from western Cumberland County was very limited.

Livable Communities Public Participation Results

One observed survey trend was a consistently lower ranking for the creation of Livable Communities category even though these fundamental ideas are inherent to the other higher ranking categories. It is unclear if these elements were least desired or if they were simply not clearly understood by survey respondents. In an attempt to more clearly focus the goals and objectives of the plan, the Livable Communities category was removed as a separate element of the 2013 Land Partnerships Plan. Relevant issues previously found in the separate Livable Communities element were consolidated into one of the remaining three elements. Additionally, some of the Livable Communities topic areas, such as historic preservation and transportation, are already adequately addressed in the County Comprehensive Plan.

Overall Public Participation Findings

The following public participation findings are derived from a comprehensive analysis of all of the public participation components:

- Farmland preservation, natural resource protection and parks, trails and greenways remain important issues for the residents of Cumberland County.
- More needs to be done to address farmland preservation, natural resource protection and parks, trails and greenways.
- Natural resource protection ranks as the number one priority among the three topic areas of the plan. Farmland preservation and parks, trails and greenways rank similarly as a second priority area.
- Water quality is a critical issue underlying the natural resource protection element.
- There is a strong demand for additional walking and biking paths that connect people with destinations. Trails should be designed for transportation, recreation and fitness.
- The need for additional parkland varies by community. Some communities have adequate facilities, while others are underserved. Maintenance of existing facilities is critical.
- The current amount of farmland in the county appears adequate, but there is a concern about future loss of farmland and agricultural heritage to development pressures. Access to local food is an important issue.
- Respondents indicate there is too much development, particularly warehousing and trucking facilities, and emphasis should be placed on redevelopment and reuse of vacant or underutilized sites.
- Respondents support public financing of farmland preservation, natural resource protection and parks, trails and greenways and indicate a willingness to pay more to finance these initiatives.
- Education on the benefits and threats to agriculture, natural resources and parks, trails and greenways must be continually conveyed to the residents, stakeholders and government officials.

Steering Committee Meeting

Pine Grove Furnace State Park, Cooke Township

Land Partnerships Vision

The vision statement of Land Partnerships was developed to help the community visualize what successful plan implementation would look like and to articulate the values upon which the plan was developed. Additionally, the vision was intended to generate a call to action and inspire implementation.

Vision Statement

The Cumberland County landscape…

- *Supports diverse business opportunities and vibrant communities;*
- *Maintains natural resources and environmental quality;*
- *Includes working farms and a strong agricultural community;*
- *Demonstrates a visible connectedness of parks, trails and natural areas within and between County communities; and*
- *Retains its heritage, character and identity through its scenic, natural, and historic features.*

Cumberland County and its partner agencies…

- *Are committed to a balanced approach of conservation and development, and*
- *Are dedicated to maintaining the quality of life enjoyed by residents.*

Elements of Land Partnerships

This vision for Cumberland County is translated into three plan elements. Each element is associated with a unique landscape and function in the County. Together they represent urban and rural landscapes, public and private ownership, and active and passive land uses. The three elements are:

- Agriculture Preservation
- Natural Resource Protection
- Parks, Trails & Greenways

The three elements of Land Partnerships reflect the diversity of the County. From the highly developed West Shore communities to the farmland of the Cumberland Valley, the three plan elements address the broad spectrum of the County's landscape. An implementation program based on these three elements will provide opportunities for everyone; from the developed boroughs to the rural countryside and everywhere in between.

Agriculture Preservation

The agriculture preservation element focuses on the Cumberland Valley as a region where abundant prime soils and soils of statewide importance produce sustained high agricultural yields when effectively managed.

Farmland is valued economically and culturally by County residents. For some residents, farming is an occupation. Whether full-time or part-time, farming activities provide income for farmers and their families. For others, farming is a way of life. They value homegrown produce and livestock, the interaction with the natural environment and the stewardship of natural resources—land, water, plants and animals. Still, for others, farmland simply represents the County's heritage. They feel a sense of connection to the County's history and appreciate the visible continuity with the past.

Cumberland County participates in the Pennsylvania Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Program to work with willing landowners to purchase agricultural conservation easements or development rights. This program pays the farmer to permanently preserve active, high quality farmland while placing restrictions on the property's use. The farmland remains in private ownership but the easement restricts non-agricultural uses. This program preserves the farmland in perpetuity and the landowner retains all rights associated with the land except the development or transfer for non-agricultural purposes. The Cumberland County Agricultural Land Preservation Board has preserved over 15,000 acres of prime farmland since its inception in 1989.

The agriculture preservation element recommends continued emphasis on the farmland preservation program, but employs a variety of other strategies such as farm-friendly planning and zoning techniques and local food promotion to ensure the long term viability of the agricultural industry.

West Shore Farmers Market, Lemoyne

Natural Resource Protection

The natural resource protection element focuses on the protection of the County's natural resources. Cumberland County is blessed with abundant land and water resources such as woodlands on the ridge lines of Blue Mountain and South Mountain, the Susquehanna River, Yellow Breeches Creek, Conodoguinet Creek, natural springs, and other important natural areas. The conservation of these resources and maintaining their role in the environment is critical to healthy communities.

Mount Holly Marsh Preserve

Blue and South Mountains are important to residents for their ecological functions and their natural, scenic beauty, as well as their economic value. Natural springs on the mountain faces are the origin of the County's two major waterways. Their geologic formations and forested condition are critical to promoting steady water supply and maintaining water quality in the stream corridors. The forests purify the air, provide the necessary habitat for woodland wildlife, and create seasonal beauty enjoyed by all. Additionally, forests are a renewable resource for the forest industry.

The natural resource conservation element directs attention to the need to conserve the water resources, woodlands, steep slopes, floodplains, wetlands, stream corridors and other sensitive natural communities of the County. Implementation of this element will be achieved through voluntary land acquisition and management, conservation easements and sound planning practices.

Parks, Trails & Greenways

The parks, trails & greenways element focuses on the recreational and tourism aspects of the land and water resources found in the County. Access to these amenities is an important aspect to quality of life. Residents of Cumberland County are fortunate to have the Appalachian Trail, three state parks and numerous municipal parks and other recreation sites within the County, but the population is expanding around these areas.

Parks are the public sites where residents can relax, play, and spend quality time with family and friends. Parks are the places where good things happen: children burn off energy and learn skills in team sports, adults catch up on neighborhood news and squeeze in a few minutes of physical activity, families picnic together, and singles find a pick-up game of basketball or a new acquaintance.

Greenways and trails are the linear corridors that connect parks with neighborhoods, and provide safe bicycle and pedestrian travel for residents of all ages. Greenways serve important water quality functions by filtering pollutants from stormwater runoff, before it is discharged to the County's surface waters. Greenways also shade streams from the sun, keeping waters cool for aquatic life, and contribute vegetative matter to the aquatic food chain. Finally, in the form of continuous lines of vegetation, buffers provide travel corridors and habitat for wildlife.

Geographically, the parks, trails & greenways element overlays the agriculture preservation and natural resource elements as a network of recreational destinations and ecological corridors. This plan directs the County's attention to the need to maintain a diverse network of park and recreation facilities. Both parcel-size parks and community trail connectors are necessary to meet contemporary recreation needs. Implementation of this element will entail voluntary parkland acquisition, conservation easements, and planning practices that facilitate development of parks, greenways and recreation facilities.

Goals and Objectives

The Plan establishes the following goals and desired outcomes as specific objectives:

Goal: Preserve the agricultural lands of Cumberland County.

Desired Outcomes:

- Farmland is protected through a combination of agricultural easements and municipal ordinance provisions that promote agriculture.
- Agricultural preservation programs include creative initiatives to promote and sustain the agriculture industry and responds to trends in local sustainable food production.
- Farms are managed utilizing best management practices emphasizing water quality improvements.

Goal: Conserve the significant natural resources of Cumberland County.

Desired Outcomes:

- The ridges, streams and important natural areas of Cumberland County are protected.
- Municipalities integrate natural resource protection ordinance provisions for woodlands, steep slopes, floodplains, wetlands, wellhead and drinking water sources.
- Land owners utilize conservation techniques (e.g., best management practices) to manage their properties for personal property goals and community values.

Opossum Lake, Lower Frankford Township

Cumberland Valley Rail Trail,
Shippensburg Township Park Trailhead

Goal: Provide parkland for the recreation needs of County residents.

Desired Outcomes:

- A diverse system of parks is in place that includes federal, state, county, municipal and non-profit organization parkland.
- Countywide, the amount of parkland seeks to achieve the goal of 15 acres of land per 1,000 citizens in 10 years.
- Municipal parks are provided within 1 to 2 miles of each resident in the eastern part of the county as well as population centers countywide. Regional parks are located within 15 miles of each resident.
- Parkland demonstrates the importance of conserving and protecting agricultural and natural resources through environmental education and interpretation.

Goal: Provide trails to connect citizens with destinations throughout the County.

Desired Outcomes:

- Each municipality or planning region of the County has a trail plan that includes connections to neighboring and regional trail systems.
- There is a main trail corridor within 5-7 miles of each citizen.
- Local trails connect residential areas, park, schools, and community destinations.

Goal: Create a comprehensive greenways system throughout Cumberland County.

Desired Outcomes:

- Green corridors of open space create connections between communities, allowing residents to travel as bicyclists and pedestrians from one community to another.
- Greenways protect natural resources, such as the mountain ridgelines and riparian corridors of the Susquehanna River and streams.
- Greenways conserve the cultural resources and their surroundings throughout Cumberland County.
- Greenways nominated in the 2000 Cumberland County-wide Greenway Study are fully established and there are municipal connections.
- Greenways in rural areas reduce agricultural runoff and limit livestock stream access.
- The public understands the benefits of greenways through informational signage, interpretive nature trails and greenway tours.

Goal: Cumberland County's developed communities actively implement the principles of Land Partnerships.

Desired Outcomes:

- Agriculture is promoted via farmers markets, Community Supported Agriculture programs, and community gardens.
- Natural resources are protected through stormwater management and investments in existing public infrastructure.
- Park and recreation amenities are well-maintained and expanded when appropriate.
- Greenway and trails connect the county's developed communities to surrounding areas, providing opportunities for recreation and non-motorized transportation.

Goal: Cumberland County landowners, municipalities, and non-profit organizations have a clear understanding of land conservation and preservation options and opportunities.

Desired Outcomes:

- The County is a point of contact and clearinghouse for land conservation questions and information.
- The County institutes education programs and initiatives targeted at specific needs of County landowners.
- The County actively promotes agriculture preservation, natural resource protection and parks, trails & greenways strategies to municipalities, landowners, and private non-profit organizations.
- The County works in partnership with conservation organizations on education and outreach.
- Private volunteers assist with the upkeep of trails, parks and natural areas to maintain and build community investment in the County.

Appalachian Trail Conservancy Regional Office,
Boiling Springs

Farmland, West Pennsboro Township

Introduction

Cumberland County's fertile soils have long supported the County's working farms that provide quality foods and feeds, enhance the local economy, protect important landscapes that provide wildlife habitat and maintain scenic, cultural, and historic resources. Agricultural preservation is an important investment in our economy, our environment and the overall quality of life for all residents of the County. The soils that support the Cumberland County agriculture are literally irreplaceable. This chapter will identify the County's agricultural resources, describe the various farmland preservation programs in the county, and discuss the trends and challenges facing the agriculture industry. Lastly, the chapter provides strategies for agricultural preservation and methods to keep the agriculture industry viable in light of recent trends and challenges.

Benefits of Agricultural Preservation

Preservation of Cumberland County's best working farmland benefits the agricultural community by securing the land base that is required to sustain agriculture operations and produce food. In today's marketplace, large clusters of farmland are needed to create a long-term business environment for farm operations. Similarly, agriculture support businesses will locate in and around these large agricultural areas that sustain a meaningful customer base. Uncertain, conflicting land use patterns have the potential to discourage investment and expansion of both farms and agricultural support businesses. Farmland protection focuses on creating a favorable long-term business environment for agriculture, similar to what communities do for other commercial and industrial businesses.

In addition to the benefits farmland preservation provides farmers and the agricultural community, farmland preservation provides economic, scenic and environmental benefits to all residents throughout the County[1]:

- **Protecting local farmland helps keep property taxes down.** Working farms do not generate needs for public services such as public sewer/water, fire/police protection or other infrastructure investments. For every dollar a farm family pays in property taxes, they use less than a dollar in public services. Residential property owners' use more than a dollar's worth of services for every dollar in property taxes paid[2].

- **Local farms provide fresh food at a reasonable cost.** Locally produced food is more nutritious and less costly. Transportation and environmental costs are high for foods that are imported from distant regions and other countries. The average distance that food travels from farm to plate is 1,500 miles.
- **Well-managed farms benefit the environment.** Farms enrolled in the farmland preservation program are managed by private landowners using sound soil and water conservation practices that protect soil from erosion and also protect local surface waters from contamination. Open farmlands are important for the recharge of ground water in our communities. Farms also provide habitat for local wildlife populations.
- **Preserved farmland protects rural character and promotes local tourism.** Local scenic landscapes are important for attracting visitors and for keeping the quality of life high for local citizens.
- **Local farm businesses support the local economy.** Productive farms employ managers, farm laborers, accountants, feed & fertilizer consultants, veterinarians and agricultural equipment suppliers. Farms also provide the raw materials for food processing plants, restaurants and grocery stores.

Average food miles traveled courtesy of videonation.

USDA Soil Capability Classes

- Class I Soils have few limitations that restrict their use.
- Class II Soils have moderate limitations that reduce the choice of plants or require moderate conservation practices.
- Class III Soils have severe limitations that reduce the choice of plants or require special conservation practices, or both.
- Class IV Soils have very severe limitations that reduce the choice of plants or that require very careful management, or both.
- Class V-VIII Soils have limitations so severe that make them generally unsuitable for cultivation.

Source: Soil Survey of Cumberland and Perry Counties, Pennsylvania
US Department of Agriculture, Soil

Agricultural Resources

Soils

Cumberland County contains some of the finest agricultural land in Pennsylvania and the United States. The quality of the soil and protection of the best soils is critical for the future of agriculture. Prime Farmland, defined as Class I and Class II soils, encompasses approximately 39 percent of the County or 136,700 acres[3]. USDA has classified Class III soils in Pennsylvania as "soils of statewide importance" due to their productive capabilities. Cumberland County has nearly 78,000 acres[4] (22 percent) of Class III soils. In total, over 60 percent of Cumberland County contains productive soils (Class I-III). Soil quality is illustrated on the Prime Soils & Soils of Statewide Importance Map (Map 5-1).

Land Use

Land use data from the National Resources Inventory[5] (NRI) indicate a continued conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses on both the national and statewide levels. On the positive side, data indicates that the rate of farmland conversion has declined. In Pennsylvania, between 1997 and 2002, over 115,000 acres of farmland was converted to other uses. Between 2002 and 2007, approximately 81,200 acres of farmland was converted to another use. This represents a 30 percent decrease in the pace of farmland conversion.

Cumberland County experienced significant farmland conversion beginning in the 1940's and extending through the 1990's. Between 1940 and 2002, nearly 90,000 acres (or 25 percent) of the County was converted from farmland to another use. County level data from the US Census of Agriculture indicates that farmland conversion in Cumberland County is stabilizing. The acres of land in agriculture remained relatively stable during the 1992, 1997 and 2002 reporting periods. In 2007, the US Census of Agriculture reported an increase in farms and land in farming in Cumberland County, with approximately 1,550 farms covering 156,000 acres of farmland. Table 5-1 provides historical data on land in farms, number of farms and average farm size.

The data from the National Resources Inventory and US Census of Agriculture may seem contradictory at first. The 2007 NRI reports decreases in farmland while 2007 US Census of Agriculture reports increased land in farming. Both are possible. Increases in land in farms may be caused by the creation of new farms, expansion of farms into previously un-utilized land and/or the inclusion of non-traditional farms that were previously not classified as a farm[6].

Table 5-1
Land in Farms, Number of Farms, Average Farm Size

Year	Land in Farms (Acres)	Percent Change	Number of Farms	Percent Change	Average Farm Size (Acres)
1930	237,983		2,932		81
1935	244,097	3%	3,032	3%	81
1940	231,609	-5%	2,809	-7%	83
1945	230,736	0%	2,562	-9%	90
1954	227,111	-2%	2,325	-9%	98
1959	204,239	-10%	1,873	-19%	109
1964	193,187	-5%	1,595	-15%	121
1969	164,302	-15%	1,314	-18%	125
1974	151,344	-8%	1,100	-16%	133
1978	163,826	8%	1,138	3%	144
1982	163,186	0%	1,174	3%	139
1987	153,746	-6%	1,100	-6%	140
1992	141,919	-8%	940	-15%	151
1997	143,163	1%	970	3%	148
2002	143,159	0%	1,116	15%	128
2007	157,388	10%	1,550	39%	102
2010*	156,000	-1%	1,549	0%	101

Source: US Census of Agriculture – Cumberland County Summary Highlights
*PA Agricultural Statistics 2010-2011, derived from 2007 US Census of Ag

Farm Characteristics

Data from the 2007 US Census of Agriculture indicates that farming in Cumberland County is changing. Tables 5-1 and Table 5-2 provide additional details on Farm Characteristics including number of farms, farm size and farms by value of sales. The number of farms in the County is increasing while the average farm size is steadily decreasing. Additionally, the median size of a farm has decreased dramatically (by 53 percent) between 2002 and 2007. Both the number of farms, sized 10-49 acres, and farms generating less than $2,500, has more than tripled in the past 10 years. These numbers suggest a trend towards smaller sized farms, part time operations, hobby farms and non-traditional agricultural enterprises.

Table 5-2

Farm Characteristics, 1997-2007

	1997	2002	2007
Number of Farms	970	1116	1550
Land in Farms	143,163	143,159	157,388
Average Size of Farm	148	128	102
Median Size of Farm	100	97	45
Farms by Size	**1997**	**2002**	**2007**
1 to 9 acres	90	118	130
10-49 acres	217	306	676
50-179 acres	433	468	531
180-499 acres	182	173	158
500-999 acres	37	43	44
1000+ acres	11	8	11
Farms by value of sales	**1997**	**2002**	**2007**
Less than $2,500	176	350	662
$2,500-$4,999	81	116	132
$5,000-$9,999	114	100	122
$10,000-$24,999	146	122	163
$25,000-$49,999	102	77	119
$50,000-$99,999	109	71	77
$100,000+	242	280	275

Source: US Census of Agriculture, 1997-2007

A Maine study indicates that shifting just 1% of consumer expenditures to direct purchasing of local food products could increase farmers' income in that state by as much as 5%.[7]

Economic Impact

Agriculture continues to be a leading industry in Pennsylvania and the County. Cumberland County ranks eighth (up from tenth place in 2002) in the state for total agricultural products sold. The 2007 USDA statistics listed the market value of agricultural products sold from Cumberland County at $132,803,000. The sale of livestock and

livestock products accounts for 80 percent of the total market value. Leading products include milk/dairy products, cattle and poultry/ eggs. The remaining 20 percent comes from crop sales. Leading crop sales include grains/beans, nursery products, hay and vegetables. Cumberland County ranks fifth in the state for cattle and calves and seventh in the state for milk production. The County ranks in the top ten statewide for several crops including wheat, corn, barley, soybeans, hay and apples.

Benefits of Locally Produced Food

- Health – Locally sourced food is more nutritious and less prone to contamination.
- Environmental Benefits – Less transport distance = less energy use.
- Food Safety – Farmers are accountable and identifiable.
- Food Security – Local food supply chains help to minimize outside transportation disruptions from natural disasters, etc.
- Economic Benefits – Money spent in the community stays in the community.
- Educational Opportunities – Most children do not understand the importance of eating fresh foods or know where their food comes from
- Flavor – Fresh food tastes better.
- Peace of Mind – People feel better when they know where their food comes from; understand cultivation methods and distance transported.
- Community Building – Farmers and families develop direct connections.

Trends in Agriculture

Local Food Production and Consumption

Food and food production is increasingly seen as a key environmental issue affecting the quality of air, soil and water. These issues are coalescing under food and the environment and also between healthy eating and disease prevention. Food production and distribution is thought by many to become an increasingly important issue worldwide, since production and distribution is predicted to become increasingly marginal as the rapid rate of population growth and climate change affects crops, arable land and the ability to equitably distribute food. Locally produced food using sustainable methods can help improve all these issues.

In addition to the environmental and health benefits, local food production strengthens the local economy. There is an increasing need for locally produced foods to supply a growing industry of farmers markets, healthy restaurants and associated fresh food businesses. Increased demand will diversify the types of local foods produced and consumed. This variety of fresh foods presents new and expanded business opportunities for local farmers, producers, and retailers already experiencing increased demand for these products.

Stronger prices are realized as consumers factor in the many health, environmental and economic benefits of fresh local foods. In Cumberland County, higher profit margins could be realized due to advantages of convenient highway access and close proximity to major metropolitan markets. Local foods help maintain viability in the agriculture industry by providing a counterbalance to recent trends of decreasing farm size by using local foods to diversify and supplement farm income with less available land.

Urban Agriculture

In addition to purchasing and consuming local food from commercial operators, there is a strong trend toward agricultural pursuits in urban environments. From community gardens to raising chickens and bees in your backyard, agriculture too has a place in developed communities. With the pursuits, there also is a set of new challenges for public officials. Zoning and land development regulations must be updated in order to accommodate these uses while still protecting the property rights and ensuring the health and safety of the community.

Tools for Agricultural Preservation – Acquisition & Development

Acquisition of agricultural conservation easements is the most commonly recognized tool for agricultural preservation. Preservation of farmland through the purchase of agricultural conservation easements provides numerous benefits to the individual farmer. The following aspects make farmland preservation attractive to farmers:

- The landowner can access a portion of the land equity while still maintaining ownership and agricultural use of the land without having to sell it for development or non-farm uses.
- Cash from the sale of the development rights can be used for reducing debt, lowering operating costs, improving or expanding farm operations, investing in value-added agriculture initiatives, retirement, or be passed on to heirs with proper estate planning.
- Proceeds from easement sales are often recycled back into the local economy, supporting agribusiness and creating additional economic development.
- Property taxes are based only on the agricultural value of the land rather than the full developmental value, reducing the tax burden on farmers and enhancing the annual bottom line and overall profitability.
- Preserved farmland is more affordable for younger farmers and eases the transfer of property to future generations and other farmers who are interested in farming. Expanding farming operations is often not an option when competing with developmental values.

Pennsylvania Agricultural Conservation Easement Program

The Agricultural Conservation Easement (ACE) Program is a County administered State program that provides a mechanism for purchasing agricultural conservation easements from willing landowners in Agricultural Security Areas. Federal, State, County, Local funds and non-profit funds can be used to purchase agricultural conservation easements. The landowner maintains

ownership of the land and can continue to farm it but cannot convert the land to non-agricultural use. The agricultural conservation easement is held in perpetuity and provides permanent protection of farmland. Additionally, the landowner benefits from the money generated from the sale of the easement. The Agriculture Lands Map (Map 5-2) illustrates farmland parcels that have been permanently protected through agricultural easements and those parcels enrolled in the Agriculture Security Area Program.

The Agricultural Land Preservation Board, in coordination with the Cumberland County Planning Commission, has developed an Agricultural Preservation Planning Map (Map 5-2) which identifies priority areas (Agriculture-Prime Farmland Area and Agriculture-Rural Area) for future agricultural conservation easements. The priority areas are based on the Future Land Use Map contained in the County Comprehensive Plan and are define below:

- The *Agriculture-Prime Farmland Area* generally consists of land defined as prime farmland by the USDA. It is largely located between the Conodoguinet and Yellow Breeches Creeks in regions containing limestone geology. It includes Class I and Class II soils which are defined as having few to moderate limitations that restrict their use for cultivation.

- The *Agricultural-Rural Area* preserves the rural landscapes that reflect the agricultural history of the county. Most of this area is located north of the Conodoguinet Creek in areas that, for the most part, do not contain prime farmland soils; but do include soils classified as having statewide importance.

Interest in the ACE program remains very high. Annual demand for the program far exceeds funding available for the program. For 2013, there are 52 applications totaling over 6,000 acres of farmland. In a typical year, three to five farms are preserved. The size of the application backlog is not decreasing as each year new applications are received to replace the farms that are preserved. Since the ACE Program's inception in 1989, 15,775 acres (~10 percent) of Cumberland County farmland have been preserved. In total, nearly $42,000,000 in State, County, Federal and Local dollars have been invested in agricultural preservation in Cumberland County. Table 5-3 provides a summary of preserved farmland in Cumberland County by municipality.

Table 5-3 Summary of Preserved Farms by Municipality, 1989-2012	
Municipality	**Acres Preserved**
Dickinson Township	2,092
Middlesex Township	378
Monroe Township	1,905
North Middleton Township	248
North Newton Township	608
Penn Township	3,353
Shippensburg Township	84
Silver Spring Township	128
South Middleton Township	1,395
South Newton	193
Southampton Township	2,247
Upper Allen Township	300
West Pennsboro Township	2,844
Total Countywide	**15,775**
Total Cost	**$41.7 M**

ACE Program - Statewide/Regional Comparison

Of the 67 counties in Pennsylvania, 58 participate in the ACE program. As of December 2012, 470,155 acres of farmland are permanently protected statewide through 4,364 easements. Cumberland County ranks 9th in the state for total acres of farmland preserved.

Table 5-4 provides a summary of preserved farmland, percent of farmland preserved and statewide rank for the south-central PA region. Cumberland County ranks 6th in the region for total acres preserved and for percent of farmland preserved. Percent of farmland preserved provides a more reasonable county-by-county comparison, as the agricultural nature and county size can vary greatly throughout the region. Cumberland County appears marginally deficient over the other leading agricultural producing counties in the south-central PA region for amount of farmland preserved.

Farmland Preservation Statewide 1989-2012

- PA is #1 in the nation for total acres of farmland preserved
- 470,155 acres of farmland are permanently protected statewide through 4,364 easements
- Total program investment $1.2 Billion

Source: Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, December 2012.

Table 5-4					
Table 5-4 Farmland Preservation Comparison - South Central PA Region, 2012*					
County	Number of Preserved Farms	Number of Acres Preserved	Land in Farms (acres)	% of Land in Farms Preserved	State Rank, Value of Ag Products Sold
Dauphin	142	14,060	89,000	15.8%	21
Lebanon	143	16,877	113,000	14.9%	5
Lancaster	714	62,172	423,000	14.7%	1
York	246	38,374	290,000	13.2%	7
Adams	146	19,900	173,000	11.5%	6
Cumberland	125	15,199	156,000	9.7%	8
Schuylkill	94	10,100	118,000	8.6%	9
Franklin	118	15,600	241,000	6.5%	4
Perry	48	7,815	143,000	5.5%	13
Snyder	21	2,320	99,000	2.3%	12
Juniata	17	2,245	97,000	2.3%	15
Mifflin	19	2,137	93,000	2.3%	18
Northumberland	17	2,018	147,000	1.4%	11
Huntingdon	6	691	147,000	0.5%	27
** Farms preserved through State ACE program and approved by the State Board as of December 2012*					

ACE Administration

The Cumberland County ACE Program will reach a milestone of 25 years in 2014. The Program has experienced many successes, but continues to challenge the Agricultural Land Preservation Board and staff. The following issues have been identified through the planning process and should be addressed in program implementation going forward:

- *Stewardship* - New landowners and next generation preserved farm owners are further removed from the original easement transaction, which can present challenges for stewardship and compliance with the terms of the conservation easement. The potential for enforcement actions and litigation is increasing.
- *Environmental Regulations* - More stringent regulations are in place for conservation planning, erosion and sediment control and nutrient management for agricultural operations, which must be implemented by preserved farm owners to ensure soil productivity and water quality for the County.
- *Rural Enterprises* - In order to remain economically viable, many farmers are seeking to establish rural enterprises on preserved farms. These enterprises must be accomplished in a manner that protects the values of easement, but affords farmers some flexibility.

- *Program Guidelines* - As the agriculture industry and economic environment changes, guidelines and ranking systems for the Program must evolve to respond to these changes.
- *Funding* - Program funding is becoming increasingly limited and uncertain. Administrators must continually seek out creative resources and partnerships to maximize available funding.

Clean and Green Program

Clean and Green is a preferential tax program which provides landowners tax relief for agreeing to keep their properties in agricultural production, forestland or open space. For farmers, the program allows a differential property assessment based on the value of productive farmland, not development potential. Participation in the Clean and Green Program does not permanently preserve farmland, but rather provides the landowner with tax benefits through lower assessments which can help to keep farming economically viable. Landowners must have at least 10 acres of farmland to participate. In 2013, there were 166,464 acres (46 percent of County) enrolled in the Clean and Green Program.

Tools for Agricultural Preservation - Planning

Agricultural Preservation goals cannot be achieved only through implementation of easement programs. It would be impractical and financially unfeasible to assume that County or local governments could purchase easements on adequate acres of farmland to protect the industry and heritage of the County. Land use planning is an important tool to protect agriculture and establish a balance with development opportunities.

Municipal Planning Code

The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) is intended to empower local municipalities to preserve and regulate agricultural land uses. The comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance are the primary land use tools utilized.

Article III, Section 301 of the MPC specifies that County and Municipal Comprehensive Plans shall provide a plan for the protection of prime agricultural land. Further, Section 301 specifically requires that County Comprehensive Plans “identify a plan for the preservation and enhancement of prime agricultural land and encourage the compatibility of land use regulation with existing agricultural operations.” A plan for protection should include establishing goals and objectives for preservation of prime farmland and identifying areas of prime farmland on a future land use map where agriculture is desired.

Conducting periodic reviews and updates to municipal comprehensive plans is the foundation to successful planning. The MPC recommends municipalities review adopted comprehensive plans at least every 10 years.

The Zoning Ordinance is a planning tool to establish the location, amount and type of agriculture desired in a municipality. Agriculture is dependent on the quality of the soil; therefore zoning districts should be established in areas with the most productive soils. Effective agricultural districts limit the amount of conflicting non-agricultural development, protect the right to farm, and allow for related accessory uses that supplement farm income.

Zoning ordinances should be based upon the sound policy guidance reflected in the comprehensive plan. The MPC requires that zoning ordinances and comprehensive plans are "generally consistent". Thus, as comprehensive plans are amended, municipalities should review zoning ordinances to ensure the mandated consistency of the two planning documents.

Agricultural Security Area Program

The Agricultural Security Area (ASA) Program promotes farming and protects the right to farm by providing farmers with the following benefits:

- *Limited protection from local regulations* - Local governments may not unreasonably restrict farming operations and farm structures. Local governments shall provide exceptions for normal agricultural activities within ASA's when defining public nuisances.
- *Limited protection from condemnation of land* - The power of state and local agencies to exercise eminent domain over productive farmland in an ASA is limited. Any condemnation of farmland within an ASA must be reviewed by the Agricultural Land Condemnation Approval Board and show that the proposed condemnation would not have an unreasonable adverse effect upon the preservation and enhancement of agriculture or municipal resources within the area; or that there is no reasonable or prudent alternative to utilizing the lands within the ASA.
- *Eligibility for agricultural conservation easements* - Landowners enrolled in ASA's are eligible to participate in the state ACE program.

Parcels enrolled in the ASA program receive no permanent protection from development and can be developed for non-agriculture uses with no penalty to the landowner. Approximately 73,300 acres of land (21 percent of the County) are enrolled in the program. Table 5-5 provides a summary of ASA's by municipality.

In addition to comprehensive planning and zoning ordinances, the ASA program is an important planning tool to protect the agriculture industry. Historically, implementation of the ASA program has been challenging at the municipal level. Administration of the Program tends to be cumbersome, which has led to poor tracking and management of enrollment. Additionally, since the program does not offer permanent protections or allow for recoup of administrative costs, the importance of the program has been diminished or misunderstood. From a County level perspective, the most important role of the ASA program is in establishing eligibility for the ACE program. From the farmer's perspective, the ASA program is integral to protecting the landowner's right to farm.

Importance of Agriculture Industry

- Agriculture is considered Pennsylvania's number one industry
- 1 of every 5 jobs in Pennsylvania is agriculturally related
- In 2007, the total value of Pennsylvania's agriculture industry was $5.8 billion
- In 2007, the total value of Cumberland County's agricultural sales was nearly $133 million
- Dairy is a leading agribusiness in Cumberland, including a herd of over 16,800 milking cows with a total milk production value of $58 million

Table 5-5

Agricultural Security Areas, 2012

Municipality	Parcels	Acres
Dickinson	71	4,762
Hopewell	47	2,859
Lower Frankford	40	2,571
Lower Mifflin	91	5,423
Middlesex	55	2,510
Monroe	96	3,976
North Middleton	25	2,137
North Newton	56	5,065
Penn	119	6,664
Silver Spring	39	1,717
Southampton	150	10,580
South Middleton	89	5,027
South Newton	11	962
Upper Allen	19	970
Upper Frankford	101	6,296
Upper Mifflin	51	3,413
West Pennsboro	122	8,324
TOTAL	**1,182**	**73,256**

Tools for Agricultural Preservation – Partnerships & Education

Partnerships and education are also critical to agricultural preservation. Education is essential to any successful program and partnerships on complementary programs help advance mutual goals.

Cumberland County Partners for Excellence in Agriculture

In 2010, the Cumberland County Partners for Excellence in Agriculture (Ag Partners) officially formed. The mission of the Ag Partners is to assure that the agricultural industry in Cumberland County continues to be a major contributor to the economic development of the County and maintains a competitive position in the global economy while conserving and respecting the natural resources in the area.

Stakeholders in the Cumberland County Partners for Excellence in Agriculture include production agriculture as well as the businesses, educational institutions, governmental and community organizations and individuals that support the success of agriculture in the County. The coalition meets on a quarterly basis and coordination for the Ag Partners is provided by the Cumberland County Planning Department.

The Ag Partners have adopted these three key objectives: 1) Preserving Farmland and the Environment 2) Retaining and Expanding the Agricultural Industry 3) Connecting Consumers and the Public with Agriculture.

Stakeholders in Agriculture

There are a variety of agricultural stakeholders that support agricultural preservation objectives and advance common goals. Table 5-6 lists stakeholders for agricultural preservation and highlights their focus areas.

Table 5-6 Stakeholders and Focus Areas for Agricultural Preservation	
Stakeholders	**Program/Initiative**
Audubon PA http://pa.audubon.org/	• Preservation of birding habitat
Appalachian Trail Conservancy www.appalachiantrail.org	• Viewshed protection to Appalachian Trail
Capital Area Resource Conservation & Development Council www.capitalrcd.org	• South Central PA Buy Fresh, Buy Local
Cumberland Area Economic Development Corporation www.cumberlandbusiness.com	• Agriculture business retention and expansion
Cumberland County Farm Bureau www.pfb.com	• Legislation and advocacy
Cumberland County Conservation District www.cumberlandcd.com	• Conservation planning and assistance • Nutrient management planning
Cumberland County Tax Assessment Office www.ccpa.net	• Clean & Green Program
Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau www.visitcumberlandvalley.com	• Cumberland Valley Local Food, Farm and Outdoor Recreation Guide • Agritourism Promotion
Chesapeake Bay Foundation www.cbf.com	• Riparian Buffer Technical Assistance
Pennsylvania Farmland Preservation Association www.pafarmland.org	• Training and advocacy
Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture (PASA) www.pasafarming.org	• Strengthens local agriculture, food systems and economy by fostering an educational support system for farmers interested in non-traditional agricultural practices and consumers looking for fresh, locally and sustainably produced food
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture www.agriculture.state.pa.us	• ACE Program • ASA Program • Clean & Green Program • PA Preferred Program • Century/Bicentennial Farm Program
Penn State Cooperative Extension www.extension.psu.edu/cumberland	• Annual Farm Tour • 4-H Program • Education
USDA-NRCS www.nrcs.usda.gov	• Conservation planning and assistance

South Mountain from White Rock, Monroe Township

Introduction

Pennsylvania is blessed with diverse and abundant natural resources. Protection of these resources for future generations has always been important to our citizens and is incorporated into our State constitution.

"The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic, and aesthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people."
- Section 27, Article 1 of the Pennsylvania State Constitution

The development of Land Partnerships involved a comprehensive exploration of Cumberland County's natural resources to inventory physical features and land characteristics that contribute to the unique natural setting of a place or area. The inventory of natural resources is followed by a discussion of the benefits of, and threats to, those natural resources. Lastly, the plan documents tools and strategies for natural resource protection.

Natural Resources of Cumberland County

Cumberland County is fortunate to encompass significant natural features that deliver essential ecological services[8] to the County. Additionally, these natural resources contribute to its scenic beauty and the quality of life it offers residents. The wooded ridges of Blue Mountain and South Mountain, the stream corridors of the Yellow Breeches Creek and Conodoguinet Creek, and the Susquehanna River along the eastern boundary are natural resources that define Cumberland County. The valley lands between the ridges with its rich agricultural soils, wetlands, and riparian areas add to the diversity of the County's natural resources.

The following sections include a comprehensive examination of the natural environment including descriptions of the important natural resources of the County.

<u>Climate</u>
Cumberland County is dominated by atmospheric flow patterns common to Humid Continental type climate. The complex weather systems that influence the area originate in the Central Plains of the United States. As they travel eastward, they are gradually modified by the characteristics of the underlying topography. Moisture in the

form of precipitation is lost due to orographic uplift, as the weather systems moving eastward are lifted over the Appalachian Mountain Chain. A secondary flow pattern, and primary source of heavy precipitation associated with cyclonic circulation, originates in the Gulf of Mexico and travels northward through the County. The moist airflow from the Atlantic Ocean is a modifying rather than a controlling climatic factor. Periodically, considerable moisture is picked up by storms developing and moving up along the southeastern coastline of the United States. A disturbance of this type usually brings moderate to heavy precipitation to the Lower Susquehanna River Area due to the general upslope motion of moist air over the area's rugged terrain. In the colder months when temperatures are near or below freezing, these storms often deposit heavy amounts of wet snow throughout the area.

The normal succession of high and low pressure systems moving eastward across the United States produce weather changes in the area every few days in the winter and spring of the year. In the summer and fall, the weather changes are less frequent due to a slowing down of the general atmospheric circulation during the warmer months. Low-pressure cyclonic systems usually dominate the area with southerly winds, rising temperatures, and some form of precipitation. The high-pressure anticyclonic systems normally bring west to northwest winds, lowering temperatures, and clearing skies in the area.

Hurricanes or tropical disturbances, as they move northward, follow a northeasterly path in the middle latitudes and produce heavy rainfalls and strong surface winds in the study area. Frequently affecting water supplies and causing floods, these tropical storms are observed during the hurricane season - June through November.

Weather elements or activities of the atmosphere, such as precipitation, temperature, wind direction and speed, relative humidity, and sunshine are measurable quantities that affect the study area.

The study area normally receives about 46 inches of precipitation annually. Normal monthly precipitation totals average from a minimum of 2.6 inches in February to a maximum of 4.3 inches in August. Snowfall is light to moderate averaging about 30 inches annually, while the mean annual number of days with snow cover of one inch or more is about 50 days.

Air temperatures are important to the management of water resources and water quality. The average annual temperature for the study area is about 50 degrees Fahrenheit (F). The mean freeze-free period is about 175 days. Because of the rugged terrain, the freeze-free season is variable, ranging between 170 days in the

mountains to 180 days in the lowlands. The summer mean temperature is about 76 degrees F, and the winter mean is about 32 degrees F.

Winds are important hydrologic factors because of their evaporative effects and their association with major storm systems. The prevailing wind directions in the area are from the northwest in winter and from the west in spring. The average wind speed is 10 miles per hour (mph); with an extreme wind speed of 68 mph from the west-northwest reported in the Lower Susquehanna area during severe storm activity in March of 1955.

Relative humidity also affects evaporation processes. The mean monthly relative humidity for the months of January, April, July, and October are about 68 percent, 62 percent, 70 percent, and 75 percent, respectively.

Sunshine, which varies with latitude and time of the year, is a factor to be considered in the various aspects of water resources. The mean annual sunshine in hours per year is about 2,500 hours.

The evaporation process is controlled by temperature, wind, sunshine, and humidity. The rate of evaporation during the warmer months has an important impact on water storage in reservoirs and on irrigation. The mean May to October evaporation accounts for about 72 percent of the total annual evaporation.

The climate should be considered when developing in the County. Windbreaks in the form of evergreen tree lines and in-ground finished floor levels should be located on the northwest side of buildings to create warmer microclimates during the winter. By breaking the velocity of the northwest winds, energy conservation can be realized by reducing heat loss. Conversely, deciduous shade trees should be provided along southwest facades of buildings to provide shade in the summer and heating solar rays during the winter when the tree is defoliated. To take advantage of the sun for passive or active solar systems, buildings should have generous south facing walls and shorter north facing walls. Although the climate will not have a major effect on land uses, it should be considered in the layout of buildings for energy conservation purposes.

Geology

Geologists state that at one time the eastern part of the United States sank below sea level and formed a great inland body of water known as the Appalachian Gulf. Sediments and dissolved material

from surrounding areas settled or precipitated out in uniform layers resulting in the formation of sedimentary rocks of shale, limestone, and sandstone. Continued deposition of sediments exerted extreme pressure on the deeper layers forming flat hard sheets. This was followed by a period of upward movement caused by great horizontal compression. Folding and faulting of the flat sheets of rock formed a series of ridges and valleys, which follow a parallel pattern northeast to southwest. Most of Cumberland County is composed of sedimentary rock formations.

In a later period, molten material, originating within the earth, heated the sedimentary rocks and caused them to expand and crack. The molten material filled the cracks and cavities in the surface and solidified to form igneous rock. Cumberland County contains very little of this type of rock. The most prominent igneous formation is a diabase dike, oriented north – south through the County. Metamorphic rocks result from the intense heat and pressure associated with tectonic activity changing the texture and/or component minerals of sedimentary and igneous rocks. Metamorphic rock formations are located primarily in the southern portion of the County and comprise much of South Mountain.

The rocks found in Cumberland County were formed during six periods of geologic time. The following information describes the major geologic formations in Cumberland County and are depicted on the Geology Map (Map 6-1).

The oldest rocks in the County are from the Precambrian Age and are represented by three formations in the South Mountain area. The Metabasalt is made up of basalt flows. Metarhyolite, of altered gray to red rhyolite flows, shows a flow of banded quartz and feldspar phenocrysts. Greenstone Schist forms belts in rhyolite areas.

The next younger geologic period is called the Cambrian. The eight identified formations of this period include four containing limestone and dolomite.

- The Shadygrove Formation is a light-gray to pinkish-gray micritic limestone with abundant nodules of brown chert.
- The Zullinger Formation is composed of thick beds of medium-gray, sand to pebble-sized detrital limestone.
- The Elbrook Formation is a light gray to yellowish gray fine laminated siliceous limestone with interbeds of dolomite; weathers to earthy buff soil.
- The Tomstown Formation is a massive dolomite with thin shaly interbeds.

Limonite, an iron-bearing mineral, is found on the upper part of the Tomstown dolomite formation. In the past, it was mined at Pine Grove Furnace. Magnetite, a high-grade iron ore, was also mined at one time in this same area. The remaining Cambrian formations are listed below.

- The Antietam formation is a gray to buff weathered quartzite and quartz schist.
- The Harpers formation is a dark greenish gray phyllite schist with thin quartzite layers.
- The Weverton formation is a gray to purplish gray, feldspathic quartzite and quartz conglomerate.
- The Waynesboro formation is an interbedded red to purple shale and sandstone with some beds of dolomite and impure limestone.

These formations occupy approximately 60 percent of the South Mountain area. The quartzite has been used chiefly for building stones. The Antietam Formation in highly weathered areas is quarried for sand. On top of the Antietam is sericite schist weathered to white clay, which is quarried and used as filler for paper.

The next younger geologic formations are of the Ordovician Age, which underlies the northern half of the County. It includes eleven identified formations.

The Juniata and Bald Mountain Formations comprise the slopes of Blue Mountain and are fine grained to conglomeritic quartzitic sandstone with red shale interbeds. Large fragments of this sandstone occupy very steep slopes near the mountaintops. Little use has been made of the Juniata and Bald Eagle formations.

The Martinsburg Formation is a gray to dark gray, light gray to olive, easily weathered shale underlying 30 percent of the County's land area. The rolling shale hills are adaptable to real estate development. Construction of roads, cuts and fills, grading for homes, schools, and industrial sites are not difficult, but extensive grading may be necessary. The Martinsburg shale is used as an ingredient in cement manufacture, and in a mixture of topsoil and shale for seedbed preparation of road cuts and fills. The broken shale is used in the sub grade of roads to insure adequate under-drainage and firm foundation.

Limestone and dolomites are found in eight identified formations of the Ordovician period. The limestone and dolomites of the Cambrian

and Ordovician geologic periods form a band of five to ten miles wide from east to west occupying 45 percent of the County's area. These limestone and dolomites have long been a source of building stone, coarse aggregate in concrete, cement manufacture, and agriculture lime. Concrete, road building and steel industries have increased their use tremendously. Clay, a by-product of limestone weathering, is used in brick manufacturing. The Ordovician limestone and dolomites include the following formations.

- The Chambersburg Formation is a dark gray, thin-bedded limestone at the top; a gray argillaceous limestone in the middle; and dark gray, cobbled and thin irregularly bedded limestone at the bottom.
- The Hershey and Myerstown Formations are a dark gray to black, thin-bedded argillaceous limestone.
- The St. Paul Group is a buff colored, even grained dolostone, containing numerous layers of blocky chert.
- The Pinesburg Station Formation is a thick bedded, light to medium gray laminated dolomite with interbeds of blue-gray limestone.
- The Epler Formation is a very fine crystalline, bluish gray limestone, interbedded with gray dolomite; coarse crystalline limestone lenses are present.
- The Rockdale Run Formation is a medium bedded, finely laminated to homogeneous chert bearing micritic limestone.
- The Stonehenge Formation is a gray finely crystalline limestone and dark gray laminated limestone with numerous edgewise-conglomerate beds.

These limestone and dolomite weathered formations have given rise to a highly productive soil area. Flow from springs and streams are excellent in these limestone dolomite areas, but the potential for pollution of springs and underground water supplies is high.

The Silurian Age is the next younger period and is represented only by the Tuscarora Formation. It is a very hard, fine-grained, white to gray, medium to thick, bedded rock that caps Blue Mountain on the northern and western boundary of the County. This sandstone is used as a source of silica for silica brick and sand. The bottom fifty to one hundred feet is a mixed color of white and red; a property making it highly sought for by homebuilders.

The second youngest formation is from the Triassic period, which is represented by the Gettysburg Formation. It is composed of a red to brown, fine to coarse-grained quartz or sandstone with red shale and limestone conglomeritic interbeds. Because of its resistance to weathering, the limestone conglomerate has often been utilized in construction.

The youngest rocks in Cumberland County are igneous from the Triassic and Jurassic Ages and include the diabase and diabase dikes. One narrow dike about 100 to 200 feet wide starts at the County's northern boundary east of Donnellytown and runs to the south, leaving the County about one mile southeast of Goodyear. Two small areas of diabase are found east of Shepherdstown.

Quarrying of these areas for commercial purposes is too costly because of the resistance to crushing and splitting. Fieldstone has been used in house construction. Small pockets of fine grain material have been quarried where the diabase weathered rapidly.

The geology of an area must be considered in land use planning, as the ultimate or best use of land is initially determined by its characteristics and quality. On-lot sewage disposal, drainage, and construction costs are some of the factors affected by bedrock geology. The rock types found in Cumberland County present some specific inherent limitations. For example, the porosity of the limestone formations could contribute to the rapid spread of groundwater contaminants. In some cases, on-site evaluation of geologic factors may be necessary to determine the feasibility and impacts of a proposed project.

The engineering aspect of the bedrock geology is also important. These characteristics give an indication of such things as ease of excavation, cut-slope stability, and foundation stability. Generally, the rock formations in the County provide strength and support for heavy structures such as dams, highways, bridges, and large buildings. Those areas, which are underlain by limestone and dolomites, however, may pose some problems to foundation engineering. Cavernous areas and areas known to be susceptible to sinkholes should be investigated thoroughly before construction of heavy structures and roads. Again, most of these problems would be site specific and require an on-site evaluation to determine the appropriateness of a project.

Mineral Resources

Important mineral reserves within Cumberland County are extremely limited. Although many types of minerals can be found in the County, most of these are of interest only to the student or collector. Limestone is quarried for use in construction and industrial operations. Sand and gravel are also extracted from the South Mountain region for use in building and manufacturing.

Soils

Soil is a product of the geology, topography, climate, and vegetation. Alterations in any of these variables cause major changes in soil type. Soil formation and soil erosion are continuing actions; the latter of which has been greatly accelerated by man's misuse of the land.

Soils have many properties by which they are identified. Knowledge of these properties is fundamental to an intelligent determination of land use. Some soils are deep and well drained and thus suited to most types of urban or agriculture uses. In contrast, shallow and poorly drained soils have definite use limitations. Applying various engineering practices to the land may alter such soils. This is always a costly and frequently unwarranted expenditure. It is to avoid such expenditures that soil maps are utilized as a basis for land use decisions and planning.

The upland soils of Cumberland County are closely related to the underlying bedrock. Along the river valleys and on the benches adjacent to the main valleys, the soils are developed in material transported by running water and deposited with some degree of stratification.

The United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, has made a detailed soil survey of Cumberland County. It classifies the soils according to depth, texture (coarseness or fineness), natural drainage, thickness, and arrangement of the various layers, kind of parent material, slope, erosion, flooding, and other characteristics. Soils change within short distances and the detailed soil survey shows many small areas.

Using Soil Associations, general soil information can be provided. These are groups of soils, which ordinarily occur together in the landscape. Each soil has its characteristic place depending on slope or kind of material. The Soil Associations of Cumberland County are shown in Map 6-3.

The following Soil Associations occur in Cumberland County:

- Berks-Weikert-Bedington Association: Shallow to deep, gently sloping to very steep, well drained soils that formed in material weathered from gray and brown shale, siltstone, and sandstone; on uplands.
- Hagerstown-Duffield Association: Deep, nearly level to moderately steep, well drained soils that formed in material weathered from limestone; on uplands.
- Hazleton-Laidig-Buchanan Association: Deep, nearly level to very steep, well drained to somewhat poorly drained soils that formed in material weathered from gray and brown quartzite, sandstone, siltstone, and shale; on uplands.

- Monongahela-Atkins-Middlebury Association: Deep, nearly level and gently sloping, moderately well drained to poorly drained soils that formed in alluvium; on terraces and flood plains.
- Murrill-Laidig-Buchanan Association: Deep, nearly level to moderately steep, well drained to somewhat poorly drained soils that formed in colluvium from gray sandstone, conglomerate, quartzite, and limestone, on uplands.
- Athol-Neshaminy Association: Deep, gently sloping and sloping, well drained soils that formed in material weathered from conglomerate, breccias, and diabase; on uplands.
- Hazleton-Clymer Association: Deep, nearly level to very steep, well drained soils that formed in material weathered from gray sandstone and quartzite; on uplands.
- Highfield-Glenville Association: Deep, nearly level to moderately steep, well drained to somewhat poorly drained soils that formed in material weathered from schist and rhyolite; on uplands.

The Soil Survey of Cumberland and Perry Counties, published in April 1986, is the primary source for information regarding soils in the County. The Soil Survey has established capability classes for soils and are designated by Roman numerals I through VIII. The higher the numeral, the greater the limitations for agricultural use. The classes are defined as follows:

- Class I – few limitations that restrict their use.
- Class II – moderate limitations that require moderate conservation practices.
- Class III – severe limitations that require special conservation practices.
- Classes IV – VIII – very severe limitations that require careful management or are unsuitable for cultivation.

"Prime Farmland" in Cumberland County includes Class I and Class II soils (Map 5-1). The Soil Conservation Service has identified approximately 136,700 acres[9], or 39 percent of the County, as prime farmland. These are the most productive soils for crop production, are well drained, not highly erodible, and do not flood during the growing season.

Pennsylvania has also designated Class III soils as "soils of statewide importance" due to their productive capabilities. About 60 percent of Cumberland County is covered by productive soils in the categories of Class I, II, and III soils. Much of this land is currently in crop production; however, nearly 90,000 acres of farmland was

converted to development between 1940 and 2002. Because these desirable agricultural soil areas coincide with flat, level topographic features, development pressure will continue to affect the prime farmlands.

Historically, agriculture has been very important to the culture and economy of Cumberland County. Agriculture is dependent upon the quality of the soil, and once prime agricultural soils are taken out of production by development they cannot be replaced. Chapter 5 addresses policy on Agriculture Preservation.

A few of the soil types are known to pose severe limitations on development and major construction projects. These limitations include such factors as slow percolation rates for on-lot sewage disposal, shallow depth to bedrock, and erodibility. Individual soil tests are recommended prior to construction on sites where the soil type indicates that such limitations may exist. The majority of the County can expect unsatisfactory performance of septic tank absorption of effluent; surfacing of effluent, and hillside seepage all of which can effect public health. Map 6-3 depicts Soil Limitations for On-Lot Septic.

Michaux State Forest

Groundwater can be polluted if highly permeable sand and gravel or fractured bedrock is less than 4 feet below the base of the absorption field; if slope is excessive; or if the water table is near the surface. There must be unsaturated soil material beneath the absorption field to filter the effluent effectively or the groundwater will become polluted.

Slopes - Topography

The topographic features of the landscape are derived from the structure and weathering characteristics of the underlying bedrock. The more weather-resistant rock is responsible for areas of higher elevation, while less resistant rock, such as limestone, has eroded to form low lying valleys of moderate relief.

The features of Cumberland County showing the most prominent topographic relief are Blue Mountain, which forms the northern boundary of the County, and South and Piney Mountains, which form the southern boundary. Steep slopes greater than 15 percent characterize the terrain here. The foothills of the mountains consist of a 2 to 4 mile strip of land running the length of the County and having moderate slopes between 8 and 15 percent. The central valley floor, a broad expanse of land running east to west through Cumberland County, has generally mild slopes of less than 8 percent. However, a considerable number of localized ridges and steep slopes are evident within the Valley, especially along the Conodoguinet and Yellow Breeches Creek.

Topography has been a determining factor in the distribution of population throughout Cumberland County. Due to the relative ease of development in flatter areas, the more desirable lands are those located in the central valley. Thus, the more densely populated and urbanized areas are located on these mostly level lands. The steeper slopes of the mountain and hill areas of the County have presented physical barriers to the development of these lands, which are, therefore, the least populated areas of the County.

Agricultural uses also occur predominantly in the more level areas, as these lands allow for more efficient farming operations. In Cumberland County, this factor is enhanced by the occurrence of the best agricultural soils with the lower, flatter lands. Additional competition for the flatter lands is intensified because commerce and industry, along with residential and agricultural uses, seek flatter, more easily developed areas.

In planning for the development of an area, the slope of the land is a major factor. The Slope Map (Map 6-4) illustrates the areas of slope from 15 to 24.9 percent (approximately 5 percent of the county or 17,910 ± acres) and slopes exceeding 25 percent (approximately 7 percent or 23,650± acres)[10].

In discussing the slope of the land, it is important to keep in mind the erosional forces trying to establish a stable condition creating the natural gradients. Sometimes when these slopes are altered through development, the balance can be upset and landslides, rock falls, mudslides, and soil creep may result as nature tries to restore equilibrium.
In the County, soil creep is prevalent and may at times be severe in areas where shales occur. Adequate drainage leading water away from the face of a steep slope and keeping it from entering the top of the slope is advisable where it is necessary to curtail the soil creep.

The publicly owned land of Michaux State Forest protects a significant amount of the steep slopes in the southern portion of the County, but there are several significant areas that are not protected. These unprotected areas include the southern portion of Penn Township, a portion of Dickinson Township west of Mt. Holly Springs, and the southeast portion of South Middleton Township and the southwestern portion of Monroe Township. The steep slopes to the north are much more vulnerable except where they coincide with Tuscarora State Forest, Colonel Denning State Park and State Game Lands.

Woodlands

Prior to clearing by European settlers, most of Cumberland County was covered by forests. Today, approximately 35 percent (125,240± acres[11]) of the County is covered by woodlands. Most of the forested areas are concentrated on the slopes and ridges of the mountains on the northern and southern boundaries of the County. There are scattered areas of woodland throughout the remaining areas of the County. The Woodland Map (Map 6-5) illustrates the wooded areas of the County.

Kings Gap Environmental Education Center

Much of South Mountain is protected through State ownership of Michaux State Forest, Kings Gap Environmental Education Center and Pine Grove Furnace State Park. Unlike South Mountain, Blue Mountain, within Cumberland County, is largely in private ownership. Portions of the Tuscarora State Forest, State Game Lands, Waggoner's Gap Hawk Watch and Colonel Denning State Park afford public protection of the Blue Mountain ridge area in Cumberland County.

The main forest cover type is mixed oak-hickory stands consisting mainly of white oak, red oak, hickory, black oak, and chestnut oak. Other species to be found include yellow poplar, shagbark hickory, white ash, red maple, beech, elm, birch, sycamore, hemlock, white pine, and Virginia pine.

Forests affect water resources in both a protective and a depletive manner. They offer protection from floods and erosion, while at the same time contributing to the depletion of stream flows. The latter occurs primarily during the growing season.

Forest soils are covered with litter (leaves and twigs), which acts as a protective layer to the soil and reduces the possibility of sheet erosion. In addition, litter decays and becomes humus, which helps to form a highly permeable layer of soil, in which infiltration rates usually exceed rainfall intensities. This absorbs runoff from heavy rainfall, thus reducing downstream flood peaks. However, where the forest floor becomes disturbed, particularly through activities associated with the construction of roads and basements, the potential for erosion increases. Soil loss then depends on soil erodibility, as well as, the length and steepness of slopes.

Hydrology

Management of water resources requires knowledge of the quantity of water that is available for use and which must be managed in order to provide for the safety and welfare of the public. For studies of water use and quality, low flow conditions are of general concern, however for flood management, it is necessary to know the high flow characteristics of streams.

Watershed level planning most appropriately manages water resources. A watershed is the entire land area drained by a particular watercourse. Land use activities and waste water discharges within the watershed determine the quality of the water, which eventually flows out of the drainage area. The concept of the watershed has practical planning application, as it is the primary geographic region in which to collect water resource related information. Several volunteer based watershed associations existing in the County and are concerned with water quality and quantity issues within a particular watershed.

The first factor affecting water flow conditions is runoff, which is primarily influenced by precipitation distribution. However, other factors such as land cover and use, geology and topography influence the variability of flows from individual watersheds.

Runoff has a distinct seasonal variation; with the period of highest runoff occurring in late winter or early spring, and the period of lowest runoff occurring in late summer and early fall.

Low water flow deficiencies develop after prolonged periods of little or no precipitation and persist until sufficient rainfall relieves the situation. Flow deficiencies of significant duration may cause new water supply problems and may magnify existing water quality problems.

Although floods occur in all seasons, studies of the relationships among storm intensity, duration, affected area, and seasonality suggest a tendency for flooding on principal streams to occur in winter and for floods on small streams to occur mostly in summer. Large flood areas are caused by storms of low rainfall intensity and long duration covering the entire area of principal watersheds. Small area floods, on the other hand, are caused by storms of high rainfall intensity and relatively short duration. An exception to this is tropical storms, which normally occur during the summer months and cause extensive flooding over large areas. The result of such flooding over long periods of time is the creation of flood plains.

The water resources of Cumberland County are illustrated on the Water Resources & Impaired Streams Map (Map 6-6). The Susquehanna River forms the eastern boundary of Cumberland County. The Susquehanna River is the nation's sixteenth largest river and is the largest river lying entirely in the United States that flows into the Atlantic Ocean. The Susquehanna and its hundreds of tributaries drain 27,510 square miles, an area nearly the size of South Carolina, spread over parts of the states of New York,

Pennsylvania, and Maryland. The river meanders 444 miles from its origin at Otsego Lake near Cooperstown, New York, until it empties into the Chesapeake Bay at Havre de Grace, Maryland. The Susquehanna contributes one-half of the freshwater flow to the Bay. In 2009, the Chesapeake Bay Executive Order was adopted which identified the Chesapeake Bay as a national treasure and calls on the federal government to lead a renewed effort to restore and protect the nation's largest estuary and its watershed.

In Cumberland County, the river's edge and areas in close proximity to the Susquehanna River have been developed over time with industry, transportation routes, residential development, and other uses. The open space along the river corridor is fragmented and primarily in private ownership.

The County's two main stream corridors, the Yellow Breeches Creek and the Conodoguinet Creek, traverse the valley from west to east as tributaries to the Susquehanna River. The Yellow Breeches Creek encompasses a 219 square mile watershed and includes Adams, Cumberland and York counties with 21 municipalities and approximately 368 stream miles. The creek is classified as High Quality Cold Water Fisheries between the source and Locust Point Road (SR 1007, near Williams Grove); between Locust Point Road and the mouth it is classified as a Cold Water Fisheries stream. Additionally, the Yellow Breeches Creek is classified as a Pennsylvania Scenic River. The Yellow Breeches Creek is also a renowned trout-fishing stream that draws anglers from well beyond the area to fish in its limestone cooled waters. In 2005, the Yellow Breeches Watershed Association completed a River Conservation Plan and Watershed Assessment for the Yellow Breeches. The project scope included creating an inventory of watershed resources, identifying and ranking watershed problems, and developing strategies to solve these problems.

Conodoguinet Creek, Silver Spring Township

The Conodoguinet Creek originates in Horse Valley, Franklin County, next to the Kittatinny Mountain at an elevation of 1,680 feet. From there, the Conodoguinet flows through the fertile Cumberland Valley, and joins the Susquehanna River near Harrisburg. The Conodoguinet Creek is classified as a Warm Water Fisheries stream within Cumberland County and is enjoyed for canoeing and recreational fishing.

The Conodoguinet Creek is approximately 90 miles in length and drains 540 square miles of diverse lands. Forested areas cover the upland basin, giving way to intense agriculture throughout the valley. Much of the Conodoguinet Creek watershed still has a strong agricultural flavor, including numerous cozy villages and small towns. While farming remains a prominent land use in the western part of the valley, dramatic growth in the Carlisle to Camp Hill area has

converted much agricultural land to residential and commercial uses. The Conodoguinet meanders toward the suburban west shore of Harrisburg through a series of elaborate bends and loops. “Conodoguinet” comes from an Indian word meaning "a long way with many bends." The Conodoguinet Creek Watershed Association completed a River Conservation Plan for the middle section of the creek in 2003.

Mountain Creek, Mount Holly Springs

The LeTort Spring Run is a tributary to the Conodoguinet located in South Middleton, Carlisle, North Middleton, and Middlesex townships. It is renowned as a trout stream with native brown trout. Specific areas of the stream are designated as “No Harvest Fly-Fishing Only” locations. The LeTort is also designated as a Pennsylvania Scenic River. The scenic corridor stretches from Route 34 to its confluence with the Conodoguinet Creek. The LeTort Regional Authority was formed to address flooding concerns and promote conservation of the stream corridor.

The Big Spring Creek is another important tributary of the Conodoguinet Creek. The Big Spring Watershed encompasses a 12.9 square mile area and the creek is approximately 5.1 miles long. Big Spring Creek is the 5th largest spring in Pennsylvania. It is one of the world’s most productive limestone spring creeks and at one time was considered the best brook trout stream in the United States. The Big Spring Watershed Association (BSWA) was organized in mid-2001 to coordinate efforts to improve and protect the health of the Big Spring Watershed. They hope to restore the stream and reestablish a wild, natural reproducing brook trout population in its waters. The BSWA developed a River Conservation Plan in 2007 for the corridor.

Cumberland County is well known for its high yielding springs. Three of the ten largest springs in Pennsylvania are found in the County – Boiling Springs, Big Spring and Baker Spring. All have a median yield of more than 10,000 gallons per minute.

Protection of the river and stream corridors of Cumberland County is important for sustainable growth and a healthy environment. The Water Resources & Impaired Streams Map (Map 6-6) illustrates impaired streams based on an assessment used by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. There are approximately 72 miles[12] of impaired streams in Cumberland County. Agriculture is the primary source of impairment. Impaired streams should be targeted for mitigation including nutrient reduction measures and use of Best Management Practices (BMPs).

Floodplains

Floodplains are defined as low lying, flat areas adjacent to streams, which are subject to frequent, periodic flooding. The 100-year floodplain is the area that is most frequently mapped and referenced in planning. A 100-year flood is a flood having a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in magnitude in any given year. The 100 year floodplain is the area adjoining a river or stream covered by water in the event of a 100 year flood. The 100-year floodplain has been adopted by the Federal Insurance Administration as the base flood for purposes of floodplain management measures. Cumberland County has approximately 17,400 acres of 100-year floodplain, equating to approximately 4.9 percent of the County land area[13]. The Wetlands & Floodplain Map (Map 6-7) illustrates the 100 -year floodplain.

Bog Turtle, US FWS

Floodplains are an intrinsic and beneficial aspect of the natural landscape. They allow for an increase in drainage during rainy periods and buffer the stream from any detrimental effects of surrounding land uses. Floodplain areas should be protected to retain the many ecological benefits they provide. Floodplains carry flood waters and should not be developed or built upon with structures that could diminish their carrying capacity. Additionally, floodplains provide areas for groundwater infiltration and riparian buffer vegetation which stabilize stream banks and filters sediment.

Wetlands

Wetlands are areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands are identified by unique soils (hydric soils), by plants adapted to life in wet environments (hydrophytic vegetation) and by the presence of water (hydrology) during the growing season. Cumberland County has approximately 5,360 acres of National Wetland Inventory (NWI) wetlands, encompassing 1.5 percent of the County[14]. Cumberland County's wetlands are primarily associated with stream corridor and floodplain areas. Wetlands are protected by State and Federal regulations.

Wetlands should be protected for their numerous benefits including groundwater recharge, wildlife habitat, flood and sediment control, and stormwater management. They are essential to maintaining a sound ecosystem. Wetlands identified through the National Wetlands Inventory mapping are shown on the Wetlands & Floodplains Map (Map 6-7). The NWI wetlands mapping provides generalized locations for wetlands and should not to be used for regulatory or jurisdictional wetland identification.

Natural Areas Inventory

A Natural Areas Inventory (NAI) was completed for Cumberland, Dauphin, and Perry counties by the Pennsylvania Science Office of The Nature Conservancy in 2000. The NAI documents the known outstanding natural features of flora, fauna, and geology in the County. The inventory provides maps of natural communities and locations of animal and plant species of special concern for preservation of biological diversity in Cumberland County.

In 2005, the NAI was revised. The update incorporated newly found sites and updated information based on field visits. Not all NAI sites were visited and reevaluated during the update process. The 2005 update identified sixty-four sites of statewide or local significance.

Of these sixty-four sites, eleven areas were identified as top priority natural areas. These sites are most critical for maintaining biodiversity. These sites are generally associated with North and South Mountain and the water resources of the Yellow Breeches, Conodoguinet and Susquehanna River. Of the eleven sites, six are permanently protected via publicly owned lands (Big Pine Flat, Iron Run, Sage Run/Mountain Creek Seeps, Mount Holly Marsh, Lambs Gap/Trout Run Headwaters and McCormick's Island). Thomson Hollow Pond is afforded some protection through the Michaux State Forest. The remaining sites are not protected. The Burd Run Caves site is extremely vulnerable due to its location in the targeted Growth Area, Route 81 traversing the site, and the close proximity of a Route 81 exit. The Conodoguinet Creek sites are in a highly developed portion of the County and on-going man-made activities have the potential to degrade the resource. The Hunters Run Site is not in the path of development but is not permanently protected.

In addition to the priority sites, the NAI documents three exceptional natural features: the Susquehanna River, the Kittatinny Ridge (Blue Mountain) and South Mountain. Conservation at the landscape level is emphasized in order to conserve the greater ecological function of each natural system.

The Natural Area Inventory Sites Map (Map 6-8) generally locates the NAI core habitat (statewide and locally significant NAI sites), supporting landscapes and prioritizes sites for conservation efforts. Core habitat areas are intended to identify the essential habitat of the species of concern or natural community that can absorb very little activity or disturbance without substantial impact to the natural features. The supporting landscape identifies areas surrounding or adjacent to core habitat that are not considered the primary habitat of the species of concern or natural community, but may serve as a secondary habitat.[15]

The Natural Areas Inventory is intended to be used as a tool for local decision-making. The site specific information and maps are useful to guide land use planning, for preserving open space and for setting priorities for the preservation of vulnerable natural areas. The NAI includes general management recommendations that would help to ensure the protection and continued existence of these rare plants, animals and natural communities.

Wildlife

Cumberland County has an abundance of wildlife. There are a variety of non-game species of birds, amphibians, reptiles, and small mammals. Game species include black bear, white-tailed deer, gray squirrel, cottontail rabbit, turkey, grouse, ring-neck pheasant, woodcock, mourning dove, and various waterfowl. There are also red and gray fox, coyote, mink, muskrat, raccoon, weasel, opossum, and beaver.

Due to the Kittatinny Ridge's (North Mountain) important value for bird migration, nesting, and science, it has been officially designated by Audubon Pennsylvania as the state's largest "Important Bird Area." The Kittatinny Ridge is recognized as a "globally significant" migration flyway in spring and fall. This 150 mile-long ridge concentrates 14,000 to 20,000 migrating raptors from August through December each year along its entire length. Millions of songbirds also use the ridge's forest as stopover habitat during their migration through Pennsylvania.

Benefits of and Threats to Cumberland County's Natural Resources

Examining the benefits and threats to Cumberland County's natural resources is an important step to developing strategies and recommendations for their protection. Table 6-1 lists the variety of benefits each resource provides to the County and the threats to their sustainability.

Table 6-1 Benefits and Threats to Natural Resource Protection	
BENEFITS	**THREATS**
Land Resources – Geology, Mineral Resources, Soils, Slopes, Woodlands	*Land Resources – Geology, Mineral Resources, Soils, Slopes, Woodlands*
Geology, Mineral Resources, Soils • Supports resource based industries and economic development (ex. commercial agriculture and quarries/extraction operations) Woodlands • Provides renewable forestry resources • Stabilizes slopes with root systems to minimize erosion • Slow runoff to maximize groundwater infiltration • Protect groundwater by protecting headwaters and filtering stormwater runoff Woodlands/Slopes • Provides critical wildlife habitat • Enhances scenic landscape • Supports nature based recreational opportunities and tourism	• Lack of adequate zoning and subdivision/land development regulations protect important natural resources • Poorly managed industrial and commercial operations • Inappropriate engineering and construction practices
Water Resources – Hydrology, Floodplains, Wetlands	*Water Resources – Hydrology, Floodplains, Wetlands*
Hydrology-Water Supply • Sustained source of clean drinking water • Supports economic development • Supports water based recreation such as fishing and boating Floodplains & Wetlands • Prevent property damage • Protect public safety • Carry flood waters and reduce flooding • Provide groundwater recharge • Capture sediment and pollutants • Improve water quality • Stabilize stream banks • Stormwater management • Wildlife habitat • Enhance scenery	• Lack of adequate zoning and subdivision/land development regulations to protect important environmental features • Pollutants from agricultural, industrial and sewer treatment operations • Failed on-lot disposal systems • Surface runoff from roadways and developed areas • Erosion and sedimentation from agriculture and land development
Biotic Resources – Wildlife and Natural Area Inventory Sites	*Biotic Resources – Wildlife and Natural Area Inventory Sites*
• Maintains biodiversity • Supports nature based recreation and tourism including hunting, fishing and birding	• Habitat loss • Forest fragmentation • Proliferation of invasive species • Changing land use patterns • Degradation of ecosystems • Pollution

Tools for Natural Resource Protection – Acquisition & Development

Priority Conservation Areas

An analysis of Cumberland County's natural resources was completed to help prioritize preservation of those resources. Using Geographic Information System (GIS), the landscape was ranked using the following layers: hydrology (200 foot buffer), 100 year floodplain, woodlands, slopes (15+ percent), NAI sites and wetlands. This analysis was run to determine the most critical areas based on overlapping sensitive features. The Conservation Areas Map (Map 6-9) illustrates areas with low, medium, high and very high conservation value.

The landscape features of Blue Mountain and South Mountain contains some of the most important natural features. Additionally, the stream corridors and headwaters of our waterways contain high priority resources. These areas should be prioritized for permanent preservation through voluntary, fee simple acquisition or conservation easements.

Riparian Buffers

The establishment and protection of riparian buffers has been identified as a priority best management technique for natural resource protection. Riparian buffers provide a variety of ecosystem services and achieve multiple natural resource protection goals. There are a number of federal, state and local initiatives/programs available for establishment, maintenance and protection of buffers.

Urban Forestry

In addition to protection of large wooded areas and establishment of riparian buffers, urban forestry is an important natural resource protection issue. Street tree programs as well as tree planting/ landscaping in commercial and public spaces should be encouraged. There are a variety of environmental, aesthetic and social benefits associated with urban trees[16]:

- Reduce annual heating and cooling costs for a typical residence by 8-12%
- Improve air quality by absorbing hundreds of pounds of air pollutants that effect our health

- Improve water quality and reduce community flooding by absorbing and intercepting rainfall in their canopies, thus reducing stormwater that often carries pollutants to waterways
- Stimulate retail and commercial business districts by attracting shoppers, increasing sales and revitalizing declining downtowns
- Increase property values by 10-15%
- Reduce stress, fatigue, and aggression in humans
- Reduce a hospital patient's recovery time when there are views of trees and greenery
- Improve the concentration of children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Calm and slow down traffic along streets
- Reduce crime and increase social ties
- Reduce exposure to harmful UV rays that are causing increases in skin cancer and cataracts

Urban Riparian Buffer Restoration in Fairfax, VA

Tools for Natural Resource Protection – Planning

Land use planning is an important tool to protect natural resources for the benefit of current and future residents.

Municipalities Planning Code

The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) is intended to empower local municipalities to preserve important natural resources. The comprehensive plan, zoning ordinance, subdivision and land development ordinance and official map are all tools available for natural resource protection.

Article III, Section 301 of the MPC specifies that County and Municipal Comprehensive Plans shall provide a plan for the protection of natural resources. This clause includes, but is not limited to, wetlands and aquifer recharge zones, woodlands, steep slopes, floodplains and unique natural areas.

A plan for protection should include establishing goals and objectives for preservation of natural resources and identifying important natural resources that should be preserved. Further, the Comprehensive Plan shall include a plan for reliable supply of water, considering current and future water resource availability, uses and limitations, including provisions adequate to protect water supply resources.

Zoning, Article VI, of the MPC authorizes municipalities to enact ordinances that protect and preserve natural resources. Moreover, provisions in the subdivision and land development ordinance help support implementation of those provisions. Examples of natural resource ordinance provisions include but are not limited to:

- Conservation subdivision and zoning
- Steep slope management
- Woodland Management, Tree Protection
- Floodplain management
- Riparian Buffer Protection
- Wetland Protection
- Source Water and Wellhead Protection
- Stormwater Best Management Practices

The MPC also empowers municipalities to adopt an Official Map for flood control and stormwater management purposes.

Tools for Natural Resource Protection – Partnerships & Education

Partnerships and education are also critical to natural resource protection. Residents, visitors, businesses, and elected officials should be aware of the presence, value, and threats to the natural resources found in the County. Only when such stakeholders understand the natural resources in the County can they make a concerted effort to secure their long term management and protection.

Many partner organizations promote natural resource education and preservation in the County. Through their efforts, natural resource focused policies and projects are developed and implemented. Table 6-2 lists the prominent natural resource organizations in the County and their respective focus areas.

Table 6-2 Stakeholders and Focus Areas for Natural Resource Protection	
Stakeholders	**Program/Initiative**
Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay www.allianceforthebay.org	• Stream Restoration • Stormwater Management
American Rivers www.americanrivers.org	• Dam removal • Stream restoration
Audubon PA www.kittatinnyridge.org www.pa.audubon.org	• Kittatinny Ridge Conservation Project • Important Bird Area (IBA) Program
Appalachian Trail Conservancy www.appalachiantrail.org www.southmountainpartnership.org	• South Mountain Partnership
Appalachian Mountain Club www.outdoors.org	• The Highlands Coalition
Central Pennsylvania Conservancy www.centralpaconservancy.org	• Land Trust - Acquisition • Education
Chesapeake Bay Foundation www.cbf.org	• Riparian Buffer Technical Assistance
Cumberland County Conservation District www.cumberlandcd.com	• Stormwater Management • Erosion & Sedimentation Control • Envirothon
Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources www.dcnr.state.pa.us	• River Conservation Planning • Funding Assistance
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and EPA www.depweb.state.pa.us www.epa.gov	• Chesapeake Bay Watershed Improvement Plan (WIP)
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture www.agriculture.state.pa.us	• Resource Enhancement and Protection (REAP) Program
Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources www.dcnr.state.pa.us www.treevitalize.net	• TreeVitalize Program • Funding assistance • South Mountain Partnership

Table 6-2 continued Stakeholders and Focus Areas for Natural Resource Protection	
Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission www.fishandboat.com	• Stream Restoration • Fish Habitat • Fishing & Boating Access Improvement
Pennsylvania Game Commission www.pgc.state.pa.us	• Wildlife Habitat
Susquehanna Greenway Partnership www.susquehannagreenway.org	• Greenway Planning and Implementation
The Nature Conservancy www.nature.org	• Land Trust – Acquisition
The Conservation Fund www.conservationfund.org	• Land Trust – Acquisition
Trout Unlimited www.patrout.org	• Watershed Restoration • Habitat Improvement
USDA-NRCS/FSA www.pa.nrcs.usda.gov www.fsa.usda.gov	• Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), Wildlife Habitat Inventive Program (WHIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)
USDA Forest Service www.fs.fed.us	• Forest Stewardship Program
Watershed Organizations: Big Spring Watershed Association www.bigspring-pa.org LeTort Regional Authority www.letort.org Conodoguinet Creek Watershed Association http://conocreek.org Middle Spring Creek Association www.middlespringwatershed.org Yellow Breeches Watershed Association www.ybwa.org	• River Conservation Plan Implementation • Stream Clean-Ups • Stream Restoration • Education/Outreach • Water Trail Implementation

Appalachian Trail

Introduction

Some of the most beautiful and important land and water in Cumberland County are the parks, trails, forests, streams, and game lands used for outdoor recreation. This section of Land Partnerships documents the benefits of these resources and provides a comprehensive inventory of the park, trail and greenway resources of the County. Additionally, this chapter includes an analysis of the need for parkland for present and future populations. Lastly, tools and strategies for parks, trails and greenways development are provided.

Benefits of Parks, Trails & Greenways

Parks, trails and greenways serve several important functions for the residents and visitors in Cumberland County. Parks, trails and greenways contribute to the quality of life of a community, create a sense of place, help to protect natural resources, and provide recreational opportunities that support healthy lifestyles. The open space system created by interconnected greenways and trails preserves wildlife habitat and bio-diversity while also providing opportunities for recreation and non-motorized transportation.

Cumberland County experiences positive economic benefits as residents and visitors alike come to enjoy the county's parks, greenways and trails. Recent data collection efforts and studies have quantified the economic impact of such outdoor recreation opportunities that are supported by the County's parks, trails and greenways. A summary of the salient findings are included below[17]:

- Open space, parks and greenways generate tourism dollars for an area. Travel destinations generate revenue on food, lodging, gas, equipment and a variety of other services.
- Open space preservation can increase business development. Businesses prefer to locate and expand their operations in communities with ample parks, open space and a clean environment.
- Parks and open space enhances property values. Studies have shown property values are higher in communities with athletic fields, walking trails, parkland, open space, and scenic vistas than comparable homes in communities that don't provide and protect these assets.
- Outdoor recreation is big business and a significant economic driver. In 2012, the industry is responsible for[18]:
  - ⇒ 6.1 million jobs
  - ⇒ $646 billion in direct spending annually
  - ⇒ Over $80 billion in federal, state and local tax revenue

Table 7-1	
Parks & Natural Areas of Cumberland County, 2012	
Feature	**Acreage**
Federal Resources:	
Appalachian Trail	3,584
State Resources:	
Michaux State Forest	32,907
Tuscarora State Forest	5,570
Kings Gap Environmental Education Center	2,531
Colonel Denning State Park	273
Pine Grove Furnace State Park	696
State Game Lands #169	2,499
State Game Lands #170	333
State Game Lands #230	883
State Game Lands #305	730
Fish & Boat Commission	815
County Resources:	
Mount Holly Marsh Preserve	913
Municipal Resources:	
Municipal Parkland	2,168
Non-Profit Resources:	
Cumberland Valley Rails to Trails Council	302
Other Non-Profit Lands	206
Total Acreage	**54,410**
As % of County Acreage	**15.46%**

Parks & Natural Areas of Cumberland County

Cumberland County has a variety of parks and natural areas managed at the federal, state, county and local levels of government. Additionally, several non-profit organizations contribute to the park and open space network. Combined, they offer residents and visitors to Cumberland County a variety of year-round recreation opportunities. These resources encompass over 54,400 acres of land and represent about 15 percent of the landscape. Table 7-1 presents a summary of parks and natural areas and Map 7-1, Park & Trail Map, depicts the parks and natural areas of Cumberland County.

Park systems are composed of an interrelated network of park types and providers. Federal parks have national natural, historical or military significance as units of the National Park Service. State parks are natural resource based parks, which people visit for a day as well as for overnight stays. State game lands, forests, and fish and boat areas are primarily focused on natural resources but often provide visitors with limited recreational opportunities. County facilities are usually resource-based parks that people visit for several hours to a

whole day. In Cumberland County, municipal parks are the foundation of the park system, providing for active, close-to-home recreation needs. These include recreation facilities for scheduled organized activities as well as places for citizens to play and relax at their own discretion. Lastly, there are numerous non-profit facilities that compliment government managed facilities and provide additional recreation opportunities. Following is an inventory and description of the park and natural areas available in Cumberland County by provider.

Federal Resources

There are no traditional national parks in Cumberland County; however, the Appalachian National Scenic Trail traverses the County. The Appalachian Trail is a federal facility, operated by the National Park Service in partnership with the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and its local maintenance clubs. The Appalachian Trail spans 46.5 miles within the County and includes approximately 3,584 acres of public land. The Appalachian National Scenic Trail is the world's longest foot trail, extending from Maine to Georgia and covering approximately 2,180 miles.

Within Cumberland County, the Appalachian Trail begins in the northeastern section of the County along the Blue Mountain ridgeline in Middlesex Township, crosses the valley to South Mountain and follows along the mountain until it exits into Franklin County at the southwestern corner of the County. The trail crosses through State Game Lands, Michaux State Forest and Pine Grove Furnace State Park and is marked by white blazed signs.

State Resources

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania manages over 38,000 acres of parkland and natural areas in Cumberland County via the Bureau of Forestry, Bureau of State Parks, Fish and Boat Commission and Game Commission.

Bureau of Forestry - There are two State Forest areas in Cumberland County. State Forests are mandated to provide a continuous supply of timber, lumber, wood, and other forest products; to protect watersheds and conserve water; regulate rivers and stream flow, and to furnish opportunities for healthful public recreation.

The Michaux State Forest consists of more than 85,000 acres and is located within Adams, Franklin, and Cumberland counties, with approximately 33,000 acres in Cumberland County alone. The forest is managed for many uses, including timber and wood products, but is better known as a source of potable water for many of the local communities. Recreational opportunities include: hunting, cold and

warm water fishing, primitive camping, hiking, horseback riding, bicycling and snowmobiling.

The Tuscarora State Forest consists of 95,780 acres and is located within Cumberland, Franklin, Huntingdon, Juniata, Mifflin, and Perry counties. Approximately 5,600 acres of the forest are located in northwestern Cumberland County. Recreational opportunities at the park include: cold water fishing and boating, hiking, sightseeing, hunting, snowmobiling, bicycling, cross-country skiing and picnicking.

Bureau of State Parks - Cumberland County has three State Parks. State Parks are natural resource based parks offering major outdoor recreation and environmental education opportunities suitable for whole day and overnight park visitation. They encompass several hundred acres at minimum and draw visitors from as far away as an hour travel time or more depending on the nature of the facilities and the quality of the resources.

Doubling Gap Lake,
Colonel Denning State Park

Colonel Denning State Park is located in north-central Cumberland County. The park includes 273 acres of woodland nestled at the side of a mountain and a 3.5-acre scenic lake. Recreation opportunities include: swimming, fishing, 18 miles of hiking trails, hunting, camping, picnicking, environmental education, cross-country skiing and ice skating. Colonel Denning State Park is also a trailhead for the Tuscarora Trail.

Pine Grove Furnace State Park is located in the heart of Michaux State Forest in southern Cumberland County. This park was once the site of the Pine Grove Iron Works that dates from 1764 and operated for over 100 years. Historical buildings remain at the park and can be enjoyed through a self-guided historical trail. This 696-acre park centers on the 25-acre Laurel Lake and the 1.7-acre Fuller Lake. Recreational opportunities include: camping, organized group tenting, swimming, boating, picnicking, fishing, environmental education, hunting, bicycling, ice skating, ice fishing, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and hiking. In addition, the Appalachian Trail passes through the park. The Appalachian Trail Museum and the historic Iron Master's Mansion are also notable park attractions.

Kings Gap Environmental Education Center sits astride South Mountain on 2,531 acres of forest and strives to educate visitors about the natural world and the critical environmental issues currently facing society. The programs offered by the center not only educate visitors about environmental issues but also give the visitors a better appreciation for, and an increased enjoyment of, the outdoors. There are three main areas of the park: the Pine Plantation Day Use Area, the Pond Day Use Area, and the Mansion Day Use Area. These areas are connected by sixteen miles of hiking trails that can be enjoyed by hikers of all skill levels.

Game Commission - There are four State Game Lands (#169, #170, #170A, #230 and #305) located within Cumberland County, covering a total of 4,445 acres. The Pennsylvania Game Commission is responsible for managing these lands and does so through wildlife management, wildlife law enforcement, land management and informational and educational programs. The primary purpose of state game lands is to preserve wildlife habitat and provide for public hunting and fur taking. Additional recreational uses, including the development of hiking trails, are allowed when they are compatible with wildlife values and Pennsylvania Game Commission management programs.

Fish & Boat Commission - The Fish & Boat Commission maintains and/or owns 815 acres in Cumberland County, including Opossum Lake, Children's Lake, Big Spring Fish Culture Station and Greenway, Huntsdale Fish Culture Station and several boat access points. The mission of the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission is to provide fishing and boating opportunities through the protection and management of aquatic resources.

County Resources

Cumberland County does not operate a traditional county park system. The County owns the Mount Holly Marsh Preserve and manages this important natural area in partnership with The Nature Conservancy. The Nature Conservancy, working with local government officials and citizens, raised funds to purchase the 913 acre Mount Holly Preserve. In March 1992, The Nature Conservancy donated the Preserve to Cumberland County as the County's first dedicated open space.

Adams Ricci Park, East Pennsboro Township

The Mount Holly Marsh Preserve is a perfect spot for hikers and nature lovers. Primary activities within the preserve include hiking and the observation of birds, plants and other wildlife. The preserve features approximately 7 miles of trails ranging from easy to difficult. Hunting is permitted in the upland forest, but not in the marsh preserve. Fishing is permitted along Mountain Creek.

Municipal Resources

Municipal parks are the close to home recreation facilities that provide for the daily needs of the residents. They range in size from quarter acre mini-parks in the County's developed communities to large community parks with 100 acres or more. Approximately 2,168 acres of municipal parkland is available in Cumberland County. Appendix 7-1 provides a detailed listing of municipal parks and recreation facilities throughout the County.

Non-Profit Resources

Numerous non-profit organizations own and manage parks and natural areas throughout the County. These organizations supplement state and local efforts and are an important partner in outdoor recreation and land preservation. The following organizations have preserved land in Cumberland County:

- Central Pennsylvania Conservancy
- Cumberland Valley Rails to Trails Council
- Audubon Pennsylvania
- Appalachian Audubon Society
- Trout Unlimited
- The Nature Conservancy
- LeTort Regional Authority

Municipal Park and Recreation Management

As stated previously, municipal parks are the foundation of Cumberland County's park and recreation system. As such, municipalities will be vital partners in achieving Land Partnerships park and recreation goals. Table 7-2 presents acres of park and recreation land by municipality. Table 7-2 also shows the organizational operating structure for each municipality for park and recreation.

The municipalities of Cumberland County have demonstrated a strong commitment to providing park and recreation facilities for the community. Twenty-six of 33 municipalities (79 percent) have at least one park within their boundaries. Currently, there are over 140 municipal parks, which encompass approximately 2,168 acres of land. In addition, 15 of 33 municipalities have a park and recreation professional on staff or coordinate with a regional park and recreation organization to administer recreation programs. Two regional recreation organizations exist in Cumberland County: Mechanicsburg Area Parks and Recreation and the West Shore Recreation Commission.

Park Classification

Determining the type, size and nature of active recreation facilities is strictly a local decision. It is up to the municipalities to plan for their own park and recreation systems for close-to-home active recreation. Municipalities can do this on their own or in partnership with neighboring communities to take advantage of the benefits of regional recreation.

A park classification system for Cumberland County is provided in Appendix 7-2. The park classification system defines the various types and characteristics of parks. This system is based upon the standard classification system set forth by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). Parks are classified by location, access,

Table 7-2
Municipal Park and Recreation Data, 2012

Municipality	2010 Population	Number of Municipal Parks	Acres Municipal Parkland	Municipal Parkland Quotient = X acres/1,000 population	Parks & Recreation Operations Structure
Camp Hill Borough	7,888	4	84	10.6	Director & Board
Carlisle Borough	18,682	18	165	8.8	Director & Board
Cooke Township	179	-	0	-	None
Dickinson Township	5,223	1	20	3.8	Board
East Pennsboro Township	20,228	12	213	10.5	Director & Board
Hampden Township	28,044	8	136	4.8	Director & Board
Hopewell Township	2,329	1	31	13.5	Board
Lemoyne Borough	4,553	10	52	11.4	WSRC
Lower Allen Township	17,980	15	178	9.9	WSRC
Lower Frankford Township	1,732	-	0	-	None
Lower Mifflin Township	1,783	-	0	-	None
Mechanicsburg Borough	8,981	4	65	7.2	MAPR
Middlesex Township	7,040	3	130	18.5	Director & Board
Monroe Township	5,823	3	50	8.6	Board
Mt. Holly Springs Borough	2,030	3	37	18.2	Board
New Cumberland Borough	7,277	5	53	7.2	WSRC
Newburg Borough	336	-	0	-	None
Newville Borough	1,326	4	21	15.6	Board
North Middleton Township	11,143	3	70	6.3	Director & Board
North Newton Township	2,430	1	6	2.5	Board
Penn Township	2,924	1	8	2.7	Board
Shippensburg Borough	4,416	4	96	21.7	Director & Board
Shippensburg Township	5,429	1	26	4.8	Board
Shiremanstown Borough	1,569	2	3	1.9	MAPR
Silver Spring Township	13,657	9	217	15.9	Director & Board
South Middleton Township	14,663	9	288	19.6	Director & Board
South Newton Township	1,383	-	0	-	None
Southampton Township	6,359	2	50	7.9	Board
Upper Allen Township	18,059	13	132	7.3	MAPR
Upper Frankford Township	2,005	-	0	-	None
Upper Mifflin Township	1,304	-	0	-	None
West Pennsboro Township	5,561	1	27	4.9	Board
Wormleysburg Borough	3,070	5	12	3.9	Board
Cumberland County	**235,406**	**142**	**2168**	**9.2**	None
Adjusted Municipal Acreage & Quotient			***2395***	***10.2***	

Source: Cumberland County Planning Department Inventory, 2012

WSRC - West Shore Recreation Commission MAPR - Mechanicsburg Area Parks and Recreation Department

acreage, natural resources, and types of facilities. The municipalities and the County can use this system to plan, establish and enhance their own parks. The classification system serves as a guideline not a mandate.

Not every type of park has to be in every community. Municipalities can create the type of park system that will meet the needs of their community as well as to provide a legacy of parks for future generations. One community might decide to have a park in every neighborhood while another community may decide that only central, community parks will be developed to meet the needs of residents. Obtaining an adequate amount of parkland for current and future generations is critical. Planning for 10 to 30 years is essential.

Willow Mill Park,
Silver Spring Township

Need for Municipal Parkland

The existing protected federal, state, and county lands of Cumberland County are primarily natural resource based. They were established on lands where the quality of the natural or cultural resource is so important, or of such a large scale, that only the governmental organizations at the national, state or county levels have the funding to purchase them and the capacity to manage them. In these instances, how much is enough is purely focused on the need to preserve an important natural area. These natural areas provide limited, passive recreation opportunities such as hiking, fishing, swimming, boating, hunting and camping.

Municipal parkland serves an entirely different purpose than natural resource based facilities. Municipal recreation areas provide for the day-to-day, close to home active, recreation opportunities. Municipal parks provide amenities such as baseball, soccer, basketball, tennis, playgrounds and paved walking trails suitable for strollers and wheelchairs.

The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) have developed standards for local active parkland. In 1971, the accepted minimum standard was established at a range of 6.25 to 10.5 acres per 1,000 populations. This standard has been evolving based upon the major trends in recreation over the last 40 years marked by new recreational pursuits and increasing participation that necessitate additional parkland. Updated NRPA guidelines in 1996 encourage municipalities to tailor their standards to meet recognized recreation needs using a Level of Service approach. That being said, the Level of Service approach is more challenging to develop on a County-wide basis and was not within the scope of this plan.

In order to generally assess parkland requirements across the County, the Land Partnerships plan evaluated municipal parkland against the following standards:

- Status Quo Parkland Goal
- Model Community Parkland Goal

It should be noted that these goals are to serve as guidelines and not as an absolute target. Land constraints and local recreation needs are examples of factors that drive municipal decisions on parkland to either lower or higher acreage goals.

In several communities across the County, state owned facilities serve as the "local park." In Dickinson, Lower Mifflin and Cooke Townships, the state parks of Kings Gap, Colonel Denning and Pine Grove (respectively) provide close to home recreational opportunities. Similarly, Opossum Lake serves as a local park to the residents of Lower Frankford. As such, small portions (approximately 10 percent) of select state facilities were included in the determining if communities where achieving goals for municipal parkland acreages. These state allocations are designated as adjusted municipal acreage in goal calculations.

Table 7-3
Countywide Parkland Goals

	Population	Status Quo 9.2 acres/1000 (Acres needed (Countywide)	Surplus or (Deficit) (Acres countywide w/ adjusted parkland)	Model Community Goal 15 acres/1000 (Acres needed (Countywide)	Surplus or (Deficit) (Acres countywide w/ adjusted parkland)
2010 Census	235,406	2166	229	3531	**(1136)**
2020 Projection	258,880	2382	13	3883	**(1488)**
2030 Projection	282,921	2603	**(208)**	4244	**(1849)**

Table 7-2 includes the current and adjusted municipal parkland quotients and Table 7-3 provides countywide parkland goals and projected surplus or deficit for the next 20 years at each goal level.

Status Quo Parkland Goal - The 2006 Land Partnerships Plan established a de facto countywide parkland standard of 8.6 acres[19] of parkland per 1,000 populations. This standard was calculated using 2005 population projections and 2005 actual parkland acreages. Since 2006, the 2005 population statistic was updated therefore the de facto standard has been revised to 9.2 acres[20] of parkland per 1,000 populations to account for the revised population data. The current unadjusted parkland quotient is 9.2, indicating parkland acquisition is keeping pace with the status quo from 2006. The current adjusted parkland quotient is 10.2 and exceeds the status quo goals for 2010 to 2020. By 2030, population growth will have created a 208 acre deficit.

Model Parkland Community Projections - Many municipalities in Cumberland County have been working towards acquiring additional parkland and developing it to meet community needs. By example, they have set the higher standard for active recreational parkland in Cumberland County by providing adequate parkland for their population and needs. In following NRPA's recommendation to tailor standards based upon trends, conditions and community needs, Cumberland County could consider a goal of 15 acres per 1,000 as the desired amount of parkland in Cumberland County. The Model Parkland Community goal projects the countywide parkland deficit ranging from 1,488 acres in 2020 to 1,849 acres in 2030.

The Community Health Needs Assessment for Five South Central PA Counties identified Physical Activity as a #1 Priority and sited lack of environmental infrastructure (like trails and sidewalks) as one of the factors that prohibit residents from regular physical activity.[23]

Trends in Parks and Recreation

Societal trends also influence the parks and recreation needs of the community.

Aging

The population is aging, but it is healthier and more active. By 2020, Pennsylvania's 60 and older population is expected to be 25 percent of the total population[21]. This will increase the need for additional recreation facilities accessible to senior citizens.

Obesity

The United States Surgeon General has identified obesity and the lack of physical activity as the number one public health issue in this country: 69 percent of the population is overweight or obese and 36 percent of adults are obese[22]. Parks provide residents convenient places for recreation and physical activity.

Outdoor Recreation

Outdoor recreation is growing. Participation in outdoor recreation reached a five-year high in 2011 with nearly 50 percent of all Americans ages six and older enjoying the outdoors[24]. That equates to 141.1 million American outdoor participants.

Community Gardens

Community gardens are recognized by the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) as a form of outdoor recreation. Community gardens are growing in popularity as demand rises for fresh foods and as participants realize the many physical, mental, environmental and community building benefits. DCNR allows community gardens on public lands provided they are open to all individuals and do not produce products for commercial sale. DCNR provides guidelines for community gardens at the following link: http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/brc/grants/greening/communitygardens/index.htm

Reconnecting to Nature

Rapid advancements in technology have led to lifestyles that are more sedentary with an increasing number of people - especially children - spending more time indoors. At a time when technology, land use and society conspire to disconnect us from the land and from nature, the ability to connect to and travel through the outdoors of the County and points beyond, may be more important than ever. Some believe that the healthy future of our society depends on remaining connected to nature and the natural world. In the face of these changes parks will play an ever-increasing role in reconnecting people to nature while also contributing to physical fitness and mental wellbeing.

Cumberland County Trails

Cumberland County has over 200 miles of trails throughout the County. Trails are important for tourism as well as for close to home recreation. Walking has been rated the most popular outdoor recreation activity in Pennsylvania[25]. In addition to recreation, trails offer non-motorized transportation alternatives for commuters. Appendix 7-3 provides a detailed list of trails and Map 7-1, Park & Trail Map, depicts the regional trails in Cumberland County.

Cumberland County Rail Trails

Rail trails are recreational greenways developed along abandoned railroad lines. Three rail trails exist in Cumberland County. They include the LeTort Spring Run Nature Trail, Cumberland Valley Trail and the Cumberland County Biker/Hiker Trail.

Cumberland Valley Rail Trail

LeTort Spring Run Nature Trail - The LeTort Spring Run Nature Trail is a 2.2-mile trail that extends from LeTort Park to Bonnybrook Road, Carlisle. The LeTort Regional Authority purchased the right of way for the trail from the Reading Railroad in 1974. The scenery along the trail is primarily wooded, with a variety of deciduous trees. The trail is suitable for walking, jogging and cross-country skiing. An added amenity along the trail is the excellent trout fishing in the LeTort Spring Run. Trailheads are located at LeTort Park and Bonnybrook Road.

Cumberland Valley Rail Trail - The Cumberland Valley Rail Trail is an 11-mile recreational corridor that extends from Shippensburg to Newville. The trail follows the path of the abandoned Cumberland Valley Railroad, which ran from Harrisburg, PA to Hagerstown, MD. Cumberland Valley Rails to Trails Council, Inc. (CVRTC) owns and maintains the trail. The CVRTC is a non-profit, volunteer organization established to promote development of multi-use trails

in south-central Pennsylvania. The scenery along the trail varies from farmland to woodlands. The trail is ideal for walking, jogging, bicycling, horseback riding and cross-country skiing.

The community has expressed interest in seeing the Cumberland Valley Trail continue east to Carlisle and even further toward the West Shore communities. In 2011, CVRTC acquired 107 acres of land from PPL Corporation. The abandoned Cumberland Valley Railroad corridor between Newville and Carlisle is utilized by PPL Corporation for utility transmission lines. This land is the core acquisition needed to extend the Cumberland Valley Trail an additional 9 miles from Newville to Carlisle (at Route 465). The PPL land represents approximately 85% of the corridor. Approximately 15% of the corridor remains in private ownership. Carlisle Borough and other trail stakeholders are working on connecting the Carlisle Borough Bike and Pedestrian Trail Network to the Cumberland Valley Trail at Route 465. A Master Site Plan for the Newville to Carlisle Extension is currently under way to prepare a plan for development, maintenance and operation of the trail. When developed, the extension would create a total of 20 miles of trail connecting Carlisle, Newville, Oakville and Shippensburg.

Conodoguinet Creek Water Trail

Cumberland County Biker/Hiker Trail - The Cumberland County Biker/Hiker Trail is a 2-mile trail that extends from Laurel Lake to Fuller Lake within Pine Grove Furnace State Park along the abandoned railroad that had served the iron-making industry. The scenery along the trail is primarily wooded but also includes the remnants from the iron industry at Pine Grove Furnace. The trail is suitable for walking, jogging, bicycling and cross-country skiing.

Regional Trail Initiatives

There are several regional trail initiatives underway within the county looking at connecting trails across municipal boundaries.

Eastern Cumberland County Master Trail Plan – The study area encompasses eight eastern Cumberland County municipalities including Silver Spring Township, Hampden Township, East Pennsboro Township, Camp Hill Borough, Upper Allen Township, Lower Allen Township, Mechanicsburg Borough and Monroe Township. The purpose of the study is to explore the feasibility of developing a regional trail system that will connect the eastern part of the County through both on and off road trails. The final plan will include a proposed network of trails and a prioritized action plan for developing the network.

LeTort Spring Run Trail Master Plan/Urban Greenway Plan – This Plan was initiated by the LeTort Regional Authority but prepared in partnership with the four local municipalities in 2008. The study area encompasses four central Cumberland County municipalities

including Carlisle Borough, South Middleton, North Middleton and Middlesex Townships. The spine of the trail system is the LeTort Spring Run. Since completion of the plan, major improvements to the LeTort Spring Run Nature Trail have been completed as well as development of a Carlisle Borough Bike and Pedestrian Trail Network project. Efforts are ongoing to expand and enhance the network throughout the four communities. The Cumberland Valley Trail Connections organization has also been formed to support a network of trails in Central Cumberland County.

Capital Area Cross River-Connections Study – In 2012, the Harrisburg Area Transportation Study in collaboration with PennDOT initiated a study of the four bridges that cross the Susquehanna River to identify their future role in providing regional mobility. Key issues of the study include future use of the abandoned bridge owned by Capital Area Transit and pedestrian and bicycle access.

Cumberland County Water Trails

Cumberland County has 3 water trails: the Susquehanna River Water Trail, the Yellow Breeches Water Trail and Conodoguinet Creek Water Trail. Water trails are boat routes suitable for canoes, kayaks and other small watercraft. Like conventional trails, water trails are recreational corridors between specific locations. Water trails are comprised of access points, boat launches and day use sites. One of the main goals of the water trails program is to highlight existing recreation facilities and to encourage stewardship of, and safe recreation on, our local waterways.

The *Susquehanna River Water Trail* is divided into several sections. The Middle Susquehanna Water Trail extends from Sunbury to Harrisburg and is managed by the Susquehanna River Trail Association. The Lower Susquehanna River Water Trail extends from Harrisburg to the Mason Dixon Line and is managed by the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area.

The *Yellow Breeches Creek Water Trail* includes approximately 22 miles of the Yellow Breeches Creek. The trail is divided into two trips due to the existence of several hazardous dams and the lack of approved access and/or portage. Trip A extends from South Middleton Township Park to Boiling Springs. Trip B extends from Messiah College to the Susquehanna River.

The *Conodoguinet Creek Water Trail* covers approximately 40 miles of the Conodoguinet Creek. The trail begins near Carlisle at North Middleton Park and ends at “The Point” in West Fairview where the creek flows into the Susquehanna River. Users must exit the creek at

Cave Hill Nature Center and reenter at Creekview Park in order to circumvent the Carlisle Raw Water Intake Dam.

Cumberland County Greenways

The greenway network proposed for Cumberland County creates a grid-like web of linear green spaces throughout the County. Greenways can take many forms; some will be corridors of protected natural areas, or corridors that include a footpath for exploring nature, while others can be developed primarily as commuter or recreation trails. The ridge and valley characteristics of the County promote east-west corridors that follow streams, rail corridors, and ridge lines. The conceptual system of major and minor greenways provides a comprehensive network of greenways connecting the entire County and providing greenway opportunities near all citizens of Cumberland County.

Appalachian Trail

The Conceptual Greenway Map (Map 7-2) illustrates the greenways in Cumberland County that include the following:

1. Conodoguinet Creek Greenway
2. Yellow Breeches Creek Greenway
3. Cumberland Valley Trail Greenway
4. Appalachian Trail Greenway
5. Big Spring Creek/Doubling Gap Creek Greenway
6. LeTort Spring Run/Mountain Creek/Hiker/Biker Trail Greenway
7. Trindle Spring Run/Trolley Line Greenway
8. Susquehanna River Greenway
9. Blue Mountain/Kittatinny Ridge Greenway
10. South Mountain/Highlands Greenway

The greenway corridors build upon the recommendations of the Cumberland Countywide Greenway Study that was completed in 2000. This study identified natural and manmade resources that contribute to greenway development and recommended eight regional greenways. The ridges along Blue Mountain and South Mountain Ridge were added in 2006 as part of *Land Partnerships*.

These corridors are designated as major greenway corridors of regional significance that connect population centers and natural resource components and provide linkage opportunities to minor greenways. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has designated three of these greenways as having statewide importance to include:

- Appalachian Trail Greenway
- Susquehanna Greenway
- Blue Mountain/Kittatinny Ridge Greenway (Tuscarora Trail)

Minor greenways are shown which extend the greenway network throughout the County along secondary corridors. Minor corridors are similar to a major corridor except that their reach and extent are limited to significant inter-municipal connections.

Minor greenways interconnect with the major greenways, creating loops and extending the function and benefits of the greenway beyond the regional greenway corridors. The 10 minor greenways identified in the Cumberland County Greenway Study are illustrated on the Conceptual Greenway Map and include:

- Burd Run Greenway - Burd Run is a tributary to Middle Spring Creek which is tributary to Conodoguinet Creek. Burd Run's headwaters are located in South Mountain and the stream flows generally northwest, east of Shippensburg Borough to Middle Spring Creek north of Shippensburg Borough. This minor greenway will connect the South Mountain/Highland Greenway to the Cumberland Valley Trail Greenway.

- Middle Spring Creek Greenway – Middle Spring Creek is tributary to the Conodoguinet Creek. The stream originates south of Shippensburg and flows north through the Borough. The Middle Spring Creek Greenway would link Shippensburg Borough, Shippensburg University, and the Cumberland Valley Trail Greenway to the Conodoguinet Creek Greenway.

- Bore Mill Run Greenway – This greenway connects the Blue Mountain/Kittatinny Ridge Greenway to the Conodoguinet Creek Greenway along Bore Mill Run. The greenway will traverse State Game Land #169.

- Yellow Breeches Creek Headwaters Greenway – The headwaters of the Yellow Breeches Creek within the Michaux State Forest are designated as a minor greenway to connect the South Mountain/ Highland Greenway, the Appalachian Trail Greenway, and the Yellow Breeches Greenway.

- Yellow Breeches Creek to Big Spring Creek Greenway – This minor greenway is designated along roadways (Stoughstown Road, Rt. 11, and Big Spring Road) to functionally link the Big Spring Greenway and the Yellow Breeches Greenway.

- Spring Run Greenway - The headwaters of Spring Run are located in the area of State Game Land #230 and flow south through Middlesex Township to the Conodoguinet Creek Greenway, northeast of Carlisle.

- Sears Run Greenway – Sears Run flows south from the Blue Mountain/Kittatinny Ridge Greenway through Hampden Township to the Conodoguinet Creek Greenway. The stream crosses under U.S. Route 81.

- Cedar Run Greenway - Cedar Run is an intermittent tributary to the Yellow Breeches Creek located in Upper Allen Township and flowing east into Lower Allen Township. Cedar Run is classified as a Cold Water Fisheries stream by PA DEP and will connect residential areas south of Mechanicsburg to the Yellow Breeches Greenway.

- Mt. Allen/Spring Run Greenway - Spring Run is a tributary to the Yellow Breeches Creek. This steam has its headwaters in the Mt. Allen area of Upper Allen Township and flows east to join the Yellow Breeches Greenway in Lower Allen Township just east of the Upper Allen Township boundary.

- Trout Run Greenway - Trout Run is a small perennial tributary to the Yellow Breeches Creek located on the west side of Upper Allen Township. This stream joins the Yellow Breeches Creek near the village of Grantham. Portions of this stream are protected as part of the Trout Run Wetland Wildlife Sanctuary, Center Square Park, and Grantham Park. The stream supports a marginal wild brown trout fishery (Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission data) and connects the Trolley Line Greenway to the Yellow Breeches Greenway.

The Conceptual Greenway Map identifies “destinations” which are part of a connected network of community places that are proposed for Cumberland County. Destinations provide a multitude of community services including commerce areas, residential areas, schools, parks, churches, service areas, and transportation centers. They serve as primary origin for the movement of people within greenway corridors.

Waggoner’s Gap Hawk Watch, Blue Mountain

Greenways typically extend beyond political boundaries due to the character of the resources these corridors are associated with such as streams, abandoned rail lines, and ridge lines. Of the 20 major and minor greenways identified for Cumberland County, eight extend beyond the County boundary. Two of these regional greenway corridors are associated with trails and include:

- Cumberland Valley Trail Greenway
- Appalachian Trail Greenway

The other regional greenways are associated with river, streams, and ridge resources to include:

- Susquehanna River Greenway
- Yellow Breeches Creek Greenway
- Conodoguinet Creek Greenway
- Middle Spring Creek Greenway
- Blue Mountain/Kittatinny Ridge Greenway
- South Mountain/Highland Greenway

Susquehanna River

Adjacent counties have also identified greenways as part of their planning efforts and the following lists corridors in common between adjacent counties and Cumberland County.

- York County – York County has identified the Yellow Breeches Creek, Susquehanna River, and the South Mountain/Highland greenways as part of their York County Greenways and Open Space Plan.

- Franklin County – The Franklin County Comprehensive Recreation, Park, and Open Space Plan identified two trails that connect to Cumberland County: the Appalachian Trail and the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail. This plan also identifies the ridge lines of the Blue Mountain and South Mountain as Greenway/Open Space Conservation Areas.

- Adams County – The Adams County Vision for Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan promotes the development of a county-wide greenway system and the County is currently developing a separate greenway plan. Cumberland County and Adams County share a boundary that includes lands of the Michaux State Forest and is designated as the South Mountain/Highland Greenway. The northern boundary of Adams County comes within approximately one-half mile of the Appalachian Trail and Adams County will be exploring opportunities to link trails to this regional long-distance trail.

- Perry County – Perry County and Cumberland County share the border encompassed by the Blue Mountain/Kittatinny Ridge Greenway. The Susquehanna River Greenway extends from Perry County to neighboring Cumberland County.

- Dauphin County – The Susquehanna River lies within Dauphin County and its western shore is the County boundary. Dauphin County does not have a park and open space or greenway plan but has received funding to begin the planning process. The

Susquehanna River Greenway is the primary linear corridor that the two counties have in common. Potential connections and the linear initiative also relate to both counties include the Susquehanna River Water Trail and the recent pedestrian and bicycle accommodations as part of the improvements to the Harvey Taylor Bridge spanning the river.

Cooperation and partnerships with adjacent counties and municipalities to promote these connections will promote greenway and conservation objectives regionally.

Tools for Parks, Trails & Greenways – Acquisition & Development

Techniques for Acquisition

Parks and trails can be acquired or controlled through a variety of methods. The most popular and common method for parkland is fee simple acquisition. Fee simple ownership is the full and unconditional ownership of land, with the right to use and sell and then pass on to one's heirs. Trails or greenways can also be acquired fee simple, but are more frequently acquired through a variety of other ownership methods such as an easement or lease. An easement grants certain rights for a specified purpose (such as a trail or fishing/boating access) to someone other than the owner of the property. An easement may apply to the entire property or only a portion. A lease is a grant by a fee simple owner of the right to use and possess all or part of the land, generally for a term of years.

Sustainable Community Parks and Landscape Design

In 2010, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) published its second edition of *Creating Sustainable Community Parks and Landscapes*. DCNR defines a sustainable community park or landscape as "one where the natural resources are protected, where wildlife habitat is improved and where human uses and maintenance practices do not harm the environment"[26]. In development of parks and trails the following 12 principals[27] are recommended for consideration for designing and landscaping in a sustainable manner.

- Retain as much of the pre-existing landscape as possible during new construction, including soils, rocks, native vegetation, wetland and contours.
- Maintain high quality soils that will hold water and supply plants with proper nutrients.
- Connect new landscapes with the surrounding native vegetation to create larger contiguous areas of habitat.
- Create natural stormwater management systems and green infrastructure, such as rain gardens and swales with native grasses.
- Protect wetlands from disturbance and fill.

- Use integrated pest management strategies to minimize the use of chemical pesticides to control plant and insect pests.
- Minimize non-porous surfaces like roads, parking lots and paved trails.
- Use green building practices in new and retrofit construction projects.
- Reduce turf to those areas essential for recreational and other human use activities.
- If you must have some turf grass follow guidelines: mow early in morning or late evening, never remove more than ½ of blade, leave clippings and choose native turf.
- Use native plants, especially trees, in riparian buffers around any stream, lake or wetland.
- Identify and remove invasive plants whenever possible.

Japanese Barberry (Invasive)

Tools for Parks, Trails & Greenways – Planning

The creation and development of parks, trails and greenways can be achieved through the land use planning and development process. Too often in the past, these features where characterized as superfluous amenities, but in increasing the development, community and municipal officials have realized that parks and trails are essential amenities to a prosperous community and high quality of life.

Municipalities Planning Code

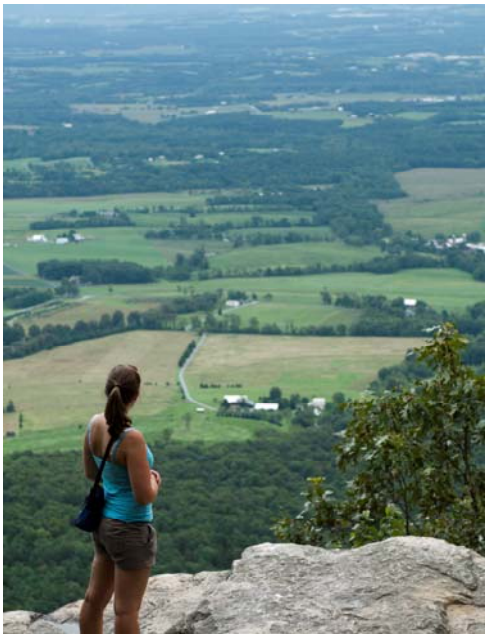
The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) is intended to empower local municipalities to establish and develop park and recreation facilities for the benefit of the general public. The comprehensive plan, zoning ordinance, subdivision and land development ordinance and official map are all tools available for planning and creation of those facilities.

Article III, Section 301 of the MPC specifies that County and Municipal Comprehensive Plans shall provide a plan for land use to include park and recreation areas and a plan for community facilities which also includes parks and recreation. Similarly, the Comprehensive Plan is to include a plan for movement of people and goods, which would include provisions for pedestrian and bikeway systems (i.e. trails). A plan for parks, trails and recreation facilities should include developing goals and objectives, establishing recreation needs and identifying proposed location of future parks, trails and recreation facilities.

Article IV of the MPC empowers municipalities to adopt an Official Map for parks, playgrounds and pedestrian ways/easements. The Official Map is intended to show the locations of future park and recreation facilities and articulates a municipality's interest in acquiring these lands for public purposes sometime in the future.

The subdivision and land development process can be utilized in several ways to advance park and recreation goals. Article V, Section 503 (11) of the MPC allows a municipality to include ordinance provisions that: 1) require a developer to set aside land for recreation purposes 2) require construction of recreation facilities and/or 3) allow payment of fees in lieu of reserving parkland and/or constructing recreation facilities. A municipality must have an adopted park and recreation plan in order to enact such provisions.

Article VI, Section 604 of the MPC indicates the zoning ordinance shall designate areas for recreational facilities. Typically, zoning ordinances provide for public parks and recreation facilities in most zones and therefore zoning designation is not often problematic.



Colonel Denning State Park

Tools for Parks, Trails & Greenways – Partnerships & Education

As mentioned earlier in this chapter, Cumberland County has a variety of parks and trails, managed by an assortment of governmental and non-profit organizations. Accordingly, coordination and outreach among those various organizations is critical to maintaining, enhancing and promoting a high quality system of parks and trails. Table 7-4 lists the stakeholders in parks, trails and greenways and highlights their focus areas.

Table 7-4
Stakeholders and Focus Areas for Parks, Trails & Greenways

Stakeholders	Program/Initiative
Audubon PA www.pa.audubon.org www.kittatinnyridge.org	Kittatinny Ridge Conservation Project
Appalachian Trail Conservancy South Mountain Partnership www.appalachiantrail.org www.southmountainpartnership.org	Appalachian Trail Greenway South Mountain/Highland Greenway
Appalachian Mountain Club www.outdoors.org	South Mountain/Highland Greenway
Big Spring Watershed Association www.bigspring-pa.org	Big Spring Greenway
Carlisle Area Heath & Wellness Foundation www.cahwf.org	Simply Moving Guide Health Promotion
Conodoguinet Creek Watershed Association http://conocreek.org	Water Trail Implementation Conodoguinet Creek Greenway
Cumberland Valley Visitor Bureau www.visitcumberlandvalley.com	Outdoor Recreation Promotion
Cumberland Valley Rails to Trails Council www.cvrtc.org	Cumberland Valley Trail Greenway
Cumberland Valley Appalachian Trail Club www.cvatclub.org	Appalachian Trail Greenway
Cumberland Valley Trail Connections www.ccpa.net	Regional Trail Development and Promotion
Harrisburg Area Transportation Study (HATS) www.tcrpc-pa.org	Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Planning Capital Region Cross River Connections Study
LeTort Regional Authority www.letort.org	LeTort Spring Run Master Site Plan/Urban Greenway Plan
Municipalities	Community based park and trail development
Mason Dixon Trail System, Inc. www.masondixontrail.org	Mason Dixon Trail

Table 7-4 continued Stakeholders and Focus Areas for Parks, Trails & Greenways	
Middle Spring Creek Association www.middlespringwatershed.org	Middle Spring Creek Greenway
Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources www.dcnr.state.pa.us www.explorepatrails.com	Funding Assistance Recreation Technical Assistance Conservation Landscape Initiative Program
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation www.dot.state.pa.us	MAP-21 Funding Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Planning Capital Region Cross River Connections Study
Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission www.fishandboat.com	Water Trail Program Fishing & Boating Access Improvement
Pennsylvania Recreation & Park Society www.prps.org	Advocacy Training and Professional Development
Potomac Appalachian Trail Club www.patc.net	Tuscarora Trail Appalachian Trail Greenway
Rails to Trails Conservancy www.railstotrails.org	Rails to Trails Planning and Technical Assistance
Susquehanna Greenway Partnership www.susquehannagreenway.org	Greenway Planning and Implementation
Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area www.susquehannawatertrail.org	Lower Susquehanna Water Trail
Susquehanna River Trail Association www.susquehannarivertrailorg	Middle Susquehanna Water Trail
The Nature Conservancy www.nature.org	Mount Holly Marsh Preserve
Yellow Breeches Watershed Association www.ybwa.org	Water Trail Implementation Yellow Breeches Greenway

Pine Grove Furnace State Park

Fuller Lake, Pine Grove Furnace State Park

Introduction

The goal of the Land Partnerships planning process should not be to simply produce a document. While the Land Partnerships planning document provides a tangible record of the planning process, it does not by its completion represent success. Rather, success should be judged by the implementation of the concepts and strategies contained in the plan.

The following implementation plan presents a fiscally responsible and balanced approach to land preservation in Cumberland County. The implementation plan is fiscally responsible in that it is developed in context with a current economic climate including limited private and public sector funding. The implementation plan is balanced in that the suggested strategies resulted from the input of a diverse group of stakeholders that included municipal governments, conservation organizations, industry associations, and the residents of Cumberland County. The implementation strategies suggested in this chapter are as diverse as the stakeholders responsible for suggesting them. From voluntary land acquisition to land use planning to education and outreach, Land Partnerships presents a balanced, multi-faceted approach to agriculture preservation, natural resource protection and parks, trails and greenways in Cumberland County.

Implementation Strategies

A variety of types of strategies should be implemented to achieve Land Partnerships' goals and objectives. When implemented together, these strategies provide a comprehensive approach to agriculture preservation, natural resource protection and parks, trails & greenways. Specific implementation strategies were suggested for each of the core areas discussed in the preceding chapters. These strategies can be further organized by their respective types that include:

- Acquisition and Development - Acquisition and development strategies include voluntary land acquisition for farmland preservation, parks and recreation, natural resource protection or initiatives that make capital investments to construct or rehabilitate parks and recreation or other public facilities. Acquisition and development strategies are generally the most capital intensive yet the most permanent method of implementing the Land Partnerships concepts.

- Planning - Planning strategies involve the implementation of farmland preservation, natural resource protection and park, trail and greenway strategies into county and municipal comprehensive plans, zoning ordinances, subdivision and land development regulations and other land use policies. Planning strategies, when implemented and enforced, are effective and cost efficient.

- Partnerships - The responsibility of implementing the concepts found in Land Partnerships often falls with organizations outside of Cumberland County and its associated departments. Cumberland County, although not charged with direct implementation authority, should partner with other organizations to help implement and promote the concepts found in Land Partnerships. Promoting and assisting with the work of cooperating organizations can be a simple, cost-effective way to preserve prime farmland, protect natural resources and provide park and recreation opportunities.

- Education - In order to garner continued and enhanced support for the concepts found in Land Partnerships, strategies that provide education and outreach opportunities to a variety of stakeholder groups should be pursued. Municipalities, private land owners, farmers, conservation organizations, the development community, and the public at large should be the targets of future educational programs that outline county land conservation policy and the associated costs and benefits. Education strategies can be efficiently implemented and lay the foundation for ongoing support for Land Partnerships implementation.

Implementation Plan

The implementation plan outlined for Land Partnerships has a five year time frame: 2013-2017. A summary of the strategies is outlined for Agriculture Preservation, Natural Resource Protection, and Parks, Greenways & Trails in Table 8-1, Implementation Plan. Strategies are organized by type and include the relative cost, resources needed and timeframe for implementation.

Implementation of Land Partnerships will be achieved through a variety of resources:

- Staff Resources – many of the concepts and strategies contained in the plan can be implemented through daily planning activities and special technical assistance offered by the Cumberland County Planning Department

- County Funding – county funding to be derived from the County general fund, Clean and Green rollback interest and Marcellus Shale Legacy Fund

- Leveraged Funding – outside funding will be pursued from the state and federal government as well as other non-profit and private sources to fund project implementation

Staff Resources

The Cumberland County Planning Department (CCPD) can implement many of Land Partnerships strategies through their daily planning activities and direct technical assistance. Such activities do not require additional funding and should be pursued regardless of other funding sources. Land Partnerships concepts should be integrated into the following elements of the Cumberland County Planning Departments annual planning program.

Municipal Planning Assistance – CCPD staff are required by the Municipalities Planning Code to review and comment on every subdivision and land development application, comprehensive plan update and ordinance amendment proposed in the County. As noted elsewhere in this plan, sound planning is the best method of farmland preservation, natural resource protection and creation of parks, trails and greenways. The CCPD offers free planning technical assistance to municipalities throughout the County. Municipalities have worked with CCPD staff on ordinance updates, comprehensive plan updates, GIS mapping and fiscal impact analysis. Through our Municipal Planning Assistance, CCPD staff can share Land Partnerships concepts with their municipal partners.

Special Project Assistance – In addition to planning assistance relative to land use planning, the CCPD staff regularly provides technical assistance to organizations, agencies and non-profits implementing programs and projects relative to Land Partnerships. Special Project Assistance services range from supporting a local land conservancy, to assisting with trail planning, to engagement with a regional landscape conservation coalition.

Planning Outreach Meetings – The CCPD hosts quarterly meetings with its municipal partners and other agency partners to discuss a wide variety of timely planning issues in the County. These meetings should be used as a platform to discuss Land Partnerships strategies. In addition, the Outreach meetings should be used to network with agency partners whose programs help achieve the goals of Land Partnerships.

Training Program – The CCPD conducts numerous training programs on an annual basis. As it reviews its annual training priorities, the CCPD should offer training programs related to farmland preservation, natural resource protection and parks, trails and greenways.

County Funding - Land Partnerships Grant Program

As mentioned above, Cumberland County will have access to funding through the Marcellus Shale Legacy Fund. These funds are distributed on a statewide basis and are derived from fees collected from natural gas drilling. Funds are to be used for the "planning, acquisition, development, rehabilitation and repair of greenways, recreational trails, open space, natural areas, community conservation and beautification projects, community and heritage parks and water resource management".[28]

The Land Partnerships Grant Program should be revised to distribute all or a portion of such funds to municipalities and non-profits to implement projects consistent with Land Partnerships and fund restrictions. The annual funding levels are difficult to predict as fees will be dependent on market conditions relative to natural gas consumption and production.

Leveraged Funding

There are numerous funding sources available to help implement the goals and objectives of Land Partnerships. The County and its municipal partners should seek out those funds to assist with plan implementation. Table 8-2, Funding Sources, includes a list of potential funding sources.

Program Evaluation

The Land Partnerships Program should be evaluated every 5-years to assess progress on implementation strategies and adjust the program as necessary. Annually, the CCPD should review the strategies in Land Partnerships and work with the CCPC to develop short term goals for implementation.

Table 8-1 Implementation Plan				
Strategy		**Type**	**Priority**	**Resources**
AGRICULTURE PRESERVATION				
FP1.	Continue implementation of the Pennsylvania Agricultural Conservation Easement Program commensurate with State and County funding seeking to reduce the backlog of applicants in the Prime Farmland Area by 25% within 5 years.	Acquisition & Development	High	Staff Resources, County & Leveraged Funding
FP2.	Encourage partnerships among the County Agricultural Land Preservation Board and local municipalities, non-profits and conservancies to purchase joint agriculture conservation easements.	Acquisition & Development	Moderate	Staff Resources, County & Leveraged Funding
FP3.	Aggressively pursue funding available through the Federal Ranch & Farmland Program and other alternative funding sources for purchase of agricultural conservation easements.	Acquisition & Development	High	Staff Resources, County & Leveraged Funding
FP4.	Conduct ongoing review and evaluation of the County Agricultural Conservation Easement Program guidelines to respond to changes in the agricultural industry, environmental regulation, etc.	Acquisition & Development	Low	Staff Resources
FP5.	Increase outreach with preserved farm owners to: enhance landowner relations, ensure long term compliance with the easement provisions and protect taxpayer investment. Enhance monitoring efforts on preserved farms and pursue enforcement of violations, as necessary.	Acquisition & Development	Moderate	Staff Resources
FP6.	Encourage and support best management practices on farms to ensure compliance with Pennsylvania's erosion, sedimentation, stormwater control and manure management requirements, with emphasis on water quality improvements such as riparian buffers and restricting livestock access to streams. High priority shall be given to farms preserved through the County Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, including financial assistance to develop conservation, erosion and sedimentation and nutrient management plans.	Acquisition & Development	High	Staff Resources, County & Leveraged Funding
FP7.	Increase outreach and promotion of the County Farmland Preservation Donation Program to increase awareness and participation.	Acquisition & Development	Low	Staff Resources, County Funding

Table 8-1 Implementation Plan			
Strategy	**Type**	**Priority**	**Resources**
FP8. Provide funding and technical assistance to municipalities to develop and implement municipal comprehensive plans and land use ordinances that protect the right to farm and preserve prime farmland and the agricultural industry in the County.	Planning	Moderate	Staff Resources, County & Leveraged Funding
FP9. Support the development of guidelines and/or model ordinances to support agriculture in urban and suburban communities, including but not limited to the following issues: community gardens, CSA drop-offs, seasonal outdoor farmers markets, backyard chickens and urban bee keeping.	Planning	Moderate	Staff Resources
FP10. Promote the Agricultural Security Areas Program and assist municipalities with the development and periodic review of ASAs. Provide training and technical assistance on ASA implementation. Improve ASA data collection and create an enhanced database for ASA tracking.	Planning	Moderate	Staff Resources
FP11. Increase awareness of the benefits of the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program for the individual farmers, the agriculture industry and the community through educational seminars, workshops, printed materials and website.	Partnerships & Education	Low	Staff Resources
FP12. Support and promote the mission and objectives of the Cumberland County Partners for Excellence in Agriculture.	Partnerships & Education	Low	Staff Resources
FP13. Support and partner with local agricultural stakeholders to promote agriculture industry and preserve prime farmland through the County. (See Table 5-6)	Partnerships & Education	Low	Staff Resources, Leveraged Funding
FP14. Increase public awareness of the benefits of agriculture to the community. Special emphasis shall be placed on the importance and benefit of local food. Support local food efforts/initiatives including, but not limited to Farm to School Programs, community gardens, farmers markets, Buy Fresh Buy Local, Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture, etc.	Partnerships & Education	Moderate	Staff Resources

Table 8-1 Implementation Plan			
Strategy	**Type**	**Priority**	**Resources**
NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION			
NRP1. Provide funding and technical assistance to municipalities and non-profits to acquire important natural areas through voluntary easements and fee simple acquisition. Priority should be given to areas identified as having highest conservation value.	Acquisition & Development	High	Staff Resources, County & Leveraged Funding
NRP2. Support implementation of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Improvement Plan to include stormwater management technical assistance and funding to County municipalities.	Acquisition & Development	Moderate	Staff Resources, Leveraged Funding
NRP3. Serve as the liaison between municipalities, the development community and the agriculture community to identify and implement water quality improvements in developed and rural areas.	Acquisition & Development	Moderate	Staff Resources
NRP4. Support and promote the TreeVitalize Program as well as urban landscaping and street tree efforts in developed areas.	Acquisition & Development	High	Staff Resources, Leveraged Funding
NRP5. Provide funding and technical assistance to municipalities to develop and implement municipal comprehensive plans and land use ordinances that preserve the County's natural resources, with focus on protecting water quality/quantity.	Planning	High	Staff Resources, County & Leveraged Funding
NRP6. Promote the Natural Areas Inventory and encourage its use in municipal land use planning and development. Educate municipal officials and residents on the importance of biodiversity.	Planning	Moderate	Staff Resources
NRP7. Update the County Comprehensive Plan to include a Water Supply Plan consistent with the requirements of Article III, Section 301(b) of the MPC and subsequently support the development of municipal water supply plans consistent with the County Plan.	Planning	Low	Staff Resources, County & Leveraged Funding
NRP8. Conduct annual meeting and 5 year updates to the County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Identify municipal projects and assist with implementation, placing special emphasis on flooding mitigation.	Planning	Low	Staff Resources, County & Leveraged Funding

Table 8-1 Implementation Plan			
Strategy	**Type**	**Priority**	**Resources**
NRP9. Provide support and technical assistance to local watershed organizations to implement local river conservation plans and community based watershed initiatives.	Partnerships & Education	Moderate	Staff Resources
NRP10. Support and partner with local and regional conservation stakeholders on initiatives and programs to protect natural resources. (See Table 6-2)	Partnerships & Education	Low	Staff Resources, Leveraged Funding
NRP11. Develop guidance on green infrastructure applications for developed communities that will help to improve water quality.	Partnerships & Education	Low	Staff Resources
NRP12. Raise public awareness about the benefits and importance of protecting Cumberland County's natural resources.	Partnerships & Education	Low	Staff Resources
NRP13. Educate private landowners about voluntary conservation practices such as woodlot management, riparian buffers establishment, invasive plant control, native plant landscaping, wildlife habitat improvement, rain barrels, rain gardens, etc.	Partnerships & Education	High	Staff Resources
NRP14. Conduct educational workshops/training for municipal officials on the benefits of natural resource protection and tools to preserve those resources.	Partnerships & Education	Moderate	Staff Resources
PARKS, TRAILS & GREENWAYS			
PGT1. Provide funding and technical assistance to assist municipalities and non-profits to acquire and develop parkland and trails to meet the needs of current and future residents. Funding priority shall be given to trail acquisition and development and redevelopment and upgrades to existing parkland.	Acquisition & Development	High	Staff Resources County & Leveraged Funding
PGT2. Encourage park and trail development in accordance with DCNR's Creating Sustainable Community Parks and Landscapes publication.	Acquisition & Development	Moderate	Staff Resources
PGT3. Provide funding and technical assistance to assist municipalities and non-profits to conserve the 10 County identified greenways for their recreational, cultural and natural resource value.	Acquisition & Development	Moderate	Staff Resources County & Leveraged Funding

Table 8-1 Implementation Plan			
Strategy	**Type**	**Priority**	**Resources**
PGT4. Coordinate and partner with The Nature Conservancy to maintain and enhance the Mount Holly Nature Preserve. Projects include, but are not limited to: • Maintain and enhance the trail system, signage and parking facilities • Develop and implement a resource management plan • Continue invasive plant removal initiative	Acquisition & Development	High	Staff Resources County & Leveraged Funding
PGT5. Coordinate and partner with stakeholders to continue to promote, enhance and extend the Conodoguinet Creek and Yellow Breeches Creek Water Trails. Potential projects include but are not limited to: • Conodoguinet Creek Water Trail o Obtain approved portage around the Carlisle Raw Water Intake Dam o Extend trail west beyond North Middleton Park o Enhance access and amenities at existing access points • Yellow Breeches Creek Water Trail o Expand Trip A west beyond South Middleton Township Park o Expand Trip B west of Messiah College to Leidigh Park o Enhance access and amenities at existing access points	Acquisition & Development	Moderate	Staff Resources Leveraged Funding
PGT6. Coordinate and partner with the Cumberland Valley Rails to Trails Council, municipal partners and private landowners to enhance and expand the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail. Projects include but are not limited to: • Design and construct the Fogelsanger Road Bridge – Shippensburg Trail Connector Project • Design and construct a bridge (Big Spring Ave) and tunnel (Route 233) to connect the existing Cumberland Valley Trail with the PPL Tract • Develop and implement a Master Site Plan for the Newville to Carlisle Trail Extension • Explore feasibility of extending trail east from Carlisle to West Shore Area	Acquisition & Development	High	Staff Resources Leveraged Funding

Table 8-1 Implementation Plan			
Strategy	**Type**	**Priority**	**Resources**
PGT7. Provide funding and technical assistance to municipalities to develop or update local comprehensive plans and greenway and open space plans to be consistent with Land Partnerships. Multi-municipal planning for trails and greenways is encouraged.	Planning	High	Staff Resources County & Leveraged Funding
PGT8. Encourage and assist municipalities adopt parkland standards and goals consistent with the needs of the community. 15 acres per 1,000 populations is a recommended goal.	Planning	Moderate	Staff Resources
PGT9. Encourage and assist municipalities to develop zoning, subdivision/land development and official map ordinance provisions that promote park, greenway and trail development.	Planning	High	Staff Resources
PGT10. Support and partner with local stakeholders to promote and expand parks, greenways and trails through the County. (See Table 7-4)	Partnerships & Education	Low	Staff Resources
PGT11. Raise public awareness of the benefits of parks, greenways and trails among all facets of the community through educational seminars, workshops, printed materials and website. Projects include, but are not limited to: • Update and distribute Simply Moving Guide in partnership with Carlisle Area Health & Wellness Foundation • Update and distribute Local Food, Farm and Outdoor Attraction Guide in partnership with the Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau • Update and distribute Conodoguinet Creek Water Trail Guide/Map and Yellow Breeches Creek Water Trail Guide/Map in partnership with watershed organizations • Assist with Cumberland Valley Official Visitors Guide/Map, Official Map and CVVB website • Ongoing promotion and enhancement of Cumberland County website	Partnerships & Education	Moderate	Staff Resources County & Leveraged Funding

Table 8-2 Funding Sources		
Agency/Organization	**Program**	**Eligible Uses**
Cumberland Valley Visitors Bureau	Tourism Grant Program	Signage, Outdoor Recreation Promotion
Natural Resource Conservation Service	Farm and Ranchland Protection Program	Farmland Preservation
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation	Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grants	Watershed Improvement
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture	Pennsylvania Agricultural Conservation Easement Purchase Program	Farmland Preservation
Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resources	Community Conservation Partnerships Program	Park & Trail Development Natural Resource Protection
Pennsylvania Department of Conservation & Natural Resource	TreeVitalize Program	Tree Planting
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	Growing Greener Watershed Grants Nonpoint Source Implementation Program	Watershed restoration
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection	Environmental Education Grants Program	Education
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation	Transportation Enhancements	Trail Development
Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission	Boating Infrastructure Grant Program	Boating Access Improvements
Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission	PA Access Improvement Program	Public Fishing & Boating Easements
Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission, US Fish & Wildlife Service	State Wildlife Grants Program	Protection of at-risk species
Water Resources Education Network	Watershed Education Grants	Natural Resource Protection - Education/ Awareness to protect water resources
Water Resources Education Network	Source Water Protection Education Grants	Natural Resource Protection - Education/ Awareness for source water protection
Water Resources Education Network	Opportunity Grants	Natural Resource Protection - Nonpoint source pollution prevention education
South Mountain Partnership	Mini Grant Program	Park & Trail Development Natural Resource Protection
USDA-NRCS/FSA	Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP), Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), Wildlife Habitat Inventive Program (WHIP), Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP)	Natural Resource Protection on private lands

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Endnotes

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[4] GIS Calculation

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[6] Farmland Information Center, *2007 NRI: Changes in in Land Cover/Use-Agricultural Land*

[7] Economic Impact of Maine Food System and Farm Vitality Policy Implications. A Report to the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, Second Regular Session of the 120th Maine Legislature. Jesse Gandee, November 2002

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[9] GIS Calculation

[10] GIS Calculation

[11] GIS Calculation

[12] GIS Calculation, PA DEP Non-Attainment (January 2012)

[13] GIS Calculation, Federal Emergency Management Agency (2009 Update

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[15] The Nature Conservancy, Natural Areas Inventory of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, 2005 Update, p. 21

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[20]223,089 (Revised 2005 Population)/2,060 (Acres) (X 1,000) = 9.2 acres/1,000 population

[21]US Census Bureau, Population Division, Interim State Population Projections, 2005

[22] US Prevalence of Adult Overweight and Obesity, National Health & Nutrition Examination Survey, 2010

[23] *Community Health Needs Assessment for Five South Central PA Counties*, Tripp Umbach, 2012, Accessed September 13, 2012 http://www.hsh.org/assets/pdf-downloads/Community/Final-Regional-Executive-Report-Harrisburg-CHNA-9.6.12-Compressed.pdf

[24] Outdoor Recreation Participation Report 2012, Outdoor Industry Association, Accessed September 13, 2012 http://www.outdoorindustry.org/participation-studies.php?action=detail&research_id=170

[25] *Pennsylvania Outdoors The Keystone for Healthy Living, 2009-2013 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan*, PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources, www.paoutdoorrecplan.com

[26] *Creating Sustainable Community Parks and Landscapes*, PA DCNR, March 2010, page 3.

[27] *Creating Sustainable Community Parks and Landscapes*, PA DCNR, March 2010, page 13-14.

[28] HB 1950-Session of 2011, §2315 Statewide Initiatives (a)5, page 34.

Appendix 3-1

Public Meeting Results

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SIMONE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE COLLINS

Cumberland County Land Partnerships Update

Notes: Public Meeting #1 - East

Date / Time: 7:00 PM Wednesday May 23rd, 2012

Location: New Kingstown Fire Company,
277 North Locust Point Road, New Kingstown, PA 17072

In Attendance: See attached sign-in sheet

Background:

Cumberland County Planning Department Staff and the consultants conducted a brief presentation to summarize the plan benefits, previous plan accomplishments and the process for the plan update. After the presentation, those in attendance cycled through four listening stations to facilitate a focused discussion on the four main elements of the Land Partnerships Plan. County staff and consultants recorded the following goals, concepts and opinions for the project:

Farmland Preservation:

1. Outreach and education is needed to frame the costs associated with agriculture production versus the average income of a farmer.
2. More outreach is needed to educate children who have lost touch with food sources.
3. Farmland preservation is #1 priority in Silver Spring Township.
4. Maintain and improve agricultural zoning to keep more land in agricultural uses.
5. Look to Lancaster County for examples of farmland preservation.
6. Build / rehabilitate Boroughs instead of farmland.
7. Saving land is important.
8. Low interest loans are available for agriculture.
9. The public does not realize how volatile farming can be.
10. Schools can get grants to have working farms and teach hands on farming to students. More information on farm to school grants can be found here: http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/F2S/f2_grant_program.htm http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Governance/Policy-Memos/2009/SP_32-2009_os.pdf
11. Form more partnerships between farms and schools.
12. Land should be preserved in the event it is needed to replace farmland affected by unforeseen diseases or pollution.
13. Farming practices should seek to preserve water quality.

Natural Resource Protection:

14. Preserve more land along the Susquehanna River floodplain.
15. Development is restricted on slopes of 15% or greater. This should be revised to only protect slopes 25% and greater.

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Livable Communities:

16. Take advantage of Treevitalize to assist municipalities to plant street trees.
17. New Kingstown – is an example of a livable community.
18. Greenway along Conodoguinet in Silver Spring Township.
19. Sample Bridge – boat ramp is needed to access water trail.
    a. Land on West side of road may be an opportunity.
20. Like Carlisle Road Diet example (complete street)
21. Lemoyne Bike Racks are a good example.
22. Bike racks are needed in Mechanicsburg.
23. Truck/through traffic needs to be removed in downtowns/small towns.
24. Reduce speeds in small towns for increased livability.
25. Trails should tie into towns.
26. Bike lanes need to connect to destination.
    a. Recreational trails – different than commuter trails.
    b. Commuter trails – should be higher speed, paved facilities.
27. Businesses need to provide places to:
    a. Shower
    b. Store bikes
28. Bike sharing concept should be encouraged in existing towns (example: Paris, Bike Pottstown - http://www.bikepottstown.com/index.htm).
29. Rain gardens not preferred in New Kingstown.
    a. Trash collects in them
    b. Weeds
    c. Water in peoples homes
30. TreeVitalize program a good resource

Parks, Trails and Greenways:

31. Implement a rail with trail - especially in more developed areas.
32. Extend the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail to the west shore.
33. Identify the status of trail links.
34. Greenways should promote walkways and bikeways.
35. Use the Cumberland Valley railroad bridge as a pedestrian/bike connection to Dauphin County.
36. Use deteriorated buildings to create new green spaces or pocket parks.
37. Implement the Eastern Cumberland County trail plan.
38. Update the Simply Moving guide.
39. Peace of mind and lower blood pressure is cited as a benefit of parks.
40. Implement the Newville to Carlisle section of the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail.
41. Crate a trailhead for the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail at Big Spring High School.
42. Create more trail connections in towns and between towns.
43. The Tuscarora Trail has a view shed of farmsteads.
44. Provide wider shoulders on roads to accommodate bicycles.
45. A New law mandates a 4' separation distance for a car passing a bike. Design roadways to accommodate this.
46. Trails = health and wellness.
47. **The next public meeting - east is scheduled for 7:00 PM October 25th, 2012.**
48. **Please refer to the project website periodically for updates www.ccpa.net/landpartnerships**

SIMONE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE COLLINS

Cumberland County Land Partnerships Update

Notes: Public Meeting #1 - West

Date / Time: 7:00 PM Thursday May 24, 2012

Location: Southampton Township Building
200 Airport Road, Shippensburg, PA 17257

In Attendance: See attached sign-in sheet

Background:
Cumberland County Planning Department Staff conducted a brief presentation to summarize the plan benefits, previous plan accomplishments and the process for the plan update. After the presentation, those in attendance cycled through four listening stations to facilitate a focused discussion on the four main elements of the Land Partnerships Plan. County staff and consultants recorded the following goals, concepts and opinions for the project:

Farmland Preservation:

1. Factory farms = pollution of waterways

Natural Resource Protection:

2. Big Spring – more efforts for preservation
3. Strict environmental regulations for corporate farms
4. Ground water pollution concern

Livable Communities:

Parks, Trails and Greenways:

5. AT Corridor – Farmland preservation for scenic value between 81 & 76 in Silver Spring and north of the Yellow Breeches in Monroe
6. Resource Concern-Hikers on AT using springs for water supply
7. Gap of AT corridor between White Rock and Michaux, corridor narrows

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SIMONE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE COLLINS

Cumberland County Land Partnerships Update

Notes: Public Meeting #2 - West

Date / Time: 7:00 PM, Wednesday October 24, 2012

Location: Southampton Township Building
200 Airport Road, Shippensburg, PA 17257

In Attendance: See attached sign-in sheet

Summary:

Stephanie Williams conducted a brief presentation to summarize the plan benefits, previous plan accomplishments as well as the process, goals and implementation priorities for the plan update. After the presentation, those in attendance filtered through three stations and voted on their preference for the implementation priorities for each of the plan's three categories. County staff and consultants recorded the following public comments:

1. An attendee voiced concerns regarding the use of bio-solids on agricultural fields in the County. She stated that bio-solids are known to contain various toxins and pathogens and have contributed to the pollution of drinking water aquifers. She added that at least four wells near Huntsville have been contaminated from bio-solids. She stated that due to these hazards farms using bio-solids should not be allowed to conduct farm tours with school children. Pete S. responded that the Department of Environmental Protection permits bio-solids and that any changes to these regulations have to be effected at the State level. He recommended taking this concern to their state representative.

2. The following are the citizen voting results for the implementation priorities. ***Note only one attendee elected to vote:***

Agriculture Preservation
AP1-1
AP6-1
AP10-1

Parks, Trails & Greenways
PTG1-1
PTG6-1
PTG9-1

Natural Resource Protection
NRP1-1
NRP5-1
NRP13-1

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LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Cumberland County Land Partnerships Update

Notes: Public Meeting #2 - East

Date / Time: 7:00 PM, Monday, November 5, 2012

Location: Lower Allen Township Municipal Building
2233 Gettysburg Road, Camp Hill, PA 17011

In Attendance: See attached sign-in sheet

Summary:

Stephanie Williams conducted a brief presentation to summarize the plan benefits, previous plan accomplishments as well as the process, goals and implementation priorities for the plan update. After the presentation, those in attendance filtered through three stations and voted on their preference for the implementation priorities for each of the plan's three categories. County staff and consultants recorded the following public comments:

1. An attendee asked if there was support for this plan by County and State politicians. Stephanie W. stated that the decision to update the plan is a good indication of political support. Pete S. added that it is very important for citizens to tell their elected officials if they support the plan and if so, ask them to provide additional funding for plan implementation.

2. An attendee asked if there was an easy way for citizens to donate funds for County land preservation and suggested that the County add a "donate now" web link to facilitate donations. Stephanie W. stated that there is a system in place for the donation of farmland, and the County will look for ways to facilitate other donation methods.

3. A citizen asked if all preserved properties allow public access. Stephanie W. stated that public access is not required for farms preserved with State Program. Properties preserved with County Land Partnerships funding seek to keep these properties open to the public.

4. An attendee asked if Marcellus Shale (Act 13) funding can be utilized to fund recommendations of this plan. Stephanie W. stated that the funding has to go towards the planning, acquisition and/or improvements of parks and open space which are consistent with the plan recommendations. Act 13 finding cannot be used to fill funding gaps unrelated to parks and open space.

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5. An attendee asked if the County was satisfied with the results of the public opinion survey, and asked if some parts of the County had higher response rates than others. Stephanie W. commented that the 850 responses exceeded expectations, and responses were proportional to the to the population distribution of the County.

6. A citizen asked if zoning changes can be enacted to help curb increasing development pressures. Stephanie W. responded that this plan calls for working with municipalities to identify and update outdated zoning ordinances and to develop model ordinances for municipalities to use as examples. Pete S. added that the official map is another tool that can be used to curb development pressures. As permitted by the Municipalities Planning Code, an official map can be enacted by a municipality to designate natural areas for future preservation or to denote trails, roads or stormwater management areas. The official map reservation gives the municipality the right make a purchase offer, obtain an easement or to negotiate with the developer to incorporate the official map improvements / reservations into their land development plan.

7. The following are the citizen voting results for the implementation priorities:

<u>Agriculture Preservation</u>
AG1-16 #1
AG2-3
AG3-5
AG4-0
AG5-5 #3 tie
AG6-10 #2
AG7-3
AG8-5 #3 tie
AG9-4
AG10-1
AG11-0
AG12-0
AG13-1
AG14-5 #3 tie

<u>Parks, Trails & Greenways</u>
PTG1-18 #1 tie
PTG2-2
PTG3-0
PTG4-2
PTG5-3
PTG6-18 #1 tie
PTG7-9 #3
PTG8-4
PTG9-11 #2
PTG10-1
PTG11-1

<u>Natural Resource Protection</u>
NRP1-16 #1
NRP2-5
NRP3-2
NRP4-9 #2
NRP5-7 #3
NRP6-4
NRP7-2
NRP8-1
NRP9-5
NRP10-1
NRP11-2
NRP12-0
NRP13-6 #4
NRP14-3

Appendix 3-2

Public Survey Results

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Cumberland County Land Partnerships - User Selected Survey

What best describes the amount of the following in Cumberland County?

Answer Options	Too much		About the right amount		Not enough		Response Count
Farmland	14	1.7%	**436**	**54.2%**	354	44.0%	804
Natural Areas	9	1.1%	307	38.1%	**489**	**60.7%**	805
Parks	21	2.6%	384	47.6%	**401**	**49.8%**	806
Trails	19	2.4%	239	29.8%	**545**	**67.9%**	803
					answered question		810
					skipped question		34

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - Random Sample Survey

What best describes the amount of the following in Cumberland County?

Answer Options	Too much		About the right amount		Not enough		Response Count
Farmland	1	1.9%	25	46.3%	**28**	**51.9%**	54
Natural Areas	0	0.0%	15	27.8%	**39**	**72.2%**	54
Parks	0	0.0%	**28**	**51.9%**	26	48.1%	54
Trails	0	0.0%	23	43.4%	**30**	**56.6%**	53
					answered question		54
					skipped question		1

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - COMBINED

What best describes the amount of the following in Cumberland County?

Answer Options	Too much		About the right amount		Not enough		Response Count
Farmland	15	1.7%	**461**	**53.7%**	382	44.5%	858
Natural Areas	9	1.0%	322	37.5%	**528**	**61.5%**	859
Parks	21	2.4%	412	47.9%	**427**	**49.7%**	860
Trails	19	2.2%	262	30.6%	**575**	**67.2%**	856
					answered question		864
					skipped question		35

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - User Selected Survey

What is your opinion on the amount of growth in Cumberland County?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Too much development	**66.0%**	**530**
Amount of development is about right	29.6%	238
Not enough development	4.4%	35
	answered question	803
	skipped question	41

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - Random Sample Survey

What is your opinion on the amount of growth in Cumberland County?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Too much development	**77.8%**	**42**
Amount of development is about right	20.4%	11
Not enough development	1.9%	1
	answered question	54
	skipped question	1

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - COMBINED

What is your opinion on the amount of growth in Cumberland County?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Too much development	**66.7%**	**572**
Amount of development is about right	29.1%	249
Not enough development	4.2%	36
	answered question	857
	skipped question	42

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - User Selected Survey

Is enough being done to address the following issues in Cumberland County?

Answer Options	More needs to be done		Current efforts are fine		Less needs to be done		Response Count
Farmland Preservation	**528**	**66.4%**	235	29.6%	32	4.0%	795
Natural Resource Protection	**549**	**69.0%**	220	27.6%	27	3.4%	796
Parks, Trails, & Greenways	**548**	**68.9%**	197	24.8%	50	6.3%	795
Creation of Livable Communities	**453**	**57.1%**	243	30.6%	98	12.3%	794
					answered question		**800**
					skipped question		**44**

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - Random Sample Survey

Is enough being done to address the following issues in Cumberland County?

Answer Options	More needs to be done		Current efforts are fine		Less needs to be done		Response Count
Farmland Preservation	**38**	**71.7%**	14	26.4%	1	1.9%	53
Natural Resource Protection	**40**	**75.5%**	12	22.6%	1	1.9%	53
Parks, Trails, & Greenways	**37**	**69.8%**	16	30.2%	0	0.0%	53
Creation of Livable Communities	**29**	**54.7%**	20	37.7%	4	7.5%	53
					answered question		**54**
					skipped question		**1**

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - COMBINED

Is enough being done to address the following issues in Cumberland County?

Answer Options	More needs to be done		Current efforts are fine		Less needs to be done		Response Count
Farmland Preservation	**566**	**66.7%**	249	29.4%	33	3.9%	848
Natural Resource Protection	**589**	**69.4%**	232	27.3%	28	3.3%	849
Parks, Trails, & Greenways	**585**	**69.0%**	213	25.1%	50	5.9%	848
Creation of Livable Communities	**482**	**56.9%**	263	31.1%	102	12.0%	847
					answered question		**854**
					skipped question		**45**

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - User Selected Survey

How important are the following to you?

Answer Options	Very Important		Important		Slightly Important		Not Important		Response Count
Farmland Preservation	**413**	**54.4%**	248	32.3%	80	10.2%	23	3.1%	796
Natural Resource Protection	**491**	**64.4%**	216	28.3%	42	5.6%	11	1.8%	792
Parks, Trails, & Greenways	**418**	**54.1%**	236	31.1%	75	9.9%	34	4.9%	795
Creation of Livable Communities	**322**	**42.0%**	235	30.8%	129	17.6%	73	9.6%	790
								answered question	**796**
								skipped question	**48**

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - Random Sample Survey

How important are the following to you?

Answer Options	Very Important		Important		Slightly Important		Not Important		Response Count
Farmland Preservation	**27**	**50.0%**	23	42.6%	3	5.6%	1	1.9%	54
Natural Resource Protection	**40**	**74.1%**	13	24.1%	1	1.9%	0	0.0%	54
Parks, Trails, & Greenways	**34**	**63.0%**	17	31.5%	3	5.6%	0	0.0%	54
Creation of Livable Communities	**25**	**47.2%**	18	34.0%	9	17.0%	1	1.9%	53
								answered question	**54**
								skipped question	**1**

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - COMBINED

How important are the following to you?

Answer Options	Very Important		Important		Slightly Important		Not Important		Response Count
Farmland Preservation	**440**	**51.8%**	271	31.9%	83	9.8%	24	2.8%	850
Natural Resource Protection	**531**	**62.8%**	229	27.1%	43	5.1%	11	1.3%	846
Parks, Trails, & Greenways	**452**	**53.2%**	253	29.8%	78	9.2%	34	4.0%	849
Creation of Livable Communities	**347**	**41.2%**	253	30.0%	138	16.4%	74	8.8%	843
								answered question	**850**
								skipped question	**49**

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - User Selected Survey

Do you think the following are an appropriate use of public funds?

Answer Options	Yes		No		Undecided		Response Count
Farmland Preservation	**595**	**75.1%**	113	14.3%	84	10.6%	792
Natural Resource Protection	**696**	**87.9%**	60	7.6%	36	4.5%	792
Parks, Trails, & Greenways	**652**	**82.4%**	81	10.2%	58	7.3%	791
Creation of Livable Communities	**464**	**58.5%**	226	28.5%	103	13.0%	793
					answered question		**793**
					skipped question		**51**

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - Random Sample Survey

Do you think the following are an appropriate use of public funds?

Answer Options	Yes		No		Undecided		Response Count
Farmland Preservation	**37**	**68.5%**	6	11.1%	11	20.4%	54
Natural Resource Protection	**48**	**88.9%**	2	3.7%	4	7.4%	54
Parks, Trails, & Greenways	**45**	**83.3%**	5	9.3%	4	7.4%	54
Creation of Livable Communities	**31**	**58.5%**	12	22.6%	10	18.9%	53
					answered question		**54**
					skipped question		**1**

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - COMBINED

Do you think the following are an appropriate use of public funds?

Answer Options	Yes		No		Undecided		Response Count
Farmland Preservation	**632**	**74.7%**	119	14.1%	95	11.2%	846
Natural Resource Protection	**744**	**87.9%**	62	7.3%	40	4.7%	846
Parks, Trails, & Greenways	**697**	**82.5%**	86	10.2%	62	7.3%	845
Creation of Livable Communities	**495**	**58.5%**	238	28.1%	113	13.4%	846
					answered question		**847**
					skipped question		**52**

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - User Selected Survey

Would you be willing to pay an additional amount to preserve farmland, natural areas, park, trails and greenways, and help create livable communities in Cumberland County?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, another $10/year	19.0%	150
Yes, another $20/year	17.6%	139
Yes, another $35/year	7.3%	58
Yes, another $50/year	**31.1%**	**246**
No	15.8%	125
Other (please specify)	9.2%	73
	answered question	791
	skipped question	50

YES
593
75.0%

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - Random Sample Survey

Would you be willing to pay an additional amount to preserve farmland, natural areas, park, trails and greenways, and help create livable communities in Cumberland County?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, another $10/year	13.0%	7
Yes, another $20/year	24.1%	13
Yes, another $35/year	5.6%	3
Yes, another $50/year	**25.9%**	**14**
No	20.4%	11
Other (please specify)	11.1%	6
	answered question	54
	skipped question	1

YES
37
68.5%

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - COMBINED

Would you be willing to pay an additional amount to preserve farmland, natural areas, park, trails and greenways, and help create livable communities in Cumberland County?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes, another $10/year	18.6%	157
Yes, another $20/year	18.0%	152
Yes, another $35/year	7.2%	61
Yes, another $50/year	**30.8%**	**260**
No	16.1%	136
Other (please specify)	9.3%	79
	answered question	845
	skipped question	51

YES
630
74.6%

If we could do one thing to improve the quality of life in Cumberland County through farmland preservation, natural resource protection, parks, trail & greenways and creation of livable communities what would you want that one thing to be?

Farmland Preservation (78 comments)

1. More support for local farmer's markets and pick-your-own farms possibly through co-op or public service ads. Listings in CC township/community newsletters of current farm markets and produce operators with contact info or hours of operation would be helpful.
2. Farmland preservation
3. Quit taking money from people that don't owe it and giving it to those that don't earn it, to make those that pay little, if any, feel better. I doubt any of you have the I.Q. to grasp this concept, but your preservation scheme is only increasing the price of farms, thereby decreasing the affordability for real, sustainable, multi-generational, non-government funded farmers. I'm preserving my farms in what's becoming an unheard of idea in this county.....I'm not selling them....at least not until you (Cumb. Co.) Steal too much, forcing me and my family to cash out (not for preservation pennies either) and move to a free county/state. Hopefully you Looters can grasp the damage you're causing this county and end all of these job placement for the un-needed, feel-good programs.
4. Preserve more farms....
5. Allocate more funds to purchasing development rights from farmers.
6. Put more resources into farmland preservation efforts.
7. Stop the spread of cookie cutter housing developments in prime farm lands. I know it generates more tax revenue, but when people can't afford to buy the house it wastes valuable resources.
8. Farmland preservation deserves our highest priority. Farms once lost will never be reclaimed; the time is short. Continuing action is needed.
9. You should not build anything unless something is torn down and built in its place. Absolutely no additional farmland should be built upon. Where will food come from generations from now?
10. Preserve farmland. It cannot be replaced. Our SOIL is very good soil in this county - Cumberland Loam - and MUST be preserved. Thank you.
11. I resent the fact that you take my tax money and spend it to enhance the value of another's property. That is not the role of government and money should not be spent for that. S. Middleton surveyed their residents a few years back and we told them no on farmland preservation. Why do you people keep pushing for it? Oh wait, I know, every time you buy a farm it raises property values and hence more tax money for you to spend. Do we need a park on every corner?
12. Make it more difficult for farmland to be converted to developments.
13. farmland preservation through encouragement of conservancy efforts with farmland owners
14. Treat farmland as a national treasure that is vital to Homeland Security. The world economy, environment, weather catastrophes, human population must be considered in farmland preservation. We, the US, are no longer at the top of the food chain. Worldwide conditions have us at extreme risk of food shortages in probably the not so distant future.
15. Increase the number of acres of farmland conserved each year before this land use is permanently compromised.
16. Would like to see farms preserved in the western end of the county.
17. Assist more farmers to be able to add farmland to the preservation system. STOP building more shopping centers - use the empty buildings we have now!
18. Preserve farmland.
19. Farmland preservation
20. I like the idea of farmland preservation but I do believe if taxpayer dollars assist with this then at least a portion of the farm should be available for public use IE: hunting, fishing, biking, hiking, etc.
21. Continue to preserve farmland
22. Put additional restrictions on the development of farm land.

23. Farmland preservation. It costs the least amount, the rest are more easily accomplished with the cost savings
24. Help farmers stay put and NOT sell off all their land to developers.
25. More efforts in establishing Preserved Farmlands, like Lancaster County or Heritage Farmland areas, similar to Berks County. Mandating future large scale residential development set aside natural areas, trails, etc. Most of Cumberland County is an overdeveloped mess.
26. Preserved farmland needs to be farmed - not become a weed factory.
27. Stop residential and commercial development on farmlands and preserve our historic buildings located on these lands.
28. We need to stop turning farmland into developments. We also need to make public transportation a priority. Our roads are becoming unbearable!
29. Do not take away the freedom of its citizens. Give opportunities to do some of the desirable things through tax incentives. Do not reduce the value of farmers land through legislation that takes away the freedom of farmers to sell their land by placing too many restrictions on its use in the future OR pay them with the tax dollars of others for the amount you are reducing the value of their land, so that the farmers are not the ones who take the full brunt of all the restrictive policies!
30. preserve farmland
31. Please help make farmland preservation a local endeavor by helping local farmers retain ownership of their land and prohibit nonresident / non-farmer ownership of the farmland.
32. Create a county fairgrounds facility where the 4H kids and others could compete in horse shows and exhibit farm animals. Stop spending money on stupid things like the illogical road diet in Carlisle. That type of thing drives people away from businesses. Invest in purposeful projects and preserve farmland so we can grow and eat our own food--not food from other countries. Wise up before our farmland is destroyed and extinct. You cannot grow crops on macadam.
33. Let farmers do what they want with their land.
34. Less commercial development taking over the farmlands.
35. Farmland set aside- permanent tax abatement for permanent designation
36. Stop doing things like building brick crosswalks and use the money to purchase land or easements.
37. Create financial and policy incentives, such as tax or fee waivers, transferable development rights and increased density in subdivisions, to preserve prime farmland in smaller amounts throughout the county.
38. Stop raising property taxes by limiting land for development by spend tax dollars on Farm land
39. Give farmers the respect they deserve. Tell the new developments that they need to adjust to the farmer and not the other way around. Tell the neighborhood that they shouldn't complain about the smells or noises since the farmer was there first. Our food is going to cost us more because we are so selfish and disrespectful to the farmers. Don't let the builders and neighborhood individuals dictate the farmer. Tell them to shove their complaints and move!
40. Preserve farmland by buying up farms for sale and keep the land from being developed for more housing.
41. Farmland preservation.
42. More education in the impact of local farming and how hard local farmers work to sustain & put food on everyone else's tables
43. Less Cumberland County Involvement. County experts have created most of the situations they now wish to spend even more money and exercise even more control to supposedly "fix". Example.....Farmland preservation programs have increased the cost of farmland to actual, non-government funded farmers.
44. Prevent further development on agricultural land
45. Farmland preservation is key - ability to buy local products
46. Stop tearing up farmland for developments and strip malls!! We have enough residents in our area, traffic is getting ridiculous. Plus we have plenty of strip malls, stores, and car dealerships along the Carlisle Pike (some of which sit completely empty and unused) that we don't need any more. How about rebuilding abandoned buildings, instead of using farmland?! I know that residents and businesses bring in tax revenue for our townships and county, but if we keep building, we are going to be completely land locked. No farms, no food! That is the long and short of it.

47. Those people who have struggled for years as farmers and are now old and ready to retire have the right to sell their property for a decent amount so that they do not have to live in poverty throughout their retirement. To restrict their ability to sell because someone wants a nice view is wrong.
48. Allocate more of our tax money for farmland preservation.
49. Protect our farms and acreage from over development. How many car dealerships do we need eating up valuable land resources?
50. Need state law to change to enable communities to have greater control over development. Plus need education of citizens and elected officials. Farmland preservation is a definite must. Thank you.
51. Allow farmers to continue their way of life which provides for all in pa. Taxing them, regulations upon regulations is threatening their way of life and creates issues for all.
52. More stringent controls on municipal commercial and retail development areas. Provide incentives for farms to be handed down to future generations. Tax incentives for farmers. Limit what appears to be unchecked commercial land development in Cumb, Co.
53. More encouragement of farmland preservation. I came from Schoharie County, NY and saw what happens to an area when farming is no longer the thriving business and nothing is done to replace the income and jobs in the area. Prosperous farms are essential to the well being of the whole area. As more people become aware of the need for quality safe food, the farms will need to be economically sound and not sold to developers at inflated prices.
54. Stop building. They can't even sell or rent a lot of the real estate that's being built for the last 10 - 15 years. We have seen too many of our favorite natural habitat and farms taken away in order for them to build more homes and stores, etc. They always use the excuse that building these new homes and businesses will generate more jobs. Bull! Only for about the first two months. Then they cut back the jobs. Usually to the bone, but by then they've gotten what they want to pad their pockets. Guess what. We still truly do not have more jobs. We need more farming to help save money and ensure that our food is safe. We need the animals to have a safe place to live. Believe it or not. We need to have animals. We can't pave everything.
55. While farmland preservation is needed, shifting taxes to non-farm residents is quickly becoming unsustainable. The current property tax structure is not fair to farmers, but it is not fair to shift those taxes either.
56. Tax breaks for farmers and farm land. Developers required to contribute to farmland and natural preservation funds in order to "develop" land in Cumberland County. Various fines that support farmland/natural resources added to criminal fines (speeding tickets, drug charges, D.U.I. disorderly conduct, etc.). Developers and businesses that have a high impact on environment and the county (air pollution, hazardous waste, fuel, traffic congestion, road way fatigue, etc.) must make additional compensation to the county. Environmental protection services and monitoring to be actively and effectively enforced with fines and costs going to Cumberland County.
57. Preserve undeveloped land such as farmland and natural resources. Once these areas are developed, they are lost forever.
58. Provide tax-free transfer of farmlands to next generation, pledging to keep land open and natural as it is.
59. Create a high transfer tax when farmland is purchased by a developer
60. Help people who want to preserve their family farms by continuing to farm with ways & means to do so.
61. Farmland preservation, because the biggest loss seems to be there.
62. Preserve more farmland.
63. More agricultural easements along the base of Kittatinny Ridge and South Mountain.
64. Farmland preservation
65. Attract additional family sustaining wage jobs, while preserving those that are already here; support our active farm community by allocating additional dollars for farmland preservation and create additional natural areas
66. Create more opportunities for farmer's market so citizens are able to more easily support farmers.
67. We enjoy Farmers on Market in Camp Hill. What about a market in Hampden Township?
68. Create a market and incentive for locally grown produce to be sold in town centers so that both farmers and consumers benefit. Encourage the State to tax fast food and high sugar foods and use the proceeds from the tax collected to provide incentives for local produce and reduced prices of healthy fresh food for consumers. I know you said one thing; however, restricting the growth of the trucking/warehousing industry would help

with our clean air. I think we are at saturation point with trucks and exhaust. Develop a farm in the valley to showcase gardening techniques for homeowners. Don't forget historical preservation

69. There must be a very high bar to be able to change existing zoning - We also need a better way to involve more of our citizens to secure their input. Assuming the Comprehensive Plan is accurate and consistent, the County must be able to resist local actions to rezone. Particularly changes to the agricultural zoning - regardless of the project. # 4: Information is not easily available
70. Stop taking away open spaces/farmland to build housing developments with many homes on small pieces of property. It creates too much traffic congestion on already tight roadways in the county.
71. Bike trails, keep the farmland we have, and limit the building of single family homes in farm land.
72. A tough choice. #1 Farmland Preservation #2 Parks Trails and Greenways #3 Natural Resource Protection #4 Livable Communities # 6: (Circled: particularly forested ridges and streams) Hope more can be done by zoning and enforcement than by acquisition. # 7: Compared to what a round of golf typically costs, I'd be willing to pay at least as much to improve year round livability in our community.
73. Keep Agriculture and our Natural Resources at the top of the list. These two things contribute to making Cumberland County what and who we are.
74. Stop the development in Cumberland County and encourage more farming! So many farm fields are being destroyed for developments. So many houses stand vacant.
75. Help the farmers with the ever increasing property tax increases for school district and other wasteful spending which is making it hard for us to even keep in business.
76. Create markets for farmers. Require protection of water resources for anyone receiving public funding We need a strong, well-financed land trust with strategic direction and staffing. Help land-rich folks pay for easements to nonprofit land trusts.
77. Increase farmland preservation as a way to protect natural resources and long term...give townships the opportunity to create parks, trails & greenways. etc.
78. Continue to emphasize the preservation of farmland and create more trails and greenways. We have more than enough car dealerships but far too few Rails to Trails. Open spaces are one of the main attractions in Cumberland County. The over development of commercial businesses on Carlisle Pike are starting to make the area look like Jonestown Road.

Natural Resource Protection (80 comments)

1. Keep fresh air and open fields and open land that kids can grow up knowing what it's like to be outside in true nature.
2. Better control the destruction of open / farmlands to build shopping centers and townhouses. Rainwater runoff is very important to the surrounding homeowners. Often the plan submitted by the developers is not comprehensive enough and by the time the courts step in, the damage is done to our creeks, streams, and yards.
3. Restrict the clean sweeping of trees when new developments are being built.
4. Preserve mountain ridges & natural areas
5. Allow cleaning woodlands of downed trees for fire wood. As constituted it is a fire hazard.
6. More trees and encourage natural ground cover instead of grasses.
7. Ensure there is not over-development. Essential to maintain farmland and natural resources that make Cumberland County such a beautiful place to live.
8. Create large buffer zones (minimum of 300 ft.) along all waterways to protect and improve water quality and provide natural areas
9. Increase the number of people who understand that the health of the forests, streams, farms, air, water and the rest of nature (i.e. the "outdoors") are directly connected to the quality of human health and human life. I personally have been working on this for decades, and still am amazed at how little the general population understands.
10. More clustered housing surrounded by greenbelts, repeal tax incentives and zoning that encourage the development of acres of turf. Instead support native gardens, backyard gardens, and tree planting to improve infiltration and to reduce stormwater flow and subsequent flooding
11. Plant trees, trees, trees, and more trees and stop paving

12. Preserve South Mountain and Yellow Breeches watershed
13. Just to preserve everything that you could.
14. Maintain a balance between development and preservation.
15. Natural resource protection
16. Protect our water
17. Educate people on the importance of protecting our air, keeping our water clean and not being wasteful.
18. Link all of these goals with protection of our water resources -- educate residents on what they can do to protect water resources and reduce future costs in drinking water treatment, waste water treatment, and storm water treatment.
19. Stop the destruction of woodlands & the natural habitat for wildlife. Maintain Country Residential zoning & prevent rezoning that allows builders to increase housing density. Wildlife is being destroyed because they are being forced out of their habitat & have nowhere to go.
20. Riparian buffers ~ residential & industrial/commercial properties that border our waterways need buffer zones ~ meaning leaving the natural areas off limits to destruction by land clearing, and use of herbicides and pesticides ~
21. Continue to develop public awareness and provide the resources to conserve green spaces.
22. Natural resource protection
23. Protection of natural areas; reduce air and water pollution.
24. Support for municipal ordinances preventing land development on the basis of preservation of quality of life with a view toward the County performing its due diligence in regard to quality of life, impact on natural resources such as wetlands, traffic flow, etc. before rubber stamping land development plans presented by residential and commercial developers.
25. Promote and coordinate more projects with the Nature Conservancy to acquire natural areas (ownership, restriction or easement) in perpetuity
26. Limit development and instill community pride in maintaining natural areas where healthy biodiversity can be achieved. Educate residents so they know why these areas are important and will do their part to protect lands in our community.
27. Natural resource protection followed closely by farmland preservation as once these areas are gone they are gone.
28. Stop loss of land whether farmland, green areas, trails and from development of housing communities
29. More should go into natural resource protection. Creating parks just adds to the local government cost for up keep of these facilities. Often we hear that grant money created a park or trail, but who pays for maintaining these once they are made? The tax payers.
30. PRESERVE THE STATES FOREST IN ITS NATURAL STATE. NO HARVESTING TIMBER FOR LITTLE OR NO MONEY, KEEP POLITICAL FAVORS OUT OF OUR STATE OWNED PROPERTIES.
31. Reduce development growth and save our wet lands, mountain and forest land.
32. Protect the population while developing natural resources!
33. Curb development encroaching on wetlands and streams -- too much sly maneuvering on the part of developers to get around existing "protections." The quality of life issues for both humans and animals are suffering as a result of too many houses and too many cars (not to mention too many mini- and maxi-shopping malls!). Thanks for your efforts.
34. natural resource protection - protect our water resources
35. Cumberland County is rich in natural beauty. Keep it lush, beautiful and accessible.
36. Do more natural resource protection.
37. Natural resource preservation.
38. Natural resource protection would be the most important quality of life improvement
39. Watershed protection
40. Protection of the waterways from development.
41. I grew up at the foot of South Mountain and hunted, hiked, and lived within it's boundaries for 40 years. With increased limited human habitation the wildlife here increased tenfold as opposed to 60's and 70's when woodlands were barren of both. A great amount of South Mountain woodlands are privately owned properties, where you now have targeted most heavily for proposed "greenways". Further, our grandparents already provided greenway protection of South Mountain as indicated by 86,000 acres of

already established Michaux state forest. This program reeks of socialistic opportunism at tax payer and landowner expense, along with cleverly disguised taking by eminent domain shadow programs, only slightly less similar to latest zoning laws. All those enable control without paying for property. You want control of these lands; buy them, like the current owners had to.

42. Provide greater tax advantages to property owners who are willing to take part in preservation projects, natural resource protection etc. Expand on Clean and Green with major (big time) tax breaks to participants!
43. Clean waterways
44. A century ago, the City of Harrisburg embraced the Cities Beautiful movement at a time in which much of its municipal acreage still was undeveloped. Government and individuals helped to designate for posterity a coherent 'green belt' and the important natural habitat of Wildwood Park. Both have durably survived and are likely to ensure a place for green space and the wild inside the City limits, come what may. It is nearly too late for the West Shore, far more richly endowed in farmland and habitat than Hbg. in 1912, to belatedly do the same. I would want your help in strongly promoting a consciousness and strategy toward preservation of sustainable tracts of agriculture and wild habitat within largely 'built out' municipalities, while there still is time.
45. Focus on conservation and not on expensive, unrealistic design
46. Curtail clear-cutting of forests for housing developments and prevent sprawl.
47. Natural resource protection
48. Protect our streams better - Letort and Big Spring the most
49. More trees and wooded areas.
50. Protect our waterways and surrounding riparian buffer areas --tributaries, streams, and creeks. Support a strong CC Stormwater Ordinance that gives credit for trees, rain gardens, rain barrels, etc.
51. Protecting our natural resources, this is the center of the other 3 areas. Without this the others cannot be sustained.
52. Natural resource protection
53. Marcellus Shale Project is polluting our PA waters and the process needs to be improved especially now with many small farms springing up. Cumberland County is downstream from these operations and it is imperative we preserve our fresh water supply.
54. Develop more methods to avoid pesticide, fertilizer and home chemical runoff to protect Cumberland County's incredible water resources.
55. plant more trees along Interstate 81....not cut them down
56. Help communities mitigate storm water runoff, help and encourage individual property owners to use rain barrels, rain gardens, permeable spaces to deal with it.
57. Make the townships stick to their rules and regulations, and not permit developers to bend the laws with the help of their lawyers, and develop land/ wetlands/ agricultural/ that should be preserved.
58. Stop the destruction of woodlands & the natural habitat for wildlife. Maintain Country Residential zoning & prevent rezoning that allows builders to increase housing density. Wildlife is being destroyed because they are being forced out of their habitat & have nowhere to go. (NRP too)
59. County-wide land use planning and zoning; sustainable and significant funding to secure the development rights of natural areas and development/maintenance of trails & greenways.
60. Insure that townships do not accommodate developers with zoning changes and other concessions at the expense of the community - in particular, enforce the intention of PRD's to preserve the natural landscape. UAT has approved a PRD plan that calls for a wooded area with some of the oldest trees in the township to be completely cut down - how is that preserving natural landscape?
61. Protection of streams and waterways, while allowing access to such through trails and proper water access (ramps). Money should be provided to assist in the re-opening of Opossum Lake.
62. Use the corridors of the Yellow Breeches and Conodoguinet for model conservation practices, land protection and recreational trails implementation.
63. We have precious little farmland and natural land left in Cumberland County, and I fear that it is quickly disappearing. The meadow across from/under the jurisdiction of the Camp Hill State Correctional Institution, and the adjoining natural forestland, is a very special area--one in which abundant wildlife resides. If something could be done to preserve this stretch of land in its current capacity--or perhaps even

to delineate it as a sort of wildlife preserve, this would be very good for sustaining the beauty and natural richness of the community.

64. Natural resource protection and more parks, trails and greenways...
65. Prevent urban sprawl. Employ passionate, knowledgeable planners to develop a comprehensive plan for the county. Farmland and natural resources preservation are essential to a healthy community.
66. Devote less land to commercial areas and keep it in agriculture or natural resource protection. Create a trail or greenway that allows people to bike or walk cross across the county safely without having to travel by car.
67. Further stream protection, especially along the Yellow Breeches, Green Spring, and Letort. Farmland will continue to decline over time, maintain established farms areas outside of town. (Predominantly west of Carlisle). We have a lot of parks in Carlisle as it is. No more are needed in town. A nice designated or 'suggested' trail to walk between them would be nice, especially for the health nuts that want to walk 4 or 5 miles a day. Old towns like Shippensburg, Carlisle, and Mechanicsburg can use all the help they can get to create/update livable communities. Tree planting, downtown restoration, and other upgrades are highly needed to continue to attract people to live "In Town":
68. Given the sensitivity of private landowner rights and the questionable belief at the local government level that development leads to greater tax revenues, I believe the preservation of farmlands and natural areas must continue to focus on buying development rights for perpetuity (conservation easements) in targeted areas and maintaining the viability/attractiveness of older, existing communities (including both incorporated communities like Camp Hill Borough and unincorporated areas like Enola).
69. I think natural resource protection and farmland preservation are most important. I think we need to curb the sprawl before we find ourselves living in Northern NJ congestion and traffic problems.
70. Prioritize natural Areas and farmland to be protected and work across municipal boundaries to protect those areas
71. Help stop using lands that are 'seasonal wet lands' for development and being filled in. Also, help in stopping so many zoning classifications being changed so development can be done.
72. Buy natural resource areas. Make park creation a part of the building permit of any tract of land that is developed for housing. Make contributions to the development of trails and greenways a part of any permit that is issued for commercial development.
73. Add community green spaces utilizing (at minimum, Mid-Atlantic States) native plants.
74. Focus and reward the use of natural energy, wind, solar, etc. Encourage the use of recycling manure into energy on local farms. Make trail and greenways a joint effort between local municipalities, and hopefully connect the trails without leaving the trails. Build up instead of out. Try to use existing paved lots and empty buildings before paving more ground and causing more rain runoff, increasing flooding. Give rewards to companies coming into the area that are willing to do this. Make new buildings coming into area "fit in" with local landscape and limit excess night light pollution. Require "native" plants and trees in landscaping requirements.
75. Integrate natural areas into the development plans of communities so that residents would have access to natural areas within the immediate vicinity of their place of residence.
76. Put preserving the rural nature of our County first by utilizing housing that already exists and protecting natural resources from development. Also - find a way to 'encourage' South Middleton Township from developing on the edges of Carlisle, instead of 'in' their own district and the same with West Pennsboro. They develop right on the edges of their boundaries so that neighboring communities have the wear and tear (not to mention congestion) of traffic without effected neighbors reaping the tax benefits AND they maintain the quaintness if their areas, free from light pollution, air pollution, road maintenance, etc.
77. We can have none of these unless the air quality improves in these areas. Please limit or only allow sustainable clean and green efforts in the building codes it can be done and made a requirement limit warehousing as well way to many trucks
78. Purchase land for open space near developing areas in the county.
79. Improve water quality;
80. Lobby for more Game Commission funds for natural area and improved use of Game Lands.

Parks, Trails & Greenways (160 comments)

1. Have small community parks, running/walking trails.
2. The addition of parks with trails, exercise structures and sports fields. The trails could be done in an undeveloped area and require little maintenance.
3. Bike paths
4. Create a system of interconnected trails and work towards promoting commuter rail system in the future that focuses on connecting urban cores such as Mechanicsburg Borough with suburban areas.
5. I would like to see the Letort trail extended south to route 34 with a parking area.
6. More greenways for biking, walking...safe places to bike and walk/run
7. Create more spaces for children to safely play and for other activities like bikes and running.
8. More parks, greenway protection
9. More football playing fields for kids
10. Please provide more fields for the kids to use for sports, especially baseball/softball fields and some much needed football fields. We need to add these fields now before all the land is being used for other things. Thank you.
11. The establishment of new and the networking of new/existing trails suitable for walking and biking along with the mapping and advertisement of these trails to all. Not only would this be beneficial in and of itself, it would increase the awareness of the nature and beauty of our county and its streams, woods and other natural/near-natural areas as well as conservation in these diminishing areas.
12. In suburban area having safe areas to walk and for kids to play. Something needs to be done with Carlisle Pike. Traffic is normally too heavy but esp. Friday's and something on weekends. With so much development moving west a lot of pass through traffic. Must be a way to channel traffic around the Pike. Not sure many of the cars passing ever stop to shop along the Pike.
13. More "road safe" bicycle and walking trails from neighborhoods to commercial locations.
14. More hiking/biking trails and access to the waterways. More access along private roads along the creek for bikers and hikers. Support for Appalachian Trail. More mixed use communities. More bike paths and drive education to "share the road". Allow chickens in residential areas.
15. County wide ordinances that require smart development, to include pedestrian spaces, sidewalks, trails, bike lanes, aesthetic standards, and the like. Similarly, I want to see more monetary investment in said areas. The county would also do well to educate the public about how such investments increase property values
16. Trails linking residential areas to shopping and work areas for recreation and transportation
17. Safer bike trails
18. Increase the number and length of bike paths. Establish trails to assist bicyclists in getting from one place to another in the more built-up areas of the county.
19. Extend the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail eastward as far as possible.
20. I would like to see more bike pathways along our roads. I feel as if my life is in jeopardy when I ride on Pine Road or 174.
21. Creation of more paths to link outlying/rural areas to towns (downtown Boiling Springs, Carlisle, etc.)
22. More bike trails
23. County Park with swimming, picnicking, trails, ball fields, skating rink, golf course
24. We need more trails along streams to encourage physical fitness, fishing and enjoyment of our water resources. Our streams are beautiful but it’s difficult to enjoy them without a boat.
25. I support the bike trails, walking trails and parks portion.
26. I'd like to see more trails that connect to other trails - there are old railroad beds running through South Middleton. Some have been converted into trails, but then they just dead end. Over time, people build driveways or incorporate that land into their own land. Is it their own land after a certain amount of time or does the railroad or township still retain the rights? Nobody knows. It’s better to clear this up and make the trails now instead of letting this continue on and get more built up and not be able to build the trails later.
27. Comb. Co. Rail/Trail finished from Newville to Carlisle
28. Connection of trails across the county as a safe recreation effort
29. Trails & Greenways

30. More linear parks.
31. Create more natural trails to get people out to see the beauty of the local area.
32. Trails for bikes and hikes.
33. creation of more trails throughout the area
34. Create a new park with kid-friendly activities/equipment
35. Trails and greenways
36. Safe updated parks for children to play and be active!
37. More parks, hiking/biking/walking paths, more emphasis on cleanliness of our waterways.
38. Public trails that can be used for walk, hike, jog, bike, horse riding.
39. Increase the trail and greenway allocations.
40. additional walking, hiking, biking trails
41. Come out in strong support of extension of Cumberland County Rail to Trail Create programs that educate the public on the value of protection of natural resources Continue to maintain and improve the many beautiful existing parks and greenways Promote and support state parks in Cumberland County
42. Rail trail
43. Provide a trail system from Carlisle to Harrisburg for commuters to ride bikes, or walk to work without using motor vehicles.
44. Create trail systems for walking/hiking between housing developments and nearby retail/commercial land uses.
45. Development of more parks, trails & greenways in the eastern part of the County & development of a system for public access to parks and greenways in the western part as housing development takes off there.
46. Work to connect parks, greenways, open space with existing communities and future development. While Cumberland County has many parks, I feel like they often exist as islands. This necessitates driving to these destinations.
47. Added bike trails
48. trail connections to communities tie economic viability to natural assets protect open space
49. A large scale and integrated walking/biking trail system which connects all communities in the county and does not rely on existing roads or bike share lines but is separated from other modes of transportation.
50. More trails and greenways.
51. Develop more walk/bike trails ... should not have to drive a car to go on short trips. More roads quickly fill up with an average of one person per vehicle.
52. Promote local agriculture and improve the parks trails, etc. that we already have
53. Trail and greenways expansion - This is a hard choice because of the importance of all of these areas.
54. Tie communities together with non-motorized trails for biking, hiking and walking. Create simple public access sites to waterways running through the county. Find local organizations (churches, civic groups, conservation groups, etc.) to adopt and maintain these trails, waterway access sites and other public sites. Perhaps a partnership of these organizations and corporate sponsors could also pay for the expenses. Provide tax breaks to land owners if they allow minimal impact public use trails, simple picnic stop sites along the waterways. More access = more activity = better health = more livable communities.
55. More bicycle friendly roads and trails.
56. Create more trails that link our communities together.
57. Dog walking trails.
58. More bike routes and more space for bikes to ride on established roads such as Rt. 114.
59. The Family and I love the Middlesex area; however we feel there is strong need for more outdoor recreation like a running trail/path to promote fitness within the community. The Trail at Carlisle Barracks is nice, but it's not conducive to all types of runners. Thanks for this opportunity!
60. More bike lanes and more bike trails (which accommodate walking and sometimes horse-riding also). Hard to be forced into just one!
61. Keep dogs out of the parks
62. Help small municipalities preserve streets and enhance parks.
63. Move toward a countywide park system, hiring college educated individuals to manage the system, rather than uneducated friends of township managers/supervisors.

64. More trails so residents can walk, run or bike.
65. I would say parks, trails and greenways to better the family experience of the county.
66. Greenway Trail, Rail/trail
67. We need more trails. It would be wonderful to have a non-paved trail that connects all of the natural features in our county for biking, hiking, running, and walking.
68. Expand state parks. Local governments stay out of parks and rails to trail. Do not use Penn DOT money for rails to trails!
69. Attempt to connect all of the present trails and greenways in the county. Establish sidewalks in areas of limited space.
70. Living in an aging society, the preservation of parks, trails and greenways helps to promote physical activity. I would like to see more group activities for 55+ people.
71. Expand the rail trail and create other areas that horse people can use as well as hikers and bikers.
72. Would like to see some sort of county wide park system established.
73. walking trails
74. Emphasis on parks and public green spaces for families.
75. More parks that aren't totally dominated by sports fields.
76. Create a county parks system
77. We need dog parks in Cumberland County. There aren't enough places to take your dog off-leash!
78. Finish a continuous all-purpose biking/hiking (non-motorized) trail from Central Penn College/Summerdale in East Pennsboro to the most south/western end of the Shippensburg University Campus
79. The cessation of needless land development at the cost of parks and greenways.
80. Support and encourage local markets and business. Re-structure the tax code and make the state funding income based not real estate ownership based. You burden the real estate owner when you should put the onus on the users of the parks, trails, greenways, community services: the public. Let the public pay and support their own communities. I am tired of the County trying to usurp the municipalities. It just adds more expensive layers of bureaucracy. The County already forfeited a huge amount of money for recycling because the Solid Waste Authority did not act in time. That is just one example of the efficacy of "County Planning". The County seems incapable of good planning.
81. Creation of a County Park System.....
82. Biking trails. Safe areas to ride and walk to work. Less poorly planned shopping areas.
83. Create trails that connect different parks and natural areas so that they are all reachable by foot or by bicycle. Limit, to the extent possible, new development on raw land -- require or incentivize redevelopment of existing structures. Create pedestrian areas to avoid the need to drive everywhere.
84. Hiking trails
85. Connect the trails
86. More trails and greenways so people can SAFELY walk or bike ride throughout their community.
87. More short trails with an easy to use online resource to find them.
88. Create more walking and hiking trails
89. Create a map of all of the trails and post it on a website so people could find them
90. Improve and enhance bike/walking trails, and provide more bicycle lanes on roads throughout the county -- especially in more populated areas around Camp Hill/Lemoyne/Mechanicsburg. This would provide incentives for people to walk/bicycle, rather than drive, to destinations, reducing overall traffic congestion. We still have time to make Cumberland County a more pedestrian/bicycle friendly place, rather than just another case of suburban sprawl with highways separating our communities.
91. Work on improving the areas we have, and not adding areas for the sake of adding them.
92. Parks trails and greenways that are safe.
93. Hold informational fairs/events (fun stuff) at the parks and trail areas to increase interests.
94. Connecting various parks with trails would be something I would really like to see.
95. I don't know that I can speak intelligently to specifics since I haven't been engaged with your efforts directly. However, I think a premium on parks/trails/greenways should be a focus since it immediately garners a focused constituency of supporters (i.e.: the families and individuals who benefit from their existence). As well, continuing to partner with other organizations and stakeholders may make your job easier. I know you've had the support of the Carlisle Area Health and Wellness Foundation - deepening those relationships

and expanding into new ones can hopefully augment your efforts. So too, ensuring that the county economic development team tries to coordinate their efforts to attract commerce that is compatible would be helpful. On this point - and relating to my previous comments - if we simply go for the "easy wins" - another warehouse, another Wal-Mart - we're not creating the types of jobs that truly attract and keep a diverse population. Nor are we attracting the kinds of good paying jobs that replace the ones we lost (such as Masland/Lear/IAC). Your piece of the puzzle is very much linked to smart economic development, in my opinion.

96. I would like to see more trails for cycling and walking so there would be more alternatives to the public streets.
97. Create a trail system! The CVRTT in the western end of the county is wonderful, and Dauphin County now has extensive RTT (the Conewago, Ned Smith, Lykens RTT, etc.)! It is unbelievable and a shame that the wealthy east end has NO trail systems for recreational walking, running and biking, especially given the increased congestion.
98. Integrating more trails to connect communities/ business. More passive/ natural park area.
99. I think we could use a dog park in the Camp Hill, Mechanicsburg, Hampden Township Area. It brings the community together. It also preserves land and trees. It can be a green place without more buildings and concrete in its place. It is good to have outdoor areas that people can use and a dog park is pretty much free after a fence is put in place.
100. Multi-use trails suitable for both hiking and mountain biking.
101. Create more parks connected by trails for bicycles and walking, including at least some handicap accessible trails.
102. Create more bicycle friendly roadways.
103. Start with bike lanes and walking and running paths, connecting communities.
104. We need to add more nature trails to encourage public to go out and exorcise.
105. more trails and more sidewalks to allow for more biking opportunities
106. Better places for our kids
107. Extend Cumberland Valley Rail-Trail link from downtown Carlisle to downtown Shippensburg/Dykeman Park
108. More safe walking, biking trails
109. Uninterrupted hiking and biking trail along the Yellow Breeches. Property owners would have to be required to have a strip of their property along the creek be available to such trail construction. It is unfair that property owners "claim" Yellow Breeches' shore as theirs when it should be available for the public. Make it a State Park!!!
110. More repurposing of old railroad beds to bike and hiking trails. Interconnecting trails from community to community. Wider roads for road bikers.
111. Parks and trails
112. Maps of local bike and walking trails available at Township offices or web
113. More parks for kids where it's safe for them to play
114. More public natural areas, near water.
115. Bike/pedestrian paths, not just for recreation, but for actual transportation.
116. Create more bicycle trails through all communities. Thank folks who are trying to do their part of creating and sustaining green spaces, recognizing the efforts of public citizens. Create the linkages between the park systems in Cumberland County that have been proposed.
117. Create an accessible trail network throughout the county which allows for bike and pedestrian usage.
118. I would love to have more trails to walk and bike on.
119. Newville to Carlisle Rail Trail
120. Connect trails from one end of the county to the other.
121. Finish current trail projects (for hikers and bikers) connecting communities in the county.
122. More bike/walk trails that could link communities both for community and recreation
123. Build more parks for the enjoyment of families.
124. Marked Bridle Paths on State Forests.
125. More trails.
126. More trails and camping options.

127. It's hard to prioritize, these are all so important, but I'd say that more trails and greenways go far in improving quality of life for many on a daily basis.
128. Provide more equestrian trails
129. There is no one solution to improve quality of life. Creation of trails and greenways that link communities and encourage their use can enhance communities and the health of people.
130. Bike / Walking trail from Carlisle to Pine Grove Furnace. Cabins to rent at Pine Grove Furnace Impact fees on all new build on green space, no fee for buildings on brown space
131. Invest in our county's core communities, borough's etc. with parks, trails and quality of life amenities.
132. More connected bike and running trails
133. Finish the trail system so that folks can hike, bike, job, walk dogs, etc. more safely.
134. Replace the trash cans that have been removed from certain parks!! I don't understand why they were removed in the first place. The "budget cut" reason I was told makes no sense. Borough employees still come around to maintain the parks, but now they now have to take extra time to walk through the entire park and pick up the loose trash and litter that people leave behind. To me, this is basically shooting yourself in the foot -- you wanted to save money, so you eliminated the trash cans, but now you have additional payroll to cover for the amount of extra time it now takes the employees to comb the entire park for trash. It would be a lot more cost and time effective to simply replace the trash cans. This way, the trash is all in one place, and it will require less time and money to be spent on payroll. Just my two cents' worth. I'll step down from my soap box now! Thank you for your time and consideration.
135. Extensive network of bike trails
136. More and easier access to biking/hiking trails.
137. Create more biking trails.
138. Improve amount and connectivity of multi-use trails, for both transportation and recreation use.
139. More land that is publicly accessible.
140. Bring a Recreation Center to the Community
141. Higher level of promotion for parks, trails and greenways including information to volunteer for creating and maintaining same. Do we have an online map showing existing and proposed areas? EP does occasionally request volunteers for cleanup work, but I have no idea where most of the trials, etc. are. I have no idea if there is are school program in place to encourage youngster to help (or would that be too much of an insurance liability?).
142. For the Eastern part of the county work with Capital Area Transit to improve mass transit options and create trails and pathways that will allow more people to walk or take transit to work to help relieve traffic congestion.
143. Projects that are accessible and beneficial to all members of the community like parks, trails, and greenways should take precedence over more specifically targeted projects such as farmland preservation and livable community initiatives
144. Significant, serious efforts to promote cycling by constructing trails and paths, by restricting truck access to residential and light commercial areas, by installing bike racks, and by visible police efforts to promote safe, responsible cycling and road-sharing awareness. Air quality is terrible here - and if we can find any way to cut emissions by using gasoline & diesel vehicles less, we'll make a dent. Also: enforce idling laws!
145. Connecting trails and bike paths through some of the farmlands and rural routes. They have these in Germany and its wonderful! We could do something similar here. More incentives for other than diary, corn or soy farming would be great too.
146. Bike lane on Orr’s Bridge Road that allows access to Carlisle Pike for biking, walking, probably would be part of a bigger trail system in eastern Cumberland County. With the new bridge coming for Orr’s Bridge why not incorporate a trail with steps up to the Pike.
147. I would like to have pedestrian access to the Carlisle Pike. We live so close to Carlisle Pike but unable to walk there as the current road (Orr's Bridge) is very steep and dangerous
148. A walking trail from Orr’s Bridge to Market Street in Camp Hill. Orr’s Bridge is too busy to walk on.
149. Pedestrian and bicycle access from Orr’s Bridge Road to Carlisle Pike!!! It is extremely dangerous to try to bike or walk in this area.
150. The proposed replacement bridge on Orr’s Bridge Road will hopefully be pedestrian-friendly and maybe even have make a walkway constructed up to the Carlisle Pike. At present there is very little berm to walk

on when walking up that Orr's Bridge Hill. Bikers, walkers and runners are increasing in numbers and their safety is important to our active community.

151. I live in the Pinebrook Development in Hampden Twp. Crossing the Bridge on Orr's Bridge Road on foot or on bike is treacherous and there is no safe way to get up to the Carlisle Pike. People should be able to run, walk, bike across the creek and up that hill without putting their lives at risk. I know that many neighboring communities use our neighborhood via the Armitage Bike path to get to Carlisle Pike, so I am advocating for them as well. If proper sidewalks (wide!!!!!) were added I firmly believe that the better health of residents would be greatly promoted. People would walk to the store (or send a kid) to get a gallon of milk from Hess...instead of driving for every little errand. People could walk to have a cup of coffee at the Hard Bean, a sandwich at Sophia's. Runners would have a safe way to navigate the hill. I personally could walk to work every day! Thanks!
152. Develop more dedicated trails/greenways for non-motorized use that would connect all communities. I am a transportation bicyclist and would like to be able to bike between Lemoyne and other areas of the County without having to bike in motorized traffic most of the time.
153. Curb suburban sprawl so that our farms can be preserved, places for parks will exist, and trails and greenways can be expanded.
154. Trail connections and safe walking areas that provide connections between parks, schools, churches, libraries, and from one community to another.
155. Trail, park and farmland connectivity
156. Trails that take you safely And enjoyably to shopping and entertainment areas by bike or foot instead of driving a car.
157. Better fly bug control at lower allen park
158. Build a "Greenbelt" similar to the one in Dauphin County that connects parks, trails etc.
159. A biking / running / walking trail to connect our cities, communities, and natural assets. Preserve farmland and slow the purchase of farmland for development purposes.
160. Demand that the governor's office increase the DCNR budget!!!!!!!!!!!!!

<u>Livable Communities (53 comments)</u>

1. Restaurants, big box stores, banks--how many of these do we really need? In addition, it seems that so much open space is used to build more housing developments. I would like to see a greener approach to all of this development and focus of preserving what remains of farmland, parks, trails, etc. That will create livable communities for all of us.
2. Develop the roads and pedestrian walkways around Carlisle Productions' car show fair grounds to accommodate the traffic generated by the car shows. Revenue for this development should come from the Carlisle Productions and property owners receiving income from leasing parking to show patrons.
3. I think - and this might not count - keep the road maintained and more sidewalks. I think the County's efforts are great!
4. For example, in my community, I would like to have more space on the sides of the roads for people to walk, run, and bike safely. The area is so beautiful and people use it for these things but it is not safe. I would also like trail access to the park. Our neighborhood is so close to the park but it is not very safe to walk there via the road. The Messiah College kids are always running on the local roads in Upper and Lower Allen and it is just so dangerous. Let's provide some health and safety for our communities.
5. SIDEWALKS
6. Creation of livable communities
7. More pedestrian and bike friendly routes between neighborhoods and communities
8. More nontraditional transportation and recreational alternatives.
9. I feel we need to build communities, not just developments that end up being bedroom communities. Mandate that a developer leave common green-space, build a play area/picnic area into this green-space. Make the community a walkable community and don't put developments out in the middle of nowhere or on an inadequate road.
10. I would like to see more pedestrian walkways and safe crossing of those paths through heavy traffic areas. (I would like to be able to walk to work, but don't due to a very busy intersection that would make it difficult.)

11. More bicycle friendly roads and trails. Less housing and commercial property development
12. Stop taking land and making it into livable communities and dog parks. More livable communities make more taxes, not less costly living. Also, if people have pets, let them take care of them on their own property, not existing nature or farmland. If they can't take care of them and need a place or park for them to run, let them buy a yearly permit for $1000 per animal.
13. More sidewalks. Less fast pace. More of a personal community feeling. Housing that is actually affordable!!
14. More promotion of alternative commuting options such as more bike lanes, walking trails, and more CAT buses in Cumberland County. Also, more emphasis on parks, outdoor activities to promote healthier living. Some communities are currently NOT pedestrian friendly.
15. Bike lanes on all or most roads would greatly increase bike use and decrease the number of cars on the road.
16. Alternative, safe from vehicular traffic, transportation pathways (bikes, small electric vehicles, walking).
17. Make our communities and roadways friendlier/safer for biking and walking by adding bike lanes, slowing traffic, and reducing the number of cars on the roadways with improved & expanded public transit and incentives to use public transit and/or car pool.
18. control urban expansion by creating town centers and livable communities
19. Connect subdivisions via trails/sidewalks to encourage a connected community feel
20. There are many livable communities in Cumberland County. We need to limit the development of new housing and focus on repairing and maintaining existing housing areas.
21. Walk/biking trails b/w developments and shopping areas.
22. Connect more of the communities with bike lanes, improve existing bike lanes.
23. Continue with livable community projects and decrease the amount of new commercial construction- offer incentives for new businesses to occupy existing retail spaces!
24. The creation of livable communities. Utilizing PennDOTs SMART Transportation themes. More mixed-use development where I don't have to get into my car and drive everywhere. Connect communities through sidewalks, trails, and bike lanes. Promote mass transit or light rail throughout the Harrisburg Metro area. Mixed-used development should be deployed in small communities such as New Cumberland, Lemoyne, Camp Hill, etc. to promote growth and sustainability. County planners need to consider these themes when developers come instead of just worrying about an increase in tax revenue. Promote SMART growth.
25. Create workable, realistic, plans for growth of livable communities that allow the county to continue to develop, but not in a patchwork, property by property pattern. Preserve property rights by using tax money to make improvements that are beneficial to the community, but create fair, realistic expectations for developers that makes them accountable to pay for necessary infrastructure improvements and pass on those true costs to their consumers.
26. Create pathways (such as bike paths) that connect towns and commercial/business districts. It would be nice to be able to walk/bike safely to these locations instead of dodging cars/trucks and/or climbing into a car and sitting in traffic jams.
27. It would be nice to have a more walkable community, without the acres of asphalt and parking lots that currently exist. Carlisle Pike in Camp Hill and Hampden Twp. needs some major streetscaping and should have all overhead power lines buried underground.
28. Livable communities.
29. 9. "Livable" communities must be included in developers plan & cost absorbed by the home buyer 10. -Have homeowner responsible for their property -Volunteers clean up dump sites on public property -Enforce laws on private, illegal dumps & have property owner bear the cost
30. Livable communities.
31. Sidewalks and bikeways to improve access to provide better access to school, church, shopping and community
32. Re: livable communities--Require absentee owners & landlords to maintain their properties
33. Connect communities w/ greenways so kids can ride their bikes safely. Create communities that you can walk to get to the store w/out taking a car. I would also like to see new business put their parking in the rear of the buildings so we have store fronts closer to the street creating more of a community effect rather than parking lot after parking lot.
34. More sidewalks and bike paths

35. Educate local officials about the value and importance of livable communities to the people, the environment and local commerce. The ones I've talked to and been involved with don't seem to have the slightest grasp of the concept, perhaps because they live in suburban type developments and believe that's the ultimate in progress and wellbeing.
36. I feel the greatest effort should be placed on creating sustainable/livable communities where people can work, play and live. We should be developing where we already have development and we should reuse what we already have. This will decrease the dependence people have on their automobiles and will ultimately facilitate the preservation of farmland and natural and historic resources.
37. Parks trails and greenways are very important to those of us in eastern Cumberland County. Farmland preservation and natural resource protection are probably more important in the central and western parts of the county. Creation of livable communities should occur in underdeveloped parts of the county.
38. Less new shopping centers, restaurants, etc. and more focus on cleaning up/making the current buildings more livable. I don't mind driving 10-15 minutes to get to my favorite stores or to get dinner. I don't need a Wal-Mart next door. The preservation of trees, parks, farmland and the improvement of the natural areas around businesses are far more important to me than a little gas money.
39. It's hard to answer questions on a county wide basis... most people respond based on their own township. Also, how can "livable communities" be grouped with the other options? Aren't livable communities the opposite of open public spaces? Finally, we're taxed enough. Open spaces increase property values and better the way of life for everyone. That should be done with existing funds because everyone (and I mean everyone) benefits from parks/open spaces.
40. Add green space, less concrete/stormwater runoff Repurpose existing buildings, large and small, instead of building new (same with houses). # 8: Farmland Preservation (Added: But Limited) - I would say they all should be mutually funded with public and private $'s - All need both, deserve both
41. Use trails and greenways to connect livable communities
42. I would continue to address the blight of traffic flowing through towns - traffic whose destination is another place other than the town its flowing through. We need more pedestrian only areas in our towns. And we need to stop selling farmland for developments that end up with a huge cement footprint or houses that are in the middle of nowhere requiring cars to do the simplest errands. We also need more bike lanes that connect towns and parkland.
43. Encourage the use and reuse of property that has already been developed, and limit additional suburban sprawl.
44. Incentives to in-fill build within existing core community and not waste/develop green space.
45. I think it's important to focus on our older communities to preserve them so that we don't become like a lot of areas where they become rundown as people just abandon them and move farther away from cities. We all benefit if we maintain the viability of them (and I don't live in one of them).
46. Downtown redevelopment...which will draw people to the area and hopefully have an effect on the areas above.
47. Protect & preserve our infrastructure which in the long run creates economic development for our county. Bring together infrastructure, farmland, natural resources and parks & trails. Link & support each other! Eliminate farmland phosphates and nitrogen!
48. 4. Farmland - We keep losing prime farmland to devel. Natural Areas - We need to protect the land north of 944 Parks/Trails - We need to keep and maintain what we have. PA Conservancy could give you good input. 6. Livable Communities - You could learn a thing or two from southern communities which do not clear cut when designing communities. 9. PS. I already give to organizations which are conservation advocates 10. We need to better understand the importance of trees in controlling stormwater runoff. The forested buffers, wetlands, open space, & farmlands absorb & filter nutrients. New construction & housing should not clear cut but clear just what is needed to build structure. PS I noticed Historical Preservation is missing: Peace Church, Ironmaster's Mansion, Greystone (Gen. Jenkins Monument), etc.
49. This may be available already, but not to my knowledge. As you are well aware, the central PA area is growing. It is an ideal place to raise a family and watch your children grow. To this end, we as a community need to be more aware of the individuals and families who are moving into the area. The world today is so commuter oriented; the creation of "park and drive" lots could be implemented. Ones where people could

leave their cars for the day while they commute into work with someone else. They have these in NJ and eastern PA, but have not seen any here in this area. They may be there and I just haven't noticed.

50. Develop a long overdue public mass transit system to reduce the car and truck traffic, congestion and environmental degradation that has resulted from unplanned and unrestricted growth. Require that corporations be more responsible, financially and policy-wise, for the environmental and social impact they have on communities.
51. Streetscaping
52. Greener, cleaner downtown
53. Preserve more green space. There is an abundance of developed ground which is in decline, it is time to start revitalization of these areas and vacant or abandoned properties. INTELLIGENT REUSE of previously developed property is a key first step. One way to do this is to create incentives for builders/developers who redevelop existing communities.

Land Use Planning/Regulations (31 comments)

1. STRONGER regional planning (county level and regional) to coordinate efforts on these fronts vs. individual Twp. and boroughs trying to piecemeal various solutions.
2. Multi-community planning coalitions, which can better target development throughout the county.
3. Use a planning process to try to look at big picture to develop achievable goals and tasks that link together and build on items over the years
4. Leave us Alone! Let us be Free! Stop Planning!
5. Better zoning to slow down the explosion of trucking firms in the county.
6. Zoning.....business and residents are all intermixed.....semi-trucks drive down every road.
7. More regional cooperation and coordination, planning and implementation of plans through land use ordinances. Cumberland County is doing a great job of supporting communities and keeping land use and community development on everyone's radar. Please keep up your good work.
8. MORE ZONING! AND HOW CAN YOU EVEN THINK OF SELLING A PARK FOR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT?
9. Coordinate land use planning and zoning across municipal lines to achieve the broad goals of the County Comprehensive Plan and to focus growth in and around established communities.
10. Protective zoning
11. Create some guidelines for development. Stop hodge podge building of new housing and apartment complexes. Require developers to tear out empty warehouses, strip malls, auto dealerships. Let them build where the environment has already been compromised. Put a freeze on zoning changes.
12. Common planning across all municipalities. There seems to be some friction among ajoining townships.
13. Develop more appropriate zoning and building codes that mandate land preservation, natural resource protection and livable community enhancements as a pre-condition for future development approval. Eliminate existing conflict of interests between local policy makers (township and county levels) and local real estate businesses.
14. Get consistency among the local political entities on plans and goals supported by reasonable funding.
15. A greater degree of code enforcement particularly in the rural areas to limit (eliminate) individual (very small) junk heaps.
16. Better regulate builders developments to increase green space in new communities.
17. Coordinate municipal efforts
18. If developing, make them adhere to strict regulations, so that you don't have a hodge-podge of businesses like they are putting along Trindle Road in Carlisle!!!!!!!!!!!!!! It looks awful, no consistency in planning.
19. Get the various municipalities to work together to a common goal.
20. Adopt zero growth strategies and open space practices similar to New England and Oregon. Require all establishments to use down lighting to reduce light pollution. Create communities that are walkable, multi-use facilities, reduce building footprints, etc... I have lived here for 33 years and have seen this area go downhill since the early 90's. It is sad to see all the beauty replaced with traffic and "big box" stores.
21. Reward/incentivize proper land use planning and implementation to concentrate and centralize development that would also incorporate walkable/bikable community design features.
22. Require more green space for new developments.

23. Every time a road is put in, or worked on, a bikepath/walkpath should have to be added. People are overweight, but they can't go walking because the small roads are dangerous, there should be walk/bike areas next to EVERY road.
24. Work with an Environmental Planner, not a city planner, to help find a way for the current development and future preservation to coexist. Also, we should find ways to may our current and future development more in tune with the natural & rural environment it is put in. Lets make them conform to our surroundings, not the other way around!
25. Control development and subdivisions in the sense of taking wetland protection seriously, requiring parks and open areas, prohibiting "clear cutting" of every single tree on the land before they even start, taking density of housing seriously, and preserving something of the character of the land. For instance, fence rows of trees are beautiful - why do they have to cut them all down to put up some houses? Thank you for doing a survey!
26. Make any effort to coordinate development in a smart way. I'm getting out of Silver Spring Township because there isn't any sense of community, you need a car to get anywhere and it's developing over most open spaces.
27. Create more protected architectural historic districts and more incentives and support for main streets.
28. Reduce the size of lots in rural areas rather than having 5 acreage lots. Then you wouldn't be eating up land so fast.
29. Provide incentives to developers to rehabilitate already existing vacant or inefficient structures and properties with newer more efficient or sustainable properties before allowing development of farmland and natural areas. Require developers to plant trees or provide some other natural preservation of parks, trails, greenways and farms before new development can begin.
30. Continue to cluster development (residential, commercial and industrial) in current locations that have public water and sewer.
31. Get needless regulators out of our pockets/pocketbooks. So much waste of time and money, everybody thinks that if the government does something its free. The nanny state philosophy prevails.

Development (74 comments)

1. Cut down on the Urban Clutter in Hampden Township and Camp Hill area. The road system is not designed to support the amount of commercial traffic in this area. It is becoming overcrowded and in some cases dangerous due to these condition.
2. Stop building communities without increasing street infrastructure the roads are too busy already
3. I would restrict the amount of land being developed for residential and commercial use.
4. Stop building
5. Cease the development of strip malls (do we really need more Subways?), and encourage developers to focus more on the community feel of our commercial areas - cafes, outdoor seating spaces, walkability between stores (we can do better than a barren sidewalk), attractiveness of buildings, lots of native plantings. We can do much much better than what we have now.
6. Make sure existing shopping centers and strip malls are fully occupied before breaking ground on new malls. Also, building "up" instead of sprawling out.
7. Re-use buildings or land plots for construction. Do not create any more new buildings. I believe that there is too much construction going on. There are plenty of unused, empty buildings up for sale that could be used or refurbished or torn down and a new building erected on the site.
8. Stop the sale of our land to developers
9. Redevelop existing, abandoned buildings, shopping centers etc. instead of paving over and destroying more farmland, forests and open spaces!!!
10. Limit the amount of new construction
11. Cut down on the number of sites being approved for construction. Commercial builders and companies should be required to use existing empty buildings rather than being allowed to destroy green space to erect new buildings. Residential builders should be required to add on to existing communities rather than destroy undeveloped areas

12. Stop building new communities everywhere! They are being built off of roads that are too small to handle all of the new traffic these communities create and thus will undermine any and all plans for preservation. The roads will have to be widened and expanded and to do that means that undeveloped land and/or existing homes must be destroyed. Improve what is here - parks, trails, greenways - and leave the construction/destruction to plague other counties.
13. Curtail new housing developments
14. Keep on top of it all. Don't let it slip under pressure to develop the land.
15. To control development, and the density of the developed land
16. Stop building large shopping centers/developments. We don't need any more of these. Stop cutting down trees for additional housing developments. Both of these items are taking away nature's beauty and overcrowding our areas.
17. Make developers pay for infrastructure upgrades to help the impact that their development has on the surrounding infrastructure and community. PA American Water turns up the water pressure to 200% higher than what most plumbers would consider "high" pressure because developers don't provide the infrastructure to support water distribution in what used to be farmland miles away from town. There's always seems to be one more residential development or shopping center going in but the quality and quantity of roadway still appear the same in most cases..Some roads haven't been updated in 50 years and are buckling under the traffic load. Big secret, we really don't NEED another shopping center or residential development - retailers can't lease the building space they have now. We need natural land that our families can visit and enjoy. I am very grateful that the state parks in PA are still free.
18. Stop new development. We are already overcrowded and each expansion raises taxes.
19. Slow down development in a HUGE way.
20. We need to re-use where possible as much Brownfield development before we go and destroy the farmland to build new subdivisions and warehouse storage facilities.
21. Develop an attitude that continued business and residential expansion is not necessary for a successful community.
22. A greater focus on requiring companies/businesses to refurbish existing buildings/businesses instead of building new ones across the street from unused/vacant ones
23. Limit residential development in Upper Allen Township.
24. Control development because once land is developed it can never be reclaimed and open space is lost forever.
25. Limit development of housing using existing green spaces. Very concerned with the amount of trucking in our county and the air pollution, trucks following 114 in Mechanicsburg just don't make any sense to me at all.
26. Limit the amount of land used by developers. Put building codes into effect which limit the number of commercial establishments allowed in an area - we certainly do not need two or three banks within a mile of each other, or competing drug stores, grocery stores, etc. across the street from each other.
27. Keep the Wertzville Road exit from being developed more than it already has been. I love where I'm at and now there is a hospital coming and it is going to make that area even more congested. I heard that there is another grocery store plaza planned there among other things as well. My now quiet exit is getting crowded and I want it to stay quite. I'm close to everything and I don't need it less than a mile from my house. You could easily keep that area as farmland or turn it into a park or biking trails with nice trees, etc. Something, anything other than more business, more cars, more people, and who knows what else now that a hospital is going in down the street.
28. Make developers more responsible for controlling water drainage when developing a large development, with large houses on small lots. They overdevelop areas until basements start to take on water that have been bone dry for 12 without a sump pump. (sump pump installed and working, for now)
29. Stop building mega developments.
30. Curtail developments where housing is on less than 1/2 acre lots and turning existing farm land into commercial property.
31. Stop building both commercial and residential buildings
32. Really look at building as it happens. You can drive past several half-filled malls and strip malls just to see two or three more being built. I know that trucking is important in this area, but the trucks need routed

around communities and the hulking warehouses need to include green spaces, noise and light barriers, and off sets to their functioning (like solar, wind, water run off management). Slow the building of multifamily complexes to stay on pace with our roads.

33. Stop turning the wide open fields into strip malls and developments. We have enough of both and all they do is cause too much traffic.
34. Please stop approving housing developments (e.g., Autumn Chase on Hertzler Drive) on land that is currently farmland or in a natural state.
35. Discourage the building of high density housing, e.g. condos, or too many houses in a tightly packed area.
36. More of all of these, and stop all of the building of houses and businesses. The area has enough homes and buildings. It is sad how much has been built!
37. Stop developing open space versus the empty stores and lots already developed
38. Stop the development of apartment complexes, housing developments and the invasion of strip malls, Wal-Mart's, etc.
39. Be very careful how future land development is planned, with reuse of developed areas having preference over developing over farms and natural lands, and when land development is recommended in these areas to try to make sure they are respectful of agricultural and natural lands and incorporate them into the development plan when feasible. In Central PA in general, there seems to be a lot of development spreading out into agricultural or undisturbed lands while existing buildings in towns are abandoned.
40. Find ways to combat the loss of open space, especially to monster warehouse operations that simply are BLIGHT! We have certain pockets of historic structures that will benefit from careful preservation and/or restoration. I believe livability in our communities can turn on this and densification.
41. Work with both the private and public sector to ensure that housing demands are met in a way that strengthens our existing built communities. We need to find way to ensure that builders and developers create jobs and make a profit, but we shouldn't be subsidizing new development on our high-quality farmland and natural areas. And, we should ensure that community leaders understand the long-term benefits and costs of development and preservation. We need a way to show decision-makers today what the long-term financial performance of their land-use decisions are. (Sorry, I guess that's two things...)
42. When a developer removes all vegetation from an area where homes will be built, it is a disgrace--it only leads to flooding problems. Developers need to maintain a certain 'green space' in any new housing or industrial areas.
43. Make it illegal to tear down historic buildings, farms or farmhouses over 100 years old in Cumberland County. We have lost way too many 1700's and 1800's era farmhouses to development, along with natural waters and historic lands.
44. Do not allow new commercial buildings to be built - if a business wants to open, have them use an existing space... give them a tax credit or something. Stop tearing up fields and laying asphalt when there is a vacant building 5 miles away that can be retrofitted.
45. Slow down the building of housing developments. We have way too many new communities built with a great deal of vacant houses in them.
46. Stop letting the developers buy up farmland to create another shopping center, mall, medical facilities and homes. Also stop Wal-Mart from putting another store in Cumberland County we need other businesses to come into the county.
47. Less building of homes. Less stop lights on every corner to "stop" traffic to let a few whiny people get access to roads intended for 50% less vehicles.
48. Stop building new houses and putting in businesses on rural roads.
49. Limit the development of apartment complexes, increase single family home lot size and require more trees and shrubs plantings by developers.
50. All the farmland and empty fields are becoming car dealerships and developments...some developments are fine, but too much, making too much traffic, then roads have to be redone and more red lights added, and so on and on...
51. Stop the development of so many new homes and developments being constructed (i.e. the construction of Meridian on the West has destroyed major farmland in Lower Allen Township).
52. instead of all the new building - see if there is an empty building that can accommodate the needs - we have too many empty buildings - and a lot of sprawl going on

53. Roads are what hamper our quality of life.
54. I think that the amount of new housing and developments is out of control and takes too great a toll on our roadways and existing public utilities (parks, trails). I would love to see the rehabilitation of existing homes and center of towns take a priority to urban sprawl. Doing so would help the natural areas, preserve farms and create more livable communities, not siding farms where everyone is inside their homes except when mowing then chemical laced lawn yards. This would be a better quality of life for all involved.
55. Townships should require developers to set aside green space and to provide stricter codes to prevent storm water runoff from flooding adjacent properties and to conform to comprehensive plans developed by townships. Number One priority-Natural Resource Protection
56. Have communities built to LEED standards.
57. Stricter regulation of sprawl.
58. Reduce or at least maintain current levels of development of the rural areas rather than trying to build as many new structures for the alleged boom in population of the local area that is forecast for the coming decade. Use vacant, existing buildings by remodeling them rather than using more land to build new ones.
59. That's a tough question. I believe there needs to be a balance achieved in our efforts regarding all their projects. One huge issue for me is the rapid eating up of land for housing developments which have out lived their usefulness. Mixed use village-type development with more efficient use of land, different types of housing, retail, restaurants, banks included - setting stage for park and ride or station location for light rail. # 5: Residential/type need mixed use village-type development # 7: You've identified our major challenges # 9: And I'm not wealthy - it's just worth it!
60. Slow development # 5: Too much development in east end and central # 6: Remove/reduce traffic, eliminate some structures
61. Encourage existing communities to build taller rather than wider (e.g., subsidize parking garages, do not support out-parcel and parking lagoon development) at/near highway interchanges. Encourage historic home updating and/or preservation (but not tear-downs); street tree; and loft development programs to encourage a broader spectrum of residents to live in existing communities. Stop the isolated 2-story apt/condo builds with parking lagoons (i.e., make updating an existing house cheaper than building a new one - same construction - just different skills and locations). In short, if you remove the incentive the convert ag land into crappy low-res development, then you'll preserve farmland and open spaces.
62. Land Use encouraging densified development of existing communities, natural area creation, light rail transportation/mass transit, improvement in air quality. Get the 18 wheelers off of I-81 - Enhance freight rail - I-81 is unsafe and getting worse!! All part of a balanced plan. I know this is a lot but it is overdue. We should have been doing this in the wake of the Glynnen(can't make out spelling) Report that was completed in 1994!!!
63. Tear down all the ugly, unused buildings and plant grass, not parking lots. This area has no character.
64. Make the large developers pay to enhance our lives since they take are the ones responsible for destroying it. Developers show up exploit our county make a large sum of money and leave and we are left to pay for enhancements.
65. No more new housing developments, particularly in North and South Middleton Townships.
66. Fewer developments, fewer shopping centers, fewer big box stores, more revived downtowns, more trees.
67. Reduce suburban sprawl----both residential and commercial
68. Limit and better manage development. (Require that a high occupancy rate before new construction is approved. Require green open space, conservation landscaping techniques, and storm management BMPs for all new development.)
69. LESSEN residential and commercial development. The many developments in the Carlisle and Boiling Springs areas are making these places lose their character. It pains me to see the large expansion of Indian Hills or whatever the new development will be called between Indian Hills and Spring Meadows Park. Similarly for the proposed or rumored developments off of Forge and Ridge (at least in that area, forgot the exact locations). I would gladly pay higher taxes to keep this sort of thing from happening.
70. Get local officials to understand the real costs (hidden and otherwise long term maintenance) associated with (new) development and actually get them to take action to address.
71. Avoid problems with traffic, including noise, air pollution, commute times, road safety, public expense, recreation facilities and construction, by strongly restricting all growth outside of concentrated cores and

facilitating more progressive shapes of development--conservation and recreation programs are not a replacement for better growth management and will be more onerous without it

72. More denser development instead of sprawl.
73. Stop urban sprawl.
74. Stop the overwhelming development of our area.

Development - Warehouses/Trucking (56 comments)

1. Less truck traffic!
2. Stop turning farmland into warehouses.
3. I worry about the amount of good farm land that has become high cost residential areas and warehouses. We can't afford to lose more farmland. I know the warehouses bring a vast amount of money into the community, but eventually they will cause us to lose our good water, reasonably clean air, and pleasant living spaces. Why not support development of housing in areas that don't make good farming land? I am happy that I live in a community that has a good economy compared to many areas. I'm not sure if we can afford to keep growing at this rate and unplanned manner and keep the beauty, safety and livability of Cumberland County.
4. 5. To many warehouses, enough 9. Would spend another $10/year "But NOT to support livable communities" 10. We need to help farmers save their land. Give them a tax break so they can keep their farmland. Big developers prey on farmers to sell them land and if the farmer and his family are in need of money, they sell their land. Just go on Rt. 81 and take a look. Concrete cities everywhere. On Rt 641 you can no longer see the mountains. Then we give these 'Big Developers' big tax breaks because they create jobs. Really? Who are we kidding? They keep workers until the worker is about to get benefits and then they 'let them go'. It's sad to see it now happening in the "Centerville" area. We should bow our heads in shame. I did read about the tax break that Developer received and that is why my taxes go up every year. Please, let's get back to basics.
5. Try to preserve some land period..instead of building allllllllllllllllllllll these damn warehouses.....Why not use the ones that are already vacant....the same with allllllllllllll these other empty buildings that are around this area.....use what is already vacant.....
6. My thoughts are that we need to help the farmers with their tax base and help those wanting to buy land in large lots so that they can keep animals and crops growing and the Cumberland County "GREEN" with growth of farm related business. Clean and Green and Farm Preservation needs to be expanded and the small farms need to be saved not just the BIG farms. I think the areas where we have warehouses and industry need to be more tightly developed to every square inch and make those tax dollars part of the county treasury.....we sent one warehouse to Carlisle in the last couple years that contributes in taxes over one million a year to the tax base....with more business like this we can keep farm and land taxes down and school tax increases at a minimum if the school board ever gets their "stuff" together.....
7. Farmland preservation because where are we going to get our food if farms disappear? Too many warehouses are being built and taking our farmland.
8. Stop farmland from disappearing beneath new mega warehouses!
9. Stop covering our farmland with more warehouses. It breaks my heart to see beautiful farms destroyed by warehouses. Help make it possible for farmers to support their families by farming and not have to sell in order to survive.
10. No more warehouses - Keep and preserve farmland *(open space)
11. cut out all warehousing turn it all back to farm land
12. Preserve natural and open space to reduce the warehouses and truck traffic that creates the poor air quality in the Cumberland valley.
13. Work to preserve area southwest of Carlisle (i.e. West Pennsboro), where rapidly encroaching warehouses and development threaten to eliminate what open areas and green space exists. The incremental destruction of wildlife habitat, groundwater recharge, and nature trails threatens our quality of life.
14. Make the construction of warehouses and distribution centers more difficult. IE. Business must ensure a certain number of full time jobs for a certain amount of time or pay penalties to the township and county

involved. It is too easy to build and then move on leaving an empty shell. Focus on manufacturing jobs not service jobs. Get voter approval on distribution complexes prior to construction.

15. Stop allowing so much development, esp warehouse which brings more truck traffic which brings more air and noise pollution
16. Do not approve any more distribution center permits. We already paid extra for emission inspection which is unnecessary anyway. The large trucks are the cause of poor air quality and vehicles are already equipped with sensors if emission equipment is not operating properly.
17. Prevent more large trucking companies to move to Carlisle.
18. Control future development of new trucking firms, warehouses that add to the pollution of present natural resources and make do with creation of ongoing care to our present needs such as those mentioned in the survey.
19. Stop warehouse building explosion
20. Restrict the development of new warehouses.
21. Stop future trucking hub development.
22. Stop the influx of warehouses in our area! This creates so much truck traffic and translates into deterioration of highways and air pollution!
23. Stop developing flat, rich farmland into warehouses & parking lots & residential developments. Farmers can't farm the rocks. Housing developers should plant less grassy areas, build among the rocks with the flow of the land, and directed to incorporate more natural green areas. OK. You said ONE thing. That would be to stop covering fertile land with parking lots, grass and warehouses. Thanks for asking.
24. Limit / stop / warehouse development Limit / stop development of acres of land for these townhouse "communities". Monroe Township is a Wonderful place to live because of the limited development over the past 20 years!!!!
25. Don't create one more warehouse!!!!!!! Enough concrete boxes and trucks stealing the richest farmland in Cumberland County.
26. no more ware house buildings
27. Stop building warehouses!!! The truck traffic the warehouses create is insane and half of the warehouses sit empty for years!! I am looking at houses out of Cumberland County because of this.
28. Keep Cumberland County rural by not allowing further building of warehouses or residential housing.
29. No more warehouses
30. Stop expanding and building warehouses; and stop creating "bedroom" communities for Dauphin County person/families to move into. Let’s take of our own first!
31. STOP ALLOWING MONSTER WAREHOUSES TO BE BUILT AND DESTROY OUR COUNTY'S RICH HERITAGE AND BEAUTY!
32. I think that would be to limit the amount of warehouses that are encroaching on our farm land and the overall landscape of our countryside. HUGH warehouses mean more truck traffic, which means more diesel fumes in the air which decreases the air quality probably more than all of us are aware, not to mention the wear and tear on our streets and roads. We've got to put a stop to this use of our land and the devastating affects it's having on our community and its people. Thank you.
33. Somehow stop the creation of additional warehouses in Cumberland County which gobbles up valuable farmland. Warehouses have done more harm to this region than any other single situation.
34. I don't even know if this applies, but figure out a way to stop the spread of trucking warehouses.
35. Better manage the loss of open space due to development, especially warehouses.
36. Limit new warehouses and the attendant truck traffic.
37. Less warehouses.
38. Stop the construction of new warehouses- too many already sit empty.
39. Stop building..... I am sick of big empty warehouses that eat up farmland.
40. STOP the development of Warehouses and McMansions throughout our county. Livable communities are a responsibility of that localized community, not the entire county.
41. Stop marring the countryside and adding to accompanying traffic problems with construction of the Super warehouses.

42. Quit treating outside land speculators as if they were landowners that actually live and reside in our communities and care. They don't care, and their speculation on empty trucking warehouses and unneeded development to make a buck is killing and uglifying the county
43. NO MORE WAREHOUSES! NO MORE 500K plus homes taking up 10 acres or more!
44. Stop building monster warehouses.
45. Stop the truck terminals, they are blight on our county
46. Stop Truck Depot Development. There are too many trucks, which damage the roads, create air pollution, destroy green areas & are safety hazards. We have reached the saturation point for trucks. Look for other areas for economic development.
47. # 5: Too Much Development: Especially of warehouses/asphalt
48. A moratorium on truck distribution centers and zoning to protect open space from sprawl.
49. Eliminate truck traffic, 18 wheelers...they foul the air, do not pay their fair share, destroy our highways, are a public safety hazard.
50. Stop approving every request for new warehouses.
51. Limit the growth of warehouses along the I81 corridor; they take up valuable farmland, they make our roads congested, they add to air pollution; and -- other than tax money -- they give nothing back to the local community.
52. Halt now & forbid for the future any more construction of monster warehouses.
53. No more warehouses in Silver Spring Township.....
54. Stop the influx of truck and warehouse terminals! Thanks for offering this survey. Remember Big Yellow Taxi by Joni Mitchell? "Don't it always seem to go that you don't know what you've got until it's gone?"
55. Don't destroy vacant land and kill wildlife to build enormous warehouses that still sit empty while allowing other farmland to turn into additional unneeded warehouse space that the roads are not designed to handle (I-81, exit 38 for example). Townships should not be suckered into be raping natural resources and "creating" jobs (by stealing them from neighboring municipalities) based upon empty promises of international corporations.
56. No more large housing developments or shopping centers (use already empty buildings!!!!!!!) Save what we have in Monroe Twp....the farms, creek, mountain is too precious to be destroyed. Love all the little parks and sports fields.

Miscellaneous (68 comments)

1. Provide financial incentives for farmland preservation, natural resource protection, parks, trails, green ways, and livable communities by partnering with our municipalities.
2. Be more vocal when an issue arises. Many times citizens are not aware of issues until it is too late. Set up borough/township email alerts for residents to subscribe to. Many residents are not able to attend meetings or even know what the agendas are. The emails would let them know agendas and any upcoming changes proposed or areas that may be neglected.
3. Preserve and protect private property rights. This means protecting individual right to use, enjoy, and dispose of their property as they wish to their own benefit. Individual rights must always take priority over the collective. This is not the Soviet Union.
4. Let individual citizens decide what is important and determine the best way to accomplish those things.
5. Bring back a recycling program for paints and chemicals.
6. Can't think of anything right now.
7. Ensure residents take pride in their land and keep it clean, not overgrown, etc. Keep the garbage from piling up on properties.
8. Unsure
9. To make sure the residents of Cumberland County are fully aware of all of the options available to them.
10. Keep in mind the balance of demand for all of the above.
11. Better management of sewage systems at the municipal level. Costs should not be prohibitive as they are in Monroe Township.
12. We're doing outstanding work at present....
13. Let supply and demand take care of itself

14. Take action.
15. Create a beautiful Senior Club facility designed for our older generation that would include a gym, a kitchen, large open space for dances and other events, and a computer training room.
16. Get the leadership of smaller communities such Wormleysburg fully on board with county-wide efforts, and provide education and guidance to those communities to think and act outside of the box.
17. Use the unemployed and public assistance individuals to pay forward by using them to do things to help with our environment. It would be helping in both situations.
18. More interest and involvement by the citizens
19. Education... people don’t know it’s there so they don’t see the point
20. Undecided at this time
21. Involve citizens and interest groups to actively promote these efforts and seek solutions.
22. Stop promoting Agenda 21. Property ownership rights and personal freedom are far more important than imposing the views of a few as to what looks nice upon the rest of society. Mandated beauty isn't very beautiful.
23. Improve public safety efficiency.
24. Improve the highway system, rather than allowing townships and boroughs to turn them into parking lots - which in turn, create pollution. If somebody lives along a state (or U.S.) highway and they complain about the speed or need for a red light, kindly ask them to buy a house that is NOT located along our highways. History has proven that when the infrastructure goes, so goes the society. We try to bring too many new businesses and people into the area, but fail to create an efficient transportation system.
25. Unsure would consider several options
26. Get rid of the good old boys.
27. You should rethink attempting to implement your "sustainability”. Have you read the book: Beyond Interdependence? Have you read the book Behind the Green Mask? We know what your agenda is. The public opinion means nothing. There is no voice to your plans from the people unless they are on your side. We can't wait to expose this as a fraud.
28. Stop allowing the County Planning Commission to meet at unreasonable times when the community cannot attend. Why are they allowed to hold their meeting during the week from 7:30am to 9:00am when most people are either on their way to work or at work already? What has happened to open meetings?
29. Nothing new or in particular just keep doing what you're doing.
30. I have a lot of ideas but I think this is just another way for you to get paid without doing any work. It is already known that The State House & Congress worker's only work 45%-47% of the time, but get paid for working 100%. I think that needs fixed 1st.
31. Educate the Public so they have a better understanding of these programs
32. Tours of what there is now so we can learn!
33. More cowbell.
34. Thank you for paying attention to this important issue.
35. Encourage public transportation so that there are less cars on the road and that our community is dominated by highways
36. Enforcement
37. Protect property rights of land owners
38. Light rail
39. Initiate a public awareness campaign on the values of all of these issues.
40. Better public transportation. Trolleys maybe.
41. More affordable senior communities.
42. Continue to seek public involvement and support with continuing communications activities about CC work on these quality of life issues. Keep up the good work.
43. The majority of the people should be served, i.e. not limited users such as bikers, trail lovers, farmers, etc.!
44. Continue educating the population about the importance of each of these strategies. Too many people take them for granted - they just happen. Higher levels of interest and engagement are the only means to preservation and enhancement of these efforts.
45. Lift the ban on replacing trees which have died/been removed from grassy areas between sidewalk & street. Our neighborhood was built in the late 1960s, and many of us have lost trees to disease or storms but are

not allowed to replace them. Also, STOP approving new housing developments and apartment/condo/townhome complexes... I have lived in Hampden Twp. my entire life and have seen traffic increase exponentially in the past 15-20 years, and winter maintenance is suffering due to the number of neighborhoods which must be plowed. Snow plows used to come through our development beginning in the middle of the night, but now often our streets are not plowed until the end of the workday following an overnight snowstorm. Hampden and Silver Spring Townships are growing faster than the municipal resources to maintain them.

46. Maintain what we have
47. Give a discount on taxes for those that are going green including business that helps the environment.
48. Cut Township expenses by 1/2. Freeze all land at this time and leave as is. 10 years - decide how traffic bike laws and all is a plan on drugs, or simply put, going toward Silver City. I believe Mr. Fry, Wayne Stevenson, Ron Soulders, should be planners with a vote. 1 vote = 1 acre. I control as above 100 votes simple to some, but landowners should control! They built this city. Long ago. Max and all! #6. Too much effort and $ wrongly applied. One extra, why Willow Mill Park closes at dusk, or 8:30. This is time parents and children fish. Disc golf - whatever, nice touch until a car gets hit. How do undesirables stay at park (Willow Mill) after dark and good people leave. Personals - It's our stream, we pay for all upkeep. Taxpayer! Why close it at all to adults!
49. Question 8 ---public funds - need to be considered TAX DOLLARS question 9 --- to much is being spent on administration question 10 ------ LESS GOVERNMENT
50. Stop property tax
51. Creation of public -private partnerships to address specific issues, with involvement of volunteer so that the tax payer does not pay the entire burden for something they may not think they benefit from.
52. Abolish property taxes so people can afford to re-urbanize
53. Eradicate the property taxes!
54. Be smart with the money that we already have. No point in tax increase if the money is going to be wasted.
55. Budget more funds. Work with public and private partnerships to development more of all areas
56. Provide more public funding for the above mentioned items
57. Ensure that funding is available -- on an equal basis -- to all municipalities -- not just boroughs!
58. Leave it to private resources.
59. Stop spending other people's money.
60. Spend money on facilities, upkeep, etc. Stop wasting money on endangered species that are everywhere.
61. Keep in mind the government which governs the best, governs the least. With this in mind make sure public money is being spent responsibility and not just at the will of those living in Camp Hill.
62. We have enough problems dealing with the real things govt should do to spend dollars on these items.
63. Less regulations and mandates. Utilize existing resources more efficiently. Government needs to be more responsive and efficient. Throwing money at problems/issues does not always provide a resolution. Work more with less.
64. Clearly define the resources in most threat of loss and target funding to those areas.
65. To use the funds allocated for each and every one of the above for this very purpose instead of re-directing it somewhere else. The taxpayers do not trust the stewards of our money to do the right thing!!!!
66. Try to manage revenue better for everyone.
67. We need more public/private partnerships. Funding by taxation is not the answer.
68. Ensure the funds you already have are not used for overhead. Place a minimum of 85% against the use to improve the quality of life.

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - User Selected Survey

What is your gender?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Female	46.9%	392
Male	**53.1%**	**443**
	answered question	**835**
	skipped question	**9**

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - Random Sample Survey

What is your gender?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Female	47.3%	26
Male	**52.7%**	**29**
	answered question	**55**
	skipped question	**0**

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - COMBINED

What is your gender?		
Answer Options	**Response Percent**	**Response Count**
Female	47.0%	418
Male	**53.0%**	**472**
	answered question	**890**
	skipped question	**9**

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - User Selected Survey

Which category below includes your age?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
18-24	1.9%	16
25-49	**44.6%**	**374**
50-64	36.5%	306
65 or older	17.0%	143
	answered question	839
	skipped question	5

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - Random Sample Survey

Which category below includes your age?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
18-24	1.8%	1
25-49	**43.6%**	**24**
50-64	36.4%	20
65 or older	18.2%	10
	answered question	55
	skipped question	0

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - COMBINED

Which category below includes your age?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
18-24	1.9%	17
25-49	**44.5%**	**398**
50-64	36.5%	326
65 or older	17.1%	153
	answered question	894
	skipped question	5

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - User Selected Survey

What is the name of the municipality where you live?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
(01) Camp Hill Borough	3.8%	31
(02) Carlisle Borough	9.7%	80
(03) Cooke Township	0.5%	4
(04) Dickinson Township	2.5%	21
(05) East Pennsboro Township	3.3%	27
(06) Hampden Township	15.3%	126
(07) Hopewell Township	0.5%	4
(08) Lemoyne Borough	3.6%	30
(09) Lower Allen Township	14.1%	116
(10) Lower Frankford Township	0.4%	3
(11) Lower Mifflin Township	0.4%	3
(12) Mechanicsburg Borough	2.7%	22
(13) Middlesex Township	2.9%	24
(14) Monroe Township	3.5%	29
(15) Mt. Holly Springs Borough	0.5%	4
(16) Newburg Borough	0.0%	0
(17) New Cumberland Borough	1.8%	14
(18) Newville Borough	0.4%	3
(19) North Middleton Township	3.5%	29
(20) North Newton Township	0.8%	6
(21) Penn Township	1.1%	9
(22) Shippensburg Borough	0.8%	6
(23) Shippensburg Township	0.4%	3
(24) Shiremanstown Borough	1.7%	14
(25) Silver Spring Township	7.0%	58
(26) Southampton Township	0.6%	5
(27) South Middleton Township	8.4%	69
(28) South Newton Township	0.2%	2
(29) Upper Allen Township	5.5%	45
(30) Upper Frankford Township	0.7%	6
(31) Upper Mifflin Township	0.4%	3
(32) West Pennsboro Township	2.7%	22
(33) Wormleysburg Borough	0.8%	7
	answered question	825
	skipped question	19

Cumberland County Land Partnerships -Random Sample Survey

Please select the municipal code displayed on the front of the postcard that was mailed to you.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
(01) Camp Hill Borough	1.8%	1
(02) Carlisle Borough	3.6%	2
(03) Cooke Township	0.0%	0
(04) Dickinson Township	3.6%	2
(05) East Pennsboro Township	9.1%	5
(06) Hampden Township	12.7%	7
(07) Hopewell Township	0.0%	0
(08) Lemoyne Borough	3.6%	2
(09) Lower Allen Township	5.5%	3
(10) Lower Frankford Township	1.8%	1
(11) Lower Mifflin Township	1.8%	1
(12) Mechanicsburg Borough	7.3%	4
(13) Middlesex Township	3.6%	2
(14) Monroe Township	0.0%	0
(15) Mt. Holly Springs Borough	3.6%	2
(16) Newburg Borough	1.8%	1
(17) New Cumberland Borough	1.8%	1
(18) Newville Borough	0.0%	0
(19) North Middleton Township	5.5%	3
(20) North Newton Township	1.8%	1
(21) Penn Township	0.0%	0
(22) Shippensburg Borough	1.8%	1
(23) Shippensburg Township	0.0%	0
(24) Shiremanstown Borough	0.0%	0
(25) Silver Spring Township	1.8%	1
(26) Southampton Township	1.8%	1
(27) South Middleton Township	12.7%	7
(28) South Newton Township	0.0%	0
(29) Upper Allen Township	9.1%	5
(30) Upper Frankford Township	0.0%	0
(31) Upper Mifflin Township	1.8%	1
(32) West Pennsboro Township	0.0%	0
(33) Wormleysburg Borough	1.8%	1
	answered question	55
	skipped question	0

Cumberland County Land Partnerships - COMBINED

What is the name of the municipality where you live?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Camp Hill Borough	3.6%	32
Carlisle Borough	**9.3%**	**82**
Cooke Township	0.5%	4
Dickinson Township	2.6%	23
East Pennsboro Township	3.6%	32
Hampden Township	**15.1%**	**133**
Hopewell Township	0.5%	4
Lemoyne Borough	3.6%	32
Lower Allen Township	**13.5%**	**119**
Lower Frankford Township	0.5%	4
Lower Mifflin Township	0.5%	4
Mechanicsburg Borough	3.0%	26
Middlesex Township	3.0%	26
Monroe Township	3.3%	29
Mt. Holly Springs Borough	0.7%	6
Newburg Borough	0.1%	1
New Cumberland Borough	1.7%	15
Newville Borough	0.3%	3
North Middleton Township	3.6%	32
North Newton Township	0.8%	7
Penn Township	1.0%	9
Shippensburg Borough	0.8%	7
Shippensburg Township	0.3%	3
Shiremanstown Borough	1.6%	14
Silver Spring Township	**6.7%**	**59**
Southampton Township	0.7%	6
South Middleton Township	**8.6%**	**76**
South Newton Township	0.2%	2
Upper Allen Township	**5.7%**	**50**
Upper Frankford Township	0.7%	6
Upper Mifflin Township	0.5%	4
West Pennsboro Township	2.5%	22
Wormleysburg Borough	0.9%	8
	answered question	880
	skipped question	19

Appendix 7-2

Municipal Park & Recreation Facilities

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Cumberland County

Municipal Park and Recreation Facilities

Municipality	*Facility Name*	*Acreage*		
Camp Hill Borough				
	Beverly Park	1.5		
	Christian L. Seibert Memorial Park	60		
	Fiala Field	20		
	Maurice K. Goddard Trail			
	Willow Park	2		
			Total Acres:	83.5
Carlisle Borough				
	Biddle Mission Park	5		
	Butcher Tot Lot	1		
	Community Pool	2		
	Dickinson Park	18		
	Forbes Path	12		
	Goodyear Park	4		
	Heberlig/Palmer Tot Lot	2		
	Letort Park	12		
	Lindner Park	2		
	Memorial Park	2		
	Mooreland Athletic Area	7		
	Spahr Tot Lot	1		
	Stuart Community Center	3		
	Thornwald Park	32		
	Valley Meadows Park	18		
	Walking Tour of 18th Century Architecture of			
	Walking Tour of Carlisle's Wayside Markers			
			Total Acres:	121
Carlisle Borough/South Middleton Township				
	Letort Spring Run Nature Trail			
	Seven Gables Park	5.5		
			Total Acres:	5.5

Municipality	*Facility Name*	*Acreage*		
Cooke Township				
	Pine Grove Furnace State Park	696		
			Total Acres:	696
Cooke/Dickinson Township				
	Buck Ridge Trail			
			Total Acres:	
Dickinson Township				
	Barnitz Mill at Stuart Park	20		
	Forest Pools Preserve	68.22		
	Kings Gap Environmental Education Center	2531		
			Total Acres:	2619.22
Dickinson/Cooke/South Newton/Southampton				
	Appalachian Trail	2734		
			Total Acres:	2734
East Pennsboro Township				
	Acri Meadow Park	4		
	Adams-Ricci Community Park	127		
	Laurel Hills - Undeveloped Park	13		
	Laurel Hills Tot Lot	2		
	Midway Park	2		
	Oyster Mill Park	1		
	Pine Hill Arboretum	15		
	Ridley Park	16		
	Summerdale Centennial Park	4		
	Susquehanna-Perry Park	1.5		
	West Fairvew Park	25		
	West Fairview Point & Annex Park	2		
			Total Acres:	212.5

Municipality	*Facility Name*	*Acreage*		
Hampden Township				
	Armitage Golf Club			
	Conodoguinet Youth Park	8		
	Creekview Recreation Area	36		
	Good Hope Access	0.5		
	Hampden Township Park & Pool	32		
	McCord Commons	5		
	Salem Community Park	24		
	Smith Drive - Watts Area	3		
	Smith Drive Property	18		
	Westover Creekfront	10		
			Total Acres:	136.5
Hampden/Silver Spring				
	Adventure Zone Playground	53		
			Total Acres:	53
Hopewell Township				
	Hopewell Township Park	31.34		
			Total Acres:	31.34
Hopewell/Upper Mifflin/Lower Mifflin/Upper Frankford				
	Tuscarora State Forest	4988		
			Total Acres:	4988

Municipality	*Facility Name*	*Acreage*
Lemoyne Borough		
	Flynn Park	1
	Fort Couch	2
	Frazer Conservation Area	4
	Lowther Fields	11
	Maple Street Park/Lowther Fields	3
	Market Street Undeveloped Park	1
	Memorial Park & Swimming Pool	9
	Negley Park	16
	Schell Park	5
	Woodside Conservation Area	
		Total Acres: 52

Municipality	*Facility Name*	*Acreage*		
Lower Allen Township				
	Allen Middle School	42.8		
	Allendale Park	1.2		
	Beacon Hill Blvd Land	9.65		
	Beacon Hill Park	3.4		
	Beacon Hill Radar Site	8.06		
	Cedar Cliff High School	35.8		
	Cedar Spring Run Park	3.5		
	Creekwood Park	5.6		
	Hempt Ballfields	5		
	Highland Elementary School	10		
	Highland Estates Playground	0.5		
	Highland Park	2		
	Lower Allen Baseball Association Fields	2		
	Lower Allen Community Park	110		
	Lower Allen Elementary School	7.5		
	McLaughlin Park	3		
	Peter's Field	3		
	Sheepford Crossing Park	1.5		
	Spangler's Mill Access	5		
	United Water Pennsylvania Inc.			
	Vernon C. Wass Park	10		
	Windsor Park Playground	1		
	Yellow Breeches Park	14		
			Total Acres:	284.51
Lower Frankford Township				
	Opossum Lake	274		
	Waggoners Gap Hawk Watch	125		
			Total Acres:	399
Lower Mifflin Township				
	Colonel Denning State Park	273		
			Total Acres:	273

Municipality	*Facility Name*	*Acreage*		
Mechanicsburg Borough				
	Finkenbinder Park	1		
	Koser Park	10		
	Northside Park	8		
	Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Park	46		
			Total Acres:	65
Middlesex Township				
	Anderson Park	1		
	Army Heritage Trail			
	Letort Falls Park	2		
	Middlesex Township Park	127		
	Scott Farm Work Center			
			Total Acres:	130
Middlesex/ Silver Spring/Hampden				
	State Game Lands #170	333		
			Total Acres:	333
Middlesex/Silver Spring/Monroe/South Middleton				
	Appalachian Trail			
			Total Acres:	
Monroe Township				
	Leidigh Park	8		
	Monroe Acres Park	2.28		
	Monroe Township Community Park	40		
			Total Acres:	50.28
Mount Holly Springs Borough				
	Butler Street Park	11		
	Tichy Park	1		
	Trine Park	25		
			Total Acres:	37

Municipality	*Facility Name*	*Acreage*		
Mount Holly Springs/South Middleton/Dickinson				
	Mount Holly Marsh Preserve	913		
			Total Acres:	913
New Cumberland Borough				
	Drexel Hills Park	2		
	Memorial Field	6		
	New Cumberland Borough Park	29		
	Sherwood Park	0.5		
	Twelfth Street Ballfields	15		
			Total Acres:	52.5
Newville Borough				
	Big Spring Event & Activities Center	0.27		
	Cumberland Valley Rail Trail - Newville Trailh	2.5		
	Laughlin Mill	0.12		
	Newville Community Park	5		
	Newville Little League	13.11		
			Total Acres:	21
Newville/North Newton/Southampton/Shippensburg				
	Cumberland Valley Rail Trail			
			Total Acres:	
North Middleton Township				
	Creekview Park	10		
	North Middleton Park	15.5		
	Village Park	44.5		
			Total Acres:	70
North Middleton Township (Carlisle mgmt)				
	Cave Hill Nature Center	20		
	Shaffer Park	18		
			Total Acres:	38

Municipality	*Facility Name*	*Acreage*		
North Middleton/Middlesex				
	Carlisle Barracks Golf Course			
	State Game Lands #230	883		
			Total Acres:	883
North Newton Township				
	Big Spring Greenway & Hatchery	213		
	North Newton Township Park	6		
			Total Acres:	219
Penn Township				
	Centerville Community Park	8		
	Penn Township Hike-Bike Trail			
			Total Acres:	8
Shippensburg Borough				
	Dykeman Park	50		
	Shippensburg Community Center	3		
	Shippensburg Little League	16		
	Shippensburg Memorial Park	27		
			Total Acres:	96
Shippensburg Township				
	Shippensburg Township Community Park	26		
			Total Acres:	26
Shiremanstown Borough				
	Shireman Manor Playground	1		
	Shiremanstown Municipal Park	2		
			Total Acres:	3

Municipality	*Facility Name*	*Acreage*		
Silver Spring Township				
	Bunker Hills Open Space	1.3		
	Hidden Creek Park	14		
	Paul Walters Memorial Park	42		
	Pleasant View Park	12		
	Potteiger Park	7		
	Stony Ridge Park	103		
	Vo-Tech Open Space	3.7		
	White Birch Farms Open Space	15.7		
	Willow Mill Park	18		
			Total Acres:	216.7
South Middleton Township				
	Carlisle Regional Medical Center			
	Children's Lake	7.63		
	Donald Whittlinger Nature Preserve	50		
	Fielding Belt Trail			
	Historic Iron Works Park	5		
	Holly Woodcrafters Ballfields	4		
	Indian Hills Park	8.33		
	Leaman Farm	68.53		
	Mason-Dixon Trail			
	South Middleton Township Municipal Park	40		
	South View Park	17.7		
	Spring Meadows Park	91.16		
	The Bubble	2.87		
	White Rocks Trail & Acquisition	460		
			Total Acres:	755.22
South Middleton, Monroe				
	State Game Lands #305	730		
			Total Acres:	730

Municipality	*Facility Name*	*Acreage*		
Southampton Township				
	Cleversburg Multi-Purpose Center	10		
	Southampton Township Community Park	40		
			Total Acres:	50
Southampton/South Newton/Cooke/Dickinson/South Middleton				
	Michaux State Forest	34882		
			Total Acres:	34882
Upper Allen Township				
	Aspen Park/Mimosa Open Space Area	2		
	Center Square Park	2.5		
	Country Estates Park	2		
	Friendship Park	19.72		
	Grantham Park	4		
	McCormick Park	2		
	Mechanicsburg Trees & Trails Environmental	20		
	Miller Crest Park	1.5		
	Mount Allen Park	3		
	Rosegarden Park	2		
	Simpson Park	19.6		
	Spring Run Park	3		
	Trout Run Nature Preserve	13		
	Upper Allen Township Community Park	21		
	Winding Hills Park	50		
			Total Acres:	165.32
Upper Mifflin Township				
	State Game Lands #169	2499		
			Total Acres:	2499
West Pennsboro Township				
	West Pennsboro Township Park	27		
			Total Acres:	27

Municipality	*Facility Name*	*Acreage*
Wormleysburg Borough		
	Leighton Nature Preserve	1
	Municipal Playground	1
	N. Second St. park	5
	Riverfront Park	1
	Rupley Park	4
		Total Acres: 12

TOTAL ACRES COUNTYWIDE: 54971.09

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Appendix 7-1

Park Classification System

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Park Classification System					
Type/Size/Service Radius	**Definition**	**Benefits**	**Appropriate Facilities**	**Location**	**Maintenance Level**
Mini Park *0-5 acres* *¼-mile service radius*	Smallest park type, addresses limited recreation need	▪ Provides close to home recreation	▪ Playground ▪ Benches, seating area	▪ Usually in towns and urbanized communities	High level of maintenance associated with well developed park and playground and reasonably high visitation.
Neighborhood Park *5-15 acres minimum* *½-mile service radius*	Focus of neighborhood; in walking/biking distance of visitors	▪ Provides access to basic recreation opportunities ▪ Contributes to neighborhood identity ▪ Establishes sense of community	▪ Play areas ▪ Ballfields ▪ Game Courts ▪ Picnic/Seating ▪ Pathways ▪ Community gardens	▪ Towns ▪ Suburban Communities	High level of maintenance associated with well-developed park and reasonably high visitation.
Community Park *30-50 acres, preferably 50-80 acres* *2-mile service radius*	Large park for active & passive recreation; serves residents city-wide. Accommodates large groups.	▪ Variety of recreation opportunities for all ages and interests ▪ Space for organized, large scale, high participation events ▪ Family destination ▪ Fitness and wellness	▪ Play areas ▪ Organized sports facilities ▪ Pavilions ▪ Permanent restrooms ▪ Lighting ▪ Amphitheaters ▪ Pools, Rinks ▪ Parking ▪ Trails	▪ Towns ▪ Suburban communities ▪ Rural areas	Moderate level of maintenance associated with moderate level of development, budget restrictions, and inability to perform higher levels of maintenance. Try to get park friends or establish adopt-a-park.
School/Community Park *Varies*	Parkland adjoining a school used for both recreation and education.	▪ Combines two public entities for expanded year round recreation. ▪ Maximizes public resources ▪ Expands recreation opportunities	▪ Youth-oriented game ▪ Courts and ball fields ▪ Play areas ▪ Seating ▪ Pathways ▪ Lighting	▪ Towns ▪ Suburban communities ▪ Rural areas	Moderate level of maintenance associated with moderate level of development, budget restrictions, Try to get cooperative agreement with school.
Sports Complex *30+acres; preferably 50-80 acres*	Consolidates sports fields and related facilities in a centralized location.	▪ Economy of scale ▪ Improved management ▪ City showcase ▪ Attracts visitors who stimulate local economy	▪ Ball fields, Spectator Areas ▪ Lighting ▪ Restrooms, Concessions ▪ Landscaping ▪ Parking	▪ Suburban communities ▪ County ▪ Occasionally towns	State of the art maintenance applied to high quality facilities. Associated with high visitation; revenue generating facilities, tourism.
Special Purpose Facility *Varies*	Facility for a single purpose use.	▪ Provides special focus recreation opportunities ▪ Contributes to community identity	▪ Depends on purpose	▪ Towns ▪ Suburban communities ▪ Rural occasionally ▪ County	High level of maintenance associated with well-developed park and reasonably high visitation.
Greenways and Trails *Varies*	Tie park areas together to form a contiguous park environment.	▪ Connects community ▪ Reduces auto dependency ▪ Improves air quality ▪ Lifetime use ▪ Attracts visitors	▪ Pathways – multipurpose ▪ Trailheads ▪ Support facilities ▪ Signage	▪ All	Lowest level of maintenance. Focus on trailheads and trail safety.
Regional Park *200 acres or more*	Preserve unique landscape and provide recreation.	▪ Attracts people for use for most of a day or even overnight via camping	▪ Resource based recreation ▪ Thematic such as historical ▪ Day use area hubs ▪ Trails, water and land based recreation	▪ Counties ▪ Multi-municipal partnerships	Maintenance varies from naturalized to high maintenance of heavy use areas such as rental pavilions and restrooms.
Natural Resource Areas/ Preserve	Natural areas for the protection and management of natural environment	▪ Protect resources ▪ Provide wildlife habitat ▪ Offer opportunities for environmental education	▪ Trails ▪ Signage ▪ Support facilities	▪ All ▪ County most frequently	Lower level of maintenance.

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Appendix 7-3

Trails of Cumberland County

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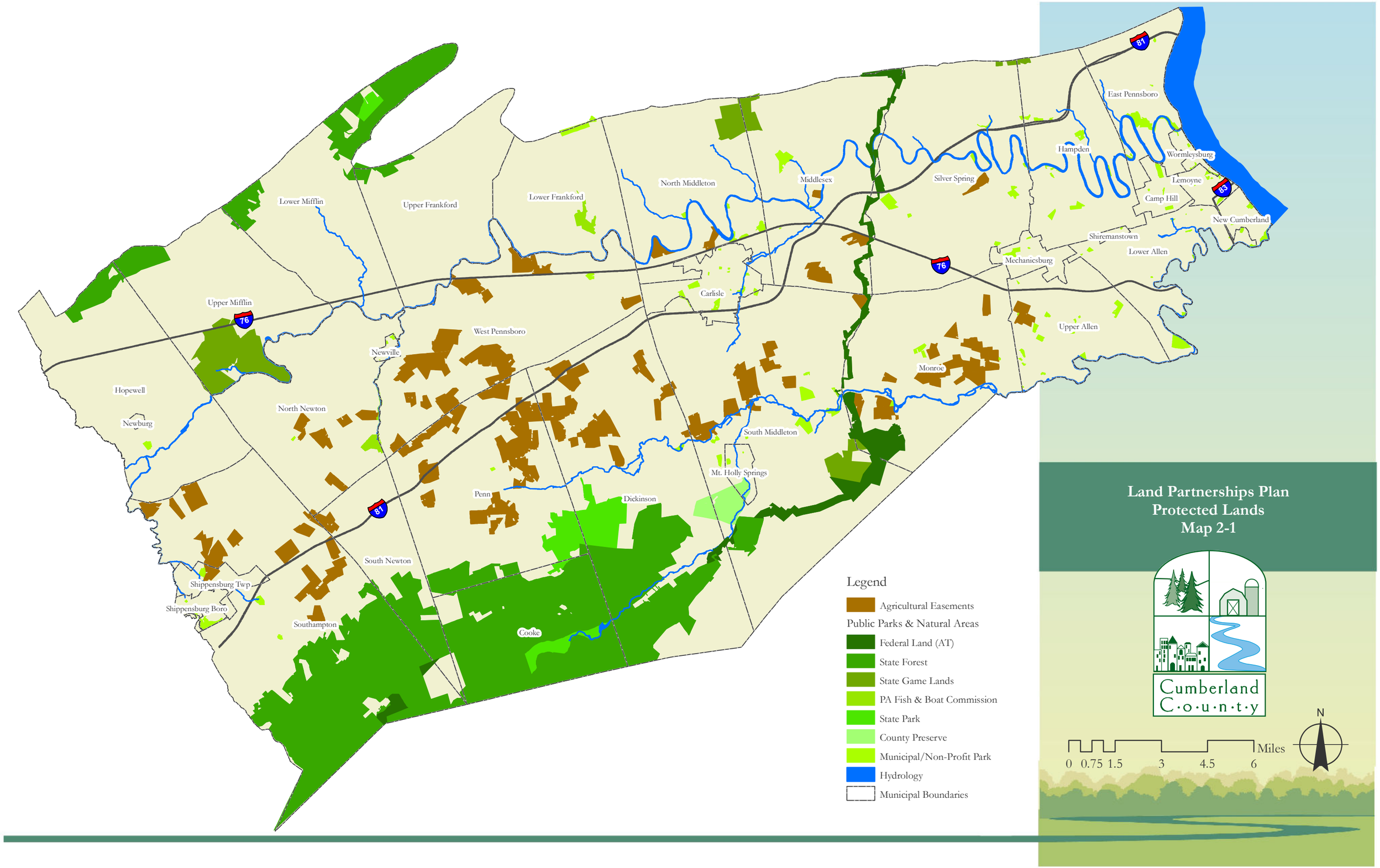
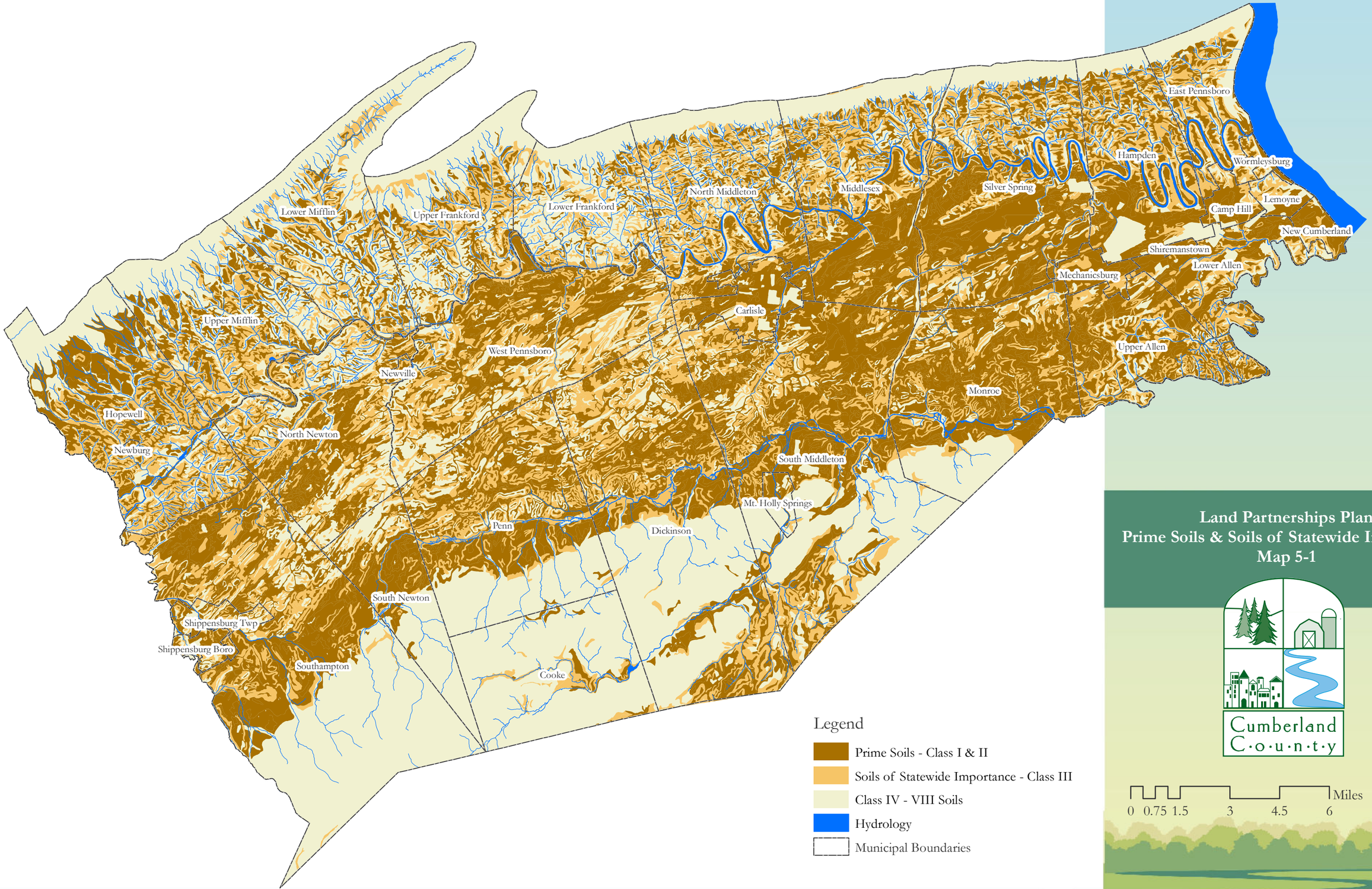
Trails of Cumberland County		
Trail Name or Location of Trail	**Region of County**	**Length (miles)**
Adams Ricci Park	E	1.25
Appalachian National Scenic Trail	C, W	46.5
Barnitz Mill at Stuart Park	C	1
Buck Ridge Trail	W	6
Carlisle Barricks Golf Course Trail and Army Heritage Trail	C	2
Castle Course	C	0.5
Center Point Knob	C	2
Centerville Community Park	W	0.25
Colonel Denning State Park	W	18
Creekview North Recreation Trail	E	1
Creekview Park	C	0.5
Cumberland County Biker/Hiker Trail	W	2
Cumberland Valley Rail Trail	W	11
Darlington Trail	E, C	8
Dickinson Park	C	0.7
Donald Wittlinger Nature Preserve	C	1
Dykeman Springs Park	E	1.8
Fielding Belt Trail	C	1
Friendship Park	E	0.52
Hampden Township Park	E	1.1
Hidden Creek Park	C	0.5
Hopewell Township Park	W	1.2
Kings Gap Environmental Education Center	C	16
Leidigh Park	C	0.5
Letort Spring Run Nature Trail	C	2.2
Lower Allen Township Community Park	E	1
Maurice Goddard Trail	E	4.5
McCord Commons	E	0.4
Mechanicsburg Trees & Trails Environmental Center	E	2.5
Memorial Park (Lemoyne)	E	2
Memorial Park (Mechanicsburg)	E	1
Michaux State Forest	W	15
Middlesex Township Park	C	1

Monroe Township Park	C	1
Mount Holly Marsh Preserve	C	7
Negley Park	E	2
North Newton Township Park	W	0.25
North Middleton Park	C	0.7
Opossum Lake	W	4
Penn Township Hike Bike Trail	W	0.75
Pine Grove Furnace State Park	W	4
Pine Hill Arboretum	E	0.5
Pleasant View Park	C	0.5
Ridley Park	E	1
Riverfront Park	E	0.5
Seven Gables Park	C	0.75
Veterans Memorial Park (Shippensburg)	W	0.5
Simpson Park	E	0.8
South Middleton Township Park	C	1
Shippensburg Township Community Park	W	0.25
Southampton Township Park	W	0.5
Spring Meadows Park	C	1.5
State Game Lands #169	W	3
Stony Ridge Park	C	0.65
Thornwald Park	C	0.75
Trine Park	C	0.5
Trout Run Nature Preserve	E	1
Tuscarora Trail	W	30
Upper Allen Township Community Park	E	0.58
Vernon Wass Park	E	0.5
Village Park	C	0.7
West Pennsboro Township Park	E	1.3
White Rocks Trail	C	1.3
TOTAL		**220.4**

E=East C=Central W=West

Source: Simply Walking: A Guide to Walking and Biking in Cumberland & Perry Counties


Land Partnerships Plan
Protected Lands
Map 2-1
Cumberland County
Legend
Agricultural Easements
Public Parks & Natural Areas
Federal Land (AT)
State Forest
State Game Lands
PA Fish & Boat Commission
State Park
County Preserve
Municipal/Non-Profit Park
Hydrology
Municipal Boundaries
0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles
N
Lower Mifflin
Upper Frankford
Lower Frankford
North Middleton
Middlesex
Silver Spring
Hampden
East Pennsboro
Wormleysburg
Lemoyne
Camp Hill
New Cumberland
Shiremanstown
Lower Allen
Mechanicsburg
Upper Allen
Monroe
Carlisle
Upper Mifflin
West Pennsboro
Newville
Hopewell
Newburg
North Newton
South Middleton
Mt. Holly Springs
Penn
Dickinson
South Newton
Shippensburg Twp
Shippensburg Boro
Southampton
Cooke
76
81
83
81

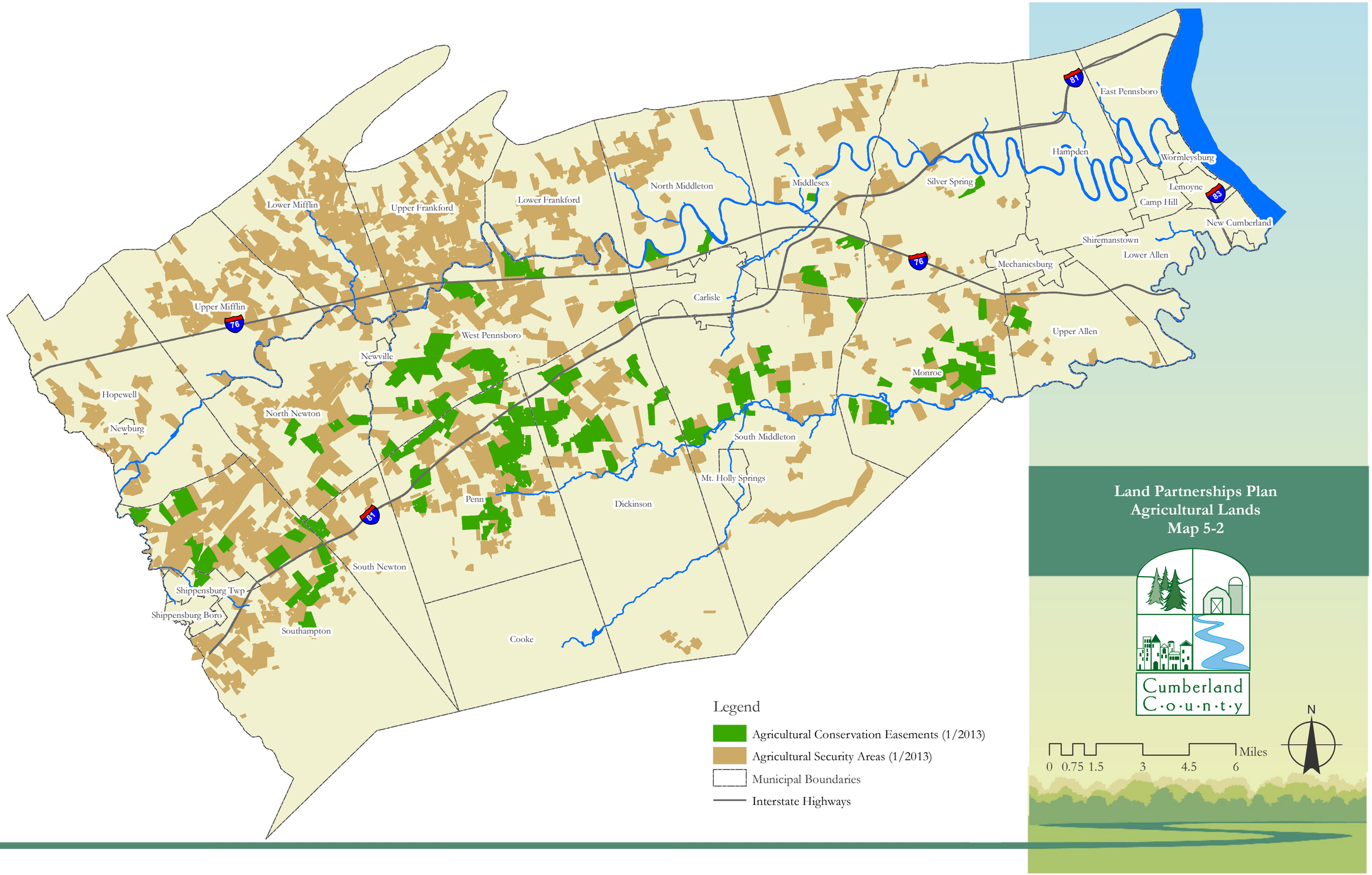


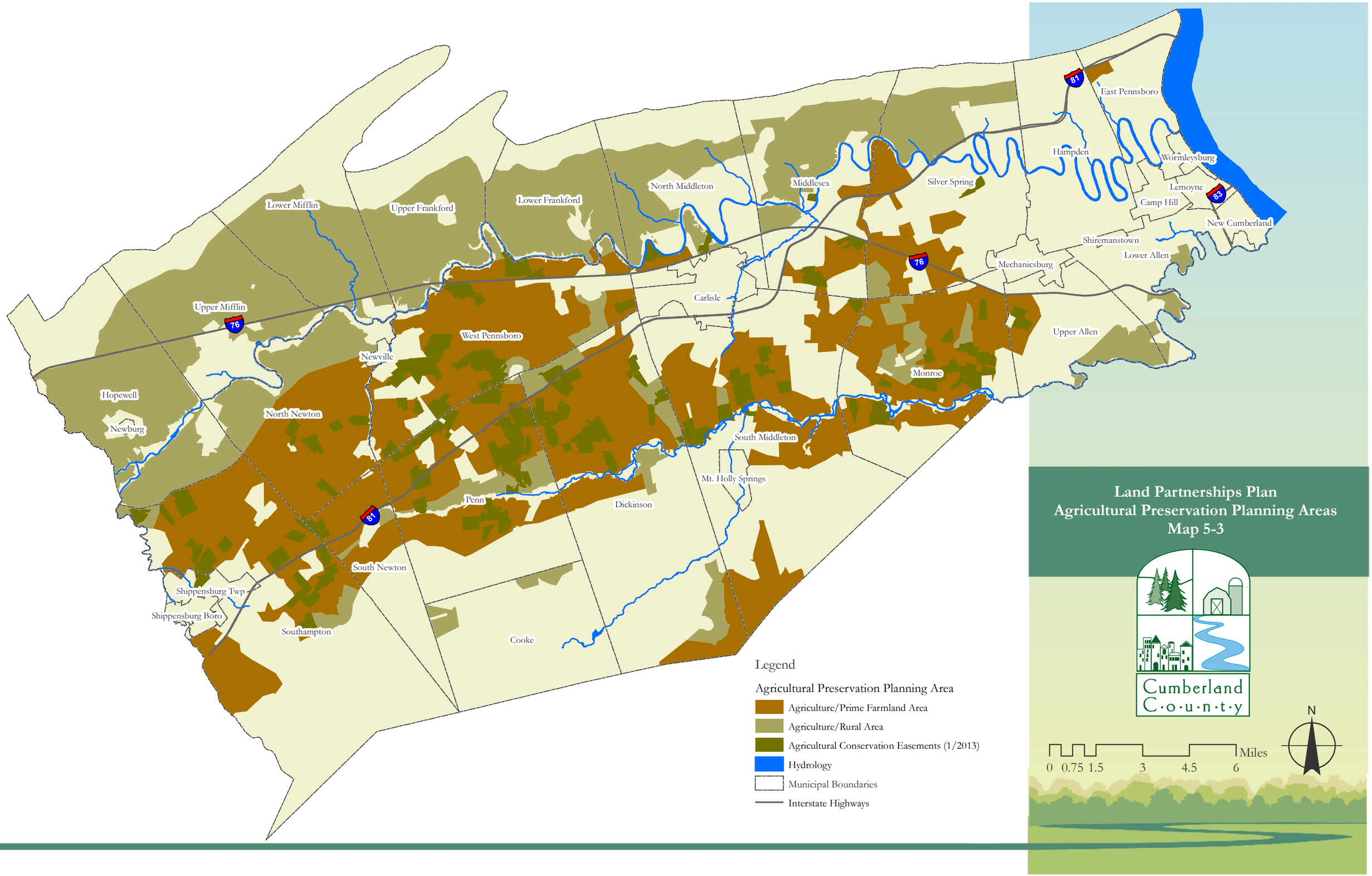
Land Partnerships Plan
Prime Soils & Soils of Statewide Importance
Map 5-1

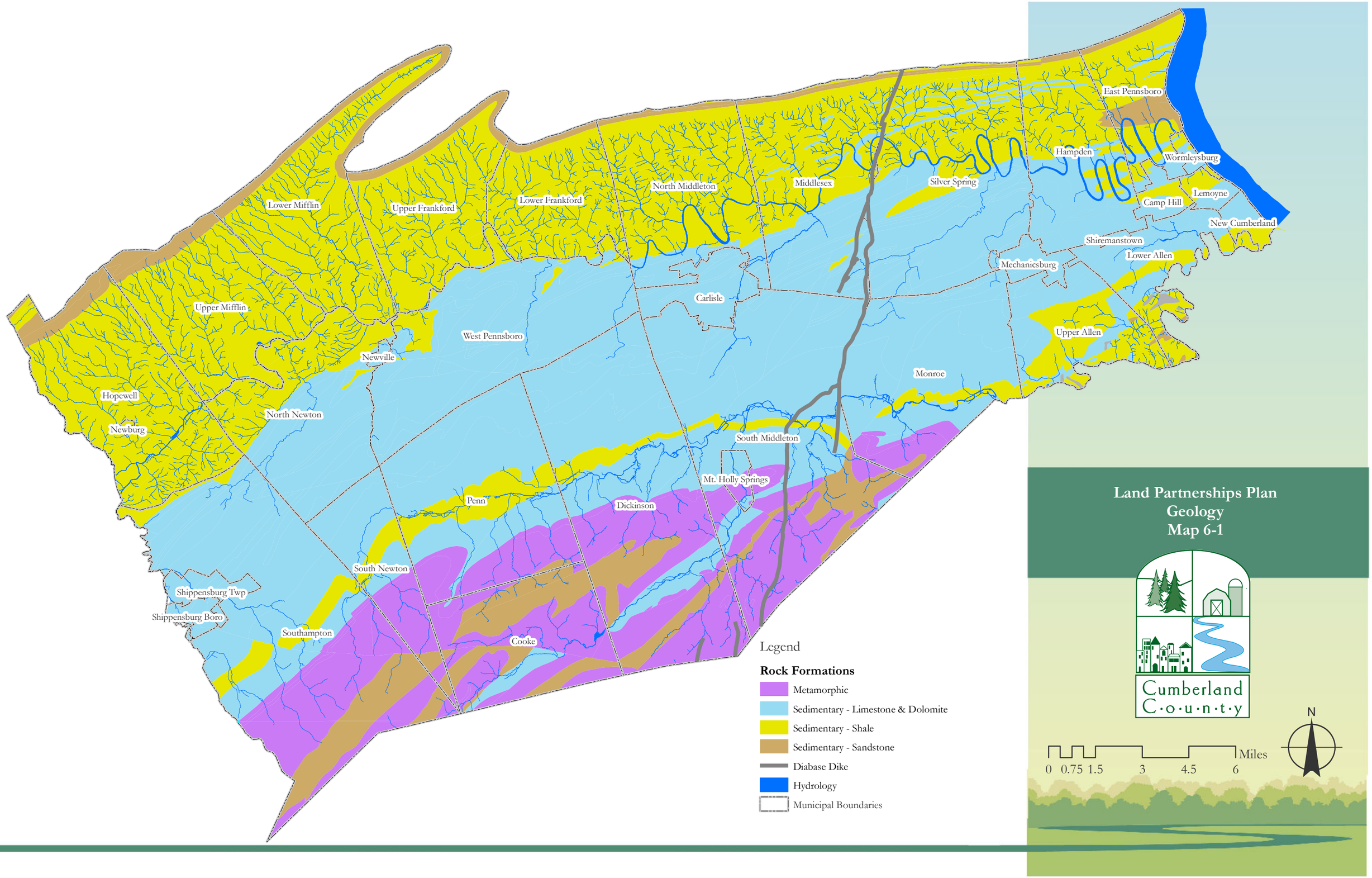
Cumberland County

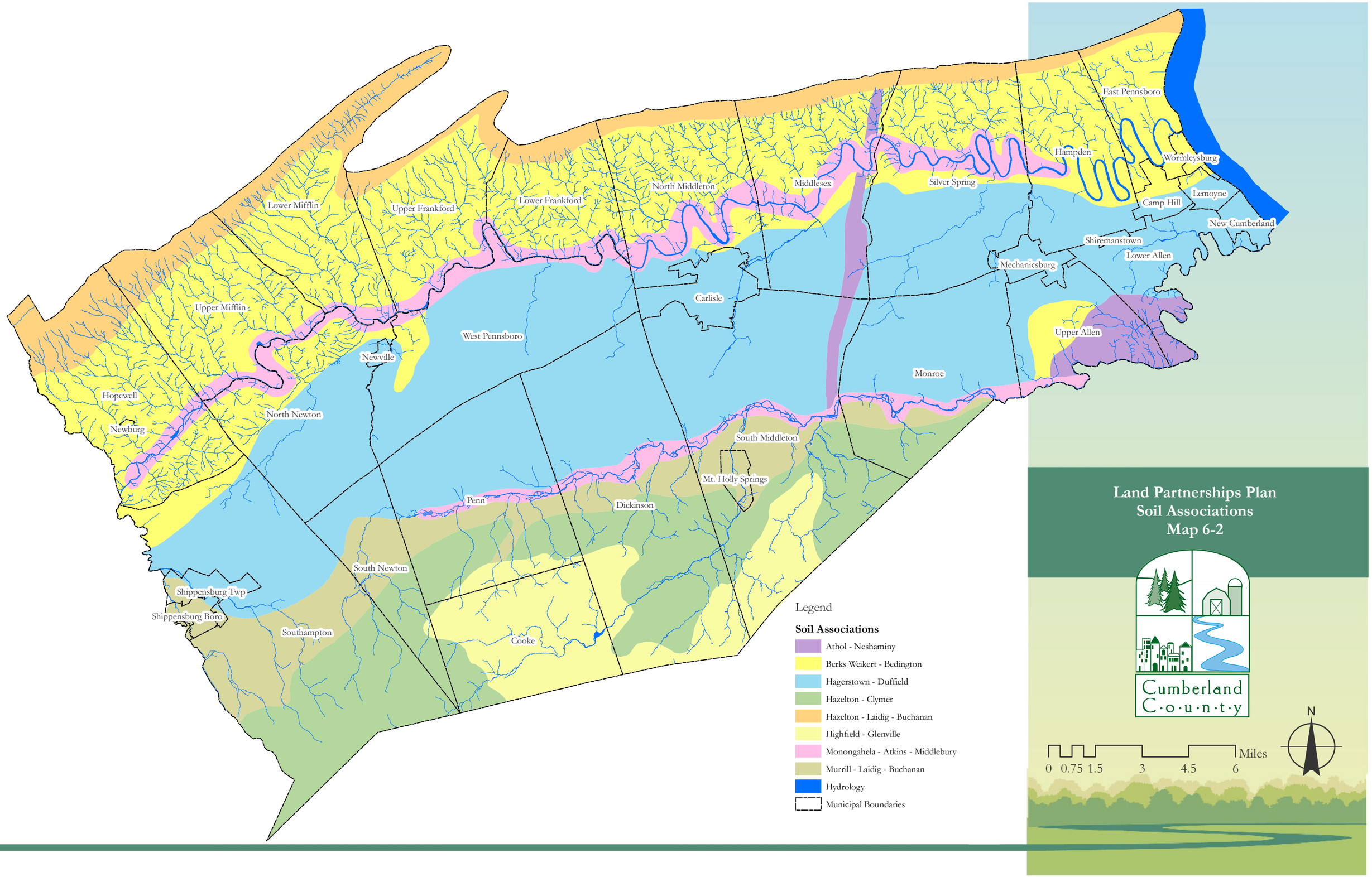
0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles

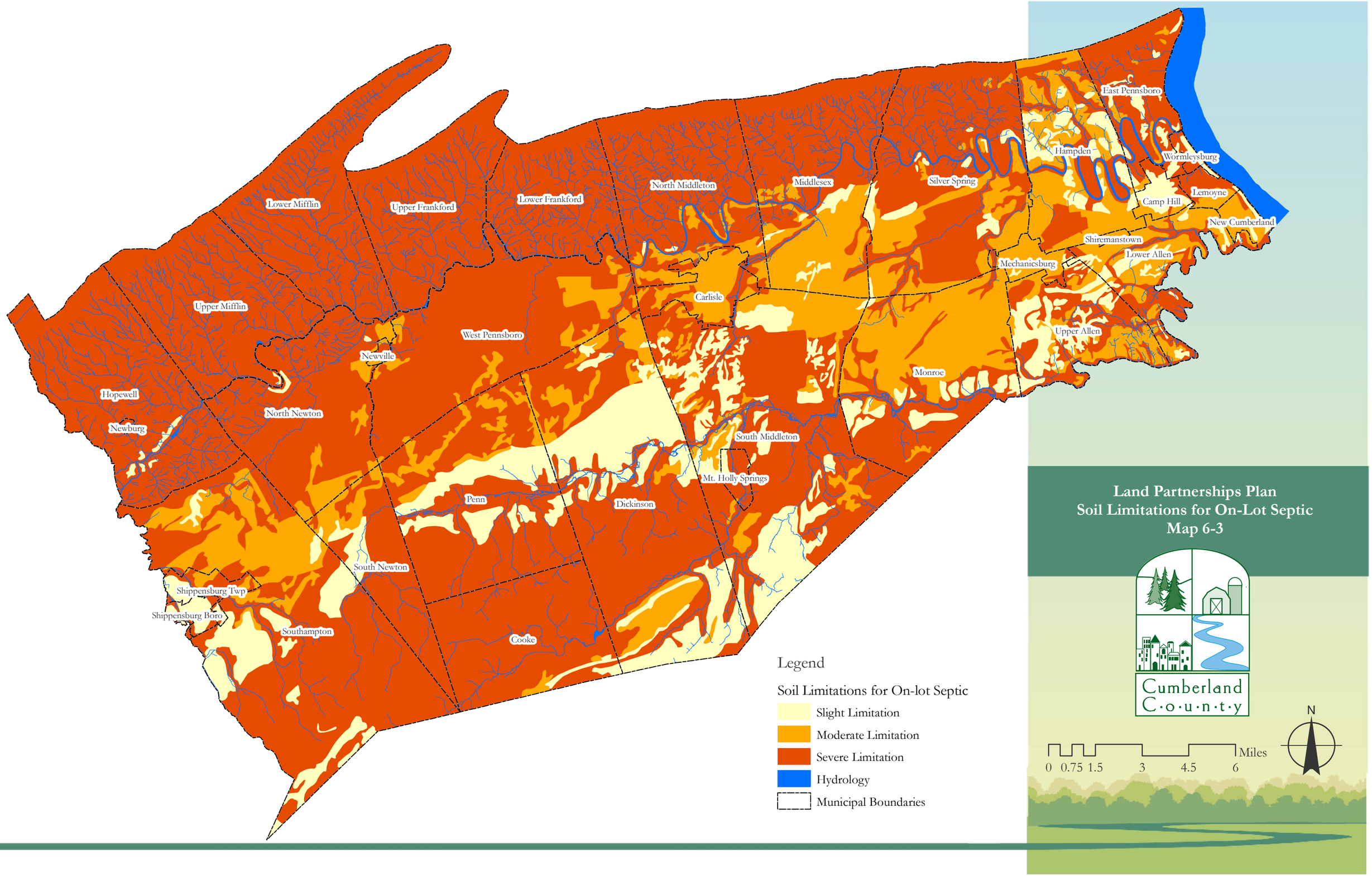
N

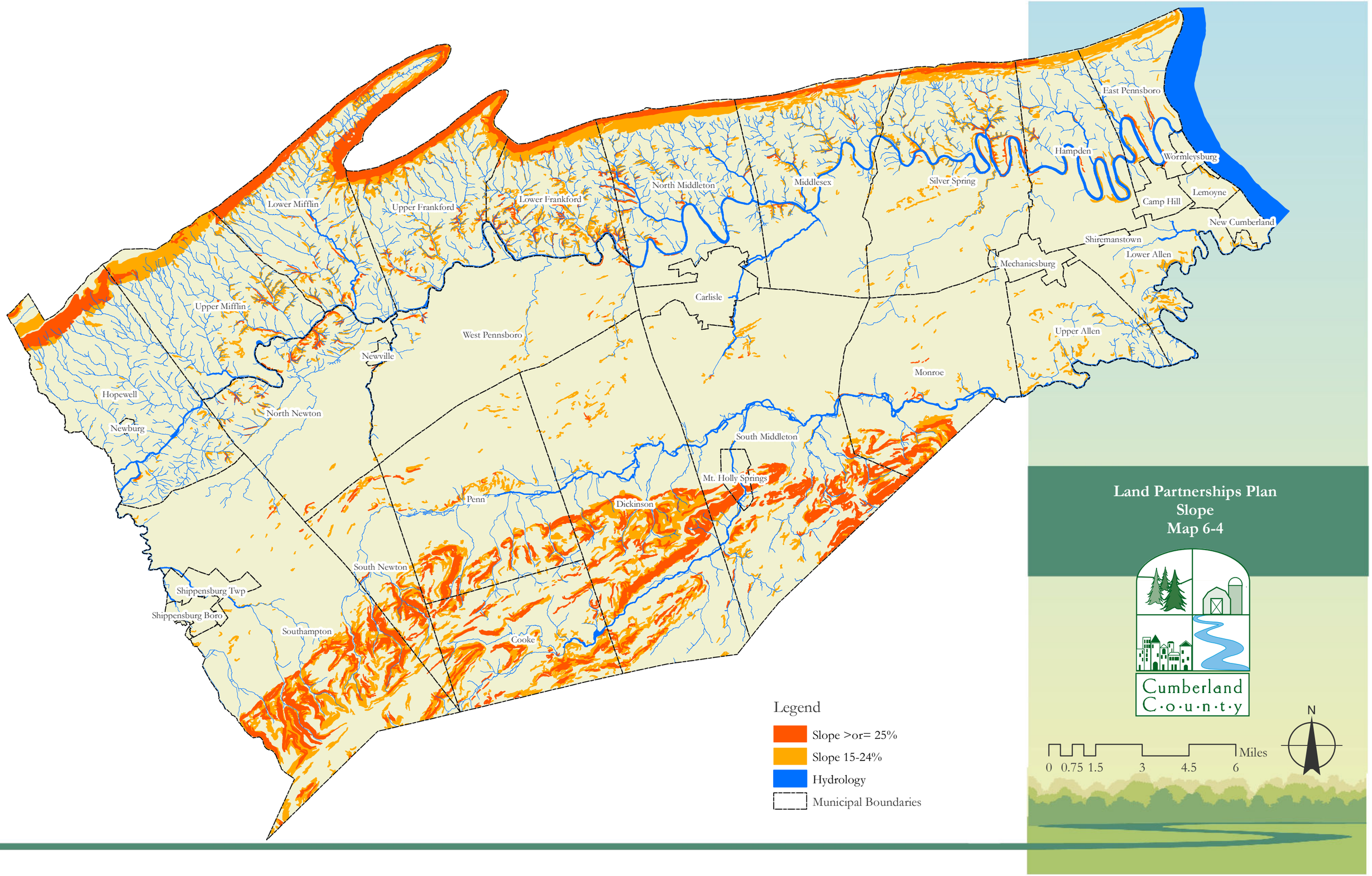

Land Partnerships Plan
Agricultural Lands
Map 5-2
Cumberland County
Legend
Agricultural Conservation Easements (1/2013)
Agricultural Security Areas (1/2013)
Municipal Boundaries
Interstate Highways
0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles
N
Lower Mifflin
Upper Frankford
Lower Frankford
North Middleton
Middlesex
Silver Spring
Hampden
East Pennsboro
Wormleysburg
Lemoyne
Camp Hill
New Cumberland
Shiremanstown
Lower Allen
Mechanicsburg
Upper Allen
Upper Mifflin
Carlisle
West Pennsboro
Newville
Monroe
Hopewell
Newburg
North Newton
South Middleton
Mt. Holly Springs
Penn
Dickinson
South Newton
Shippensburg Twp
Shippensburg Boro
Southampton
Cooke
76
81
83

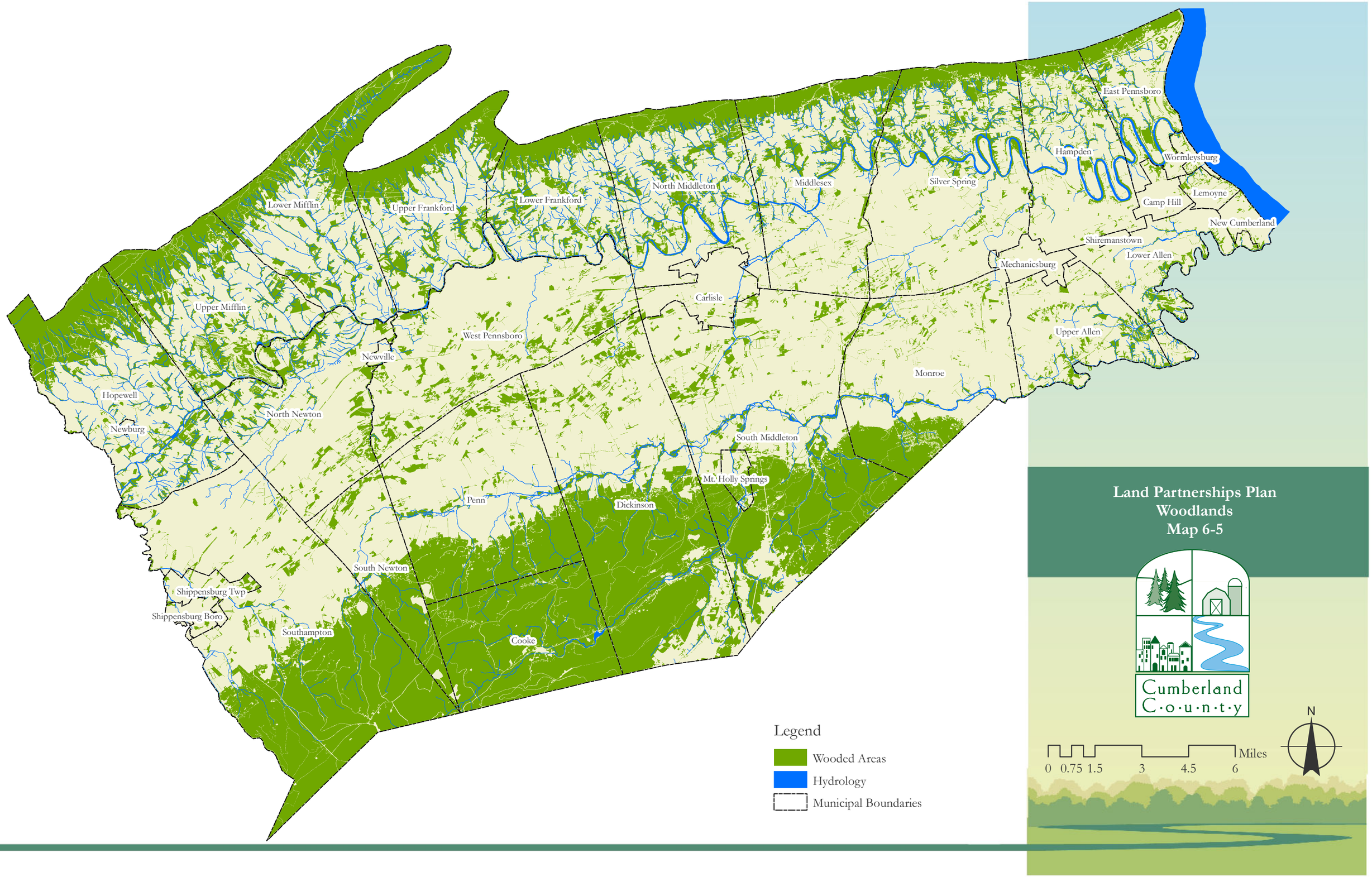

Land Partnerships Plan
Agricultural Preservation Planning Areas
Map 5-3
Cumberland County
Legend
Agricultural Preservation Planning Area
Agriculture/Prime Farmland Area
Agriculture/Rural Area
Agricultural Conservation Easements (1/2013)
Hydrology
Municipal Boundaries
Interstate Highways
0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles
N
Lower Mifflin
Upper Frankford
Lower Frankford
North Middleton
Middlesex
Silver Spring
East Pennsboro
Hampden
Wormleysburg
Lemoyne
Camp Hill
New Cumberland
Shiremanstown
Lower Allen
Mechanicsburg
Upper Allen
Upper Mifflin
Carlisle
West Pennsboro
Newville
Monroe
Hopewell
Newburg
North Newton
South Middleton
Mt. Holly Springs
Penn
Dickinson
South Newton
Shippensburg Twp
Shippensburg Boro
Southampton
Cooke
76
81
83

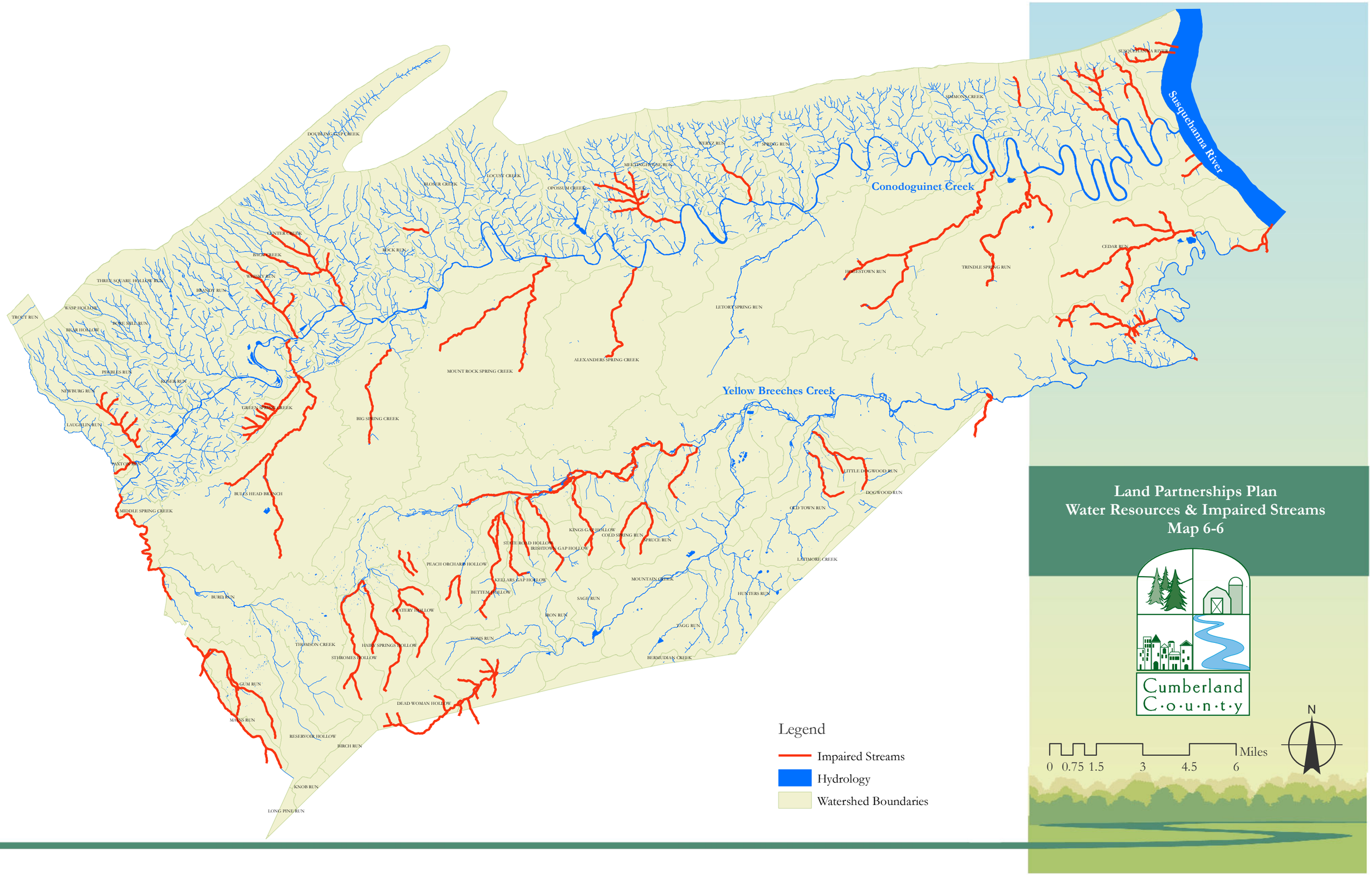

Land Partnerships Plan
Geology
Map 6-1
Cumberland County
Lower Mifflin
Upper Frankford
Lower Frankford
North Middleton
Middlesex
Silver Spring
Hampden
East Pennsboro
Wormleysburg
Lemoyne
Camp Hill
New Cumberland
Shiremanstown
Lower Allen
Mechanicsburg
Upper Allen
Carlisle
Upper Mifflin
West Pennsboro
Newville
Monroe
Hopewell
North Newton
Newburg
South Middleton
Mt. Holly Springs
Penn
Dickinson
South Newton
Shippensburg Twp
Shippensburg Boro
Southampton
Cooke
Legend
Rock Formations
Metamorphic
Sedimentary - Limestone & Dolomite
Sedimentary - Shale
Sedimentary - Sandstone
Diabase Dike
Hydrology
Municipal Boundaries
0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles
N

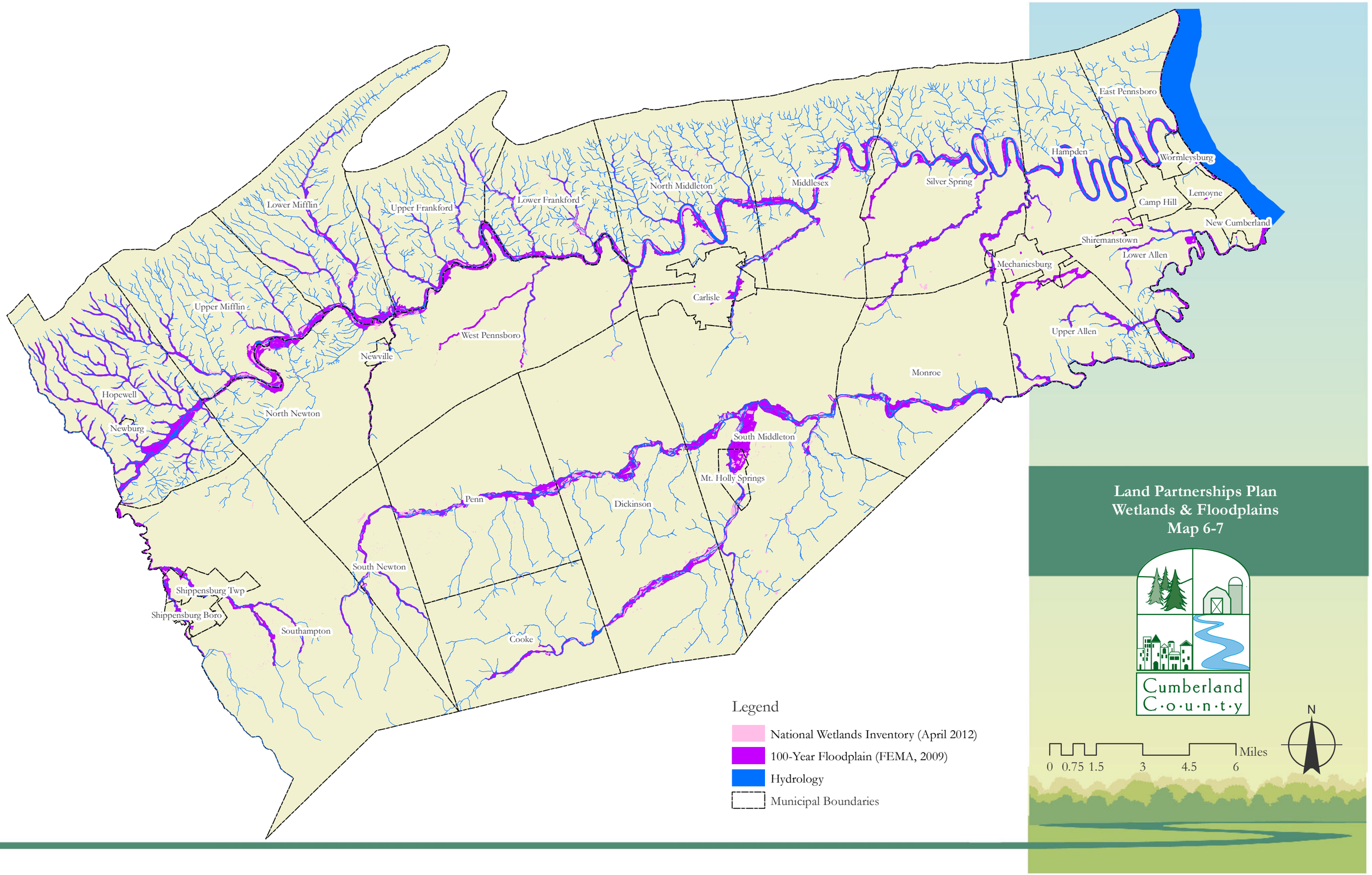

Land Partnerships Plan
Soil Associations
Map 6-2
Cumberland County
Lower Mifflin
Upper Frankford
Lower Frankford
North Middleton
Middlesex
Silver Spring
Hampden
East Pennsboro
Wormleysburg
Lemoyne
Camp Hill
New Cumberland
Shiremanstown
Lower Allen
Mechanicsburg
Carlisle
Upper Mifflin
West Pennsboro
Newville
Upper Allen
Monroe
Hopewell
North Newton
Newburg
South Middleton
Mt. Holly Springs
Penn
Dickinson
South Newton
Shippensburg Twp
Shippensburg Boro
Southampton
Cooke
Legend
Soil Associations
Athol - Neshaminy
Berks Weikert - Bedington
Hagerstown - Duffield
Hazelton - Clymer
Hazelton - Laidig - Buchanan
Highfield - Glenville
Monongahela - Atkins - Middlebury
Murrill - Laidig - Buchanan
Hydrology
Municipal Boundaries
0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles
N

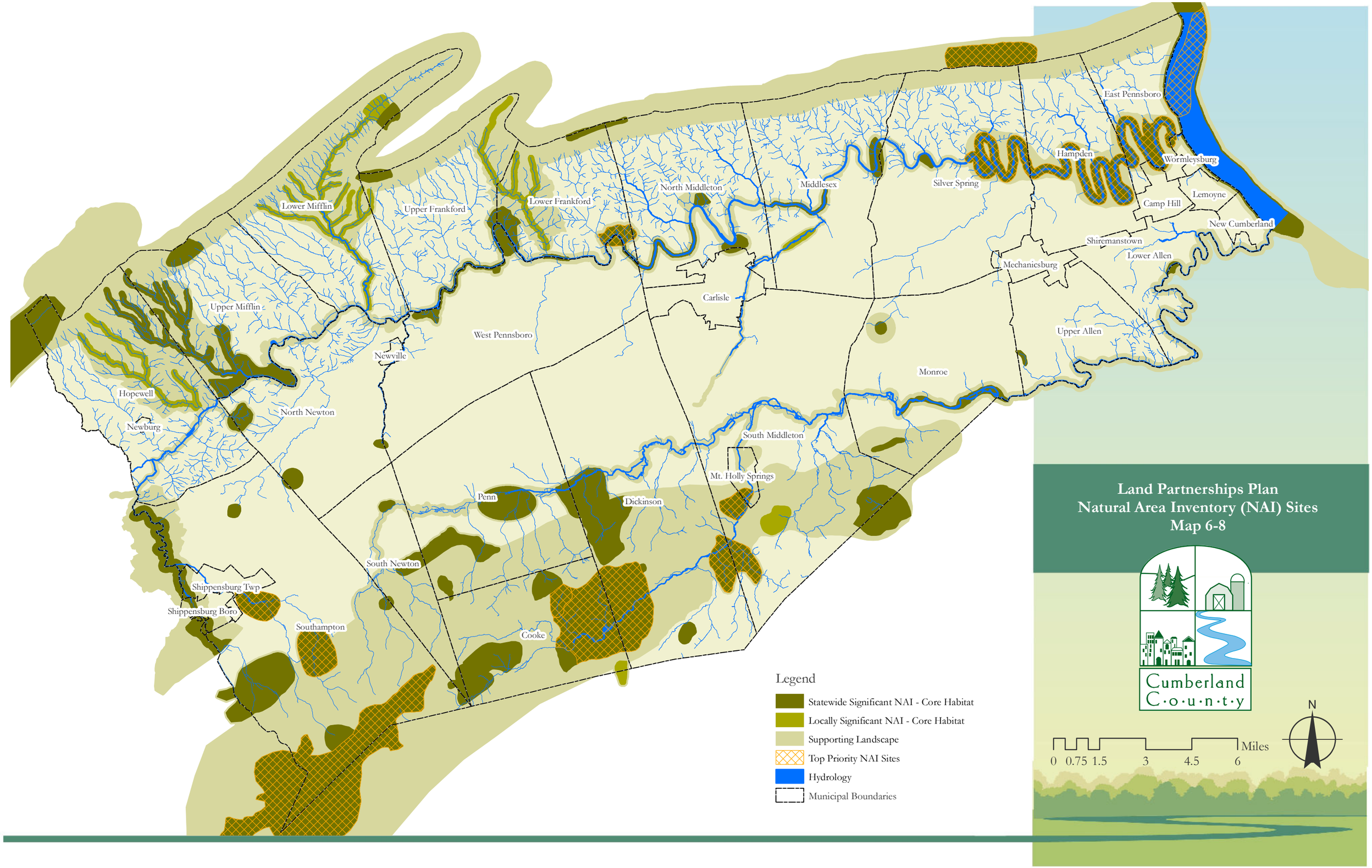

Land Partnerships Plan
Soil Limitations for On-Lot Septic
Map 6-3
Cumberland County
Legend
Soil Limitations for On-lot Septic
Slight Limitation
Moderate Limitation
Severe Limitation
Hydrology
Municipal Boundaries
0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles
N
Lower Mifflin
Upper Frankford
Lower Frankford
North Middleton
Middlesex
Silver Spring
East Pennsboro
Hampden
Wormleysburg
Camp Hill
Lemoyne
New Cumberland
Shiremanstown
Lower Allen
Mechanicsburg
Upper Allen
Upper Mifflin
Carlisle
West Pennsboro
Newville
Monroe
Hopewell
North Newton
Newburg
South Middleton
Mt. Holly Springs
Penn
Dickinson
South Newton
Shippensburg Twp
Shippensburg Boro
Southampton
Cooke

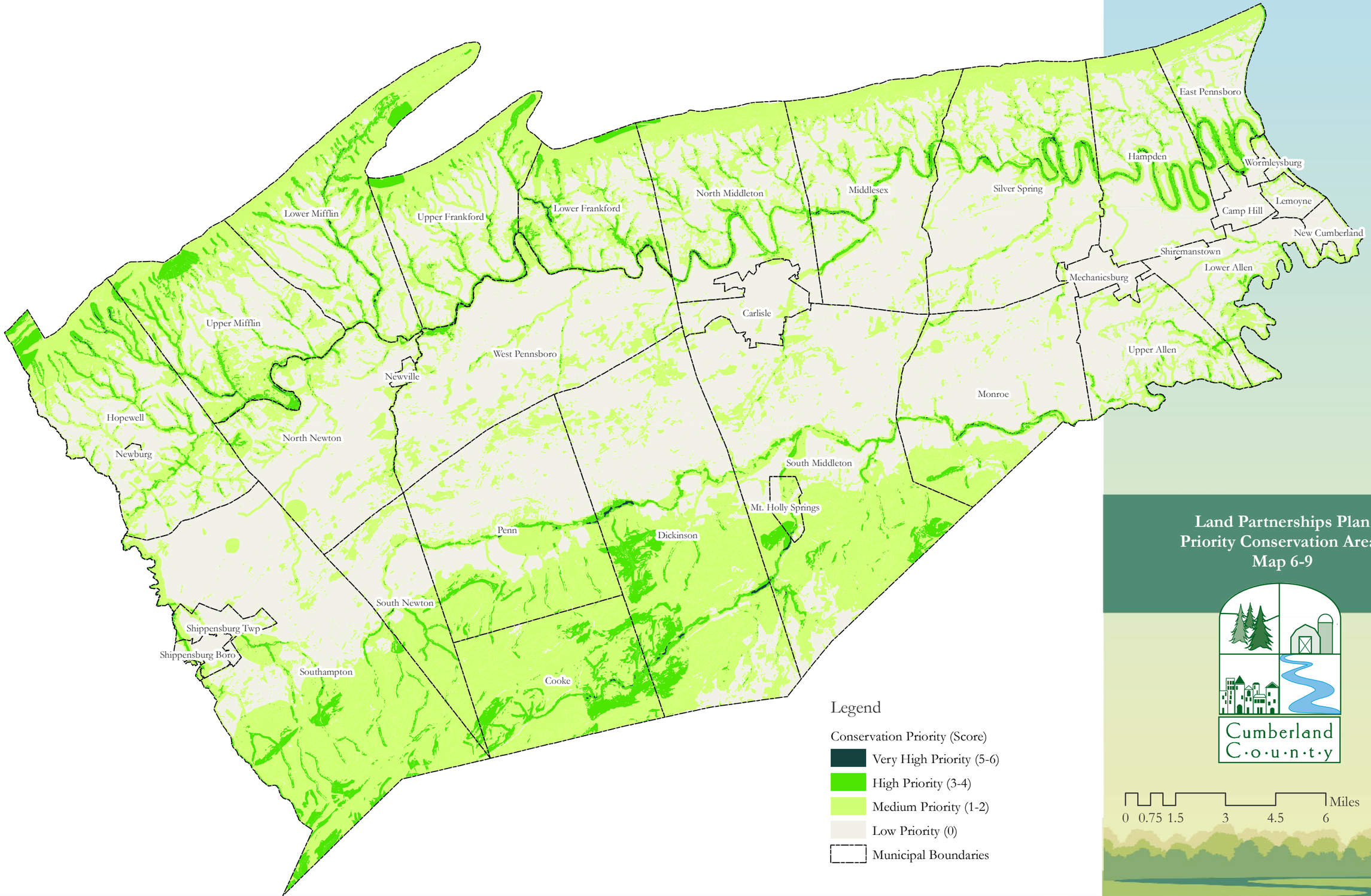

Land Partnerships Plan
Slope
Map 6-4
Cumberland County
Legend
Slope >or= 25%
Slope 15-24%
Hydrology
Municipal Boundaries
0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles
N
Lower Mifflin
Upper Frankford
Lower Frankford
North Middleton
Middlesex
Silver Spring
Hampden
East Pennsboro
Wormleysburg
Camp Hill
Lemoyne
New Cumberland
Shiremanstown
Lower Allen
Mechanicsburg
Upper Allen
Carlisle
Upper Mifflin
West Pennsboro
Newville
Monroe
Hopewell
North Newton
Newburg
South Middleton
Mt. Holly Springs
Penn
Dickinson
South Newton
Shippensburg Twp
Shippensburg Boro
Southampton
Cooke

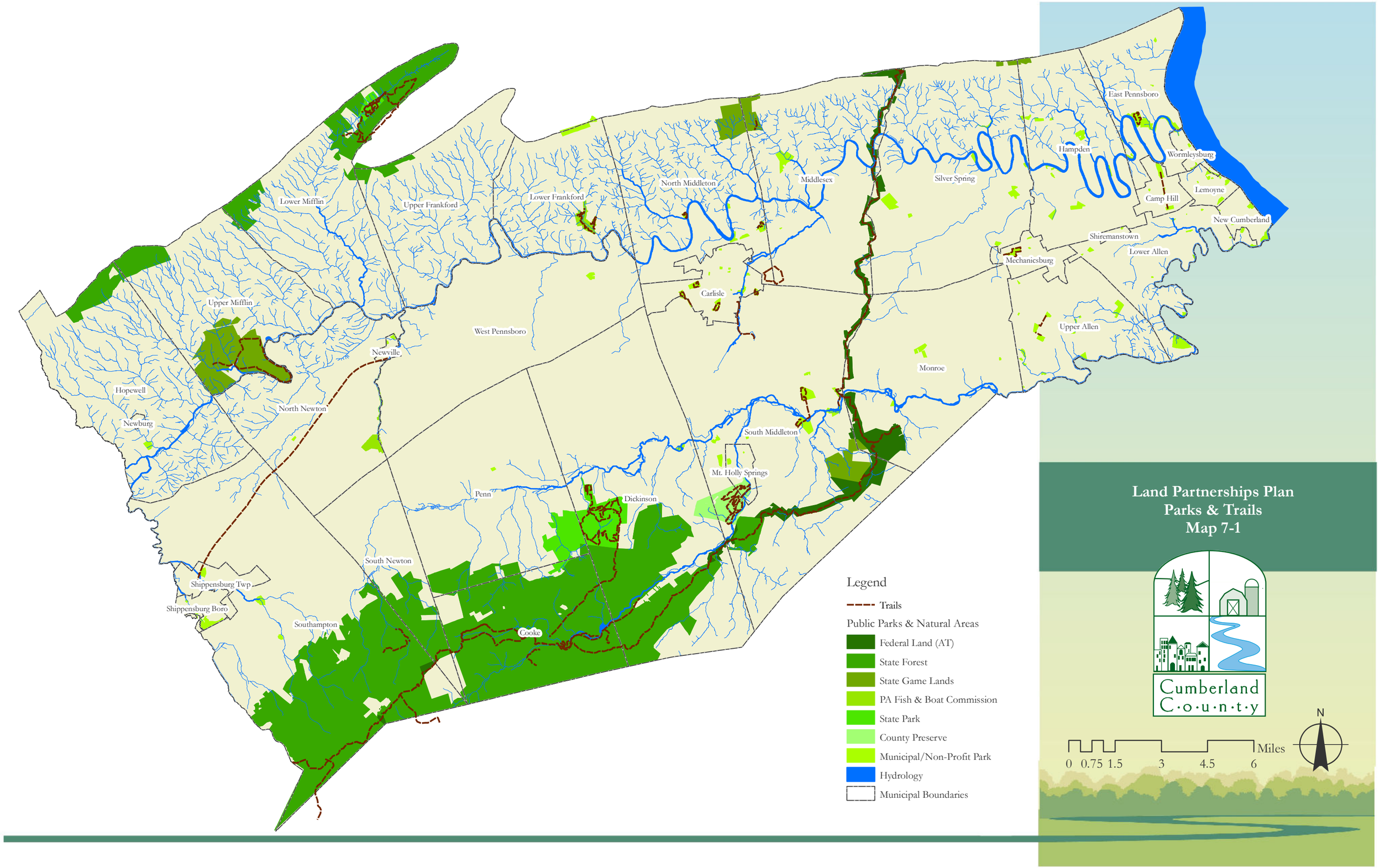

Land Partnerships Plan
Woodlands
Map 6-5
Cumberland County
Legend
Wooded Areas
Hydrology
Municipal Boundaries
0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles
N
East Pennsboro
Hampden
Wormleysburg
Lemoyne
Camp Hill
New Cumberland
Shiremanstown
Lower Allen
Mechanicsburg
Upper Allen
Silver Spring
Middlesex
North Middleton
Lower Frankford
Upper Frankford
Lower Mifflin
Upper Mifflin
Carlisle
West Pennsboro
Newville
Monroe
Hopewell
Newburg
North Newton
South Middleton
Mt. Holly Springs
Penn
Dickinson
South Newton
Shippensburg Twp
Shippensburg Boro
Southampton
Cooke


Susquehanna River
Conodoguinet Creek
Yellow Breeches Creek
SUSQUEHANNA RIVER
SIMMONS CREEK
DOUBLING GAP CREEK
WERTZ RUN
T SPRING RUN
MEETINGHOUSE RUN
LOCUST CREEK
BLOSER CREEK
OPOSSUM CREEK
CENTER CREEK
BUGG CREEK
ROCK RUN
WHISKY RUN
THREE SQUARE HOLLOW RUN
BRANDY RUN
WASP HOLLOW
TROUT RUN
BORE MILL RUN
BRAR HOLLOW
PEBBLES RUN
ROSER RUN
NEWBURG RUN
GREEN SPRING CREEK
LAUGHLIN RUN
BIG SPRING CREEK
PATTON RUN
BULLS HEAD BRANCH
MIDDLE SPRING CREEK
MOUNT ROCK SPRING CREEK
ALEXANDERS SPRING CREEK
LETORT SPRING RUN
HOGESTOWN RUN
TRINDLE SPRING RUN
CEDAR RUN
LITTLE DOGWOOD RUN
DOGWOOD RUN
OLD TOWN RUN
KINGS GAP HOLLOW
COLD SPRING RUN
SPRUCE RUN
STATE ROAD HOLLOW
IRISHTOWN GAP HOLLOW
PEACH ORCHARD HOLLOW
LATIMORE CREEK
KELLARS GAP HOLLOW
MOUNTAIN CREEK
BETTEL HOLLOW
SAGE RUN
HUNTERS RUN
BURL RUN
WATERY HOLLOW
IRON RUN
TAGG RUN
TOMS RUN
THOMSON CREEK
HAIRY SPRINGS HOLLOW
STHROMES HOLLOW
BERMUDIAN CREEK
GUM RUN
DEAD WOMAN HOLLOW
MARSH RUN
RESERVOIR HOLLOW
BIRCH RUN
KNOB RUN
LONG PINE RUN
Legend
Impaired Streams
Hydrology
Watershed Boundaries
Land Partnerships Plan
Water Resources & Impaired Streams
Map 6-6
Cumberland County
0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles
N


Land Partnerships Plan
Wetlands & Floodplains
Map 6-7
Cumberland County
Lower Mifflin
Upper Frankford
Lower Frankford
North Middleton
Middlesex
Silver Spring
Hampden
East Pennsboro
Wormleysburg
Camp Hill
Lemoyne
New Cumberland
Shiremanstown
Lower Allen
Mechanicsburg
Upper Allen
Carlisle
Upper Mifflin
West Pennsboro
Newville
Monroe
Hopewell
Newburg
North Newton
South Middleton
Mt. Holly Springs
Penn
Dickinson
South Newton
Shippensburg Twp
Shippensburg Boro
Southampton
Cooke
Legend
National Wetlands Inventory (April 2012)
100-Year Floodplain (FEMA, 2009)
Hydrology
Municipal Boundaries
0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6
Miles
N


Land Partnerships Plan
Natural Area Inventory (NAI) Sites
Map 6-8
Cumberland County
Lower Mifflin
Upper Frankford
Lower Frankford
North Middleton
Middlesex
Silver Spring
Hampden
East Pennsboro
Wormleysburg
Camp Hill
Lemoyne
New Cumberland
Shiremanstown
Lower Allen
Mechanicsburg
Upper Allen
Carlisle
Upper Mifflin
West Pennsboro
Newville
Monroe
Hopewell
North Newton
Newburg
South Middleton
Mt. Holly Springs
Penn
Dickinson
South Newton
Shippensburg Twp
Shippensburg Boro
Southampton
Cooke
Legend
Statewide Significant NAI - Core Habitat
Locally Significant NAI - Core Habitat
Supporting Landscape
Top Priority NAI Sites
Hydrology
Municipal Boundaries
0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles
N


East Pennsboro
Hampden
Wormleysburg
Lemoyne
Camp Hill
New Cumberland
Shiremanstown
Lower Allen
Mechanicsburg
Upper Allen
Silver Spring
Middlesex
North Middleton
Lower Frankford
Upper Frankford
Lower Mifflin
Upper Mifflin
Carlisle
West Pennsboro
Newville
Monroe
Hopewell
Newburg
North Newton
South Middleton
Mt. Holly Springs
Penn
Dickinson
South Newton
Shippensburg Twp
Shippensburg Boro
Southampton
Cooke
Legend
Conservation Priority (Score)
Very High Priority (5-6)
High Priority (3-4)
Medium Priority (1-2)
Low Priority (0)
Municipal Boundaries
Land Partnerships Plan
Priority Conservation Areas
Map 6-9
Cumberland County
N
0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles


Land Partnerships Plan
Parks & Trails
Map 7-1
Cumberland County
Legend
Trails
Public Parks & Natural Areas
Federal Land (AT)
State Forest
State Game Lands
PA Fish & Boat Commission
State Park
County Preserve
Municipal/Non-Profit Park
Hydrology
Municipal Boundaries
0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles
N
Lower Mifflin
Upper Frankford
Lower Frankford
North Middleton
Middlesex
Silver Spring
Hampden
East Pennsboro
Wormleysburg
Camp Hill
Lemoyne
New Cumberland
Shiremanstown
Lower Allen
Mechanicsburg
Upper Allen
Carlisle
Upper Mifflin
West Pennsboro
Newville
Monroe
Hopewell
North Newton
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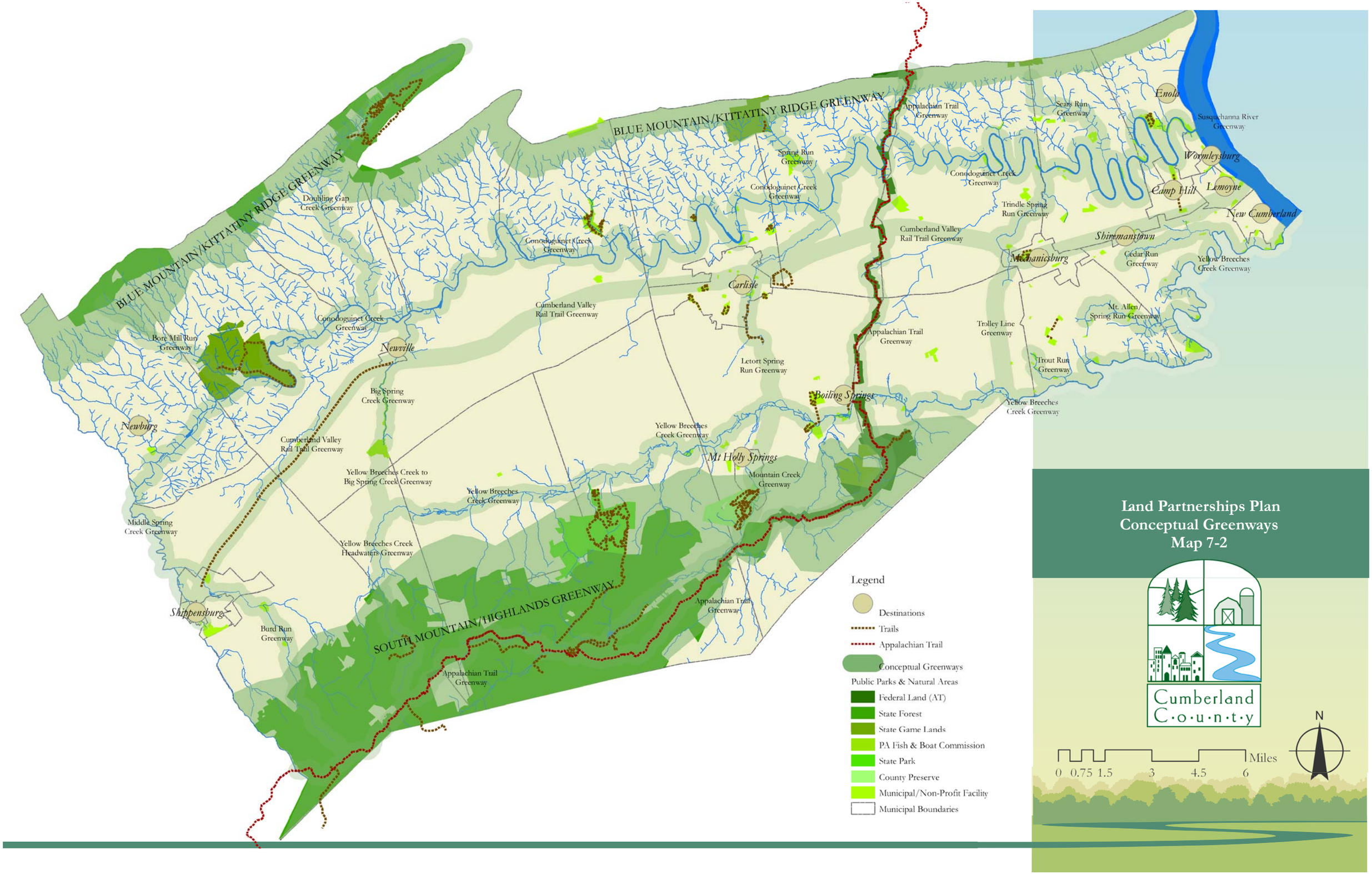
South Middleton
Mt. Holly Springs
Penn
Dickinson
South Newton
Shippensburg Twp
Shippensburg Boro
Southampton
Cooke


Land Partnerships Plan
Conceptual Greenways
Map 7-2
Cumberland County
N
0 0.75 1.5 3 4.5 6 Miles
BLUE MOUNTAIN/KITTATINY RIDGE GREENWAY
SOUTH MOUNTAIN/HIGHLANDS GREENWAY
Doubling Gap Creek Greenway
Bore Mill Run Greenway
Conodoguinet Creek Greenway
Newville
Newburg
Big Spring Creek Greenway
Cumberland Valley Rail Trail Greenway
Middle Spring Creek Greenway
Yellow Breeches Creek to Big Spring Creek Greenway
Yellow Breeches Creek Headwaters Greenway
Shippensburg
Burd Run Greenway
Appalachian Trail Greenway
Spring Run Greenway
Carlisle
Letort Spring Run Greenway
Yellow Breeches Creek Greenway
Boiling Springs
Mt Holly Springs
Mountain Creek Greenway
Trindle Spring Run Greenway
Trolley Line Greenway
Sears Run Greenway
Mechanicsburg
Shiremanstown
Cedar Run Greenway
Mt. Allen/ Spring Run Greenway
Trout Run Greenway
Enola
Susquehanna River Greenway
Wormleysburg
Camp Hill
Lemoyne
New Cumberland
Legend
Destinations
Trails
Appalachian Trail
Conceptual Greenways
Public Parks & Natural Areas
Federal Land (AT)
State Forest
State Game Lands
PA Fish & Boat Commission
State Park
County Preserve
Municipal/Non-Profit Facility
Municipal Boundaries