Continuity Through Conservation II:

Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan 2007 Supplement

2007

CONTINUITY THROUGH CONSERVATION II:
HUNTINGDON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
2007 Supplement

Prepared for:

HUNTINGDON COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
HUNTINGDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Prepared by:

HUNTINGDON COUNTY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT &
DAVID MILLER & ASSOCIATES, INC.

June 2007

Dear Citizens:

We are pleased to submit this *2007 Supplement to Continuity Through Conservation II* for your review. Building on the 2000 Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan, this supplement updates key parts of the Background Studies and recommends updated land use policies. This 2007 Supplement maintains the vision of "achieving economic prosperity while retaining the qualities of rural and small-town living."

Section I contains updates of population and demographics, environmental resources, community facilities and infrastructure and land use. A complete 2007 land use inventory is included.

Section II articulates revised goals and objectives, particularly those dealing with land use, community facilities and environmental resources.

Section III presents a revised land use plan. While the future land use map has not been updated, this chapter presents a new approach to development of regional significance, plan consistency, and environmental resources.

Thanks to those who have supported this effort; either through financial support or through participation in its development.

Sincerely,

Ron Rabena, Chairman
Huntingdon County Planning Commission

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CHAPTER 2.

Population and Demographics

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHICS ANALYSIS

Because the Comprehensive Plan is designed around people and communities it is important to understand the composition of the community we call Huntingdon County. Understanding such things as population growth or decline, gender and racial composition, age structure, household size and structure, and socio-economic factors such as mobility, education, income and poverty are all important for planning for the future.

The population of Huntingdon County grew to 45,586 residents in 2000, marking three consecutive decades of growth and the county's largest population to date. Since 1990, the county grew at 3.22 percent, reflecting a slowing of growth since 1980, and reducing the twenty-year growth rate from 12.93 percent to 7.89 percent.

Population Change

Table 1

POPULATION CHANGE, 1810-2000 Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, and in the US					
	Population			**Percent Change in Decade**		
Year	**Huntingdon County**	**PA**	**US**	**Huntingdon County**	**PA**	**US**
1810	14,778	810,091	7,239,881	-	-	-
1820	20,142	1,049,458	9,638,453	36.30%	29.55%	33.13%
1830	27,145	1,348,233	12,860,702	34.77%	28.47%	33.43%
1840	35,484	1,724,033	17,063,353	30.72%	27.87%	32.68%
1850	24,786	2,311,786	23,191,876	-30.15%	34.09%	35.92%
1860	28,100	2,906,215	31,443,321	13.37%	25.71%	35.58%
1870	31,251	3,521,951	38,558,371	11.21%	21.19%	22.63%
1880	33,954	4,282,891	50,189,209	8.65%	21.61%	30.16%
1890	35,751	5,258,113	62,979,766	5.29%	22.77%	25.48%
1900	34,650	6,302,115	76,212,168	-3.08%	19.86%	21.01%
1910	38,304	7,665,111	92,228,496	10.55%	21.63%	21.02%
1920	39,898	8,720,017	106,021,537	4.16%	13.76%	14.96%
1930	39,021	9,631,350	123,202,624	-2.20%	10.45%	16.21%
1940	41,836	9,900,180	132,164,569	7.21%	2.79%	7.27%
1950	40,877	10,498,012	151,325,798	-2.29%	6.04%	14.50%
1960	39,457	11,319,366	179,323,175	-3.47%	7.82%	18.50%
1970	39,108	11,800,766	203,302,031	-0.88%	4.25%	13.37%
1980	42,253	11,864,720	226,542,199	8.04%	0.54%	11.43%
1990	44,164	11,881,643	248,709,873	4.52%	0.14%	9.79%
2000	45,586	12,281,054	281,421,906	3.22%	3.36%	13.15%

Pennsylvania's growth slowed tremendously after 1970, resulting in a ten-year growth rate of only 0.68 percent for 1980, and a loss of 0.01 percent for 1990. The current rise in population for the state at 3.36 percent resembles that of Huntingdon County. In contrast, the United States surged in growth by 13.15 percent over the last ten years, making its twenty-year growth rate 24.22 percent. (Figure 1, Table 1)

Figure 1.

Population Change 1910-2000
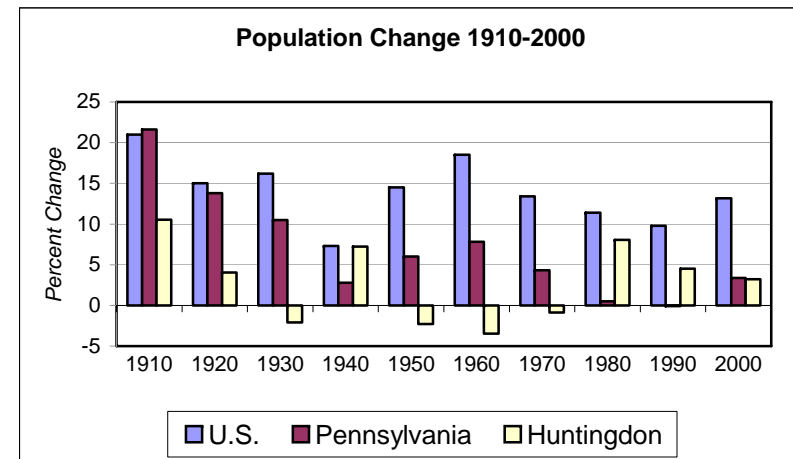
Growth in the county's 48 Minor Civil Divisions (MCD) is extremely varied, with the majority of the boroughs losing population and townships gaining, in general. While the growth rates from 1970 to 1990 were above 40 percent for twelve of the 30 townships, the current twenty-year growth rate leaves only nine townships with growth rates above 20 percent. The largest gains were in Smithfield, Barree, Juniata, and Cromwell townships, all with growth rates over 30 percent. There are six townships that have lost population since 1980: Spruce Creek (-28.14 percent), Wood (-15.12 percent), Carbon (-6.55 percent), Lincoln (-6.18 percent), Union (-5.63 percent), and Franklin (-3.66 percent). Other townships grew at rates varying from West at 1.73 percent to 79 percent in Smithfield Township due to increased numbers in the prison. Of the 18 boroughs in Huntingdon County, all but three have lost population in the last twenty years, ranging from a loss of 1.76 percent in Huntingdon Borough to a 31.39 percent decline in Dudley Borough. The majority of the boroughs lost between 10 and 20 percent of their population. The boroughs that

have gained population are Marklesburg borough at 14.89 percent, and Broad Top City at 12.94 percent. An interesting note is the zero growth in Coalmont Borough.

Following are maps comparing Huntingdon County to other counties statewide and at the MCD level for the following categories: population change from 1980 to 2000, population change from 1990 to 2000, and population density. Just over half of Pennsylvania counties gained population, including five of Huntingdon's neighboring counties. Huntingdon's twenty year growth rate at 7.89 percent is slightly double that of the state average of 3.52 percent. Of the 67 counties, 30 lost population, 26 gained between 1 and 20 percent, and just 11 have grown more than 20 percent.

Map 1

Percent Population Change 1990 - 2000

-6.4 - -0.01   0 - 4.99   5 - 9.99   10 - 19.99   20 - 65.57

Map 2

Percent Population Change 1980 - 2000

-16.7 - -4.9   -4.8 - 4.9   5 - 14.9   15 - 34.9   35 - 153.4

Map 3

Population Density per Square Mile 2000

11.5 - 174   175. - 249   250 - 999   1000 - 2999   3000 - 11233.5

Percent Population Change 1990 - 2000

-17.24 - -10.1
-10 - -1.1
-1 - 4.9
5 - 14.9
15 - 30.91

Map 4

Percent Population Change 1980 - 2000

-31.9 - -15.1
-15 - 0
0.1 - 15.4
15.5 - 38.9
39 - 79

Map 5

7
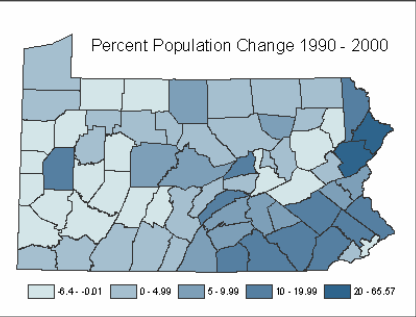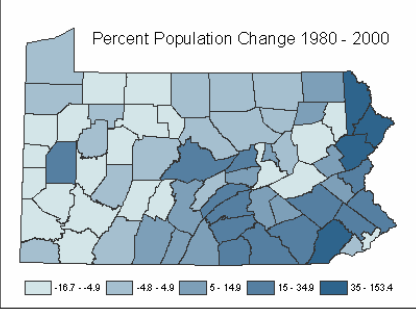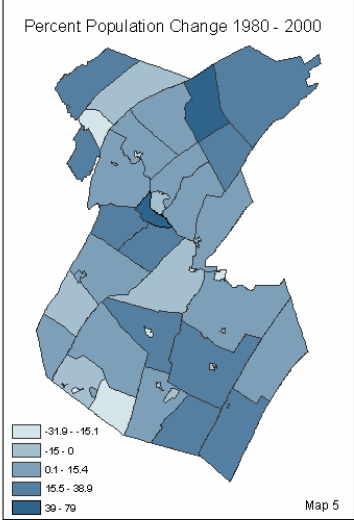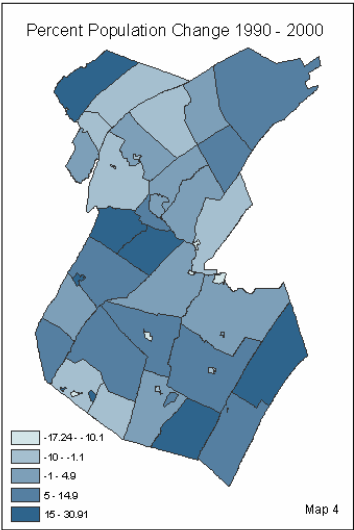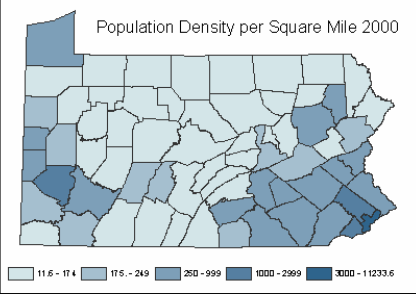
Planning Regions:

A planning region is a group of municipalities whose physical locations and proximity to one another create similarities in statistical trends. By grouping these contiguous municipalities, discoveries can be made on a sub-county basis about how people move across municipal boundaries. Planning is simplified and enhanced as we discover that population growth or decline, economic wealth or poverty, and social trends can be linked to area rather than just to a borough or township. Huntingdon County has 11 planning regions.

PLANNING REGIONS
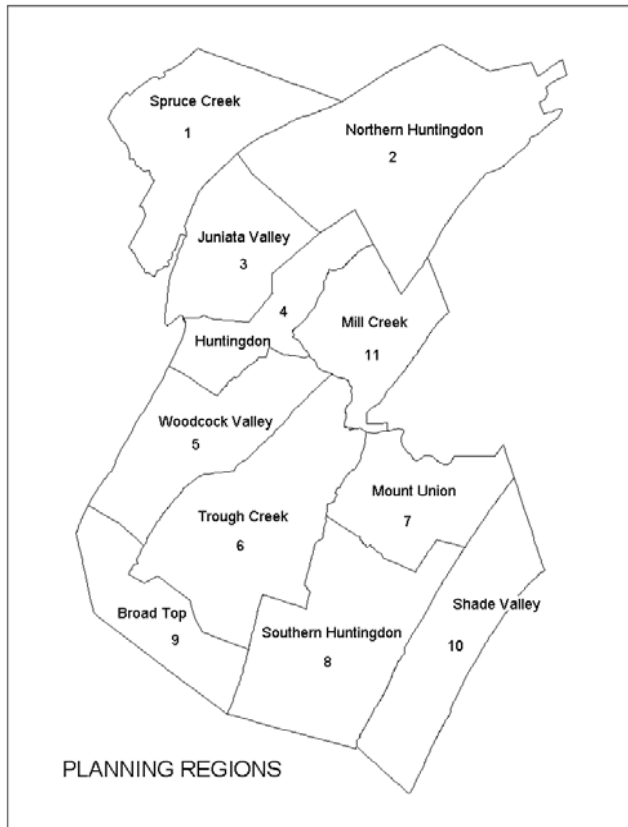
Region 1 Spruce Creek: Birmingham borough, Franklin, Morris, Spruce Creek, and Warriors Mark Townships. Since 1990, the region grew by 7.79 percent, overall gaining 206 residents. The jump in growth in Warriors Mark offsets the losses in the other municipalities, reversing the trend in the 80's.

Region 2 Northern Huntingdon: Barree, Jackson, Miller, and West Townships.

Growth has slowed in this area, with only Jackson Township maintaining a growth rate around 8 percent. West Township was the big gainer in the 1980's, but has lost 44 residents over the last decade.

Region 3 Juniata Valley: Alexandria and Petersburg Boroughs, and Logan and Porter Townships. Despite Logan's gain of 19 persons, this region has suffered a small decline overall.

Region 4 Huntingdon: Huntingdon Borough, Oneida, Smithfield, and Walker Townships. The largest population concentration in the county is in this region and experienced a rise in population by 636 residents, or 4.67 percent.

Region 5 Woodcock Valley: Marklesburg Borough, Juniata, Lincoln, and Penn Townships. Most of the growth in this area came from Juniata and Marklesburg, contributing to the largest regional increase of 14.55 percent.

Region 6 Trough Creek: Cassville and Mapleton Boroughs, Cass, Todd, and Union Townships. The boroughs suffered a high percentage of loss, but the townships gained considerably to push growth up 2.92 percent.

Region 7 Mount Union: Mount Union and Shirleysburg Boroughs, and Shirley Township. The huge loss of 374 residents in Mount Union Borough contributed to this region suffering the largest losses of all the regions, falling by 6.2 percent.

Region 8 Southern Huntingdon: Orbisonia, Rockhill Furnace, Saltillo, and Three Springs Boroughs, and Clay, Cromwell, and Springfield Townships. Large gains in Cromwell and Springfield Townships helped the region to gain 226 residents.

Region 9 Broad Top: Broad Top City, Coalmont, and Dudley Boroughs, and Carbon, Hopewell, and Wood Townships. This area grew by 2.31 percent, with half the municipalities gaining and the other half losing population.

Region 10 Shade Valley: Shade Gap Borough, Dublin, and Tell Townships. The second largest regional gain of 13.57 percent gained 242 residents for this area.

Region 11 Mill Creek: Mill Creek Borough, Brady and Henderson Townships. Henderson was the only gainer in this region, helping to counter large losses in Mill Creek, resulting in a small loss of 0.84 percent for the region.

Table 2

Population Analysis

Name	2000 Population	1990 Population	Population Change	Percent Change
Huntingdon County	45586	44164	1422	3.22
Average	1014	986	28	2.84
Planning Region 1	2000 pop.	1990 pop.	Pop. change	Pct. change
Birmingham borough	91	109	-18	-16.51
Franklin township	447	466	-19	-4.08
Morris township	416	415	1	0.24
Spruce Creek township	263	281	-18	-6.41
Warriors Mark township	1635	1375	260	18.91
Spruce Creek - total	2852	2646	206	7.79
Spruce Creek - avg	570	529	41	7.79
Planning Region 2	2000 pop.	1990 pop.	Pop. change	Pct. change
Barree township	460	450	10	2.22
Jackson township	882	816	66	8.09
Miller township	514	474	40	8.44
West township	528	572	-44	-7.69
Northern Huntingdon - total	2384	2312	72	3.11
Northern Huntingdon - avg	596	578	18	3.11
Planning Region 3	2000 pop.	1990 pop.	Pop. change	Pct. change
Alexandria borough	401	411	-10	-2.43
Logan township	703	684	19	2.78
Petersburg borough	455	469	-14	-2.99
Porter township	1917	1942	-25	-1.29
Juniata Valley - total	3476	3506	-30	-0.86
Juniata Valley - avg	869	877	-8	-0.86
Planning Region 4	2000 pop.	1990 pop.	Pop. change	Pct. change
Huntingdon borough	6918	6843	75	1.10
Oneida township	1129	1085	44	4.06
Smithfield township	4466	4181	285	6.82
Walker township	1747	1515	232	15.31
Huntingdon - total	14260	13624	636	4.67
Huntingdon - avg	3565	3406	159	4.67
Planning Region 5	2000 pop.	1990 pop.	Pop. change	Pct. change
Juniata township	553	429	124	28.90
Lincoln township	319	320	-1	-0.31
Marklesburg borough	216	165	51	30.91
Penn township	1054	956	98	10.25
Woodcock Valley - total	2142	1870	272	14.55
Woodcock Valley - avg	536	468	68	14.55
Planning Region 6	2000 pop.	1990 pop.	Pop. change	Pct. change
Cass township	1062	998	64	6.41
Cassville borough	152	183	-31	-16.94
Mapleton borough	473	529	-56	-10.59
Todd township	1004	889	115	12.94

Population Analysis

Name	2000 Population	1990 Population	Population Change	Percent Change
Union township	1005	992	13	1.31
Trough Creek - total	3696	3591	105	2.92
Trough Creek - avg	739	718	21	2.92
Planning Region 7	2000 pop.	1990 pop.	Pop. change	Pct. change
Mount Union borough	2504	2878	-374	-13.00
Shirley township	2526	2494	32	1.28
Shirleysburg borough	140	140	0	0.00
Mount Union - total	5170	5512	-342	-6.20
Mount Union - avg	1723	1837	-114	-6.20
Planning Region 8	2000 pop.	1990 pop.	Pop. change	Pct. change
Clay township	920	921	-1	-0.11
Cromwell township	1632	1500	132	8.80
Orbisonia borough	425	447	-22	-4.92
Rockhill Furnace borough	414	421	-7	-1.66
Saltillo borough	343	347	-4	-1.15
Springfield township	612	507	105	20.71
Three Springs borough	445	422	23	5.45
Southern Huntingdon - total	4791	4565	226	4.95
Southern Huntingdon - avg	684	652	32	4.95
Planning Region 9	2000 pop.	1990 pop.	Pop. change	Pct. change
Broad Top City borough	384	331	53	16.01
Carbon township	428	438	-10	-2.28
Coalmont borough	128	109	19	17.43
Dudley borough	192	232	-40	-17.24
Hopewell township	587	540	47	8.70
Wood township	713	727	-14	-1.93
Broad Top - total	2432	2377	55	2.31
Broad Top - avg	405	396	9	2.31
Planning Region 10	2000 pop.	1990 pop.	Pop. change	Pct. change
Dublin township	1280	1119	161	14.39
Shade Gap borough	97	113	-16	-14.16
Tell township	648	551	97	17.60
Shade Valley - total	2025	1783	242	13.57
Shade Valley - avg	675	594	81	13.57
Planning Region 11	2000 pop.	1990 pop.	Pop. change	Pct. change
Brady township	1035	1053	-18	-1.71
Henderson township	972	954	18	1.89
Mill Creek borough	351	392	-41	-10.46
Mill Creek - total	2358	2378	-20	-0.84
Mill Creek - avg	786	793	-7	-0.84

Urban and Rural Populations

Huntingdon County has 67 percent of its population living in a rural, non-farm setting, down from 75 percent a decade ago. Farming has dropped from 2.8 percent in 1990 to 2.2 percent in 2000. Urban populations in the boroughs have increased from 22.2 percent in 1990 to 30.7 in 2000.   In comparison, Huntingdon County has a much greater rural land area than many counties in Pennsylvania, which results in a larger rural population. Of the county's population of 45,586, 14,129 (31 percent) resided in boroughs, while 31457 (67 percent) lived in the more rural townships, a meager increase of only 1 percent over 1990.

Nearly opposite of the county, Pennsylvania's population was 68.1 percent urban in 1990, with only 1.0 percent rural farmers. Now 77 percent are considered urban residents, an increase of almost 9 percent, with rural farmers holding relatively steady at 0.7 percent.   Similarly, the U.S. has an urban population of 79 percent, with a slightly larger percentage of rural farmers (1.1 percent). The U.S. rural non-farm population is only 19.9 percent, down from 24.1 percent in 1990.

The U.S. Census Bureau defines "urban" for the 2000 census as all territory, population, and housing units located within urbanized areas (UAs) and urban clusters (UCs). It delineates UA and UC boundaries to encompass densely settled territory, which generally consists of:

> ➢ A cluster of one or more block groups or census blocks each of which has a population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile at the time, and
> ➢ Surrounding block groups and census blocks each of which has a population density of at least 500 people per square mile at the time, and
> ➢ Less densely settled blocks that form enclaves or indentations, or are used to connect discontiguous areas with qualifying densities.

An urban cluster (UC) consists of densely settled territory that has at least 2,500 people but fewer than 50,000 people. (A UC can have 50,000 or more people if fewer than 35,000 people live in an area that is not part of a military reservation.)

The U.S. Census Bureau introduced the UC for Census 2000 to provide a more consistent and accurate measure of the population concentration in and around places. UCs replace the provision in the 1990 and previous censuses that defined as urban only those places with 2,500 or more people located outside of urbanized areas.

An urbanized area (UA) consists of densely settled territory that contains 50,000 or

more people. The U.S. Census Bureau delineates UAs to provide a better separation of urban and rural territory, population, and housing in the vicinity of large places. At least 35,000 people in a UA must live in an area that is not part of a military reservation.

For Census 2000, the UA criteria specify that the delineations be performed using a zero-based approach. Because of the more stringent density requirements and the less restrictive extended place criteria, some territory that was classified as urbanized for the 1990 census has been reclassified as rural. (Area that was part of a 1990 UA has not been automatically grandfathered into the 2000 UA.) In addition, some areas that were identified as UAs for the 1990 census have been reclassified as urban clusters.

Age and Gender Composition

Median Age
The median age for Huntingdon County in 2000 was 37.7; this was slightly lower than Pennsylvania (38.0). The median age for the United States is much lower than the county at 35.3. Of note is the median age for Smithfield Township at 35, due to the correctional facility population, and 32.7 in Huntingdon Borough due to the population of students at Juniata College. Other lower age populations are in Mill Creek, Saltillo boroughs, and Todd Township with similar ages to Huntingdon Borough. Elsewhere, the population tends to be much older. In eleven of the 18 boroughs, the median age is over 38 years old including Orbisonia (43.6), Marklesburg (43), Broad Top City (42.7), Three Springs (42.5), and Shirleysburg (42.3).

Age Structure
Huntingdon County is generally younger than Pennsylvania, and older than the U.S. The population under eighteen years of age for Huntingdon County is 21.7, just over 2 percent less than Pennsylvania at 23.79. The percent of females between 15 and 44 in the county are lower than both the Commonwealth and the U.S. at 18.91 percent. The county's elderly population over 65 again falls between state and U.S. at 14.8 percent. For the United States, 25.69 percent of its population was under eighteen years, 21.88 percent were females in the child rearing ages of 15 to 44, and 12.4 percent were over the age of 65. The Pennsylvania population had 23.79 percent under the age of eighteen, 20.85 percent of females were between 15 and 44, and 15.6 percent were over the age of 65.

Figure 2 shows a population breakdown for the U.S., Pennsylvania, and Huntingdon County by percentage over grouped age cohorts. When comparing Pennsylvania to the United States, it is interesting to observe the discrepancies created by the state's aging population and loss of wage earning cohorts. There are also many differences that can be found when comparing Huntingdon County to Pennsylvania and the U.S.

Figure 2.

Age Structure of Population, 2000
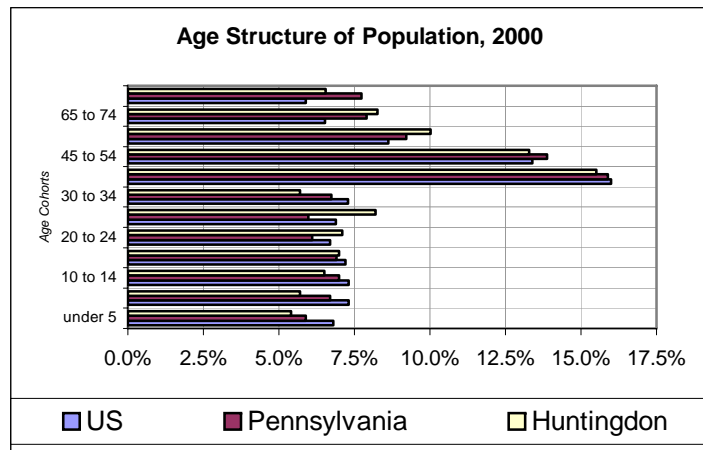
The crude fertility rate for Huntingdon County has declined and is 1.4 percent lower than the U.S. and almost ½ percent lower than Pennsylvania. This is shown in the less than 5 years old cohort, which comprises 5.4 percent of the county's population, 5.9 percent of the state, and 6.8 percent of the nation. Overall, the fertility rate for all three has declined by about one percent, but the relative relationships have remained constant. A large portion of the county's female population between 20 and 24 are enrolled at Juniata College, reducing the actual proportion of females involved in the stage of life where fertility is higher, and therefore, contributing to a lower rate for the county.

Another significant feature of the Huntingdon County population pyramid, when compared to Pennsylvania and U.S. statistics, are the greater concentration of persons aged 15 to 29, where Huntingdon County outpaces Pennsylvania by over 3 percent and the nation by 1.5 percent. The populations of students at Juniata College and those living in the State Correctional Institution in Smithfield help to explain this difference. When we look at the portion of the population ages 15 to 19, the county is much more similar, with 0.1 percent more than the state, and just 0.2 percent less than the nation. Without the significant number of residents on college and institutions, the age structure for the county would be much more similar to the state.

A significant concern for an area with populations that are concentrated in transitory occupations, such as college and institutions, is the retention of youth after their tenure. Neither Huntingdon County nor Pennsylvania has been successful in retaining this segment as reflected in the age cohorts between 30 and 54, the wage earners. Huntingdon County's population in the age 30 to 44 cohort is almost 2.5

percent lower than the U.S. at 28.9 percent. The county's population aged 45 to 54 is only 0.1 percent lower. When compared to Pennsylvania, however, the county is 1 percent lower for those aged 30 to 44 and twice as high for those aged 45 to 54 at 13.2 percent compared to 7.4 percent.

Huntingdon County is youthful as a whole. Pennsylvania is older than the U.S. with 15.6 percent of its population over the age of 65 as compared to the U.S. at a lower 12.4 percent. Huntingdon County is younger than the Pennsylvania in the elderly cohorts, at 14.8 percent but is still 2.4 percent higher than the nation. An important statistic to note, however, is for the 55 to 64 year old cohort, where the percent of the county's population outpaces that of Pennsylvania, by .8 percent. Overall, the higher concentration of persons in the age cohorts of 35 to 65 years old will affect Huntingdon County by raising its median age compared to that of Pennsylvania and will clearly outpace the youth of the nation.

Racial Composition
Huntingdon County as a whole has a large black and non-white population as compared to other areas in the state, but it remains much lower than Pennsylvania overall. The county's black population was 4.7 percent in 1990, with the majority of the concentrations in Smithfield Township, Huntingdon Borough, and Mount Union Borough. These three municipalities house 95.6 percent of the black population in the county, with 79.6 percent in Smithfield Township at the correctional institution. Overall, Huntingdon County has a high non-white population for a predominately rural area at 6.7 percent. Pennsylvania's non-white population is 14.6 percent, of those, 10 percent were classified as black. Black and other races grew by over 1½ percent since 1990 resulting from the growth in black population, from 11.4 percent in 1990.

Percent of Population

0.0 - 0.7
0.8 - 1.7
1.8 - 3.6
3.7 - 13.5
13.6 - 47.0

2000 NON-WHITE
POPULATION

MAP 7
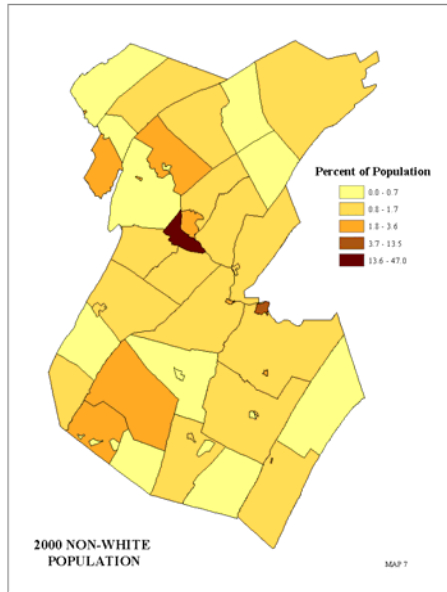
Household Size and Structure
There were 16,759 households in Huntingdon County in 2000, an increase of 1,232 households, or 7.93 percent. Growth in households continues to outpace population growth nearly doubling its 3.22 percent population growth. The number of households in Pennsylvania has also grown at about the same rate, also nearly doubling its population growth. There is a trend towards smaller household sizes, and in many older areas with declining populations, this trend is furthered for several reasons. Families with children are among the first to move when job opportunities decrease, many of the area's youth do not return to the area after having completed higher education (brain-drain), aging housing tends to be converted to rental units, which typically house one- and two-person households, and today's dual career families tend to have fewer children.

Trends in the persons per household in Huntingdon County are similar to the state and the nation, decreasing from 2.58 persons per household in 1990 to 2.44. Persons per household range from 2.51 in Mount Union Borough to 3.01 in Morris Township. Pennsylvania held fairly steady, dropping by 0.09 persons per household from 2.57 to 2.48.

Marital Status
In 2000, Huntingdon County's now married population over fifteen years of age is

56.63 percent, still over two percent higher than the state at 54.27. Huntingdon County's younger population may account for this. The county's never married population is 25.63 percent, compared to 27.23 percent for the state.

While the divorce rates have climbed over the past decade for the U.S. and Pennsylvania, Huntingdon County's divorce rate rose from 7.01 to just 7.74 percent. In 1990, Pennsylvania had the lowest rate at 6.64 percent, but it is now higher than Huntingdon County's at 8.11 percent. The divorce rate in the U.S. jumped from 7.01 in 1990 to 9.75 in 2000. The female widowed population has declined for both the county and the state, falling from 7.32 to 6.54 and from 7.51 to 6.66, respectively.

Living Situations
Living situations examine the number of persons below 18 years of age, their living situations and the living arrangements of persons. Huntingdon County has a high percentage of minors raised in married couple families at 79.23, while Pennsylvania's percentage is lower at 75.64. The number of children being raised in a female-headed household has risen over three percent to 13.95 over the last decade. This figure may be of some concern, as female-headed households tend to live in poverty.

Properly examining living arrangements, household type and relations in the county requires considering the 3,605 persons residing in institutional group quarters, 7.91 percent of the county's population. Together with other group quarters at 2.36 percent, over 10 percent of the Huntingdon County population resided in group quarters. This is in sharp contrast to Pennsylvania with only 3.53 percent in group quarters, roughly one third that of the county.

The householder dominates the remaining portion of residents at 25.88 percent, with persons registered as spouses making up 21.37 percent. Persons living alone represent only 9.5 percent of the county's residents. The percentages for Pennsylvania are similar to Huntingdon County, with householders at 26.12 percent, and spouses at 20 percent. 10.76 percent of Pennsylvanians are listed as living alone, a larger percentage than the county, which means that the number of persons in group quarters heavily outweighs the student population at the university.

Socioeconomic Characteristics
To get a more complete picture of the community, basic demographic information is combined with social and economic patterns, including educational attainment, income and poverty, ancestry, and rural characteristics. Together, these population characteristics help to create a unique planning context for each community.

Migration
Migration is explained in the number of residents moving in (or out) after accounting

for natural increases, that is, births minus deaths. Since 1980, the county's net migration has been 985 persons. Between 1990 and 2000, the net immigration remained similar to the previous decade at an increase of 455 persons. (Tables 3, 4)

Table 3

Population Immigration (Emigration), 1980-1990				
Huntingdon County				
Actual Population 1980	Natural Change*	Potential 1990 Population	Actual 1990 Population	Net Immigration**
42,253	1,381	43,643	45,586	530
*Births Minus Deaths, for the period				
**Actual population minus potential population, for the period				

Table 4

Population Immigration (Emigration), 1990-2000				
Huntingdon County				
Actual Population 1990	Natural Change*	Potential 2000 Population	Actual 2000 Population***	Net Immigration**
45,586	967	45,131	45,586	455
*Births Minus Deaths, for the period				
**Actual population minus potential population, for the period				
*** 2000 Census Data				

Place of Birth

Compared to the population of Pennsylvania, Huntingdon County residents are still more likely to be born in the state. 88.6 percent of the county residents were born in Pennsylvania, compared to just over 81 percent of the Commonwealth residents. The Pennsylvania natives of Huntingdon County have remained the same since 1990, while the percent of native state residents has increased from 80.2 percent.

Residence in 1995

Residence in 1995 is used to measure the stability or transience of a population. The residents of Huntingdon County are more likely to have lived in the same house five years ago than compared to other Pennsylvanians. Huntingdon County's 68.2 percent has risen from 66.9 percent the previous decade, and is now almost 5 percent over the state's current percentage of 63.5, an increase of two percent from 1990. Looking at residents who are living in the same county, results in a different picture,

however, with 16.6 percent staying in Huntingdon County compared to 21.7 percent of Pennsylvania's residents. Residents of Huntingdon County who stayed in Pennsylvania, but moved to a different house numbered at 11.1 percent, compared to 7.6 percent for the state.

Year Occupied Present House

In general, Huntingdon County residents are less mobile than other Pennsylvania residents. Huntingdon County householders occupying their residence for 10 years or more total 50 percent down 3.6 percent from 1990, and is still lower than Pennsylvania's householders at 53.8 percent, which is now up from 48.1 percent a decade ago. Just over 18 percent of Huntingdon County's residents moved into their homes in the past 10 to 20 years, falling from almost 25 percent to resemble Pennsylvania's current rate of 17.2 percent. Huntingdon County's population appears to be more stable than the state as evidenced by the 34.4 percent who moved into their homes since 1995, compared to 38.4 for the Commonwealth.

Income

In 1999, the median household income in Huntingdon County was $33,313. This is well below the Commonwealth median of $40,106 and United States median $41,994. In comparison, almost 20 percent of Huntingdon County's households had incomes of less than $10,000 and nearly 74 percent were below $35,000. Only 15.5 percent of Pennsylvania households had

the of

incomes under $10,000 and 59.6 had incomes below $35,000. Comparable U.S. figures were 15.5 percent and 57.7 percent, respectively. These lower-income figures have remained fairly constant over the last decade for Huntingdon County and Pennsylvania, but have risen about two percent for the nation. In contrast, there are significant differences in household incomes over $50,000. The county's percentage has remained at about 10.9, the state's stayed at 22, but the US's jumped two and a half percent to 24.5.
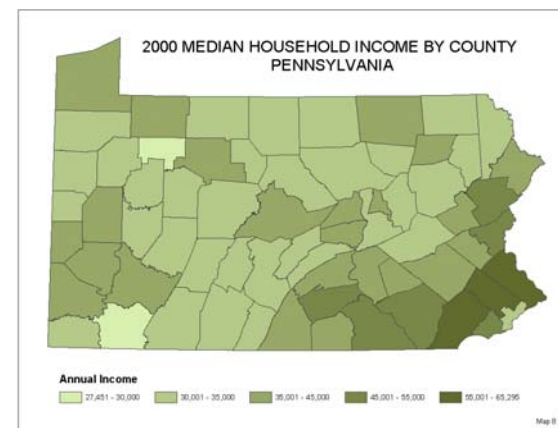
On the municipal level, variations exist. Consistent with past records, the boroughs are generally poorer than the townships, but the gap is growing smaller. The median household income for the county's boroughs average $30,430.78, while the townships average $35,097.27. Of the 48 municipalities, 16 had incomes over $35,000; all were townships with the exception of Alexandria and Coalmont Boroughs.
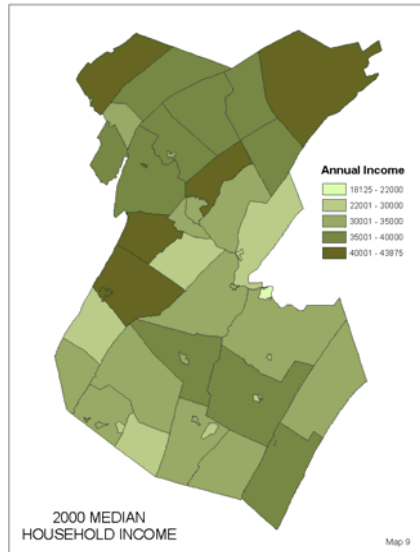
There were only seven municipalities with median household incomes over $40,000: Jackson, Walker, Marklesburg, Warriors Mark, Oneida, and Penn townships, and Alexandria Borough, the wealthiest borough with its median income at $40,662. Among the poorest municipalities were Rockhill Furnace, Broad Top City, Shirleysburg, Three Springs, Orbisonia, Mount Union, and Shade Gap Boroughs, all with median incomes below $28,000. See Maps 8 and 9.

Public Assistance

In 2000, Huntingdon County had 2.53 percent of its households receiving publicly assisted incomes, which includes welfare. This is much lower than the US total of 3.44 percent. Of the 424 households, 42.7 percent reside tin three municipalities: Huntingdon Borough (107 households), Mount Union Borough (48 households), and Shirley Township (26 households). Carbon Township and Logan Township have another 31 households receiving public assistance explaining overall, 50 percent of all assisted persons in the county. Other publicly assisted incomes are fairly evenly distributed depending on population, noting that there were seven municipalities receiving no public assistance income.

Poverty

Poverty statistics presented in census publications were based on a definition originated by the Social Security Administration (SSA) in 1964, which focused on family food consumption. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) used its data about the nutritional needs of children and adults to construct food plans for families. Within each food plan, dollar amounts varied according to the total number of people in the family and the family's composition, such as the number of children within

Annual Income
- 18125 - 22000
- 22001 - 30000
- 30001 - 35000
- 35001 - 40000
- 40001 - 43875

2000 MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

Map 9

each family. The cheapest of these plans, the Economy Food Plan, was designed to address the dietary needs of families on an austere budget.

Since the USDA's 1955 Food Consumption Survey showed that families of three or more people across all income levels spent roughly one-third of their income on food, the SSA multiplied the cost of the Economy Food Plan by three to obtain dollar figures for the poverty thresholds. Since the Economy Food Plan budgets varied by family size and composition, so too did the poverty thresholds. For 2-person families, the thresholds were adjusted by slightly higher factors because those households had higher fixed costs. Thresholds for unrelated individuals were calculated as a fixed proportion of the corresponding thresholds for 2-person families.

The poverty thresholds are revised annually to allow for changes in the cost of living as reflected in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U). The poverty thresholds are the same for all parts of the country -- they are not adjusted for regional, state or local variations in the cost of living. In the U.S., the average poverty threshold for a family of four was $17,029 in 1999. In 2000, the poverty rate for Pennsylvania holds at 11 percent, while Huntingdon County falls one percent to 11.1. The U.S. still has a higher poverty rate, but falls from 15.5 percent to 12.4 over the last ten years. On a municipal level, however, there is much diversity, but overall, there has been a great decrease since 1990. As expected, the boroughs have a higher level of poverty when compared to the townships. Of the 18 boroughs, five have poverty levels over 15 percent: Mount Union (28.6), Broad Top City (19.8), Mill Creek (19.7), Shade Gap (19.5), and Mapleton (15.6).   This is markedly different from 1990 when there were five boroughs with over poverty rates of over 20 percent. Boroughs in Huntingdon County now average 11.99 percent poverty compared to 17.2 percent ten years ago. This is aided by 8 of the boroughs with less than 10 percent of their population in poverty, most notably, Birmingham Borough with zero. On the other hand, of the 30 Townships, only Brady (17.1) had a poverty level over 15 percent. Townships averaged only 9.25 percent persons in poverty, which is less than 2 percent less than the boroughs, but much smaller than the 7 percent difference in 1990. There were 14 townships with poverty levels below the average, Barree Township having the lowest poverty level at 2.8 percent.   (Maps 10, 11)

2000 POVERTY STATUS BY COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA

Percent of Population in Poverty
4.40 - 8.00 | 8.01 - 11.00 | 11.01 - 15.00 | 15.01 - 19.00 | 19.01 - 22.90

Map 10

Percent Living Under
the Povery Level
0 - 5
5.1 - 9
9.1 - 12
12.1 - 18
18.1 - 28.6

2000 POVERTY STATUS

Map 11
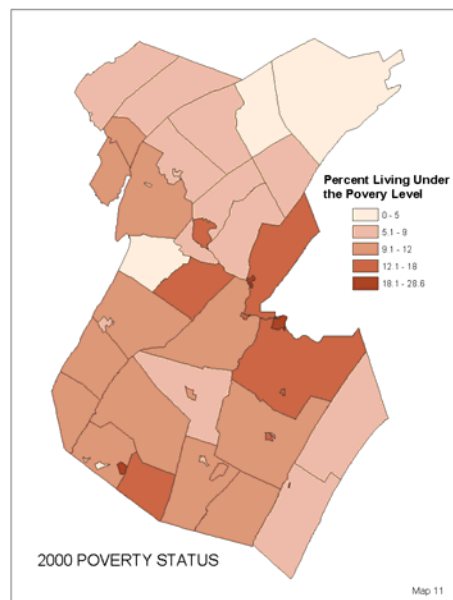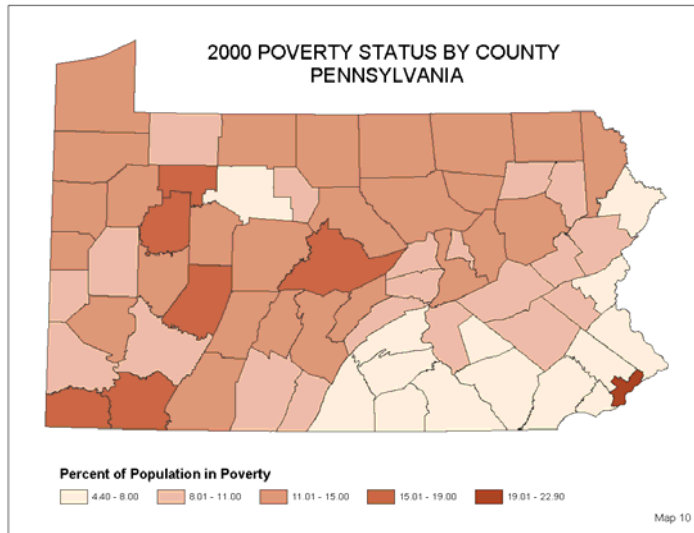
Summary note: Similar to other areas, the data for Huntingdon County echoes a well-established trend, the de-intensification of living patterns. People are increasingly choosing the dispersed newer suburban homes over the lesser-valued, older urban homes. The result is that it is becoming increasingly expensive and difficult to serve the new populations in forms of utilities, water, sewer, roads, and retail activities. Additionally, the population of the county has become exclusively dependent on private cars and commutes increasingly longer distances to work and shop.

Current Population Estimates

The estimated population statistics for 2001-2005 can also be taken into consideration. The population of the county in 2005 was estimates at 45,947, representing an increase of 361 residents over 2000 Census figures. The largest community population in 2005 is expected to remain Huntingdon Borough with a population projection of 6,876 for 2005 even though estimates show a decrease in population over the 4-year timeframe. Smithfield Township, with a projected 4,612, and Shirley Township, with an estimated population of 2,504, remain as communities with significant populations. With the location of educational institutions and functioning as an administrative center and county seat, Huntingdon Borough has been and will be expected to remain the most substantially developed and populated area within Huntingdon County.

HOUSING

According to the 2000 Census, Pennsylvania had a total of 5,249,750 housing units. Huntingdon County represented only 0.5 percent of the overall state housing count. As in the past, 2000 Census shows a slight but continuing growth in the overall housing units within the county. In 2000 Huntingdon County reported an increase of 9.2 percent from its 1990 figure. This figure reflects an increase from 19,286 housing units in 1990 to 21,058 housing units in 2000.

At the municipal level, communities with the most significant growth in the number of dwelling units from 1990 to 2000 are Cromwell (50.3%), Juniata (33.0%) and Springfield Townships (26.7%). The figures are based on the percentage of unit growth and do not reflect those communities with the greatest number in housing overall.

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	Table 5 HUNTINGDON COUNTY HOUSING CHANGE 1990 - 2006				
MUNICIPALITY	TOTAL HOUSING UNITS - 1990	TOTAL HOUSING UNITS - 2000	PERCENT CHANGE 1990 - 2000	TOTAL HOUSING UNITS - 2006	PERCENT CHANGE 2000 - 2006
Alexandria	158	160	1.27%	160	0.00%
Barree	218	247	13.30%	271	9.72%
Birmingham	54	44	-18.52%	44	0.00%
Brady	399	440	10.28%	464	5.45%
Broad Top	150	178	18.67%	195	9.55%
Carbon	198	201	1.52%	213	5.97%
Cass	517	622	20.31%	690	10.93%
Cassville	83	69	-16.87%	69	0.00%
Clay	471	494	4.88%	525	6.28%
Coalmont	56	55	-1.79%	55	0.00%
Cromwell	581	873	50.26%	959	9.85%
Dublin	515	607	17.86%	674	11.04%
Dudley	94	89	-5.32%	93	4.49%
Franklin	231	238	3.03%	250	5.04%
Henderson	563	562	-0.18%	608	8.19%
Hopewell	339	384	13.27%	439	14.32%
Huntingdon	2715	2817	3.76%	2904	3.09%
Jackson	585	675	15.38%	730	8.15%
Juniata	264	351	32.95%	399	13.68%
Lincoln	238	265	11.34%	295	11.32%
Logan	291	315	8.25%	340	7.94%
Mapleton	206	201	-2.43%	203	1.00%
Marklesburg	114	138	21.05%	142	2.90%
Mill Creek	167	139	-16.77%	143	2.88%
Miller	220	239	8.64%	262	9.62%
Morris	161	158	-1.86%	186	17.72%
Mount Union	1373	1288	-6.19%	1306	1.40%
Oneida	502	511	1.79%	534	4.50%
Orbisonia	204	217	6.37%	229	5.53%

MUNICIPALITY	TOTAL HOUSING UNITS - 1990	TOTAL HOUSING UNITS - 2000	PERCENT CHANGE 1990 - 2000	TOTAL HOUSING UNITS - 2006	PERCENT CHANGE 2000 - 2006
Penn	638	666	4.39%	754	13.21%
Petersburg	186	193	3.76%	195	1.04%
Porter	813	870	7.01%	944	8.51%
Rockhill	185	186	0.54%	194	4.30%
Saltillo	147	152	3.40%	158	3.95%
Shade Gap	50	43	-14.00%	43	0.00%
Shirley	1126	1272	12.97%	1389	9.20%
Shirleysburg	69	64	-7.25%	65	1.56%
Smithfield	624	637	2.08%	644	1.10%
Springfield	326	413	26.69%	464	12.35%
Spruce Creek	145	146	0.69%	154	5.48%
Tell	294	343	16.67%	378	10.20%
Three Springs	194	217	11.86%	222	2.30%
Todd	477	572	19.92%	669	16.96%
Union	521	638	22.46%	741	16.14%
Walker	631	735	16.48%	825	12.24%
Warriors Mark	545	664	21.83%	756	13.86%
West	270	287	6.30%	311	8.36%
Wood	378	383	1.32%	397	3.66%
TOTAL	19286	21058	9.19%	22685	7.73%

Source: 2000 Census of Population and Housing and Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department Data

Percent Change in Housing Units
1990-2000

Occupied/Vacant and Seasonal Housing

Of the total dwelling units reported within Huntingdon County in the 2000 Census, 16,759 of these were occupied while 4,299, or 20%, were registered as vacant. This figure represents a 0.9 percent increase since 1990. In 1990 there were vacant housing figure were 3,759 units or 19.5 percent of the total number within the county.

Seasonal housing totaled 3,180 units or 15.1% of all County housing. Many communities within the County have high vacancy rates that reflect a large number of seasonal and occasional housing units. In 1990, 65 percent of the total vacant housing units consisted of Seasonal or Occasional Housing within the county. By 2000, this percentage increased to 75.5, or 4,299 vacant housing units. Jackson Township has the highest recorded number of seasonal housing units with a figure of 304 (92 percent of the total vacant units). Other areas with significant seasonal housing figures are Cromwell Township (263), and Penn Township (278).

2000 OWNER OCCUPIED UNITS

Housing Units by Type

Similar to 1990 Huntingdon County has a very high percentage of Single Family Homes in comparison to other forms of multi family units. At the time of the 1990 Census the percent of single-family homes, which is represented by the sum of all single family attached, detached and mobile homes within the county, represented 85.5 percent of the total number of housing units in the County. By 2000, this figure increased 4.1 percent to 89.6 percent of the total number of housing units. Countywide in 2000 traditional single-family detached homes were 73.4 percent (15,467), single-family attached homes were 3.8 percent (796), and mobile homes represented 14.5 percent (3,603).

Mobile homes have the lowest recorded figure in any municipality within Huntingdon County. According to the 2000 census the three municipalities with the highest percentage of mobile homes were Carbon Township with 30.3 percent (63) units, Shirley Township with 27.1 percent (345) units, and Clay Township with 26.8 percent (132). All of these figure represent a decrease from their 1990 figures expect for Shirley Township which saw 18 percent increase in mobile homes from 1990-2000, the cause for this increase has yet to be determined.

Owner occupied housing within the county represented approximately 67 percent of the total units. This figure keeps Huntingdon County slightly above the state median of 65 percent when comparing the 67 counties within the Commonwealth. Rental units therefore are a small portion of the occupied housing units representing 22.5 percent of the total. In 1990, renters occupied 23.7 percent of all occupied units. This statistics represent a small decrease in overall rental occupancy through 2000.

Median Value and Age of Unit

Pennsylvania had a median household value in 2000 of $97,000. This figure in Huntingdon County was registered at $72,500. Although less than the State median value, this represents an increase of $2,800 in median unit value from 1990. The most significant values of homes to be in Franklin Township whose median value of homes are approximately $123,800.

Of the total 21,058 housing units in 2000, 6,906 or 32.8% were built before 1939. Conversely, 13.6% or 2,855 units were built after 1990.

Population Projections

Table 6

Huntingdon County Population Projections					
2000	2010	2020	2030	Change 2000-2030	Percent Change 2000-2030
45,586	47,287	48,829	48,852	3,266	7.16%

The Department of Environmental Projection has prepared population projections for all Pennsylvania counties. These projections were originally made down to the municipal level. Planning and Development staff has adjusted the municipal figures according to local factors such as growth trends and availability of developable land.

Growth over the next two and a half decades is not expected to occur at an even pace. From 2000 to 2010, 1,701 people will be added to the County population, a 3.73% increase. The next decade, 2010 to 2020, will see growth slow to 3.26%, with only .05% increase from 2020 to 2030. The thirty-year growth of 7.16% is considered slow growth, particularly when compared with national growth rates of 9.62% per decade according to the U.S. Census Bureau, or 28.87% between 2000 and 2030.

Within the County, the highest growth rates will occur in West (25.95%), Springfield (22.88%), Warriors Mark (20.80%), Cromwell (20.10%), Dublin (18.75%), Union (17.91%), Juniata (17.54%), Walker (17.34%), Todd (16.04%), Spruce Creek (12.55%) and Porter Township (12.42%). All other municipalities are expected to growth slower than the County average from 2000 to 2030.

Table 7
Huntingdon County Population Projection by Planning Regions: 2000 - 2030

Name	2000 Population	2030 Population	Change	Percent Change		Name	2000 Population	2030 Population	Change	Percent Change
Huntingdon County	**45,586**	**48,852**	**3,266**	**7.16%**		**Planning Region 6**	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**
Average	1014	1018	68	0.15%		Cass township	1062	1170	108	10.17%
						Cassville borough	152	149	-3	-1.97%
Planning Region 1	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**		Mapleton borough	473	435	-38	-8.03%
Birmingham borough	91	84	-7	-7.69%		Todd township	1004	1165	161	16.04%
Franklin township	447	424	-23	-5.15%		Union township	1005	1186	181	18.01%
Morris township	416	423	7	1.68%		**Trough Creek - total**	**3696**	**4105**	**409**	**11.07%**
Spruce Creek township	263	296	33	12.55%		*Trough Creek - avg*	739	821	82	2.21%
Warriors Mark township	1635	1975	340	20.80%		**Planning Region 7**	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**
Spruce Creek - total	**2852**	**3202**	**350**	**22.19%**		Mount Union borough	2504	1750	-754	-30.11%
Spruce Creek - avg	570.4	640.4	70	4.44%		Shirley township	2526	2764	238	9.42%
Planning Region 2	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**		Shirleysburg borough	140	139	-1	-0.71%
Barree township	460	506	46	10.00%		**Mount Union - total**	**5170**	**4653**	**-517**	**-10.00%**
Jackson township	882	980	98	11.11%		*Mount Union - avg*	1723	1551	-172	-3.33%
Miller township	514	550	36	7.00%		**Planning Region 8**	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**
West township	528	665	137	25.95%		Clay township	920	952	32	3.48%
Northern Huntingdon - total	**2384**	**2701**	**317**	**13.30%**		Cromwell township	1632	1960	328	20.10%
Northern Huntingdon - avg	596	675	79	3.32%		Orbisonia borough	425	430	5	1.18%
Planning Region 3	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**		Rockhill Furnace borough	414	398	-16	-3.86%
Alexandria borough	401	390	-11	-2.74%		Saltillo borough	343	350	7	2.04%
Logan township	703	742	39	5.55%		Springfield township	612	752	140	22.88%
Petersburg borough	455	485	30	6.59%		Three Springs borough	445	485	40	8.99%
Porter township	1917	2155	238	12.42%		**Southern Huntingdon - total**	**4791**	**5327**	**536**	**11.19%**
Juniata Valley - total	**3476**	**3772**	**296**	**8.52%**		*Southern Huntingdon - avg*	684	761	77	1.60%
Juniata Valley - avg	869	943	74	2.13%		**Planning Region 9**	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**
Planning Region 4	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**		Broad Top City borough	384	390	6	1.56%
Huntingdon borough	6918	7150	232	3.35%		Carbon township	428	430	2	0.47%
Oneida township	1129	1200	71	6.29%		Coalmont borough	128	125	-3	-2.34%
Smithfield township	4466	4400	-66	-1.48%		Dudley borough	192	186	-6	-3.13%
Walker township	1747	2050	303	17.34%		Hopewell township	587	636	49	8.35%
Huntingdon - total	**14260**	**14800**	**540**	**3.79%**		Wood township	713	755	42	5.89%
Huntingdon - avg	3565	3700	135	0.95%		**Broad Top - total**	**2432**	**2522**	**90**	**3.70%**
Planning Region 5	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**		*Broad Top - avg*	405	420	414	0.62%
Juniata township	553	650	97	17.54%		**Planning Region 10**	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**
Lincoln township	319	355	36	11.29%		Dublin township	1280	1520	240	18.75%
Marklesburg borough	216	225	9	4.17%		Shade Gap borough	97	98	1	1.03%
Penn township	1054	1170	116	11.01%		Tell township	648	714	66	10.19%
Woodcock Valley - total	**2142**	**2400**	**258**	**12.04%**		**Shade Valley - total**	**2025**	**2332**	**307**	**15.16%**
Woodcock Valley - avg	536	600	64	11.94%		*Shade Valley - avg*	675	777	102	5.05%
						Planning Region 11	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**
						Brady township	1035	1043	8	0.77%
						Henderson township	972	1060	88	9.05%
						Mill Creek borough	351	337	-14	-3.99%
Source: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Projection and Huntingdon County Planning & Development Department						**Mill Creek - total**	**2358**	**2440**	**82**	**3.48%**
						Mill Creek - avg	786	813	27	1.16%

CHAPTER 3.

Environmental Resources Analysis

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES ANALYSIS

The study of environmental resources considers those factors that affect the land, air, and water resources in Huntingdon County and the surrounding areas. A basic analysis has been conducted concerning topographic features including: physiography (including geologic formations), slope, soil associations, drainage/flood plains, and wetlands. Additionally, natural resources have been examined including: mineral resources, water resources, air quality, and forest types and condition.

The 2007 Comprehensive Plan Update adds detailed surface geology and soils, a natural heritage inventory, analysis of mining, forestry, agriculture and renewable resources. Much of this data was unavailable in 1997 when the Background Studies were done.

Location and Climate

Huntingdon County is in the south-central part of Pennsylvania. It has a total area of 888 square miles, or 568,694 acres. The county is in the Ridge and Valley Province. Mountains and steep hills that have narrow ridge tops dominate the landscape, but some moderately broad, level areas are on river terraces and flood plains along the Juniata River. Approximately 74 percent of the county is wooded.

The county lies in the Susquehanna River Basin. The Juniata River, formed by the confluence of the Frankstown branch and the Little Juniata River, flows through the county in a southeasterly direction and divides the county into two major drainage basins. North of the river, Spruce Creek, Shaver Creek, and Standing Stone Creek flow in a southerly direction. South of the main river, the Aughwick Creek and the Raystown Branch of the Juniata River flow in a northerly direction. All of these streams flow into the Juniata River within the county.

The climate of Huntingdon County is continental with warm summers and cool winters, though neither is extreme for the latitude. The length of the normal growing season, which is often the time that elapses between the mean date of the last occurrence of frost in spring and that of first frost in the fall of the same year, varies from 110 days in the highest mountains to between 145 and 170 days in the valleys. Year to year fluctuations are considerable, and the shortest season was once recorded at 100 days.

Physiography

The physiography of any area is always important because it is among the many factors that affect day-to-day decisions and activities. When a community's physical features are considered comprehensively, land use patterns emerge that can equally benefit residents, developers, and industrialists in making land use decisions. Land use patterns are significant in determining trends of past and present growth and development. These patterns provide insights for the direction of future planning. New land use patterns, the placement of transportation routes, the location of utilities, and the siting of recreation facilities are all dependent to some degree upon the existing land use patterns. Physiography has a bearing on the following situations:

- Determining the ability of the underlying rock strata to support heavy structures.
- Locating water supplies and reservoirs.
- Estimating the cost of utility placement.
- Identifying prime agricultural soils.
- Identifying soils that are not suitable for septic systems.
- Locating areas subject to flooding.
- Determining where land is too steep for building and development.

Topography, the three-dimensional form of the land surface, is a direct result of the underlying geologic structure and weathering conditions. Hard, resistant bedrock withstands wind and water erosion and results in areas of high elevation and steep slopes. Softer rocks erode to form valleys and gently sloping land. This section of the study presents locational land characteristics, elevation and geologic formation characteristics taken from the US Geological Survey, Huntingdon County Quad Sheets

Ridges and valleys define Huntingdon County. The relief follows an alternating sequence of long narrow valleys, ridges and mountains leading from southwest to northeast. The mountains named Tussey, Terrace, Jacks and Blacklog are interspersed by lower ridges such as Allegrippis, Piney, Warrior and Clear and valleys named Shavers Creek, Stone Creek, Hares and Aughwick. The mountain ridges are 1,800 to 2,400 above sea level, with the highest elevation at Big Flat in Jackson Township. Lower ridges are from 1,000 to 1,400 feet. The valley elevation ranges from 520 feet, where the Juniata River enters Mifflin County, to 1,400 feet. The general elevation is about 1,000 feet.

Slope   Slope determines the areas in which construction can occur and the types of construction that are feasible for particular locations. Slope also has a significant impact on excavation requirements, sewage requirements, and construction cost. Slope is expressed as a percentage; it is the inclination of the surface of the land relative to the horizontal datum. For example, one percent slope is equivalent to a one-foot vertical deviation over one hundred feet of horizontal distance.

Table 8 presents the four major slope categories with their associated suitable development types:

TABLE 8

SLOPE CATEGORIES	
Slope	**Suitable Development Uses**
0-8%	Generally economically capable of large scale or intensive land use development, including but not limited to industrial areas, commercial complexes, major public facilities, best farm ground and high-density residential developments.
8-15%	Intensive and large-scale land uses are less feasible; single-family high-density development is possible.
15-25%	Scattered low-density residential development and other less intensive uses; these areas should be utilized only after less steeply sloped areas have been developed.
Over 25%	Generally unsuitable for building purposes; best suited to passive recreation and conservation areas.

Typically, topographical analysis of gradiation results in a slope map that is divided into these four aforementioned categories.

Under 15 Percent Slope **0% to 8% Slope**: Land with slopes in the range of 0 to 8 percent are suitable for slab-on-grade building types, most large buildings and major road development. Generally, slopes in this category provide minimum restrictions and are conducive to geometric layout schemes. Additionally, traffic circulation patterns are not dictated by topography within this slope classification.

8% to 15% Slope: This slope range is somewhat more restrictive. Intensive large-scale development becomes less economically practical. Certain types of commercial and industrial development may be prone to major limitations and may require special engineering, design, and construction techniques. Appropriate forms of development on land in this classification include single-family homes on large lots, townhouses, garden apartments, and terraced construction. Land contours are major plan factors and the normal grade may be too steep for traffic, especially in the steeper slope areas of the category.

As the Development Opportunities and Constraints Map shows (area is color coded white), land classified in the below 15 percent slope category scattered throughout most parts of the county, except the southcentral, southeast and northwest sections.

Greater Than 15 Percent Slope *15% to 25% Slope*: This range can generally sustain less active land development. Certain clustered housing techniques and townhouses are among the more appropriate residential uses and land in this category often provides excellent vistas. Certain contour-induced limitations may be overcome, but at a cost. Traffic circulation would be severely affected by this topography.

25% Slope and over: Building in this range is generally not economically feasible. The steep sloping land can be used or maintained as recreational or conservation areas. Severe contours can result in serious erosion, drainage, and access problems if active development takes place.

As the Development Opportunities and Constraints Map shows (area is color-coded light brown), land classified in the 15 percent slope and greater category covers the majority of the county.

Development Constraints
The Development Constraints shown on Map 14 include steep slope, floodplain and BDA's. These are areas where urban development should be discouraged and natural resources conserved. Development Constraints have been updated using digital geology, digital soils and floodplains. 33.28% of the County is steep slope, 4.81% is flood prone and 4.97% is part of a Biological Diversity Area.

Geology and Soils
Geology　　　Huntingdon County is in the Ridge and Valley Province of the Appalachian Highlands. Bedrock in Huntingdon County consists of Paleozoic sedimentary sandstone, limestone, shale, and siltstone ranging from the oldest Warrior and Pleasant hill limestones of Cambrian age in Nittany Valley to the Conemaugh and Allegheny coal measures of Pennsylvanian age in the Broad Top area. See the Geologic Structures Map (Map 15).

Steeply dipping, older rocks form the mountains and valleys along the eastern, northern, and western parts of the county. Generally, sandstone caps the ridges, limestone is under the valley bottoms, and shale and siltstone are under the mountainsides and lower hills. The rocks are less folded and become progressively older in a broad synclinal basin extending from the coal fields near the Bedford County line northeast to the vicinity of Ennisville. Within this basin are large areas underlain by sandstone; by red shale and siltstone; and by gray, brown, and black shale. These areas are less folded than the narrow bands of similar rocks forming the mountains in the eastern, northern, and western parts of the county.
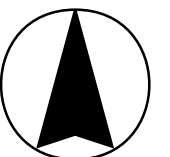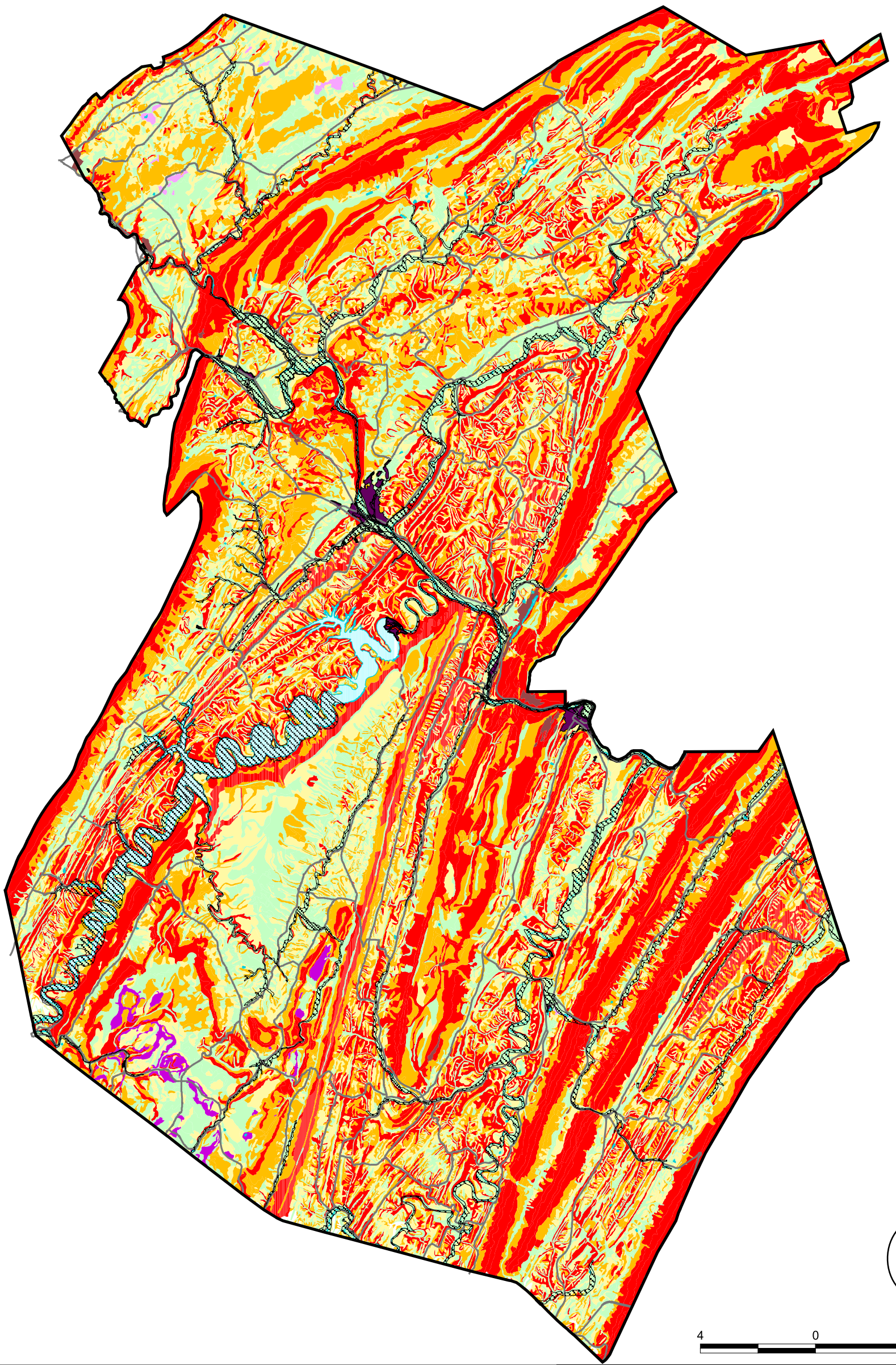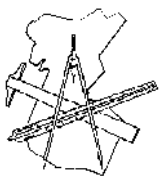
HUNTINGDON COUNTY
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

MAP 14
DEVELOPMENT CONSTRAINTS

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Legend

- Less than 8 percent
- 8 to 15 percent
- 15 to 25 percent
- Greater than 25 percent
- Strip Mine
- 100 Year Floodplain
- Iron Ore Pit
- Quarry
- Miscellaneous Water
- Water
- Urban
- Roads

4   0   4 Miles
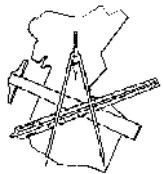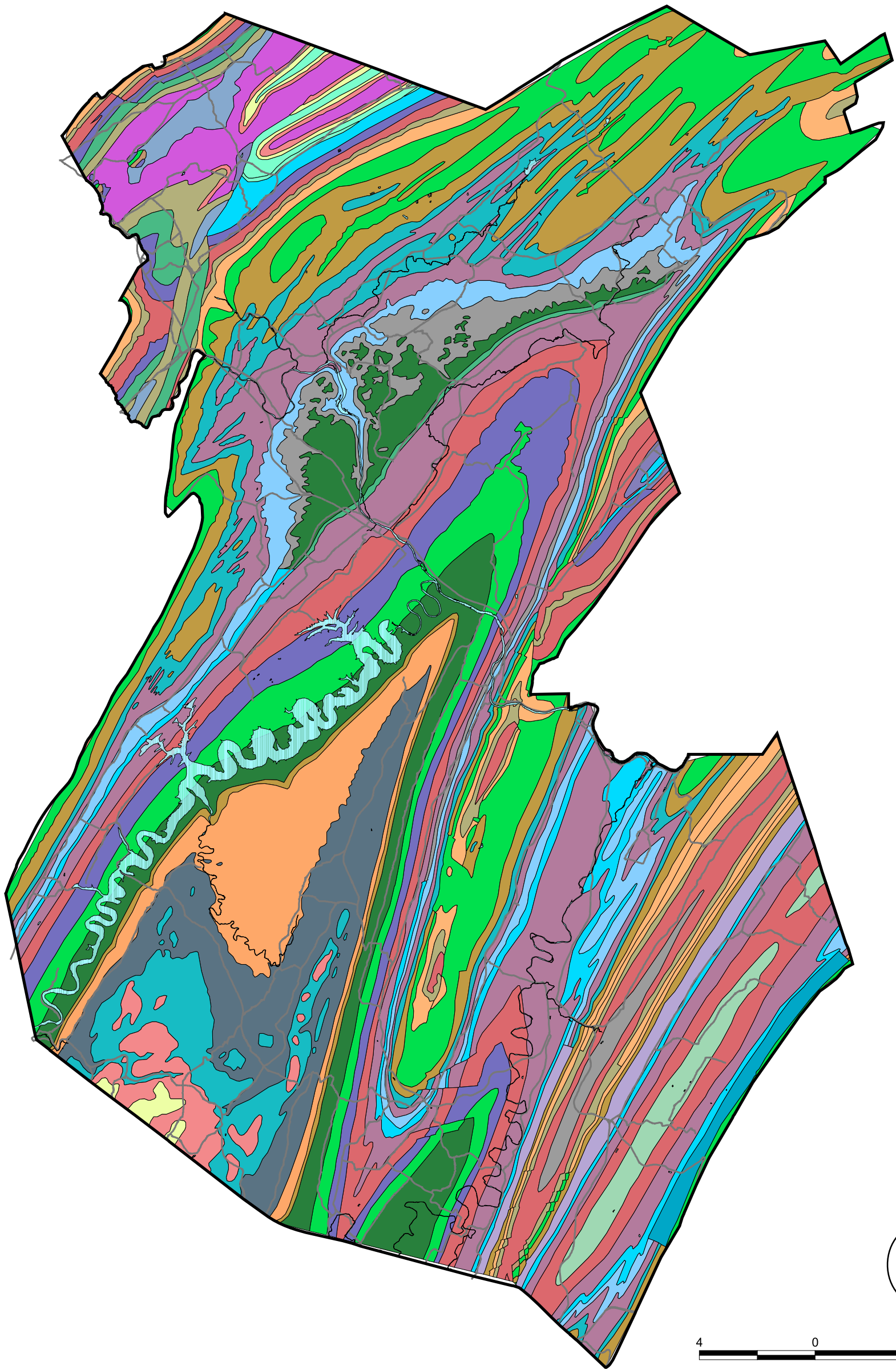
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MAP 15
SURFACE GEOLOGY

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4   0   4 Miles

Legend

- Allegheny Group
- Axemann Fm
- Bald Eagle Fm
- Bellefont FM and Axemann Fm Undiv
- Bellefont Fm
- Benner Fm-Loysburg Fm Undiv
- Bloomsburg Fm
- Bloomsburg Fm and Mifflintown Fm Undiv
- Brallier Fm and Harrell Fm Undiv
- Catskill Fm Undiv
- Clinton Group
- Coburn Fm-Loysburg Fm Undiv
- Coburn Fm-Nealmont Fm Undiv
- Conemaugh Group
- Foreknobs Fm
- Gatesburg Fm
- Hamilton Group
- Irish Valley Member of Catskill Fm
- Juniata Fm
- Juniata Fm and Bald Eagle Fm Undiv
- Keyser Fm and Tonoloway Fm Undiv
- Keyser Fm-Clinton Group Undiv
- Keyser Fm-Mifflintown Fm Undiv
- Lower Member of Gatesburg Fm
- Mauch Chunk Fm
- Mines Member of Gatesburg Fm
- Nittany Fm
- Nittany Fm and Stonehenge (Larke) Fm Undiv
- Onondaga Fm
- Onondaga Fm and Old Port Fm Undiv
- Pleasant Hill Fm
- Pocono Fm
- Pottsville Group
- Reedsville Fm
- Ridgeley Member of Old Port Fm
- Rockwell Fm
- Scherr Fm
- Shriver and New Creek Members of Old Port Fm
- Stonehenge Fm and Larke Fm Undiv
- Tuscarora Fm
- Warrior Run
- Wills Creek Fm

Tyrone Quarry

Union Furnace Quarry

Hawbaker Quarry

Canoe Creek Quarry

US Silica Quarry

Orbisonia Quarry
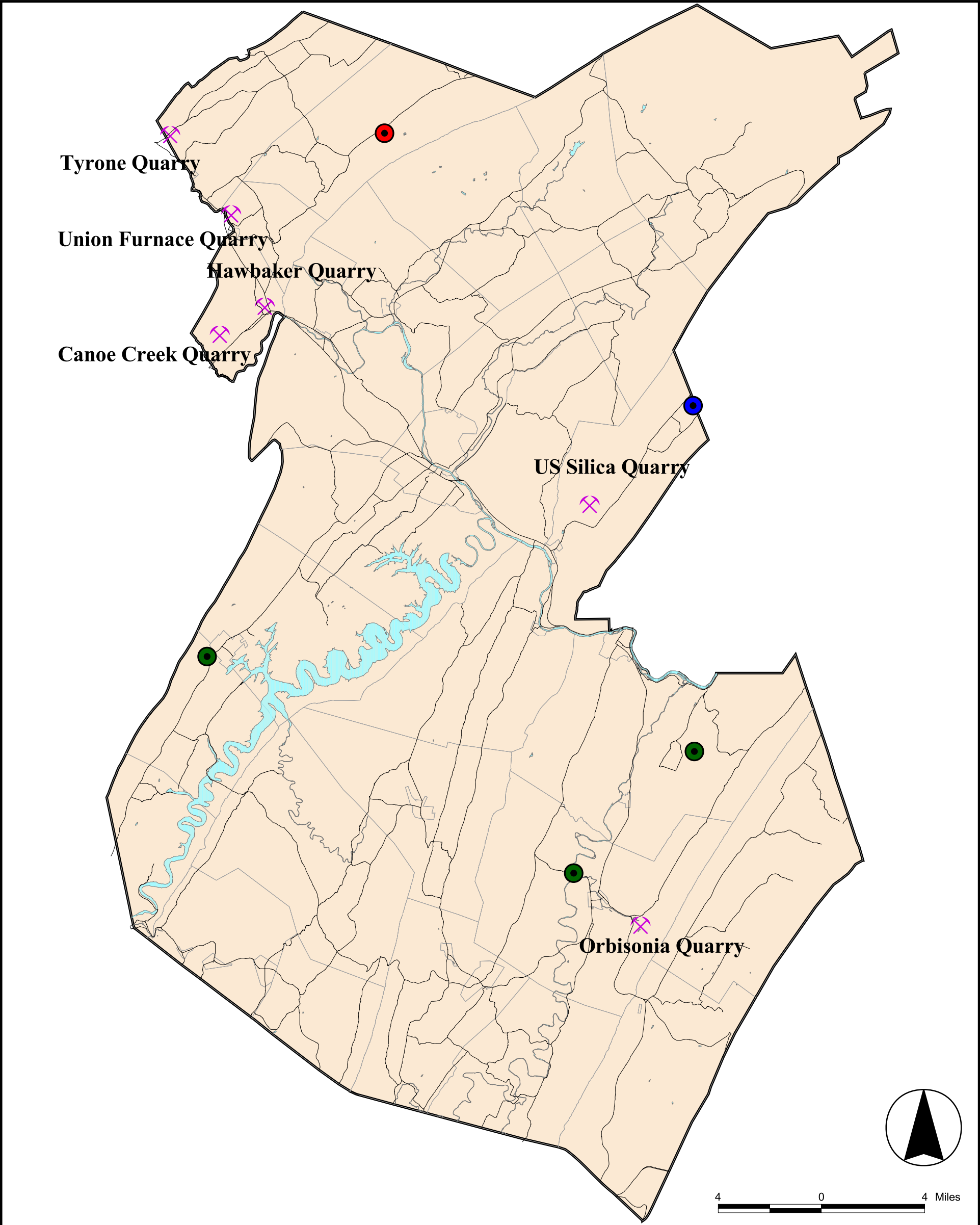
HUNTINGDON COUNTY
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MAP 16
DEVELOPMENTS OF
REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE
CAFO's and QUARRIES

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PLANNING COMMISSION

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LEGEND

CAFO

QUARRIES

CAO

CAO \ CAFO

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4   0   4 Miles

This landscape provides the geologic setting for the development of soils in Huntingdon County. Most of the soils formed from sedimentary rocks. Glaciers farther north had little effect on soil formation. About 66 percent of the county is made up of soils that formed in place from the underlying parent bedrock in the uplands; 22 percent are soils that formed in loose colluvial deposits along the base of the mountains and valley walls formed by gravity and slope wash; and 6.3 percent are soils that formed on alluvial flood plains and terraces in material transported and deposited by streams. The rest is urban land, strip mines, iron ore pits, rock outcrop, and rubble.

Of the soils on uplands, about 50 percent are Berks and Weikert soils, which formed in residual material weathered from gray, brown, and black shale, and siltstone of Ordovician and Devonian age, together with small areas of Klinesville and Calvin soils, which formed in red shale and siltstone of the Mauch Chunk, Catskill, and Juniata Formations. About 38 percent of the soils on uplands are the Hazelton, Dekalb, Clymer, and Leetonia soils, which formed in material weathered from sandstone of the Bald Eagle, Tuscarora, Pocono, and Pottsville Formations; Vanderlip soils, which formed in the residuum from calcareous Oriskany sandstone; and Morrison soils, which formed in residuum from the older Gatesburg and Warrior Formations. The rest of the soils on uplands formed in residuum in areas of pure, cherty or argillaceous carbonate rocks.

Hagerstown soils are underlain by the Coburn, Loysburg, and Beckmantown limestones and dolomites, common to Nittany Valley. Hublersburg and Elliber soils are cherty and are generally underlain by the Keyser, Tonoloway, and McKenzie Formations. Edom soils formed in material weathered from the intermixed limestone and shale of the Wills Creek and McKenzie Formations. Soils formed in colluvial deposits along the base of the mountain and hill slopes in material derived from gray acid sandstone and shale include Laidig, Buchanan, and Andover soils. The Murrill soils formed in deposits containing limestone and some shale and sandstone. Meckesville, Albrights, and Brinkerton soils formed in colluvium derived from red shale, siltstone, and sandstone.

Soils of alluvial origin are associated with river and creek deposits along present and former streams. Monongahela, Tyler, Purdy, Raritan, and Birdsboro soils are on old terraces, which are former stream deposits, 50 to 300 feet above flood plains of the present streams. The soils on terraces make up about 1.3 percent of the county. Along the present rivers and streams on flood plains, the Atkins, Philo, Newark, Barbour, and Basher soils make up 5.3 percent of the county.

Mineral Resources
The mineral resources of the county will be examined in the three following categories: fuels, non-metallic, and metallic minerals.

Fuels Bituminous coal at the northern end of the Broad Top Coal field covers a relatively small area in the southern part of the county. The coal beds are provisionally correlated with the coals of the Allegheny Group and Pottersville series of Western Pennsylvania.

Natural gas has recently been found in the county. Pennsylvania General Energy of Warren, PA drilled three wells in Todd Township. One well, drilled to a depth of 10,000 feet, has been brought into production and a pipeline built from near Eagle Foundry to the Texas Eastern Pipeline near Trough Creek State Park. There is no known oil resource in the County.

Non-metallic Minerals The valleys of Huntingdon County are underlain by limestones that are adaptable for many purposes. Limestone has been quarried for crushed stone, cupola flux, agricultural limes, glass manufacture, paper production, and road metal. The principle quarries that produced limestone were located in Tyrone and McConnellstown; dolomite was produced at Spruce Creek.

Sandstone is contained in the Ridgely Sandstone of the Oriskany Formation and has provided an abundance and variety of sandstone that contains valuable glass sand that is among the best in the country.

Clay and shale of the Gatesburg and Oriskany Formations are located at Shirleysburg and Alexandria.

Metallic Minerals Some small deposits of iron ore, lead, zinc, and manganese occur within Huntingdon County. A fairly extensive hematite bed was worked in the region between Marklesburg and McConnellstown, but this bed is not as thick or as rich as the Frankstown bed of the same ore in Blair County.

Existing Mines and Quarries Currently, there are four active limestone quarries and another permitted but unopened quarry. New Enterprise Stone and Lime Company, Inc. operates quarries at Orbisonia, Pemberton and Tyrone Forge. Hawbaker and Company operates the Canoe Quarry and has a second permitted site near Water Street. The other significant quarry is the U.S. Silica sandstone quarry near Mapleton. These are shown on Map 16.

Soil Survey
The types of soils present within a given location have a direct relationship to agricultural pursuits, construction, and development. Soil type determines agricultural productivity, natural drainage characteristics, building foundation requirements, and sewage disposal requirements. This information is taken from the US Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, *Soil Survey of Huntingdon County, PA, 1978.*

In 2003 the Planning and Development Department received digital soil data. This data may be easily mapped using geographic information system software. As an example of the capability of this new data, Map 17 shows hydric soils in Huntingdon County. Hydric soils are closely associated with water, having a seasonally high water table and a high probability of wetlands.

Natural Heritage Inventory

The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy prepared a Natural Heritage Inventory for Huntingdon County in 2004. This study focuses on the ecological resources of the County. A biologist initially selected candidate sites from the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI), published reports, topographic and other maps, National Wetland Inventory maps and knowledgeable informants. A ground survey was then conducted over two summers, followed by extensive data analysis. The following excerpt from the study provides an excellent overview of the County's ecological resources.

"The landscape of Huntingdon County has undergone considerable change over the course of human settlement, most notably from agriculture, timber extraction, and mining. Agriculture remains prevalent in the limestone valleys of the county, while along ridgelines, forests have been regenerating from general clear-cutting and widespread fires in the early 20th century. The condition of Huntingdon County's ecological resources today closely reflects the history of human land use.

Natural communities have redeveloped across large swaths of the landscape previously used for timber extraction, coal mining, and iron mining. The ridges in the eastern part of the county today have large areas of contiguous forest that provide abundant habitat for forest dwelling species. These areas also help to maintain water quality in streams.

The condition of forest communities varies across the county. While many areas have regrown and redeveloped a broad ecological spectrum of natural forest communities, some areas remain fragmented by roads, artificial clearings, utility right-of-way, and other management practices. Over browsing by deer also poses a threat to biological diversity and forest regeneration in some regions of the county. However, despite the variable condition of the forests, the contiguity of land in natural condition across the ridges is a great asset to the county's ecological integrity and overall habitat value. Contiguous forested areas offer enhanced habitat value over fragmented forested areas. While a number of generalist species can succeed and reproduce in small patches of forest, many species can only utilize large, unbroken tracts of forest. Because many of the forested areas

in Huntingdon County today area large, contiguous patches, they support species which are declining in other areas of the state and the continent due to lack of habitat.

The forests of Huntingdon County have the potential for even greater significance to biodiversity in the future. Some species can only find appropriate habitat in old-growth forests, because the structures they need for shelter or the food sources they require are not present in younger forests. While there are several areas in Huntingdon County today that are old growth, the large expanses of younger forests provide the potential for the future development – in ecologically strategic areas – of prime old growth habitat that can host species that are today in decline throughout the continent due to lack of habitat.

Within the matrix of forest in the county, unique communities including scrub oak shrublands, vernal pools and headwaters shrub swamps occur in conjunction with specific topographic or geologic conditions. Although these communities are limited in their extent, occupying a comparatively small portion of the natural landscape in the county, they are of particular value to the county's biodiversity because they support groups of specialist species – such as amphibians that breed only in vernal ponds, of butterflies and moths that require scrub oak shrubland habitat – that would otherwise not be present in the county. The Barrens area is especially notable for its ecological significance to the county and the region.

As agricultural cultivation is extensive in the limestone valleys of the county, few examples of the rich forest communities that once occupied these valleys remain. The rich soils and riparian settings that prevail in the valleys are distinctive from those found on the ridges and uplands of the county. The fragments of these communities that remain are facing new challenges from development and expanding infrastructure. Limestone solutional cave habitats, some of which are utilized by animal species that are rare within the state – are exceptional ecological features within the valleys of Huntingdon County. "

The Inventory identified 85 areas of ecological significance, 80 Biological Diversity Areas (BDA) and 5 Landscape Conservation Areas (RCA). BDA's are defined as, "an area containing plants or animals of special concern at state or federal level, exemplary natural communities, or exceptional native diversity. BDA's include both the immediate habitat and surrounding lands important in the support of these special elements." BDA's cover 28,290.64 acres in the County. LCA's are, "large contiguous areas that are important because of their size, open space, habitats, and/or

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MAP 17
HYDRIC SOILS

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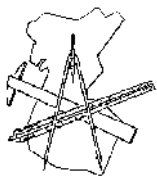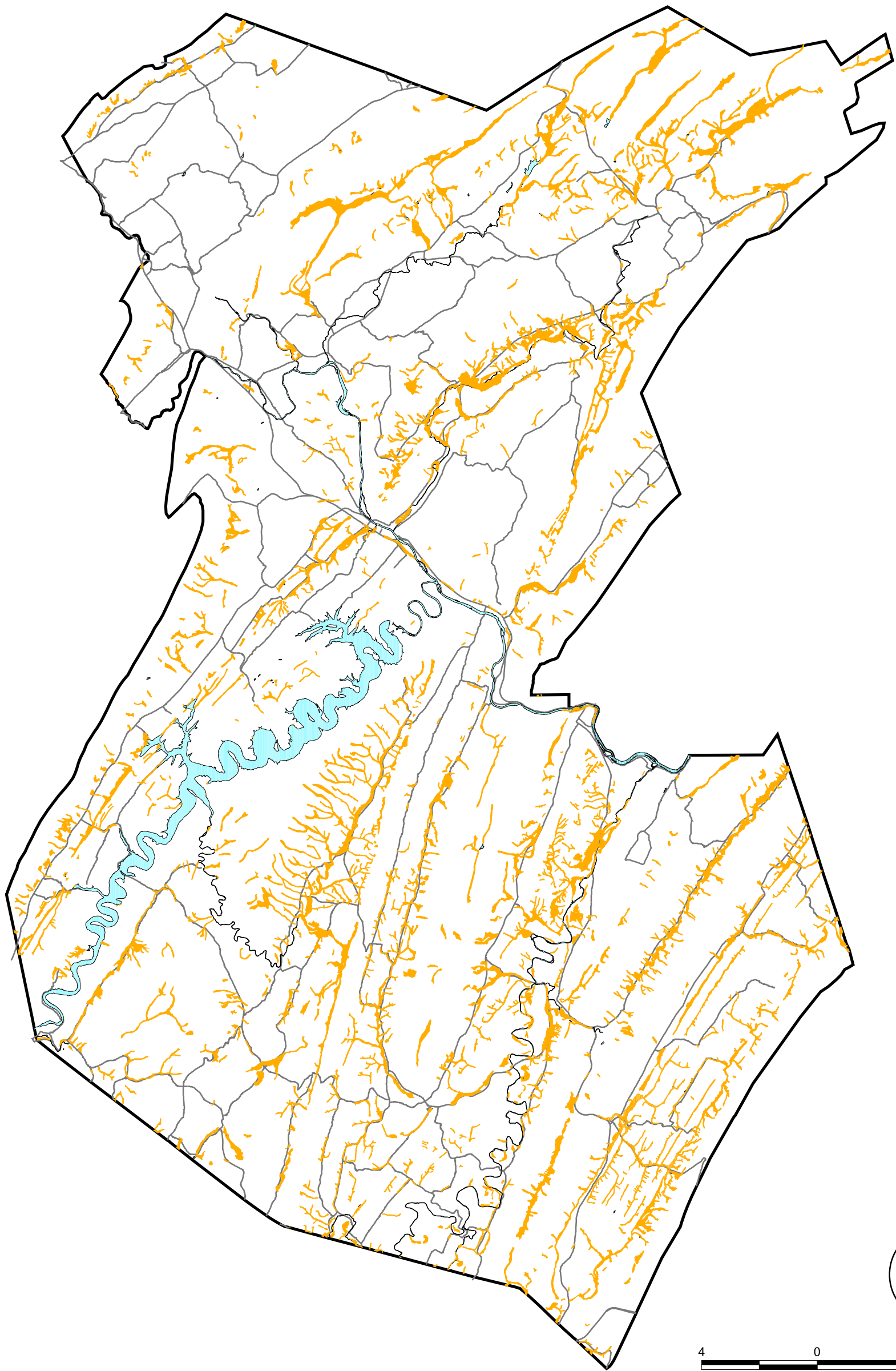
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Hydric Soils

Water

Roads

4   0   4 Miles

inclusion of one or more BDA's. Although an LCA includes a variety of land uses, it typically has not been heavily disturbed and thus retains much of its natural character. LCA's cover 117,217.28 acres.

Both BDA's and LCA's are shown on Map 18. A detailed list of the BDA's is found in Appendix B. Biological Diversity Areas are classified as Exceptional, High, Notable and County.

Biodiversity

The introduction of invasive species began with European settlement, however it was not until the 1950's that groups such as the Department of Transportation and the Bureau of Land Management started to utilize these species for erosion control along waterways and highways. Many of these species have been inadvertently introduced through imported goods and animals from other countries or regions but some have been intentionally propagated for food, medicinal or ornamental purposes. Whether these invasive species were introduced for bank stabilization (to control soil erosion), food and habitat sources, or for beautification purposes, there are a variety of native alternatives available to better suit these needs.

A variety of native alternatives reduce the amount of in-stream sedimentation and soil erosion while increasing the amount of food and cover sources for existing wildlife. Invasive plants not only cause environmental harm, they also have a detrimental economic impact. Estimated damage and control cost of invasive species in the United States alone amount to more than $120 billion annually (Pimentel *et al.* 2005).

The control of invasive plant and noxious weed populations provides several benefits for flora and fauna. These benefits are recognized as a result of the planning for proper invasive plant management. By managing the invasive species that are present within the Raystown Watershed, additional recreational areas will be made available to the public. The removal will make the rivers more easily accessible for fishing, canoeing, and kayaking. By removing unsightly invasive plant species, trails will be opened up creating a more aesthetically pleasing natural area for site visitors and hikers.

Imagine not being able to access the woods and waterways to go canoeing, fishing, hiking, or hunting because you are deterred by dense thickets of Japanese knotweed, thorny multiflora rose patches or some other prolific invasive exotic plant species. Invasive exotic species such as multiflora rose, tree-of-heaven, autumn olive, Japanese knotweed, purple loosestrife, and common reed (aka Phragmites) are just a few of the aggressive invaders disturbing the 3400 square miles of the Juniata Watershed.

These noxious weeds and invasive exotic plants can outcompete a diversity of native plant communities. Some species that dominate riparian areas limit bank stabilization causing an increase of in-stream sedimentation and water temperature, which decreases the species richness of macroinvertebrates, thus, limiting food for fish and other aquatic species. Alien invaders not only cause damage to recreational areas, they can halt the amount and types of agricultural crops that are produced by eliminating the amount of nutrients and moisture in the soil necessary for plant growth.

At the present time, Natural Biodiversity, Inc. is engaged, along with others, in eliminating invasives and educating the public on the issue. Natural Biodiversity is a non-profit organization whose main office is located in Johnstown and satellite office in Huntingdon.

Agriculture

Huntingdon County has 99,259 acres of prime farmland, 17.45 % of the County. Illustrated in Map 19, there are 3,104.49 acres of Class I, 70,510.55 acres of Class II and 70,413.33 acres of Class III farmland. Another 63,165.26 acres are considered to be farmland of statewide importance or Class IV. Huntingdon County has 143,048 aces of farmland and 848 farms according to the 2002 Census of Agriculture.

In 2001 the Huntingdon County Commissioners created the Huntingdon County Agricultural Land Preservation Board to purchase conservation easements on farms. Since this time the Board has purchased or is in the process of protecting four farms for a total of 415 acres. Eighteen municipalities have created Agricultural Security Areas through the voluntary sign-up of farmland owners. The 72,191 acres of farmland in Agricultural Security Areas form the base for farmland conservation easement applications. Map 20 on page 32 illustrates the Ag Security Areas and the four conservation easements.

Forestry

The County's deciduous hardwoods are an important natural resource. The forest serves multiple purposes, furnishing a renewable resource for manufactured products, protecting ground and surface water, providing a habitat for a variety of birds and animals and providing rich natural beauty which attracts numerous visitors each year. 424,547 acres of the County are forest, creating a resource base for pulpwood, quality furniture grade hardwood and other wood products. The 68,261 acres of State Forest are managed as a sustainable forest, achieving a new "crop" of trees every 80-100 years. Most of the County's forests, however, are privately owned.

Water

Water is one of the most valuable natural resources. Huntingdon County lies at the headwaters of the Juniata River, part of the Susquehanna River Basin. The water collected by surface watersheds and underground aquifers provides life to man, plants and animals alike. There are 1,710 miles of streams in the County, 51 of which are considered degraded. The degraded streams are found in the Broad Top Area. The quantity of water is sufficient to support the farms, forests and communities of the Juniata Valley and the quality is such that most streams are fishable and most surface water is drinkable with minimum filtration and treatment.

Map 21 illustrates the Water Quality Standards for streams in Huntingdon County. Water quality standards are designed to protect designated water uses and are regulatory tools used by both the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to prevent water pollution. Water quality standards are developed for cold-water fisheries, high quality, trout stocking fisheries and warm water fisheries.

Renewable Resources

Not all natural resources are renewable. Some, like coal, gas and oil will be consumed within a very short time period, but can only be regenerated over eons of geologic time. Others are part of the natural system of the earth, fueled by sunlight. In 1981 the County developed an Energy Policy and Plan, an element of the Comprehensive Plan, detailing several renewable energy resources.

Huntingdon County has a number of renewable natural resources, timber, solar, wind and water. These resources are vital to the future of the community, supporting both the local population and distant urban populations. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has set a goal of obtaining 18% of its energy needs from renewable source by 2020.

The most significant renewable resource in the County at present is hydropower. The Raystown Lake Hydro Power Project is capable of generating 21 MW of electricity each day. Actual daily capacity is governed by the seasonal flow of the Raystown Branch of the Juniata River. The Warrior Ridge Dam near Petersburg has 1,500 KW of installed generation capacity, also using a "run of the river" approach.

Solar energy can be an important renewable energy source. In Huntingdon County, 50% of the days between May and October are clear, while the winter days are considerably cloudier. Solar energy can be collected through either passive or active collectors. The average mean daily solar radiation in nearby State College is 369 BTU's per square foot per day.

There is currently a considerable interest in capturing the wind energy that passes over the County. According to wind industry officials there is a potential for commercial electric production from wind in the County, particularly on the highest ridges. According to the 1981 Energy Policy and Plan, wind speeds of from 10 to 30 miles per hour can support commercial wind turbines. County wind speeds average 8 mph in the valleys and 12 mph in the mountains. Energy companies typically conduct a detailed wind study prior to making an investment.

Numerous wind turbines have been constructed in Somerset County, with more planned in the future across Pennsylvania. Commercial wind farms typically have from 10 to 40 turbines of 1.5 MW to 2.0 MW each. A wind energy company is currently attempting to obtain leases to site a wind farm on a ten-mile section of Shade Mountain in the southern part of the County. Steep slopes and other environmentally sensitive land may limit the feasibility of developing this resource. Citizen groups have raised concern about noise and bat and bird kills by wind turbines. However, these concerns must be compared with the environmental impact of coal and nuclear power plants and energy security.

Biomass can be turned into ethanol through a distillation process. Current technology can use corn, switch grass, waste wood or other plant material to manufacture ethanol. One ethanol plant is currently being built in the Clearfield Area, and both the Southern Alleghenies Conservancy and a Huntingdon County businessman are investigating a small ethanol plant for the area. A byproduct of the distillation process can be used as cattle feed. Each bushel of corn produces 2.8 gallons of ethanol and 17 pounds of distiller's grain.
For example, the 429,767 bushels of corn grown annually in Huntingdon County (2002 Agricultural Census) can be turned into 1,203,348 gallons of ethanol and 7,306,039 pounds of cattle food.

The 1981 Energy Policy and Plan states, "Projections indicate wood will be the major renewable resource used to meet energy consumption needs over the next 20 years. With the County's vast forest resources, a major contribution to the energy supplies can be made, and should be promoted. "The average wood burner in a home will use between 5 to 10 cords of wood per heating season. A ten-acre parcel of wooded land can generate this amount of wood on a sustainable basis. While wood can be burned as a fuel, this adds a significant amount of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere, making "carbon neutral" ethanol production more attractive from an environmental impact standpoint.

Huntingdon County even has geothermal resources, not high temperature sources but the constant heat stored in the soil. Geo thermal heat pumps can capture the heat stored in the ground and in ground water, operating with much greater efficiency than air-to-air heat pumps.

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MAP 18
NATURAL HERITAGE INVENTORY

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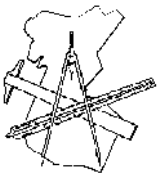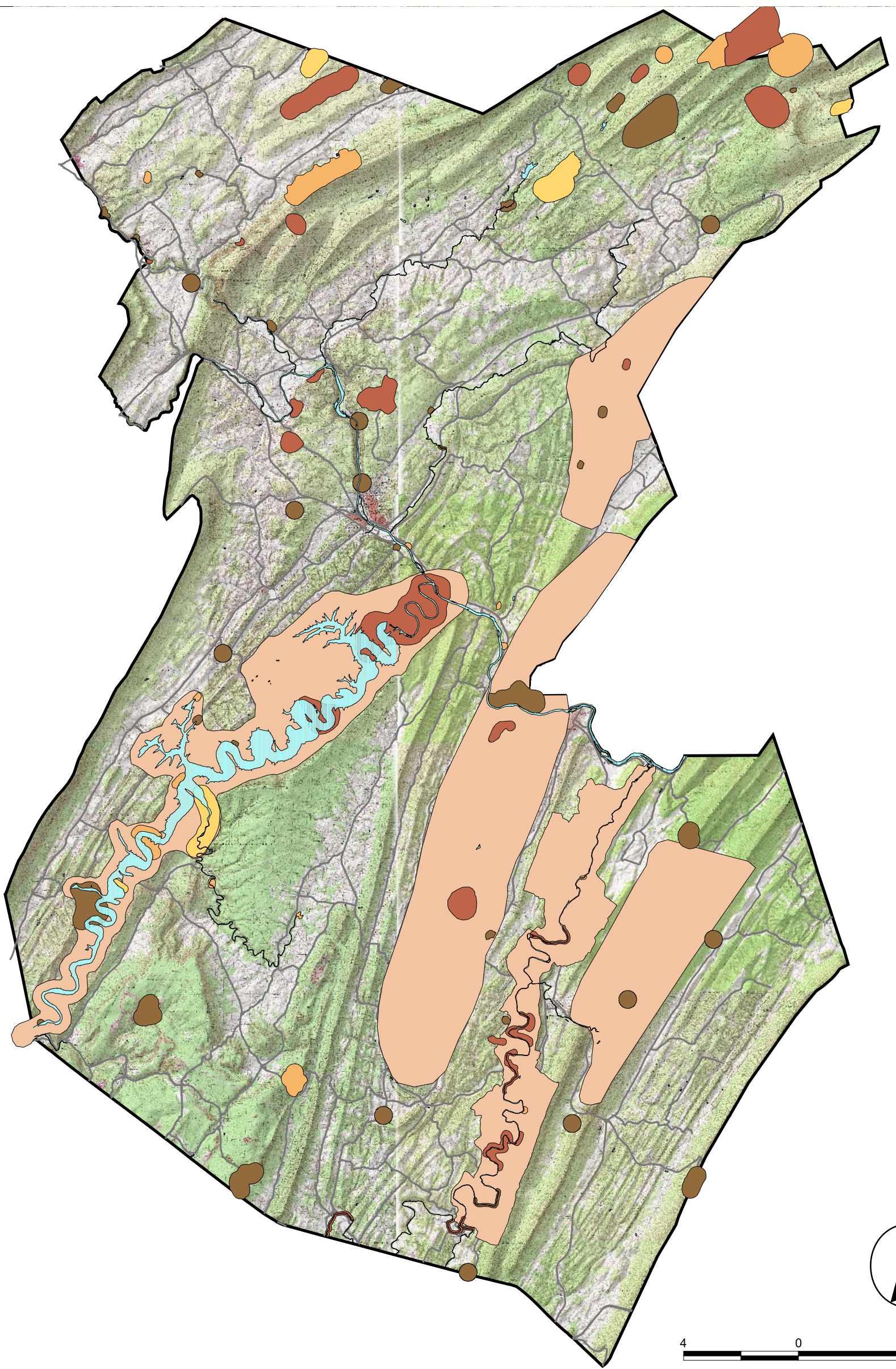
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Biological Diversity Area
- Exceptional
- High
- Notable
- County

Landscape Conservation Area

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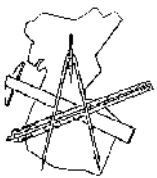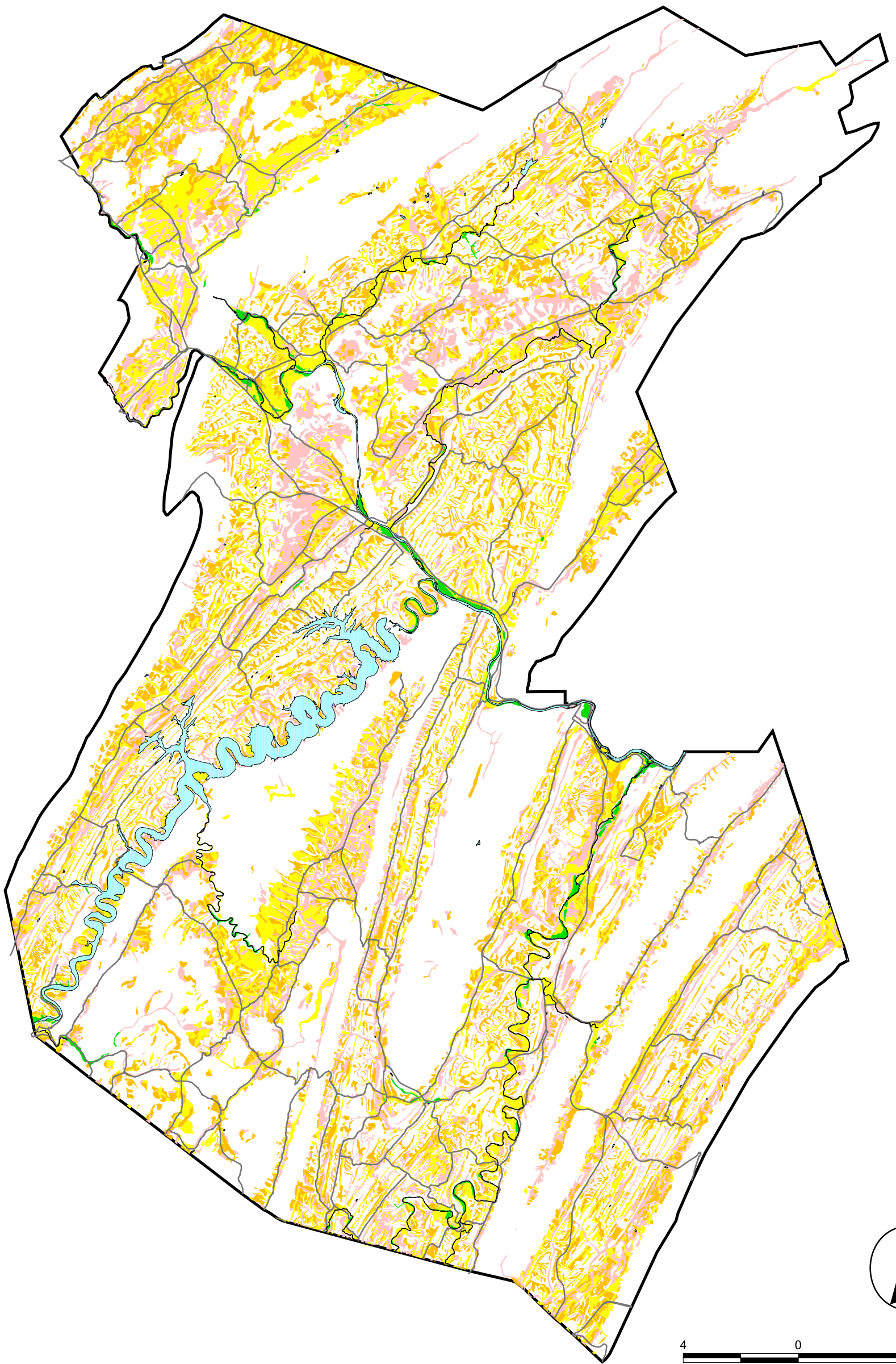
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MAP 19
PRIME AGRICULTURAL
SOILS

SOILS BY CLASS

- **I** (green)
- **II** (yellow)
- **III** (orange)
- **IV** (pink)

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4   0   4 Miles

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MAP 20
AGRICULTURAL SECURITY AREAS
AND EASEMENTS

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LEGEND

AGRICULTURAL SECURITY AREA
AGRICULTURAL EASEMENTS

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4   0   4 Miles
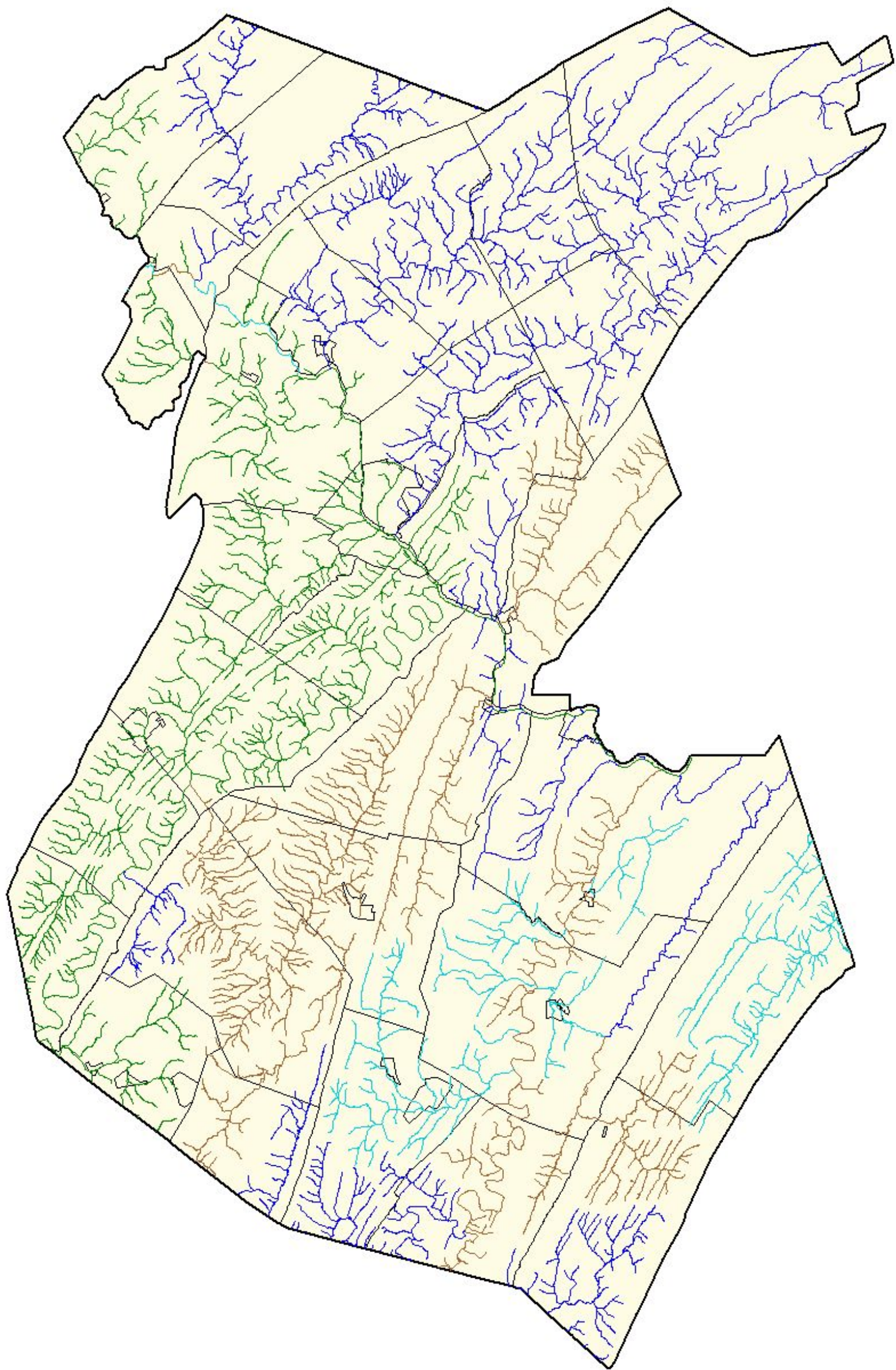
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MAP 21
WATER QUALITY STANDARDS
HUNTINGDON COUNTY STREAMS

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Cold Water Fishery

High Quality Fishery

Trout Stock Fishery

Warm Water Fishery

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CHAPTER 4.

Community Facilities and Infrastructure

1. Infrastructure
   A. Public Buildings
   B. Libraries
   C. Park and Recreational facilities
   D. Water Facilities
   E. Sewer Facilities
   F. Storm sewer Facilities
   G. Municipal Waste Management and Recycling

COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE ANALYSIS

Life in a community is affected by the scope of infrastructure and community facilities provided. Infrastructure in many areas is limited and gaps do exist. This section of the background studies will examine and comment on these various utilities and services for Huntingdon County including: municipal buildings, educational facilities, recreational facilities, emergency services (police, fire, and ambulance), libraries, sewer and water services, recycling and refuse, health care facilities, nursing and personal care homes, state government agencies, Huntingdon County departments and buildings, and public utilities such as gas, electric, telecommunications, and cable.

The number and types of these facilities found in a community depends not only on the needs and desires of the citizens, but on the supporting funds available. The availability, quality, and adequacy of these facilities to serve the existing population are an important factor in ensuring the stability and the future development of a community.

Community Facilities

Community Facilities cover a broad range of building, facilities, and services, all of which are very important to life in a community. Educational facilities including elementary, junior high, and high schools, technical and advanced education facilities, parks and recreational facilities, libraries, municipal buildings, senior citizens centers, and public safety resources such as fire, police, and ambulance constitute a significant part of the infrastructure found in communities. The number and types of these facilities found in a community depends not only on the needs and desires of the citizens, but on the supporting funds available. The availability, quality, and adequacy of these facilities to serve the existing population are an important factor in ensuring the stability and the future development of a community.

Government

Various levels of government exist in Huntingdon County. At the most localized level, there are 18 boroughs and 30 townships in the county. Based on geography only, a residence or business will fall within the jurisdiction of one of these boroughs or townships. Most incorporated boroughs in Huntingdon County have a "strong" - council and "weak" - mayor form of government. (The mayor is charged with executive powers that include management of the police force). Council members are elected by the residents to varying terms to represent an "at large" or subdivision of the borough. Two boroughs in the county employ full-time borough managers who are not elected and who serve as the principal administrators of the borough. In their absence, or when no manager exists, the borough secretary acts as the chief administrative person.

At the township level, there are three township supervisors who are elected at-large and serve various terms. All three supervisors (like county commissioners) cannot be of the same political party. Each township also has a non-elected township secretary who is the chief administrative officer of the township. All mayors, council members and township supervisors are compensated for their full-time or part-time positions.

The county, townships, and boroughs typically create and maintain legal bodies, called authorities, to regulate activities such as sewer and water management. Although zoning itself is very rare in the county, most townships and boroughs have ordinances that require building permits or subdivision plan approvals, and place similar restrictions.

The current voter registration of Huntingdon County is 57 percent Republican, 36 percent Democratic, and 7 percent other. Of the entire electorate, 52 percent are women, and 48 percent are men. Huntingdon County is divided into six school districts (although these districts generally not considered a unit of government). Board members are elected to terms of varying lengths and have certain taxing authorities.

Public Buildings and Facilities

State Government Agencies

1. <u>Department of Corrections</u> - State Correctional Institution at Smithfield and SCI Huntingdon, located in Smithfield Township.
2. <u>Game Commission</u> - Division Offices
a. Central Huntingdon County, Route 22, Huntingdon.
b. Southcentral Regional Office, Huntingdon.
c. Northern Huntingdon County, Alexandria.
3. <u>Department of Health</u> - State Health Center located at 900 Moore Avenue, Huntingdon.
4. <u>Department of Labor and Industry</u> - Job Center, Unemployment Compensation Claims located at 54 Pennsylvania Avenue, Huntingdon.
5. <u>Department of Public Welfare</u> - Located at Lake Raystown Plaza, Huntingdon.
6. <u>Department of Transportation</u>
a. Maintenance Office located on William Penn Highway, West Huntingdon.
b. Driver License Center located on Route 22, Huntingdon.
c. Driver's License Examination located at R.D. #1, Huntingdon.

Huntingdon County

Huntingdon County has offices in eight separate buildings in Huntingdon. The 1881 Courthouse has been supplemented by various other buildings, creating a Huntingdon County Government Campus. Despite the additions made in the 1970's, the Courthouse is overcrowded, particularly in the area of record storage. Prior to 2000 the County rented space for the Planning and Domestic Relations departments to have sufficient office space. In recent years the County has purchased buildings to be used as "Courthouse Annexes," supplementing the crowded Courthouse.

In the fall of 2000 the County Commissioners retained the firm of Hoffman & Popovich to develop an analysis of the space requirements of various County offices. The "Huntingdon County Government Space Needs Study," completed in 2001 recommends moving non-Court related activities out of the Courthouse to allow room for expansion by the Courts and related offices.

The County Commissioners added Annex II in 2000, renovated Annex I in 2002, renovated the Corbin House in 2007 and built a new Domestic Relations Office in 2007. Plans are being laid for the purchase of the Elks Building later in 2007. Future plans include renovation of both the Elks and Courthouse. With the addition of these facilities, the County will have 58,824 square feet of building area.

County Owned Facilities
1. Annex I at 205 Penn Street, renovated in 2002;
2. Annex II at 5th and Penn Streets, purchased in 1999, renovated in 2000;
3. Corbin House, 207 Washington St, purchased in 2005, renovated in 2007;
4. County Jail at 300 Church Street, built in 1979;
5. Courthouse, built in 1882;
6. Domestic Relations Office at 231 Washington Street, built in 2007;
7. Elks Office Building, purchased in 2007;
8. Sheriff's Department at 241 Mifflin Street built in 1829.

Shirley Home for the Aged - The County Home for the Aged is located just south of Shirleysburg along Route 22 in Shirley Township. There are several structures on the site including: the county Home itself, laundry facilities, underground fruit cellar, and storage. This personal care boarding home is about 150 years old.

Municipal Buildings
Of forty-eight municipalities in Huntingdon County, thirty-six have a municipal or community center building for meetings. The largest municipalities (over 800 population) without a municipal center for municipal functions are: Dublin Township, Warriors Mark Township, and Jackson Township.

Of thirty townships, nine do not have a municipal building. Of the eighteen boroughs, three do not have municipal buildings. On the next page is Table 9, which lists all the municipalities and their facilities.

TABLE 9
HUNTINGDON COUNTY MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

Municipality	Mun. Bldg.	Name/ Meeting Place	Address	Description of Building and Uses
Alexandria Bor.	Yes	Scout House	P.O. Box 291, Alexandria	Corner of Shelton & Bridge St., voting, church groups, private rentals, Boy/Girl Scout meetings.
Barree Twp.	Yes	Municipal Building	Manor Hill	Township meetings.
Birmingham Bor.	No	Presbyterian Church		Borough meetings in church facility.
Brady Twp.	Yes	Municipal Building	Route 655	1 Room for Bor. meetings, 1 larger room, garage.
Broad Top City Bor.	No	B.T. Community Ctr.	Broad Street	1 meeting room, kitchen, private rentals.
Carbon Twp.	Yes	Municipal Building		Township meetings.
Cass Twp.	Yes	Community Bldg.	Star Route, Cassville	1 meeting room for Bor. and Twp.- private rentals.
Cassville Bor.	Yes	Community Bldg.	Star Route, Cassville	1 meeting room for Bor. and Twp.- private rentals.
Clay Twp.	Yes	Municipal Building		Elections, meetings.
Coalmont Bor.	Yes	Borough Hall	R.D. #1, Box 311	1 meeting room, small storage room, private rentals.
Cromwell Twp.	Yes	Municipal Building	State Route 2016	Meetings.
Dublin Twp.	No	Shade Gap Fire Hall	Shade Gap	Township uses for meetings.
Dudley Bor.	Yes	Community Bldg.	Main Street	1 meeting room, offset kitchen, private rentals.
Franklin Twp.	No	7 Stars Farm Office	Route 45	7 Stars Farm built office on premises for Twp. use.
Henderson Twp.	Yes	Municipal Building	Numer's Hollow Road	Township meetings.
Hopewell Twp.	No	St. Paul's United Church	Route 26, RD 1 James Creek	Elections, and twp. Meetings.
Huntingdon Bor.	Yes	Municipal Building	530 Washington Street	All municipal functions and offices- also housed: 911 Center, Police, holding cell, patrol room, Council Chambers, conference room, Chamber of Commerce, and police training room and lockers in basement.
Jackson Twp.	No	McAlveys Fort Fire Hall	PA 26, McAlvey's Fort	
Juniata Twp.	Yes	Municipal Building		Elections, meetings.
Lincoln Twp.	Yes	Entriken Comm. Bldg.	Cemetery Road	1 building schoolhouse for Twp. meetings.
Logan Twp.	No	Residence	R.D. #1, Box 366	Meeting is 2nd Monday
Mapleton Bor.	Yes	Borough Building		Elections, meetings.
Marklesburg Bor.	Yes	Borough Building		Elections, meetings.
Mill Creek Bor.	Yes	Borough Building		Elections, meetings.
Miller Twp.	No	Residence	R.D. #2, Box 8A	Meeting is 1st Monday of every month at 7:30.
Morris Twp.	Yes	Shafersville School House	Route 22 and Hollow Road	2 room bldg, mun. meetings, civic groups such as Historical Society, private parties w/o rental fee.
Mt. Union Bor.	Yes	Municipal Building	9 West Market Street	Library, Borough offices, garage - Council Chambers, Mun. Authority, other civic group meetings.
Oneida Twp.	Yes	Fire Hall	R.D. #4, Huntingdon	Use facility for meetings.
Orbisonia Bor.	Yes	Municipal Building	Elliot Street	2 story - 1st floor houses borough offices and meeting room, 2nd floor houses Orbisonia-Rockhill Joint Municipal Authority.
Penn Twp.	Yes	Municipal Building	Redstone Ridge Rd	Meeting room, offices and two equipment bays.
Petersburg Bor.	Yes	Town Hall	King Street	Police Department and meeting room - old school house.
Porter Twp.	Yes	Municipal Office	Route 305 and Bridge St.	1 room for meeting/office, garage.
Rockhill Furnace Bor.	Yes	Municipal Building	Meadows Street	1 meeting room, workshop in back separate bldg.
Saltillo Bor.	Yes	Community Center		meetings, banquet facilities, elections.
Shade Gap Bor.	Yes	Borough Building	Main Street	meetings, elections, and reunion facilities.
Shirley Twp.	Yes	Municipal Building		
Shirleysburg Bor.	Yes	School House	West Street	2 rooms (1 meeting room, 1 office), civic groups.
Smithfield Twp.	Yes	Municipal Building	13th Street and Mt. Vernon	1 secretarial office and 1 tax collector office - separate bldg. Used as garage.
Springfield Twp.	Yes	Residence	R.D. #1 Box 271	Equipment shed, meetings held here in summer only.
Spruce Creek Twp.	No	Residence	R.D. #1 Box 157	Township meetings.
Tell Twp.	Yes	Municipal Building	State Route 2009	Trailer purchased by Twp. as office, formerly resid.
Three Springs Bor.	No	Fire Hall	Ashman Street	Borough meetings in facility.
Todd Twp.	Yes	Municipal Building	Rd 1 Broadbill	Meetings, elections.
Union Twp.	Yes	Municipal Building	Route 829 south of SR 422	1 meeting room, 1 office, garage.
Walker Twp.	Yes	Municipal Building	Bouquet Street	1 large meeting room, 1 reception/office area, back office rented to businesses, 2 restrooms, file room, and storage, private parties and other civic meetings.
Warriors Mark Twp.	No	Fire Hall	Fire House Road, SR 550	Borough meetings in facility.
West Twp.	No	Fire Hall		Borough meetings in facility behind truck storage.
Wood Twp.	Yes	Municipal Building	P.O. Box 8, Robertsdale	Borough meetings in facility.

Source: Huntingdon County Municipalities, 1997
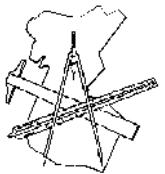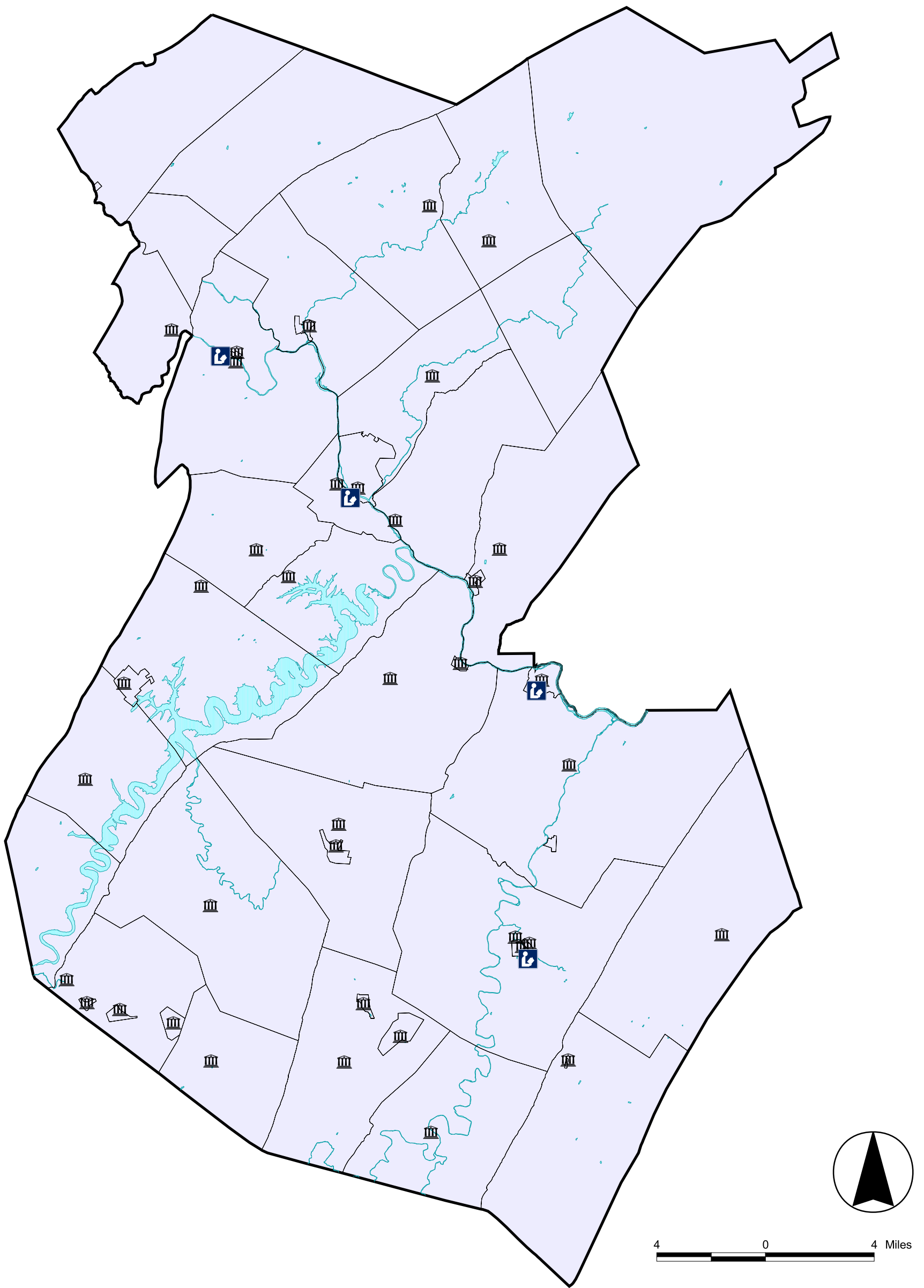
HUNTINGDON COUNTY
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

MAP 22
LIBRARIES AND
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

**HUNTINGDON COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION**

**HUNTINGDON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

📘 Libraries

🏛 Municipal Buildings

4   0   4 Miles

Recreational Facilities

The physical atmosphere of Huntingdon County, with its peaceful mountains, refreshing streams, exciting views, rich heritage, and cheerful people, sets the theme for an environment that is, and has been, excellent for outdoor recreational activities.

It is impossible to accurately measure the economic benefits of outdoor recreation. While many benefits are intangible, the national concern for obesity and healthy lifestyles drives home the importance of both indoor and outdoor recreation. The character of the lands that support recreation benefits the community by promoting higher end use values and portraying an image that is desirable to all activities and land uses throughout the entire community.

A survey of Huntingdon County indicated that many resident and nonresident outdoor participants enjoy a variety of facilities provided by public and private organizations. It suggests that the expansion of many existing facilities and the development of new activities to take advantage of the County's physical characteristic may be reasonable undertakings.

State Parks and Forests

Huntingdon County is extremely fortunate in that its boundaries encompass some of Pennsylvania's most valuable state parks, including Greenwood Furnace, Trough Creek, and Whipple Dam. The parks range from 256 acres at Whipple Dam to 541 acres in Trough Creek. In addition, the Rothrock and Tuscarora State Forest occupies over 68,260 acres of land in Union, Cass, Shirley and Todd Townships in southwestern Huntingdon; near Jackson and Barree Townships in northern Huntingdon; and in Morris, Spruce Creek and Franklin Townships in the northwest.

Additionally, the county has five natural areas: Alan Seeger, Big Flat, and Detweiler in northern Jackson Township, Rocky Ridge in Miller Township, and Little Juniata in Spruce Creek Township.

The location of all state and federal recreational resources, including Raystown Lake and all boat launches can be found on Map 23.

Trails of Huntingdon County

There has been tremendous interest in both greenways and trails in Huntingdon County over the past decade. The Lower Trail, a multi-use trail, now extends for 16 miles west of Alexandria. The Mid-State Trail, a back country hiking trail, has been extended along Tussey Mountain the entire length of the County and into Maryland. Another hiking trail, the Link Trail, has recently been renamed the Standing Stone Trail. Recently, an additional trail system has been proposed to provide 30 miles of off-road bicycle trail on federal land at Raystown Lake. Other significant trails include: Blair Trail, Flag Pole Hill Trails, Old Loggers Trail, and Terrace Mountain Trail. Water trails have also been developed on the Raystown Branch and Juniata Rivers. These trails provide many hiking opportunities for the county residents. Biking activities on the trails are very limited due to severe terrain.

State Game Lands

The County has over 38,225 acres of State Game Lands in 12 areas throughout Huntingdon. Table 10 provides information on each game land:

TABLE 10
HUNTINGDON COUNTY STATE GAMELANDS

Name	Municipality	Region	Acreage
State Game Lands #67	Carbon & Todd Twps.	6 & 9	5,724.44
State Game Lands #71	Shirley and Union Twps.	6 & 7	5,204.02
State Game Lands #73	Hopewell & Lincoln Twps.	5 & 9	2,373.15
State Game Lands #81	Dublin and Springfield Twps.	8 & 10	2,433.30
State Game Lands #99	Cass, Clay & Cromwell Twps.	6 & 8	4,440.00
State Game Lands #112	Brady, Henderson & Miller Twps.	2 & 11	6,438.28
State Game Lands #118	Penn, Porter & Walker Twps.	3, 4 & 5	1,413.78
State Game Lands #121	Clay, Todd & Wood Twps.	6, 8 & 9	2,207.21
State Game Lands #131	Warriors Mark Twp.	1	308.88
State Game Lands #166	Morris Twp.	1	347.15
State Game Lands #251	Dublin & Tell Twps.	10	4,221.84
State Game Lands #278	Warriors Mark Twp.	1	242.69
State Game Lands #322	Logan & Oneida Twps.	4	2,869.77
NA	Totals	NA	38,224.51

Federal Recreational Resources - Raystown Lake

Table 11 shows the Raystown Lake project, the only federal recreational resource in the county, consists of approximately 30,000 acres, including dam and reservoir areas, and areas immediately downstream of the dam along the Raystown Branch of the Juniata River. The reservoir is approximately 30 river miles long, covering a distance approximately 20 miles between the dam, near Huntingdon, and the upstream end of the lake near Saxton. Lands surrounding Raystown Lake provide a diversity of habitats, including forests, forested ravines, rangeland, wetlands, and shale barrens.

The Lake and surrounding project lands are for boating, fishing hunting, camping, and other outdoor recreational activities. Development of the Raystown Lake Project consists of structures associated with operations and maintenance of both the recreation and flood-control facilities. Facilities include boat launch ramps, camping and recreation areas, two sewage treatment plants, a water supply plant, the dam, and a maintenance shop complex.

TABLE 11
RAYSTOWN LAKE FEDERAL RESOURCES

Municipality	Name	Region	Acreage	Ownership	Facilities
Hopewell Twp.	Weavers Falls Boat Launch	9	10	Federal	Boat Launch, Picnic Tables, Facilities
Juniata Twp.	Branch Campground	5	10	Federal	27 Campsites, Facilities, Picnic Tables
Juniata Twp.	Ridenour Overlook	5	15	Federal	Overlook and Trail
Juniata Twp.	Snyders Run Boat Launch	5	8	Federal	Boat Launch, Picnic Tables, Comfort Facilities
Lincoln Twp.	Coffee Run - Entriken Bridge Overlook	5	NA	Federal	Scenic Overlook
Lincoln Twp.	James Creek Boat Launch	5	5	Federal	Boat Launch, Picnic Tables, Facilities
Lincoln Twp.	Lake Raystown Resort	5	401	Federal	200 Campsites, Picnic Tables, Fire Grills, Beach and Boat Launch for Campers Only
Lincoln Twp.	Nancy's Camp	5	44	Federal	50 Campsites, Facilities, Picnic Tables, Beach Area
Lincoln Twp.	Peninsula Camp	5	NA	Federal	29 Campsites, Facilities, Picnic Tables, Beach Area
Lincoln Twp.	Shy Beaver Boat Launch	5	5	Federal	Boat Launch, Picnic Tables, Facilities
Lincoln Twp.	Tatman Run Boat Launch	5	50	Federal	Boat Launch, Beach, Picnic Tables, Facilities

Municipality	Name	Region	Acreage	Ownership	Facilities
Penn & Lincoln Twps.	Terrace Mountain Trail	5	12 mi.	Federal	Marked and Improved Trail
Penn Twp.	Aitch Boat Launch	5	15	Federal	Boat Launch, Beach, Picnic Tables, Facilities
Penn Twp.	Seven Points Recreation Area	5	3,635	Federal	Boat Launch, Marina, Food Concession, Beach, Picnic Area, Pavilions, Boat Rentals, Amphitheatre, 162 Campsites
Penn Twp.	Susquehannock	5	25	Federal	62 Campsites, Facilities
Penn, Lincoln, Juniata, Hopewell Twps.	Raystown Lake Complex	5	NA	Federal	8,300 acre Water Impoundment (see other facilities in this chart designated as part of Raystown Complex)
Totals	NA	NA	29,249	NA	NA

Local Recreational Resources

Huntingdon County contains 120 local recreational resources in thirty-seven of its municipalities. In this study the local parks and facilities have been broken down into three categories: 1) Municipally owned and operated Recreational Resources, 2) Recreational Resources operated by Educational Facilities and 3) Private Recreational Resources. Included in tables 19,20 and 21 is the location, name, planning region, ownership, and facilities, plus, in most cases, the acreage of occupied at each location. All of these facilities have been mapped on Parks and Recreation Map 23; however, they are not identified by name.

Municipally Owned and Operated Recreational Facilities

In Huntingdon County nineteen municipalities own and maintain thirty-eight local recreation resources, such as small parks, sports fields, picnic areas, etc. Twelve of those resources are located in Huntingdon and Mt. Union Boroughs. The most populated areas without local recreation sources are Brady Township and Cromwell Township. The thirty-eight resources are detailed in Table 12.

TABLE 12
COMMUNITY PARKS

Municipality	Name	Region	Acreage	Ownership	Facilities
Broad Top City	Broad Top City Ballfield	9	1	Borough	Little League Ball Field
Broad Top City	Homecoming Grounds	9	8	Private	Fairgrounds, ball field
Carbon Township	Middletown Playground	9	31	Township	Pavillion, ball field, playground
Cassville Borough	Cassville Park	10	1	Borough	Community building, ball field
Dublin Township	Harper Memorial Park	10	52	Private	Fairgrounds, ball field
Dudley Borough	Dudley Ball Field	9	1	Private	Ball field
Dudley Borough	Dudley Historic Site	9	1	Private	Historic exhibit
Huntingdon Borough	Detweiler Memorial Field	4	6.8	Private	Picnic tables, horseshoe pits, softball field, soccer field, track, social building, kids playground area
Huntingdon Borough	Isett Memorial Pool	4	1	Borough	Swimming pool, bathhouse
Huntingdon Borough	Blair Park	4	2	Private	Picnic tables, gazebo, trail
Huntingdon Borough	Blairs Field	4	6	Borough	Ball field
Huntingdon Borough	Flag Pole Hill	4	164	Borough	Picnic area, trails
Huntingdon Borough	West End Playground	4	4	Borough	Ball field, playground, basketball court
Huntingdon Borough	The Cliffs	4	24	Borough	Scenic views, trail
Logan Township	Petersburg Ball Field	3	8	Borough	Ball field
Brady Township	Riverside Park	6	30	Borough	Ball field, boat ramp, pavilion
Mapleton Borough	Mapleton Swimming Pool	6	2	Borough	Swimming pool, bathhouse, playground
Mapleton Borough	Mapleton Courts	6	1	Borough	Tennis Court, Basketball
Mill Creek Borough	Mill Creek Playground	11	0.5	Borough	Picnic tables, baseball field, community building, playground equipment
Mount Union Borough	Diven Park	7	0.5	Borough	Playground, basketball court, tennis courts, splash fountain, athletic field
Mount Union Borough	Upper Municipal Park	7	6	Borough	Baseball fields, basketball court, tennis court, playground
Mount Union Borough	Lower Municipal Park	7	1	Borough	Baseball fields, playground
Mount Union Borough	Catholic Hill Playground	7	1	Borough	Ball field, tennis court
Mount Union Borough	Riverside Park	7	8	Borough	Picnic pavilion, playground
Porter Township	Alexandria-Porter Park	3	2	Borough	Ball field
Shirleysburg Borough	Shirleysburg Park	7	0.4	Borough	Community building, ball field
Saltillo Borough	Saltillo Community Center	8	4	Borough	Basketball court, playground equipment, baseball field

Municipality	Name	Region	Acreage	Ownership	Facilities
Saltillo Borough	Jaycees Gym	8	0.5	Borough	Gymnasium, community meeting room
Smithfield Township	Riverside Park	4		Township	Pavilions, horse shoe pits, picnic tables, walking paths
Three Springs Borough	Three Spring Square	8		Borough	Passive sitting area
Three Springs Borough	Three Springs Park	8	8	Borough	Base ball,
Three Springs Borough	Municipal Pool	8	6	Borough	Swimming Pool
Walker Township	Bouquet Springs	4	0.2	Township	Artesian spring
Walker Township	Municipal Park	4		Township	Pavilion, ball field, playground
Warriors Mark Township	Warriors Mark Ball field	1	1	Township	Ball field
West Township	Shavers Creek Community Building	2	8	Private	Community Building
Wood Township	J.A. Carney Athletic Field	9	5	Township	Ball field, basketball court, playground
Wood Township	Huntingdon Square Playground	9	3.5	Private	Baseball field, concession stand, playground equipment, picnic pavilion
TOTAL		NA	399.4	NA	NA

Recreational Resources Operated by Educational Facilities

The County has 20 parks and recreational areas occupying over 250 acres that are owned and operated by the public school system. The county also has access to almost 7,000 acres of land on Penn State's Stone Valley Recreational Area. Most areas are accessible to the public, but they primarily benefit students. See Table 13.

TABLE 13
EDUCATIONAL RECREATION FACILITIES

Municipality	Name	Region	Acreage	Ownership	Facilities
Barree Township	Stone Valley Recreation Area	2	6,750	PSU	Rental cottages, group lodges, boat rental, 75 acre lake, picnic tables, trails, Shavers Creek Environmental Center
Clay Township	Spring Farm Elementary School	8	40	School	Playground
Cromwell Township	Southern Huntingdon County High School	8	45	School	Tennis courts, football field, track, gymnasium
Dublin Township	Shade Gap Elementary School	10	10	School	Playground, basketball court, ball field
Huntingdon Borough	Huntingdon High School Campus	4	26	School	Gymnasiums (2), indoor pool, tennis courts, softball and soccer fields, cross country course.
Huntingdon Borough	Huntingdon Christian Academy	4	NA	School	Gymnasium
Huntingdon Borough	Standing Stone Elementary School	4	NA	School	Playground, gymnasium
Huntingdon Borough	War Veterans Memorial Field	4	12	School	Football Field, all weather track, bleachers, concession stands, field house
Jackson Township	Jackson Miller Elementary School	2	7	School	Ball field, basketball court, playground
Mill Creek Borough	Brady-Henderson Elementary School	11	9	School	Playground, basketball court
Mount Union Borough	Mount Union High School	7	7.2	School	Ball field, football field, track, softball and baseball fields
Mount Union Borough	Former Elementary School	7	0.7	School	Playground, basketball court
Porter Township	Juniata Valley High School	3	44	School	Football Field, track, bleachers, concession stand, basketball court, gymnasium
Porter Township	Juniata Valley Elementary School	3	NA	School	Playground, gymnasium
Rockhill Borough	Rockhill Elementary School	8	4.6	School	Ball field, playground, gymnasium
Shirley Township	Shirley Elementary School	7	3.7	School	Playground, gymnasium
Todd Township	Trough Creek Elementary School	6	12	School	Playground, gymnasium
Union Township	Mapleton Elementary School	6	7	School	Playground, gymnasium
Walker Township	Southside Elementary School	4	0	School	Playground, gymnasium
Wood Township	Robertsdale Elementary School	9	3	School	Playground, gymnasium
Total	NA	NA	6,981.2	NA	NA

Private Recreational Resources

The County has numerous private recreational resources offering a variety of entertainment activities: golf courses, community centers, parks, playgrounds, sports fields, campgrounds, natural scenic tours (caverns), fairgrounds, and other open grounds or activities. In fact, many community parks are owned and operated by local civic clubs and organizations. See Table 14 on this page and continued on pages 44 and 45.

TABLE 14
PRIVATE RECREATION RESOURCES

Municipality	Name	Region	Acreage	Ownership	Facilities
Allenport (Shirley Township)	Raystown Roller Rink	7	NA	Private	Roller skating rink
Birmingham Borough	Grier School	1	54	Private	Stables, riding and jumping ring, trails, private gym, pool, tennis courts
Cass Township	Latta Grove (Barneytown) Comm.	6	0.5	Private	Baseball and softball field, basketball court, playground
Clay Township	Calvary Baptist Church Playground	8	6	Private	Picnic tables, playground equipment, baseball field
Cromwell Township	Aughwick Campground	8	5	Private	40 campsite facilities, picnic pavilion, field space
Dublin Township	Shade Gap Motocross Course	10	5	Private	Motocross course
Franklin Township	Bailyville Softball Field	1	5	Private	Softball field
Franklin Township	Indian Caverns	1	23	Private	Cave, guided tours, souvenir shop, picnic tables
Henderson Township	Holiday Bowl	11	1	Private	Bowling lanes, rental and sales shops
Henderson Township	Sunny Ridge Retreat	11	NA	Private	Rental property
Hopewell Township	Four Leaf Clover Campground	9	NA	Private	RV park, tent sites
Hopewell Township	Raystown Lakehouse	9	NA	Private	Guest house rental/Lake view
Hopewell Township	Shy Beaver RV Park	9	NA	Private	RV Park
Hopewell Township	The Bryan House	9	NA	Private	Guest house rental
Hopewell Township	Giles Campground	9	20	Private	45 seasonal campsites/facilities, ball field
Huntingdon Borough	Calvary Independent Baptist Church	4	3	Private	softball field, soccer field, basketball gymnasium, playground equipment
Huntingdon Borough	Huntingdon Community Center	4	NA	Private	2 gymnasiums, 1 leased to Center by the at Municipal Building, locker rooms, meeting room
Huntingdon Borough	Juniata Trail Portstown Area	4	.5 mile	Private	1/2 mile improved Riverbank trail, picnic tables
Huntingdon Borough	Juniata College	4	55	Private	2 gymnasiums, tennis courts, baseball field, library, children's playground, art exhibit gallery, track, football field, field space, basketball courts
Huntingdon Borough	Baker Peace Chapel	4	169	Private	Cross country course, field space
Juniata Township	Uncle Joe's Vacation Rental	5	NA	Private	Vacation rentals

Municipality	Name	Region	Acreage	Ownership	Facilities
Juniata Township	Ripka's Cottages	5	NA	Private	Cabin rentals
Juniata Township	Lake Raystown Family Camping	5	NA	Private	Family camping
Lincoln Township	Hemlock Hideaway Campground	5	NA	Private	Camping facilities
Lincoln Township	Proud Mary	5	N	Private	Passenger excursion craft
Lincoln Township	Raystown Raceway	5	N	Private	Go-carts
Logan Township	Warriors Ridge Dam Access Area	3	139	Private	Boat launch area, fishing area
Oneida Township	Standing Stone Golf Club	4	210	Private	18-hole golf course, driving range, putting green, pool, club house, pro shop, lounge & locker room, kid pool
Oneida Township	Stone Valley Lions Park	4	21	Private	Picnic tables with shelters, field space, covered
Oneida Township	Scot Grugen Memorial Field	4		Private	Soccer fields
Penn Township	Allegrippis Campground	5	NA	Private	Camp sites/facilities, playground equipment, pool
Penn Township	Hesston Speedway	5	30	Private	1/2 mile track, grandstand, concenssion stand
Penn Township	Eastman's Miniature Golf	5	NA	Private	Miniature golf
Penn Township	Boyer's Campground	5	NA	Private	Camping, comfort facilities
Penn Township	Woodland Camping	5	NA	Private	Camping, comfort facilities
Penn Township	Pleasant Hills Campground	5	NA	Private	Camping, comfort facilities
Penn Township	Lake Cottages	5	NA	Private	Air conditioned cabins
Penn Township	Lay-Z Pine Lane Cabin	5	NA	Private	Secluded cabins
Penn Township	Seven Points Vacation Rentals	5	NA	Private	Vacation rentals
Penn Township	Seven Points Marina/Cruises	5	NA	Private	Houseboat rentals, marina, dinner and sight seeing cruises
Penn Township	Jim's Anchorage	5	NA	Private	Boat sales, service and storage
Penn Township	Seven Points Bait & Grocery	5	NA	Private	Live bait, tackle
Penn Township	Raystown Belle & Raystown Queen	5	NA	Private	49-passenger excursion craft
Porter Township	Lincoln Caverns	3	40	Private	Cave, tours, picnic area, information and souvenir shop
Porter Township	Edgewater Acres	3	150	Private	Horseback riding, swimming, golf, volleyball, badminton, basketball courts, shuffleboard, table games, dining, lounge, sleeping quarters
Porter Township	Pulpit Rocks	3	2	Private	Rock climbing, historic landmark
Porter Township	Zebrovka Bison Ranch	3	NA	Private	Live bison, Indian mementos, tribal activities
Porter Township	Huntingdon Horsemen' Grounds	3	42	Private	Stables and ring
Rockhill Borough	East Broad Top Railroad	8	10	Private	Narrow gauge railroad, train, tracks, historic buildings, tour and visitor center
Rockhill Borough	Iron Rail Bed and Breakfast	8	NA	Private	Sleeping accommodations

Municipality	Name	Region	Acreage	Ownership	Facilities
Smithfield Township	V.F.W. Memorial Field	4	2	Private	Horseshoe pits, marble courts, baseball field, bleachers, softball field, concession stand, dugouts, field space
Smithfield and Walker Townships	Huntingdon Country Club	4	123	Private	18-hold golf course, swimming pool, club house, banquet facilities
Smithfield Township	Huntingdon County Fairgrounds	4	64	Private	Pavilions, grandstand, track, livestock buildings, campsite, comfort facilities
Todd Township	Lane's Country Homestead	6	1	Private	Sleeping accommodations, picnic tables, fishing pond, golf course
Todd Township	Lane's Pine Lodge	6	1	Private	Guest home rental, playground equipment
Todd Township	Shady Maple Campground	6	18	Private	40 sites/facilities, picnic pavilions
Todd Township	Beavertown Bible Church	6	8	Private	Gymnasium, softball field, picnic pavilion, playground equipment
Todd Township	Bitter Goose Lodge	6	NA	Private	Lodge rental, sleeping accommodations, tent sites
Walker Township	Wood Valley Wrangler Horse Ring	4	5	Private	Riding ring, bridle paths, comfort facilities, concession stand
Walker Township	McConnellsburg Playhouse	4	NA	Private	Community Theater
Walker Township	Shenecoy Field	4	225	Private	Skeet, trap, rifle range, picnic tables, comfort facilities
Warriors Mark Township	Warriors Mark Fire Department	1	5	Private	Picnic tables, concession stand, kitchen, ball field
TOTAL			1442.5		
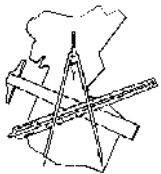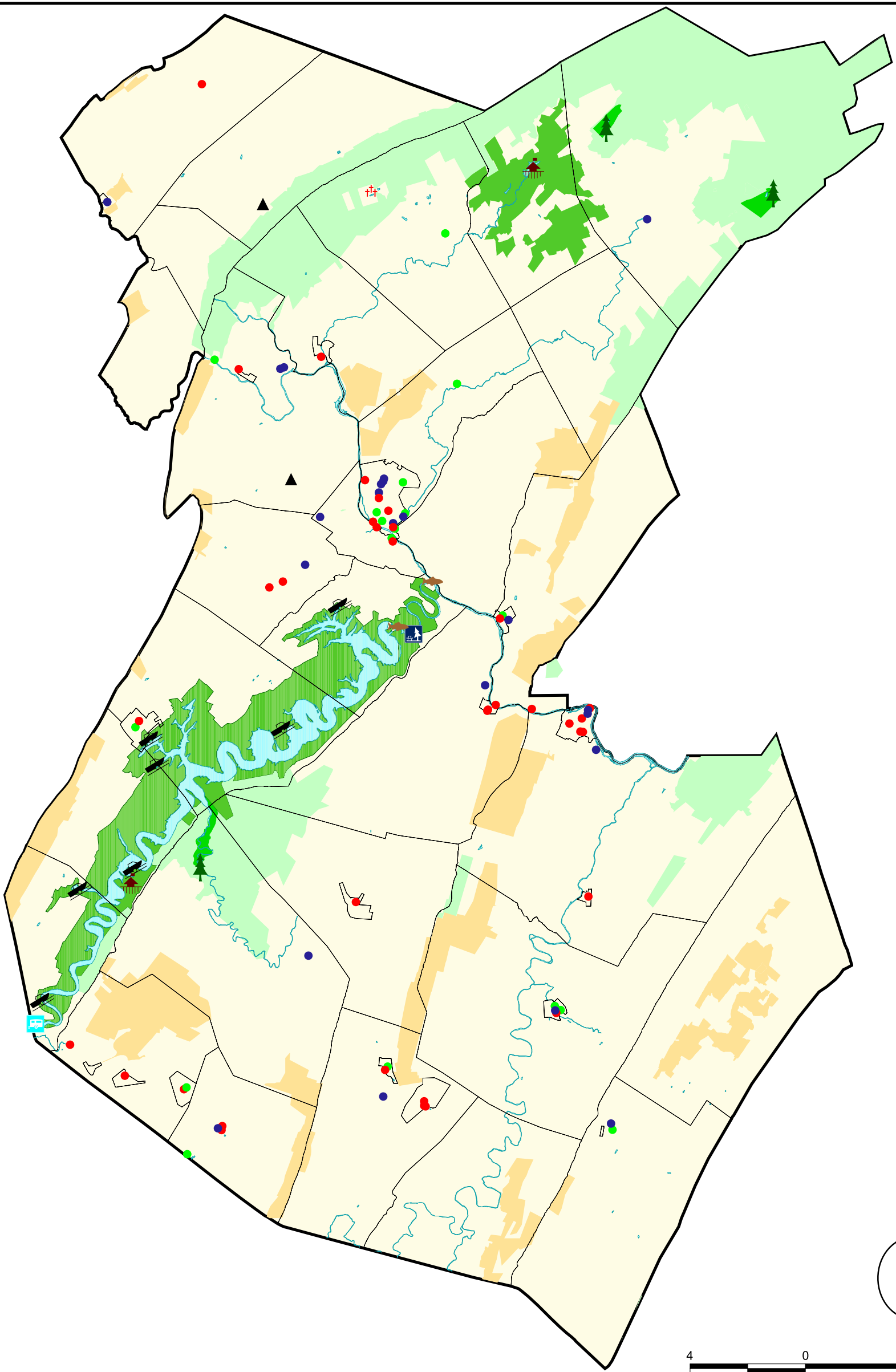
HUNTINGDON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

MAP 23
PARKS AND RECREATION

**HUNTINGDON COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION**

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4   0   4 Miles

Other Recreation Facilities

- State Park
- Boat Launch
- Church Camp
- Environmental Center \ Conference Center
- Campground
- Picnic Area
- Fishing Area
- Caverns

Community Parks

- Private
- Public
- School

- Water
- State Parks
- Stone Valley
- State Game Lands
- State Forest
- Federal Lands

Miscellaneous Resources (Museums and Historic Sites)

Huntingdon County contains several museums that reflect its culture and heritage, and numerous historical sites. Some of these resources are listed in Table 15. A more detailed inventory of historic sites can be found in the 1996 *Huntingdon County Heritage Plan.*

TABLE 15

COUNTY MUSEUMS AND CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS					
Municipality	Name	Region	Acreage	Ownership	Facilities
Alexandria Boro.	Hartslog Heritage	3	NA	Non-Profit	Historic Museum
Brady Twp.	1,000 Steps	11	670	Public	Historic Site
Henderson Twp.	Isett Acres	11	NA	Non-Profit	Antique Collection
Henderson Twp.	Swigart	11	11	Private	Antique Autos
Huntingdon Boro.	Juniata College Museum of Art	4	NA	Non-Profit	Art Museum
Huntingdon Boro.	Huntingdon County Historical Society	4	NA	Non-Profit	Museum with Exhibit Galleries
Mount Union Boro.	Sharrar House and Brick Company Museum	7	NA	Non-Profit	Historic Site
Rockhill Boro.	East Broad Top Railroad	8	10	Private	Operating Historic Steam Railroad
Rockhill Boro.	Railways to Yesterday	8	NA	Non-Profit	Trolley Ride and Museum
Wood Twp.	Broad Top Coal Miners	9	NA	Private	Museum and Theater

Public Services

Services available to the residents of Huntingdon County are extremely important to the safety and well being of the community. Public services include safety features such as police, fire, and ambulance; health concerns such as sanitary sewer and water; and other services such as libraries, retirement homes, etc. The following sections examine those services that are provided in Huntingdon County.

Emergency Services

Police Police protection is available throughout the county. The Pennsylvania State Police have a barracks near Huntingdon, and the county Sheriff's office is in Huntingdon Borough. Larger boroughs such as Huntingdon, Mount Union, and Petersburg-Alexandria have their own police departments. Other areas outside these boroughs are served by the Pennsylvania State Police and the Huntingdon County Sheriff's Department. Since 1997 the county Sheriff has been contracted to provide service at Raystown Lake. See Table 16.

TABLE 16

POLICE AGENCY LISTING Huntingdon County, 1997				
Department Name	Full-Time Officers	Part-Time/ Others	Vehicles	Special Services
PA State Police (Huntingdon Barracks)	29	2	14 radio equipped	Helicopter available.
Huntingdon County Sheriff's Office	7	16	7 radio equipped	Availability of 3 police canines and horse mounted search and rescue
Huntingdon Borough Police Depart.	12	0	5 radio equipped	None
Juniata Valley Regional Police Dept.	0	5	1 radio equipped	None
Mount Union Police Dept.	4	4	3 radio equipped	None
Source: Huntingdon County Dispatch, 2007				

Fire Protection Fire protection is provided by 22 individual fire stations. The service areas cover the entire county with very few communities more than ten miles from the nearest station. The center of the county is best served. Coverage becomes sparse (as does the population density) in the southwestern portion of the county near Hopewell and Carbon Townships; those townships receive assistance from neighboring counties. See Map 24.

TABLE 17

FIRE PROTECTION LISTING
Huntingdon County, 2007

Department Name	Address	Number and Type of Units	Special Services	Active Members
Alexandria Volunteer Fire Co.	P.O. Box 252, Alexandria	6 (2 pumpers, service truck, tanker, mini pumper)	Rescue Tools, air bags, jaws of life	20
Huntingdon Volunteer Fire Dept. / Hook and Ladder Co.	1301 Washington St, Huntingdon	4 (2 ladder truck, brush truck, 2 engine, 1 rescue unit)	Ladder truck, Jaws of life	35-40
Mapleton Depot Vol. Fire Co.	Main St., Mapleton Depot	4 (engine, 1 rescue, brush truck)	Scuba, rope rescue	12
Marklesburg Vol. Fire Co.	P.O. Box 405, James Creek	6 (2 ambulances, 2 pumpers, tanker, brush unit)	Light rescue, first response	22
McConnellstown Vol. Fire Co.	McConnellstown	5 (2 pumpers, tanker, rescue unit, brush unit)	Light rescue, first response	22
Mill Creek Vol. Fire Co.	Mill Creek	2 (tanker, pumper)	First Responders	35-40
Mount Union Vol. Fire Co.	120 S. Division St., Mt. Union	7 (3 engines, 3 ambulances, rescue truck)	Scuba divers, Jaws of Life	40
Oneida Township Vol. Fire Co.	R.D. #4, Huntingdon	2 (engine, tanker)	First Responders	20
Orbisonia-Rockhill Vol. Fire Dept.	P.O. Box 186, Orbisonia	5 (2 engines, 3 ambulances, tanker, brush truck)	Rescue unit with tanker	30
Petersburg Vol. Fire Co.	P.O. Box 68, Petersburg	5 (2 pumpers, 2 tankers, 1st responders, squad vehicle)	First Responders	21
Robertsdale-Wood-Broad Top City Vol. Fire Co.	P.O. Box 8, Robertsdale	6 (2 pumpers, 1 tanker, 2 ambulances)	None	35
Shade Gap Vol. Fire Co.	Shade Gap	3 (engine, tanker, mini-pumper)	First responders Jaws of Life	20
Shavers Creek Vol. Fire Co.	R.D., Petersburg	5 (2 engines, tanker and brush truck)	Jaws of Life	20
Smithfield Vol. Fire Co.	Firehouse Lane, Huntingdon	5 (2 engines, 1 ladder truck, brush truck,)	Special Unit, air cylinders, salvage equip.), First Responders, Ladder Truck	25
Stone Creek Valley Vol. Fire Co.	R.D. #1, Petersburg	4 (engine, brush unit, tanker, 1st responder, rescue)	Jaws of life, First Responders	15
Three Springs Vol. Fire Co.	Three Springs	3 (3 pumpers)	Jaws of Life	10
Trough Creek Valley Vol. Fire Co.	P.O. Box 22, Cassville	6 (2 pumpers, 1 tanker, 1 brush truck, 1 special unit, 1 equipment truck)	Jaws of life, First Responders	30
Warriors Mark Vol. Fire Co.	Warriors Mark	4 (3 pumpers, 1 tanker/pumper)	Jaws of Life, First Responders	22

Source: Huntingdon County Dispatch, 2007

Ambulance   Varying forms of ambulance services are available throughout the county, ranging from basic first aid to advanced life support. Most ambulance services are affiliated with a local fire company and are staffed by volunteers including drivers, first responders, advanced first aid personnel, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), and paramedics (in some cases).

Ambulance services are generally capitalized by local fund drives and continuing operational costs are met by membership solicitations and third party billing for services. Non-members are almost always billed directly for services rendered.

Table 18, on the next page, contains a list of all county ambulance services.

TABLE 18

AMBULANCE SERVICES Huntingdon County, 2007			
Service	Basic Life Support Vehicles	Advanced Life Support Vehicles	Paramedics
Huntingdon	0	4	7
Mount Union	3	0	0
Robertsdale	0	4	3
Three Springs	2	0	0
Marklesburg	2	0	0
Orbisonia/Rockhill	3	0	0
Twin Creeks	2	0	0
Source: Huntingdon County Dispatch, 2007			

911 Services Huntingdon County 911 service was activated in September 1998. The service covers the entire county. Dispatching, using computer-aided technology, is provided by Huntingdon Borough under contract with the Huntingdon County Commissioners. Countywide addressing has been implemented by the Planning and Development Department using geographic information system technology. Payroll and equipment costs are paid by a $1.50 charge to users. Previous to 911 Huntingdon Borough provided dispatch services on a countywide basis without 911. Each municipality and the county paid the borough a per capita fee to support the county dispatch.

Libraries As Table 19 shows, there are three library systems available within the immediate Huntingdon County area, that are accessible to the general public: the Municipal Library in Alexandria, the Huntingdon County Library System, and the Juniata College Library.

The largest provider of library services is the Huntingdon County Library System, which operates three separate permanent facilities in Huntingdon, Mount Union, and Orbisonia. The headquarters for the system is located in the Huntingdon Library, and the system operates a "bookmobile" to service the more rural locations of the county. The library is located at the corner of Fourth and Penn Streets in the McMurtrie Mansion. The Huntingdon County Library System has a total of 73,767 volumes, an increase of almost 23 percent since 1967, as well as a film and music library.

The Alexandria Memorial Public Library is a unique facility. Established in 1900 through an endowment from the Woolverton and Thompson families, in memory of Elisa Gemmill Thompson and Anna Maria Woolverton-Kinsole. The Alexandria Library is the oldest library in the area. It operates a historical archive as well as an active public library. The library has 17,500 volumes, an increase of 25 percent since 1967, and is located in Alexandria Borough.

The Juniata College Beeghly Library has over 130,000 volumes, 30,000 bound periodicals, and 40,000 pieces of microfilm. The library is open to the public and is extensively used as a resource for technical, business, and academic interests.

TABLE 19

HUNTINGDON COUNTY LIBRARIES				
Municipality	Name	Region	Ownership	Facilities
Alexandria Boro.	Alexandria Memorial Public Library	3	Local	Library
Huntingdon Boro.	Huntingdon County Library	4	County	Library and Meeting Room
Mount Union Boro.	Huntingdon County Library Branch	7	County	Library
Orbisonia Boro.	Huntingdon County Library Branch	8	County	Library

Huntingdon County residents also have easy access to Penn State's mammoth Pattee Library system on the main campus at University Park. With over 3.6 million volumes, on line computer access (The Cat), one million periodicals, film, audio, art, and microfilm library services, the Pattee Library system is the single largest library system in all of central Pennsylvania. Vans for students and faculty operate daily between Juniata College and the Pattee Library 30 miles away. Pattee sees over 1.4 million visitors per year.

Health Care Facilities

The availability of health care services is one important factor affecting the decision of people to relocate to a particular area. Huntingdon County's main supply of health care is provided by J. C. Blair Memorial Hospital and four rural health clinics.

The Hospital completed a strategic plan in August 2006 to direct its actions over the next several years. Several significant findings were uncovered through this process:
1. Primary Care Physician Recruitment
2. Specialty Care Physician Recruitment
3. Reimbursement from both governmental and commercial payers

HUNTINGDON COUNTY
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

MAP 24
EMERGENCY SERVICES

**HUNTINGDON COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION**
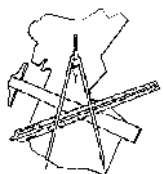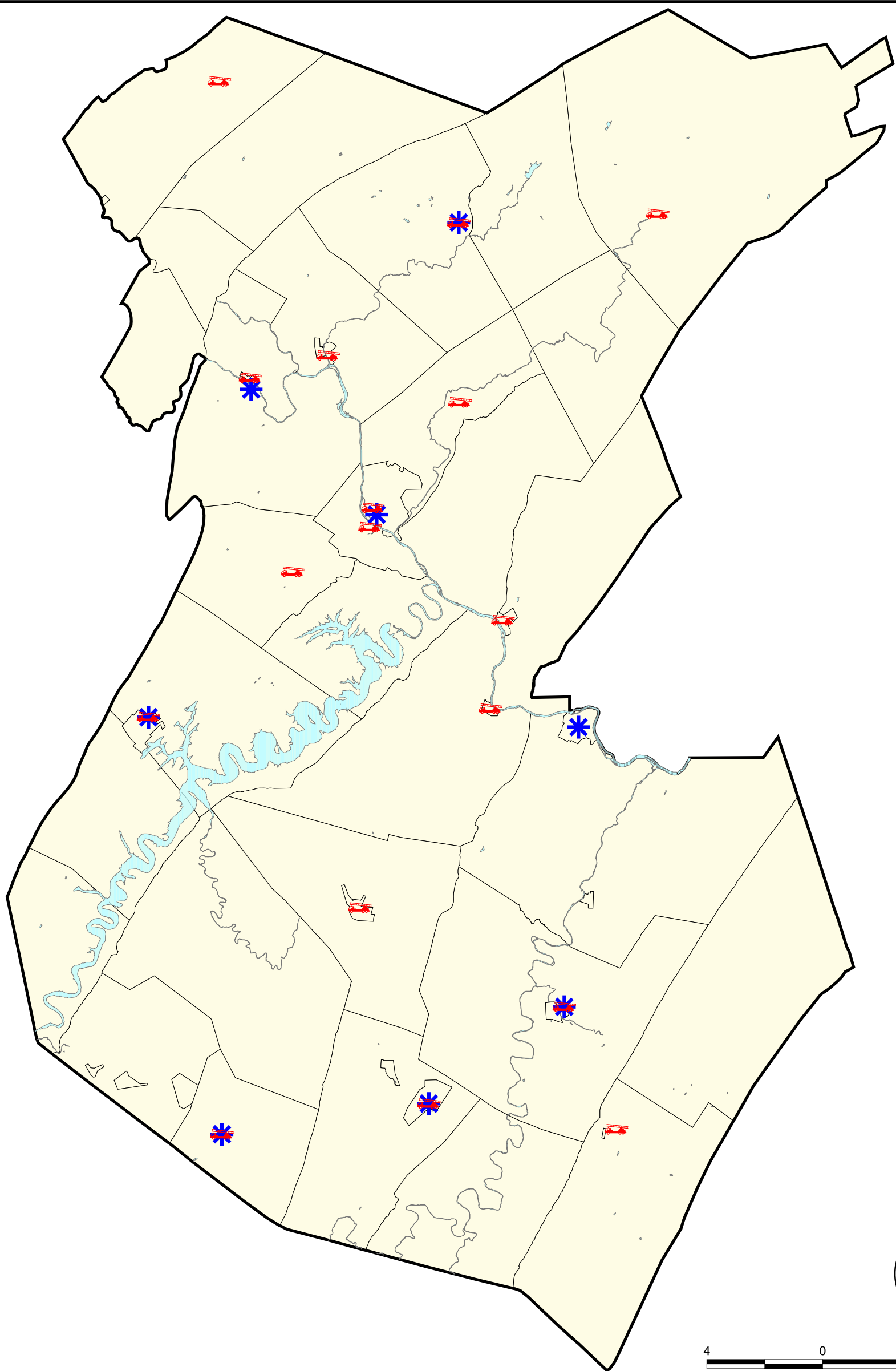
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Police Stations

Fire Stations

Ambulance Stations

4   0   4 Miles

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Utilization patterns are important from a planning perspective for several reasons. First, they can indicate if residents have adequate access to health care facilities. Second, the information can uncover shortcomings in the kind of facilities needed to serve the current population. Finally, the information can help planners make policy decisions regarding future needs and opportunities.

Ninety percent of J.C. Blair's patients come from Huntingdon County and surrounding communities. However, J.C. Blair is serving only 44% of the total market share for hospital-based services, illustrating the need to recruit additional primary and specialty care physicians to better meet the County's healthcare needs. While several service areas of the Hospital have seen a decline (admissions and surgeries, for example), emergency department visits and endoscopy procedures have increased. The high number of emergency visits indicates that segments of the population are using the Emergency Department for chronic care and as a replacement for primary care physicians. This indicates a shortage of access to primary care physicians.

Primary Care Physician Need:
Emergency Department utilization data shows a significant utilization of the ED from the Mount Union area population which verifies that there is a shortage of Primary Care Physicians (PCPs) in this area and a need for expanding services in Mount Union to accommodate the Medicaid population in the community with "urgent care" services rather than the ED.

Market share erosion in the entire southeast part of the County from Mount Union through Orbisonia to Three Springs demonstrates a need for more Primary Care Physician services and also diagnostic and urgent care services. Expanded services and expanded hours are called for in this area.

Specialty Physician Need:
Physician need estimates indicate that there is a need for additional full time physicians in Orthopedic Surgery, Urology, Cardiology, Dermatology, General Surgery, Hematology/Oncology, Ophthalmology, Otolaryngology, and, in addition, there is part-time need for Specialty Care in Allergy, Endocrinology and Infectious Disease.

There are significant barriers to physician recruitment in Huntingdon County:

Location
Absence of adequate office facilities
Absence of a group practice structure
Pennsylvania malpractice climate
Difficulty in recruiting single specialty practitioners

J.C. Blair also has a difficult payer mix and reimbursement situation. Governmental program reimbursement (Medicare and Medicaid) as well as other third party payments are inadequate and insufficient for J.C. Blair to generate a positive income at experienced volumes. Blue Cross is the predominant non-governmental payer and reimburses significantly below other nongovernmental payers.

The Hospital, with the County's support, is dedicated to addressing these major issues to better meet the health care needs of Huntingdon County residents.

Hospitals
1. J C. Blair Memorial Hospital - Located on Warm Springs Avenue, Huntingdon, PA 16652. Complete 104-bed hospital facility with 24-hour service. Accepts all patients.

Medical Centers
There are four medical centers in Huntingdon County.

1. Broad Top Medical Center - Located at P. O. Box 127, Broad Top City, PA 16621. Medical, dental, x-ray, women's health services, public health services, prenatal care, and WIC (women, infants, and children) programs. Accepts all patients.

2. Juniata Valley Medical Center - Located on Main Street, Alexandria, PA 16611. Medical, diagnostic, pediatric, dental, family planning, and laboratory services in addition to emergency services. Accepts all patients.

3. Mount Union Medical Center - Located at 100 South Park Street, Mount Union, PA 17066. Medical, dental, and podiatry services in addition to emergency services. Accepts all patients. This facility is owned and operated by J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital.

4. Southern Huntingdon Medical Center - Located at P. O. Box 40, Orbisonia, PA 17243. Medical, family, x-ray, and laboratory services in addition to emergency services. Accepts all patients.

Special Health Services
1. Community Nursing, Inc - An affiliate of Conemaugh Valley Memorial Hospital, located at 615 Washington Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652. Personal care, skilled nursing, and home cleaning services.

2. Huntingdon County Home Nursing - Located on Bryant Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652. Skilled nursing, homemaker, home health aide services, medical social work counseling, physical, speech, and occupational therapy, hospice care for the terminally ill.

3. <u>Huntingdon Family Planning</u> - Located in the J. C. Blair Hospital, Huntingdon, PA 16652. Parent effectiveness training, concerns in relationships, educational services, reproductive related medical services including annual examinations, contraceptive counseling, pap tests, treatment for sexually transmitted diseases for both sexes.

4. <u>Juniata Valley Tri-County Drug and Alcohol Abuse Commission</u> - Located at 405 Penn Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652. Services offered are consultation, education, crisis intervention, outpatient individual, family and group counseling, inpatient hospitalization, and inpatient non-hospitalization residential rehabilitation.

5. <u>Mental Health/Mental Retardation</u> - Located at 905 Washington Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652. Deals with a wide range of problems from mild depression to severe mental illness.

6. <u>Office of Veteran's Affairs</u> - Huntingdon County Courthouse, Huntingdon, PA 16652. Assists veterans and their dependents or survivors in applying for hospitalization benefits for which they are entitled.

7. <u>State Health Center</u> - Located at 909 Moore Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652. Well-baby clinics, plans medical regimen for reported cases of communicable diseases, TB, victims of animal bites, health education, arranges treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, validation of international health certificates, blood pressure screening, immunization, services for handicapped persons and their children. Outposts located in *Orbisonia, Broad Top City*, and *Mount Union*.

Nursing Homes
1. <u>Huntingdon Manor Nursing Home</u> - A private facility adjacent, but unrelated, to J. C. Blair Memorial Hospital in Huntingdon, PA 16652. Contains 93 beds.

2. <u>Shirley Home for the Aged</u> - A county owned but privately operated personal care facility located in Shirleysburg, PA 17260. Contains 40 beds.

3. <u>Westminster Woods</u> - A privately operated, complete Continuing Care Retirement Center (CCRC) developed by the Presbyterian Homes (but non-sectarian). Westminister Woods has independent living homes and apartments, a personal care facility and a full service nursing home.

4. <u>Woodland Retirement Center</u> - A privately operated facility located in Orbisonia, PA 17243. Contains 148 beds.

Miscellaneous Facilities

Day Care Centers The vast majority of day care services in the county are provided by unlicensed "sitters" operating at a very low cost ($75 to $100 per week) in either

their own homes or in the child's home. Since this is a very widespread activity, few private, for-profit day care providers have been interested in competing with these "sitters" and the following list of subsidized day care centers. Therefore, there is only one private licensed day care center.

The following is a list of day care centers in the county:

1. <u>Huntingdon County Child and Adult Development, Inc.</u> - operates three year-round day care centers for children eighteen months through kindergarten.
   A) *Huntingdon County Development Center* - Portland Ave. Complex, Huntingdon Borough.
   B) *Juniata Valley Child Development Center* - Porter Township.
   C) *Mount Union Child Development Center* - Mount Union Borough.
From September through May, Huntingdon County Child and Adult Development, Inc. also operates Head Start programs in the following communities for children ages 3 through 5 years, from low income families:

1. Broad Top City
2. Mount Union
3. Juniata Valley
4. Orbisonia
5. Huntingdon

During the summer, HCCAD sponsors a day care program for children aged 6 through 12 years. Though located in Huntingdon, this program is for children throughout the county.

2. <u>Early Childhood Education Center</u> - As part of its academic programs in education and psychology, Juniata College operates a highly regarded half-day pre-school program on campus (for both "toddlers" and older pre-school children) with a professional staff and student interns.

3. <u>Jack and Jill Nursery School</u> - Sponsored by the Abbey Reformed Church in Huntingdon, the well regarded school provides a half-day pre-school program for children ages 3 through 6. The program runs September through May and there is also an eight-week summer session.

Senior Centers and Satellite Facilities The Huntingdon-Bedford-Fulton Area Agency on Aging provided the following information on Senior Centers and Satellite Facilities in Huntingdon County.

1. <u>Alexandria Senior Center</u> - Located in the Hartslog Valley Grange Hall in Alexandria. It has been operated in this location since 1974 with a lease agreement

between the Area Agency on Aging and the Hartslog Valley Grange. The space utilized by the senior center is approximately 700 square feet. The senior center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM. A noon meal is served daily. It is estimated that this center will serve approximately 100 unduplicated persons each year.

2. The Bricktown Senior Community Center - Located at 18 North Washington Street in Mount Union since mid-1996. Bricktown Area Senior Citizens, Inc. owns the building. The senior center was previously housed in the Taylor Apartments. The square footage of the current building is approximately 3,150 square feet, with 1,950 used as the meal site. The senior center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM. A noon meal is served daily. It is estimated that this center will serve approximately 300 unduplicated persons this year.

4. The Shade Gap Satellite Center - Operated in the Ladies Auxiliary Building in Shade Gap. The building is owned by the Fire Hall Ladies Auxiliary, which began serving a noon meal at this location one day a week in 1993. Currently, meals are served two days a week. The square footage of the building is approximately 2,400 square feet. The senior center is open from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM on Wednesday and Thursday. It is estimated that this center will serve approximately 175 unduplicated persons this year.

5. The Standing Stone Senior Citizen Center - Located at 915 Washington Street in Huntingdon, since 1980. Standing Stone Senior Citizens, Inc. owns the building. The square footage of the building is approximately 3,375 square. The senior center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM. A noon meal is served daily. It is estimated that this center will serve approximately 600 unduplicated persons this year.

6. The Three Springs Senior Center - Located in the heart of Three Springs, since 1978, with major renovation work completed in 1985. Three Springs Senior Citizens own the building. The square footage of the building is approximately 2,100 square feet. Part of this is used as a thrift store, operated by the seniors. The senior center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM. A noon meal is served daily. It is estimated that this center will serve approximately 100 unduplicated persons this year.

7. Juniata Valley Senior Center – Located just north of Petersburg on PA 305, the Juniata Valley Senior Center is incorporated as a non-profit. Moving from the Hartslog Grange, the current Senior Center was constructed in 1998 and expanded a few years later. The building contains approximately 3,200 square feet of floor space. A noon meal is served daily.

Community Infrastructure
The service level and condition of community infrastructure affects both community life and developmental potential. Water and sanitary sewer service are two key issues for Huntingdon County. Both of these needs are basic to every community, and they greatly affect land use patterns within one community. An overview of these systems is provided below.

As a first step in the examination and evaluation of the public utilities of the study area, a complete inventory was made. Emphasis was placed on the adequacy, capacity, location, and service area of each utility in the county.

Water Facilities
Public water supplies permit water to the general public and are issued through the Division of Sanitary Engineering of the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Public water supplies that have been granted supply permits in Huntingdon County are listed in Table 20 with information on their facilities.

There are twenty-two water authorities, companies, or other municipally operated public water organizations in the county, covering twenty-nine municipalities, the State Correctional Institution, Raystown Lake, and two state parks. See Map 25 for the locations of all public water facilities.

Sanitary Sewer Facilities
The satisfactory disposal of sewage and liquid wastes from homes and industry has become a matter of increasing concern. The problems of ground water contamination from on-lot sewage systems have also been recognized.

There are twenty-two sanitary sewer authorities, companies, departments or other municipal organizations in the county providing public sewer and wastewater collection to approximately thirty-one municipalities, two State Correctional Institutions, two recreation areas at Raystown Lake, and two state parks.

Trends in Wastewater Treatment
The following description of sewage treatment was taken from a recent Act 537 amendment prepared for Huntingdon Borough. "In the beginning of the 20th Century, a major advancement in the control of water borne diseases was made through the treatment and disinfection of wastewater. Initially, treatment was aimed at removing gross materials such as rags, grit, and heavy organics, plus the disinfection of wastewater to remove the majority of pathogens.

Primary treatment began to be commonly employed in the 1940's and 1950's and removed about one-third of the biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) present in sewage. BOD can deprive a river or stream of oxygen and is the primary indicator of water pollution.

In the 1960's and 1970's, secondary treatment was applied and facilities began to remove up to 95% of the BOD. In all cases, disinfection was employed to remove pathogens from the wastewater stream. As a result of these activities, by the end of the 1980's it was generally agreed that most streams were free of the serious problems that were caused by untreated wastewater at the beginning of the 20th Century.

In the 1990's, a more serious focus began to fall on the handling of treatment plant sludge, the by-product of removing solids and BOD from the wastewater. A major emphasis was placed on providing a more-safe product, rich in nitrogen and phosphorus, and when used properly in an agricultural application, assisted in good crop production. At a minimum, treatment facilities provided a Class B biosolids product, which is to say biosolids that could be safely applied on to land with limitations, and under the control of permits issued by DEP. Techniques for producing a Class A biosolids were also being followed in certain instances and resulted in a biosolids which could be utilized without most of the permit limitations that were attached to the Class B program. "

In June 2000, the Chesapeake Bay Executive Council signed the Chesapeake 2000 Agreement, a proposal to restore the Chesapeake Watershed. DEP has prepared the Pennsylvania Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy. It calls for a comprehensive approach to reducing nutrient and sediment contributions from the Commonwealth to Chesapeake Bay. DEP has identified more than 180 wastewater treatment plants that are considered to be significant contributors of nitrogen and phosphorus to the Bay.

Two Huntingdon County wastewater plants will be required to meet Tributary Strategy standards. As a Phase I facility, the Huntingdon Borough Wastewater Treatment Plant must meet the standards by 2010. Mount Union is a Phase III facility.

Community Sewer Service Summary
See Table 21 and Map 26 for a summary of wastewater treatment facilities in the County.

TABLE 20
WATER SYSTEM SUMMARY

Name	Average Daily Consumption	Max. Daily Cons.	Customers	Storage	Short-Range Needs	Long-Range Needs
Alexandria Borough Water Authority	99,245 gpd	281,070 gpd	362	Reservoir - 3.5 mg, Tank 319,000 gal.	Installation of 6" pipe on Shelton Avenue	None
Broad Top City Borough Water Authority	32,911 gpd	56,000 gpd	181	tank - 127,000 gal.	Drill new well and connect to system, link with Dudley System	to "loop" system, rehabilitate water tank
Cherrytown Water Company	not given	not given	16	Reservoir - 10,000 gallon	None	None
Dudley, Carbon, Coalmont Joint Municipal Authority	19,437 gpd	83,500 gpd	132	not given	new meters	None
Greenwood Furnace State Park	3,414 gpd	4,365 gpd	3	134,600 gal. underground water tank	new hook-ups for water	None
Huntingdon Water Filtration Plant	1,465,000 gpd	2,000,000 gpd	2901	2 : 3 mg tanks, 1: 300,000 gal pipe	None	Replace distribution lines = $150,000/year indefinitely
Mapleton Municipal Authority	59,448 gpd	126,290 gpd	228	Reservoir 134,000 gal. & 160,000 gal.	install 8" water main/improvements to Dam & Settling pond	None
Mill Creek Area Municipal Authority	73,305 gpd	112,300 gpd	269	not given	None	None
Mount Union Borough	600,000 gpd	750,000	2086	Tanks	None	None
Neelyton Water Co-Op	5,600 gpd	6,800 gpd	Res. Cust.	not given	None	None
Orbisonia/Rockhill Joint Municipal Authority	98,935 gpd	148,430 gpd	407	not given	New storage tank in Rockhill Borough, $250,000	None
Petersburg Borough Authority	48,140 gpd	72,000 gpd	266	1,000,000 in Resevoir; 313,000 gal. in tank	Pigging of main line, replacement of some of the main line	None
Rothrock Water Treatment Plant	120,000 gpd	360,000 gpd	258	not given	None	None

Name	Average Daily Consumption	Max. Daily Cons.	Customers	Storage	Short-Range Needs	Long-Range Needs
Saltillo Water Company	38,013 gpd	64,894 gpd	157	88,000 gal.	new well	None
SCI - Huntingdon	395,833 gpd	502,000	2	separate	None	None
Seven Points Water Treatment Plant	13,000 gpd	72,000 gpd	0	not given	None	None
Shirleysburg Municipal Authority	8,662 gpd	not given	69	not given	None	None
State Correctional Institution Huntingdon	500,000 gpd	650,000 gpd	0	not given	Currently Constructing Filtration plant & Chemical Treatment Facility	None
Three Springs Borough Water System	66,597 gpd	112,290 gpd	214	Reservoir - 75,000 gal, 2: 25,000 gal tanks	None	None
Trough Creek State Park	not given	not given	0	not given	new well @ newly constructed park office	None
Walker Township Water Treatment Plant	93,182 gpd	140,954 gpd	520	tank - 500,000 gal.	None	None
Warriors Mark General Authority	49,826 gpd	75,402 gpd	218	not given	locate & develop new well & replace 3000' of lines	None
Wood, Broad Top, Wells, Joint Municipal Authority	46,685 gpd	82,000 gpd	316	None	new system - waiting for FHA funds	None
			8328			

Source: Huntingdon County
Planning Department

TABLE 21
SEWAGE SYSTEM SUMMARY

Name	Av. Daily Flow	Max. Daily Flow	Customers	Stormwater System	Act 537 Plan	Short-Range Needs	Long-Range Needs
Alexandria Borough - Porter Twp. Joint Sewer Auth.	105,000 gpd	240,000 gpd	340	separate	2003	Extend sewer line to Davis Way.	Extension of sewer to areas of Porter Twp indicated in the Act 537 Plan; improved sludge handling.
Broad Top City Wastewater Treatment Plant	40,000 gpd	65,000 gpd	153	separate	not given	None	None
Cassville Water & Sewer Authority	16,000 gpd	30,000 gpd	84	separate	1994	None	None
Dudley, Carbon, Coalmont Joint Municipal Authority	27000 gpd	70,000 gpd	300	separate	1995, 2002	None	None
Greenwood Furnace State Park	4,000 gpd	10,000 gpd	1	separate	n/a	Extend sewer lines	None
Hesston Wastewater System	6,000 gpd	15,000 gpd	57	separate	1989, amended in 1992 and 2006	Correct infiltration and inflow.	Connect collection system to Walker Twp system.
Huntingdon Waste Water Treatment Facility	3,000,000gpd	4,000,000 gpd	3,500	combined	1989, amended 1994 & 2007	$10,700,000 to meet Chesapeake Bay Stds	$15,000,000 to separate combined sewers
Mapleton Area Wastewater Treatment Facility	48,000 gpd	100,000 gpd	280	not given	1994	None	None
Marklesburg Borough	8000 gpd	12,000 gpd	77	separate	1993	None	None
Mill Creek Area Municipal Authority	72000 gpd	120,000 gpd	286	separate	1994	None	None
Mount Union Borough Sewer	357,000 gpd	604,000 gpd	1195 (2,044 EDU)	minimal combined	1995, amended in 1999	Disconnect interconnected storm sewers, identify and remedy I&I, minor upgrades.	Meet Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy
Oneida Twp. Waste Water Collection System	20000 gpd	111,000 gpd	95	separate	1987	None	None

Name	Av. Daily Flow	Max. Daily Flow	Customers	Stormwater System	Act 537 Plan	Short-Range Needs	Long-Range Needs
Orbisonia Rockhill Joint Municipal Authority	79,000 gpd	200,000 gpd	500	separate	not given	$1.65 million upgrade to 100,000/300,000 gpd capacity	None
Petersburg Sewer Department	80000 gpd	100,000 gpd	181	separate	1995	None	None
Rothrock Sewage Treatment Plant	18000 gpd	100,000 gpd	1	separate	n/a	None	None
Seven Points Recreation Area Sewer Treatment Plant	8000 gpd	60,000 gpd	1	separate	n/a	None	None
Shade Gap Area Joint Municipal Authority	30,000 gpd	65,000 gpd	123	separate	1988	None	None
Shirley Township Authority	127,000 gpd	500,000 gpd	343	separate	1996, amended 2001	Infiltration and inflow identification and repair	I & I reduction plan, pump station upgrade
Spring Creek Joint Sewer Authority	88,000 gpd	110,000 gpd	419	separate	not given	None	None
Walker Twp. Waste Water Collection System	98,350 gpd	108,350 gpd	560	n/a	1989	None	None
Wood, Broad Top, Wells Joint Municipal	55,000 gpd	84,000 gpd	322	not given	not given	None	None
	4,286,350 gpd		8,818				

Source: Huntingdon County Planning Department

**HUNTINGDON COUNTY
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

MAP 25
WATER FACILITIES

**HUNTINGDON COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION**
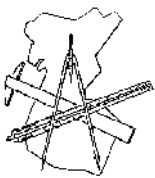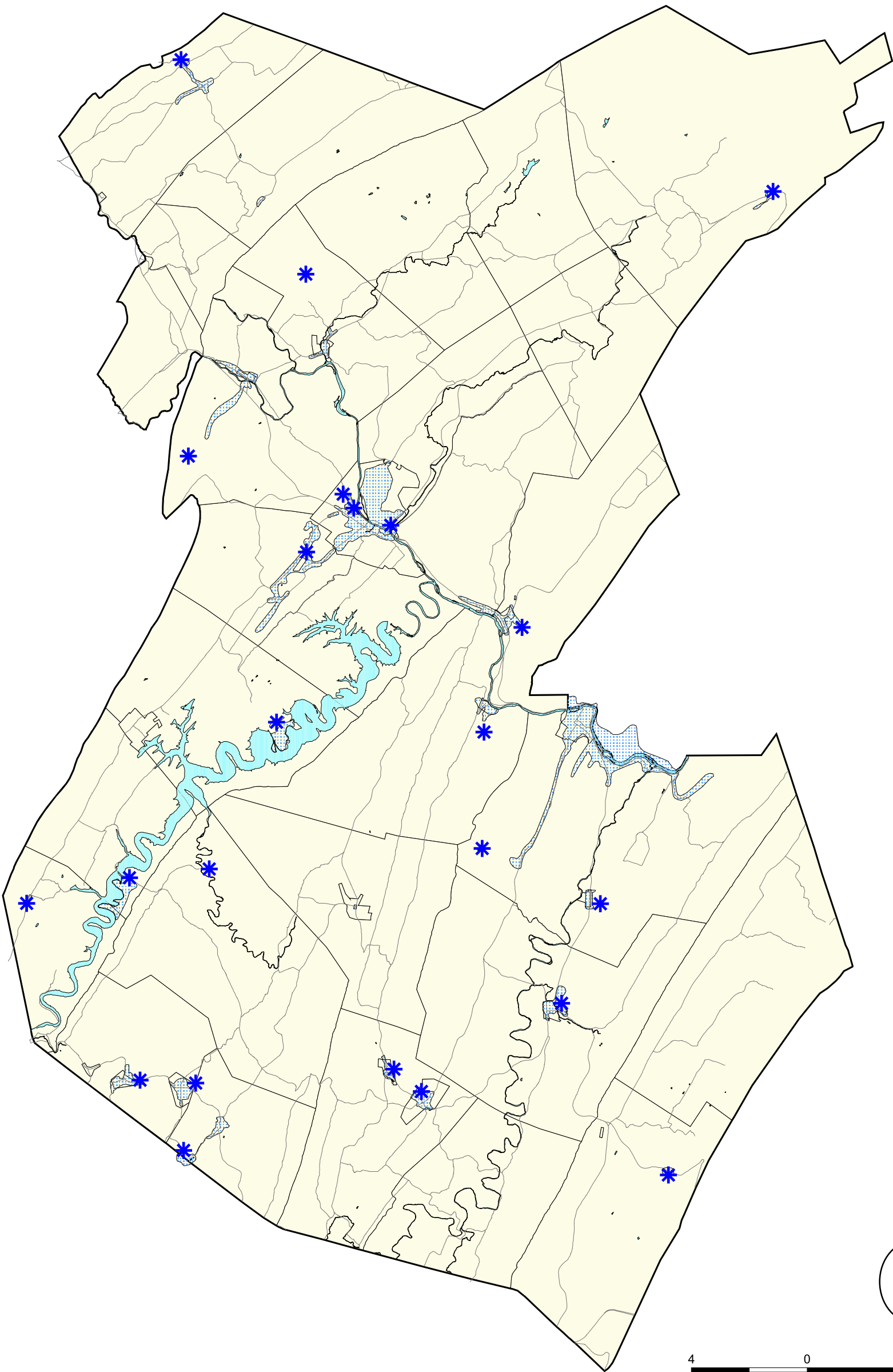
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✳ Water Source or
Treatment Location

▦ Water Service Area

4   0   4 Miles

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HUNTINGDON COUNTY
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MAP 26
SEWER FACILITIES

**HUNTINGDON COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION**

**HUNTINGDON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

✳ Sewer Treatment Plant

▦ Sewer Service Area

4   0   4 Miles

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CHAPTER 5.
Land Use

LAND USE ANALYSIS

Land Use is the study and classification of the "man-made" features of the earth's surface. A study of existing land use patterns and their relationship to each other must be prepared in order to formulate a plan for the future orderly growth and development of the community.

Land use information has a wide variety of applications, including: the planning of future utilities (such as sewer, water, and power); transportation facilities; parking areas; community growth and expansion; and future land requirements.

In order for land use information to be available, a land use inventory and study must first be performed. A land use study classifies, records, and analyzes the existing use of the developed land of the community according to the land's functional activities. The following land use categories have been chosen to cover all the land use activities existing in Huntingdon County: residential, commercial, industrial, institutional, mining and quarrying, agricultural and vacant, transportation, communication and utilities, forest, and water. The results of the land use study are presented in the form of an existing land use map and a statistical summary. Refer to Map 27, Land Use Inventory, on page 63 and Table 23, Existing Land Use, on page 67.

Land Use Characteristics: An Overview

Land use patterns reflect a community's past and provide an indication of future trends and practices. The relationship of these patterns identifies conflicting and compatible land use patterns. From patterns of land use, environmentally sensitive areas, land best suited for development, transportation corridors, and public utility locations emerge. This section of the plan analyzes Huntingdon County's past development patterns utilizing the following eleven broad categories of local land use.

- Residential - comprised of both single family and multi-family housing.

- Commercial - includes retail, wholesale, and service businesses.

- Industrial - comprised of land occupied by businesses involved in the manufacture, processing, storage, or distribution of durable and/or non-durable goods.

- Park and Recreation – includes public and private parks and outdoor recreation areas.

- Mines and Quarries - includes lands dedicated to mining and quarrying, including coal strip mines, limestone quarries, and sandstone quarries.

- Institutional - includes uses such as municipal buildings, churches, schools, fire companies, cemeteries, recreational facilities, and other similar civic uses.

- Agricultural and Vacant - includes lands dedicated or formerly used for farming activities.

- Transportation, Communication & Utilities - comprised of land devoted to streets, sidewalks, alleys, railroads, and both private and public utilities.

- Forest - includes land which is covered by deciduous and/or evergreen vegetation, timberland, and adjacent surface waters.

- Water - includes areas covered by water classified as rivers, streams, canals, lakes, and ponds.

Land Use Inventory

A detailed land use inventory was developed as part of the 2007 Supplement to the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan. This inventory employed 2003 color aerial photography provided by DCNR, ArcView 3.2 and 9.x software and extensive staff analysis and digitizing. The land use section is a general guide designed to estimate the current uses of the land resources in Huntingdon County. The results are shown on page 63, Map 27, Land Use Inventory, and explained throughout this chapter.

Subdivision Activity

Development activity in the County has shifted over the past several decades. After the construction of Raystown Lake the rural townships surrounding the lake experienced a development boom. Recently, development has shifted toward municipalities near Centre County and surrounding Huntingdon. Approximately 54,919 acres were involved in subdivision activity between 1997 and 2006, almost 10% of the land area of the County. An evaluation of building permit data reveals that approximately 25% of a housing construction can be attributed to development of seasonal homes.

Between 1997 and 2006, the Huntingdon County Planning Commission reviewed subdivisions containing 3,321 lots. The municipalities with the highest number of proposed lots include Warriors Mark, Porter, Walker, Dublin and Todd Townships. Surprisingly, Huntingdon Borough had the sixth highest subdivision total. When analyzed by planning region, The Spruce Creek Region, Region I, had the highest level of subdivision activity with 1,095 lots created or 33% of the County total. Region IV, the Huntingdon Region, had 537 new lots created or 16% of the County total and the Juniata Valley Region grew by 445 lots.

Map 29 locates the numerous developments of regional significance in Huntingdon County. In addition to mines, quarries and CAFO's (shown in Chapter 3, Map 16) these shopping centers, business parks, large employers and major subdivisions have impacts beyond the borders of the home municipality. These developments create excessive traffic, stormwater and require significant water and sewer capacity.

Residential

Of all the land uses present in the community, residential is of most concern to the average citizen. Residential areas are where people spend most of their time and have their greatest investment - their homes and property. This category includes single family, two-family, multi-family and manufactured housing. The proper development, preservation, and upgrading of these areas should be of the utmost concern to all members of the community.

- Huntingdon County is a highly rural area. As a result, residential developments do not occupy a great amount of land, with only 20,250 acres, or 3.56 percent, of the county's total land area of 568,695 acres.

- Huntingdon County's developed areas are largely dedicated to agricultural uses, with residential development occupying only 12.10 percent of the developed acreage.

- Residential land is largely located within or very near borough boundaries, with concentrations in the Huntingdon and Mount Union areas.

- Excluding agriculture as developed land, housing occupies 59.50 percent of developed property.

Commercial

The portions of the county devoted to commercial activity are classified as commercial, including neighborhood commercial, highway businesses, and central business districts. The neighborhood commercial district includes commercial activities that provide necessary services for the daily operation of the household. They include such establishments as delicatessen stores, barbershops, beauty parlors, local grocery stores, and local drug stores. The central business district includes commercial activities of a more intensive nature. This type of activity includes retail stores, offices, banks, hardware stores, gasoline stations, garages, restaurants, and hotels. Highway commercial is also present and includes gas stations, fast food restaurants, hotels and the like.

- Commercial activities in the county revolve around the Huntingdon and Mount Union areas, with many small pockets near other boroughs including Mapleton, Alexandria, Shade Gap, Rockhill/Orbisonia, Three Springs, Petersburg, and Mill Creek. Notable is the recent development of several large commercial areas in Smithfield Township.

- Total commercial land uses occupy 863 acres or 0.15 percent of the county's gross area and just over 1.56 percent of the total developed area.

- Excluding agricultural land, commercial development occupies 2.53 percent of developed Land in the county.
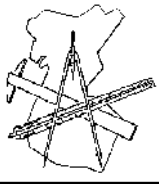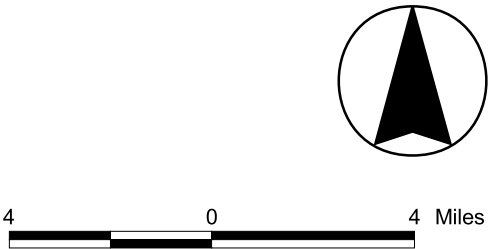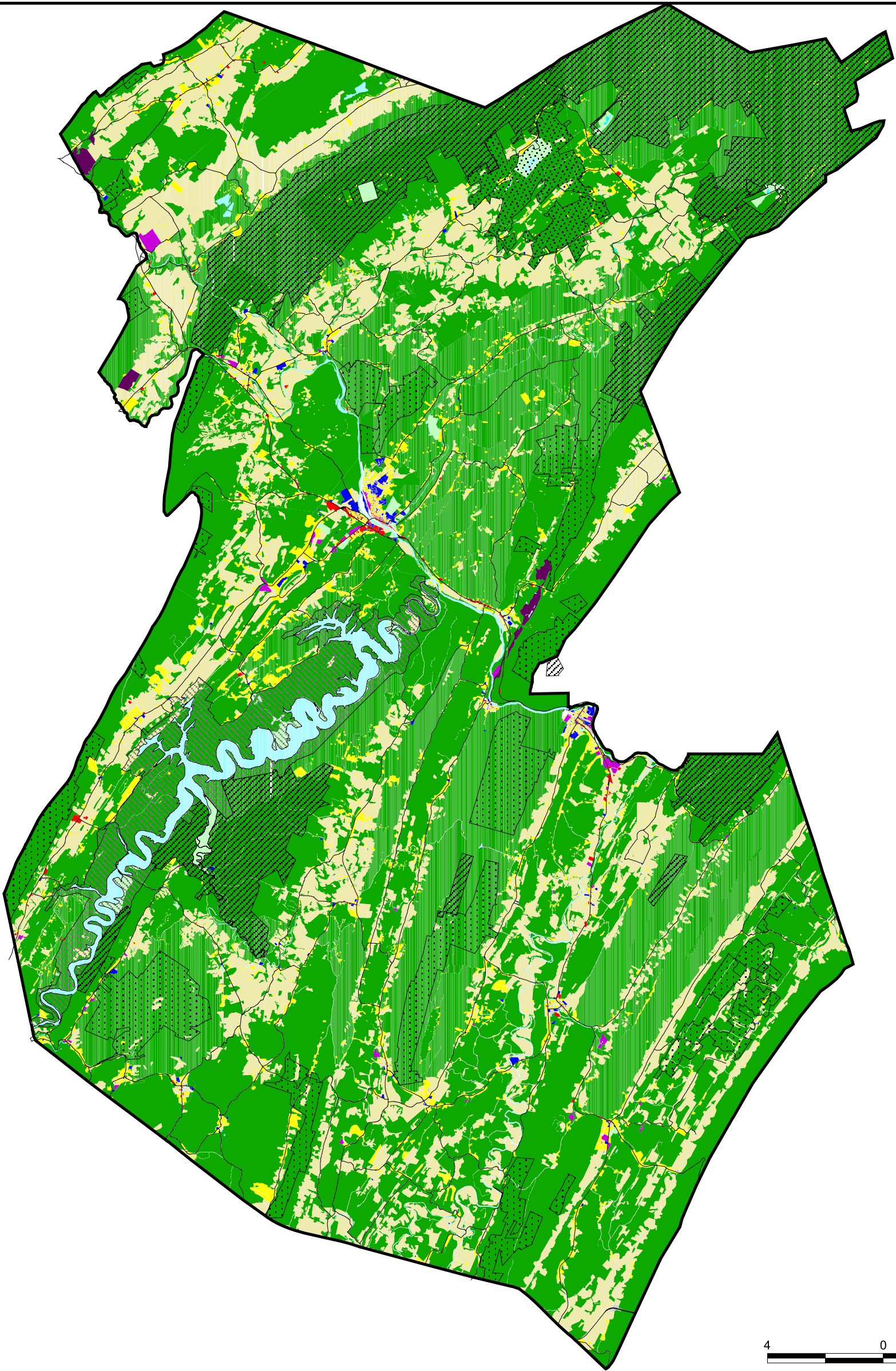
HUNTINGDON COUNTY
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

MAP 27
LAND USE INVENTORY
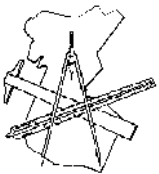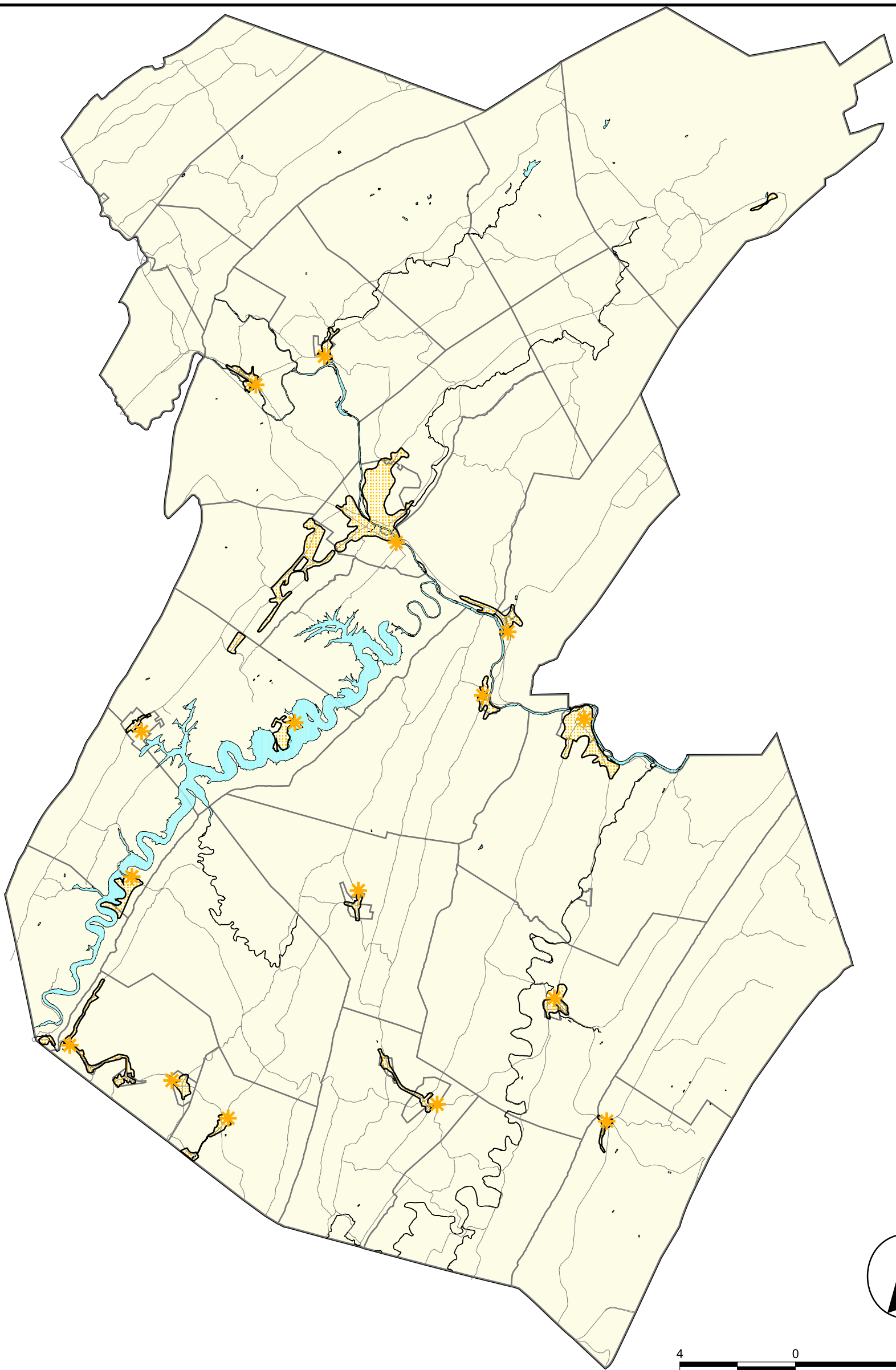
**HUNTINGDON COUNTY
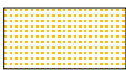PLANNING COMMISSION**

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Agriculture	Mining	State Parks
Commercial	Recreation	PSU Experimental Forest
Forest	Residential	State Game Lands
Industrial	Transportation	State Forest
Institutional	Water	Federal Lands

4   0   4 Miles

Industrial

A single industrial category is recognized in the county. It includes industrial operations that involve the fabrication, assembly, storage or packaging of a product. This type of industrial operation usually does not present any serious discomforts to the neighboring properties in the form of noise, smoke, odor, or traffic congestion.

- Industrial lands are very small in the county, occupying 893 acres or .0.16 percent of the gross area and 0.53 percent of the developed land.

- Concentrations of industrial lands can be found near the Mapleton, Huntingdon, and Mount Union areas.

- Excluding agriculture as developed land, industrial uses occupy 2.62 percent of the developed land.

Strip Mines and Quarries

Mines and quarries combine to form this category. Included are coal strip mines, limestone quarries, and sandstone quarries. Mined land, both active (very little, if any) and inactive, are included.

- Excavation activities in the county have been dormant since the early part of the century; however, land still occupied by strip mines or quarries amounts to over 1,081 acres in Huntingdon County. This translates into 0.19 percent of the total land and 0.65 percent of the total developed areas.

- Land categorized as a mine or quarry is concentrated in the southwestern portion of the county near the Broad Top area in Carbon and Wood Townships. Other significant areas are located near Alexandria, the lower corner of Cromwell Township, Mill Creek, Spruce Creek, McConnellestown, and the Mapleton areas.

Institutional

Areas designated as public are usually operated as part of a governmental function or a non-profit agency. Activities in this category include city halls, firehouses, post offices, libraries, museums, school, parks and playgrounds. Huntingdon County government buildings and public schools occupy most of this land.

Areas classified as institutional are lands developed by a group of a limited number of people for their own use with limited public control and accessibility. Such uses include churches, universities, private schools, cemeteries, lodge halls, and fraternal organizations. Such organizations, mostly churches, cemeteries, and Juniata College, occupy the majority of semi-public lands.

- Institutional lands occupy slightly over 1,263 acres in the county. This amount of land is equal to 0.22 percent of the total land mass and 3.71 percent of the developed land, less agriculture.

- The majority of this land occurs in Huntingdon, and is occupied primarily by Juniata College and many public schools. Another concentration is found in the Mount Union area.

Agricultural

This category includes all agricultural and related activities.

- Huntingdon County has 99,259 acres or 17.45 percent of its total land mass, or 59.32 percent of developed areas, dedicated to agricultural uses.

- Agricultural areas are concentrated in Barree, Brady, Cass, Franklin, Logan, Todd, Warriors Mark, and West Townships.

- Huntingdon County has a significant amount of Agricultural Security Areas, all of which have been registered since 1989. The Huntingdon County total is 72,191.22 acres, or 594 tax parcels, which is equal to 72.88 percent of all agricultural land or 12.60 percent of the total land mass of Huntingdon County.

- All agricultural security area locations and tax parcels are not known prior to 1989. Table 22 lists pertinent data on the Agricultural Security Areas registered since 1989.

TABLE 22
Huntingdon County
Agricultural Security Areas - 2007

Municipality	DATE ADOPTED	CURRENT ACREAGE	CURRENT PARCELS
Barree	7/3/2006	1,989.00	19
Brady	12/3/2001	5,078.06	77
Cass	4/28/2004	1,198.50	11
Cromwell	11/11/1991	3,413.32	29
Dublin	12/11/1990	3,438.00	22
Franklin	9/11/1989	10,787.10	26
Jackson	12/7/1998	3,832.28	37
Lincoln	10/2/2001	2,687.60	27
Logan	3/14/2005	1,916.09	15
Morris	3/25/1996	3,104.70	21
Penn	4/1/1992	2,862.58	44
Porter	2/1/1993	2,780.00	22
Shirley	11/16/1992	2,838.90	24
Spruce Creek	1/2/1990	2,087.20	17
Tell	3/23/1991	5,441.25	28
Walker	10/2/1995	5,052.34	50
Warriors Mark	5/2/1989	8,316.80	91
West	8/5/2003	5,367.50	34
Total		72,191.22	594

Transportation, Communication and Utilities

This category includes streets and highways, railroads, and public utilities such as sewer, water and gas. The amount of land covered by highways is extensive, particularly in the highly developed boroughs.

■ Huntingdon County has slightly over 1,200 miles of state operated and maintained streets and highways; 506 miles or township roads, and 64 miles of borough streets, for a total of 1,770 miles.

■ The total in the Transportation Category is 6,606 acres. The vast majority of land in this category is streets, highways and railroads. Nevertheless, the total land covered by roads and highways in the county is 3.95 percent of all the developed land in the county.

■ The amount of Transportation coverage, excluding agricultural lands, is much higher at 19.42 percent of the developed land.

Forests

Areas classified as wooded are predominantly forest covered with no type of manmade development.

■ Ground covered in forest and vegetation is by far the largest land use in Huntingdon County, occupying over 424,547 acres or 74.65 percent of the gross area, including public lands.

■ Publicly owned forest, such as State Game Lands, State Parks, Raystown Lake (not the lake itself) and State Forests the total acres covered by such vegetation is 140,197 acres, or 24.6 percent of Huntingdon County.

Public Lands

State Forests are forested lands that are owned and preserved by the state.

■ State forests occupy 68,260.8 acres in Huntingdon County. Overall, state forests occupy 12.0 percent of the County's gross area.

State Game Lands are comprised of land devoted to preservation by the State.

■ State Game Lands occupy 38,224.5 acres in Huntingdon County. Overall, state game lands occupy almost 6.7 percent of the gross area.

State Parks include all lands owned by the state that are dedicated for general public recreational use.

■ Trough Creek, Whipple Dam, and Greenwood Furnace occupy over 1,148 acres, or .2 percent, of the total land in the county.

State owned lands include the Penn State Agricultural Lands:

■   Pennsylvania State University 6,750 acres or 1.2% of Huntingdon County.

Federal Lands include land owned by the federal government. In Huntingdon County this includes all lands under the jurisdiction of the Army Corp of Engineers, primarily the Raystown Lake Project.

■   The Raystown Lake Project occupies approximately 29,249.66 acres, which is slightly over 5.0 percent of the total land area in the county.

■   Department of Corrections owns 273 acres, a small but significant tract of land for the County.

Overall, public lands (and waters) occupy 148,497.5 acres nearly 26.1 percent of the county's gross area. Most of this public land is forested. See Table 25.

Water

Areas classified as water include: rivers, streams, canals, lakes, and ponds. For this study water coverage includes two major categories: Raystown Lake and all other rivers. Data indicates that Raystown Lake covers 8,300 acres. According to the calculations performed from the GIS Land Use map there are a total of 10,855 acres of Huntingdon County covered by water. Excluding Raystown Lake's 8,300 acres, water covers 2,555 acres.

■   Water occupies over 11,075 acres, classifying it as the third largest "land use" in the county, covering nearly 1.95 percent of the total land area. The vast majority of the water is concentrated in the federal lands of Raystown Lake.

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TABLE 23
EXISTING LAND USE - 2007
Huntingdon County

Category	Acres (GIS)	Percent of County	Percent of Developed Land	Percent of Developed (less agriculture)
Residential	20,250	3.56%	12.12%	59.51%
Commercial	863	0.15%	0.52%	2.53%
Industrial	893	0.16%	0.53%	2.62%
Strip Mines/Quarries	1,081	0.19%	0.65%	3.18%
Institutional (formerly Public)	1.263	0.22%	0.76%	3.71%
Parks and Recreation	3,079	0.54%	1.84%	9.03%
Transportation, Communication and Utilities (formerly Streets)	6,606	1.16%	3.95%	19.41%
TOTAL DEVELOPED (Less Agr.)	**34,020**	**5.98%**	**NA**	**100.0%**
Agricultural & Vacant	99,259	17.42%	59.27%	
TOTAL DEVELOPED	**167,094**	**29.38%**	**100.0%**	
Forest (open wooded land including public lands)	424,547	74.65%		
Public Lands (included in forest)	140,197	24.6%		
Water Resources***	10,855	1.95%		
TOTAL UNDEVELOPED	**435,621**	**76.60%**		
TOTAL COUNTY	*568,694.0*	*100.0%*		

** * Water resources include lands occupied by Raystown Lake.

Source: Huntingdon County Planning Commission

A figure not included in the table is the amount of open lands, or privately owned areas.

TABLE 24
EXISTING LAND USE - 1997
Huntingdon County

Category	Acres (GIS)	Percent of County	Percent of Developed Land	Percent of Developed (less agriculture)
Urban Residential	4,510.5	0.8%	3.1%	19.4%
Rural Residential	8,329.0	1.5%	5.7%	35.8%
Commercial	540.5	0.1%	0.5%	2.3%
Industrial	496.4	0.1%	0.3%	2.1%
Public & Semi-Public	986.5	0.2%	0.7%	4.2%
Streets & Highways	6,924.0	1.2%	4.8%	29.8%
Strip Mines/Quarries	1,450.3	0.3%	1.0%	6.2%
TOTAL DEVELOPED (Less Agr.)	**23,237.2**	**4.1%**	**15.9%**	**100.0%**
Agricultural and Vacant	122,504.3	21.5%	84.1%	
TOTAL DEVELOPED	**145,722.1**	**25.6%**	**100.0%**	
Forest (open wooded land not including public lands)	282,094.8	49.6%		
Public Lands	129,983.6	22.9%		
Water	11,020.1	1.9%		
TOTAL UNDEVELOPED	**423,098.5**	**74.4%**		
TOTAL COUNTY	*568,840.0*	*100.0%*		

*Rural Residential lands have been increased by new subdivision information obtained by the Huntingdon County Planning Department in Table 2, final column. Land was then subtracted from forested land. Not included on Land Use map.

** Streets and Highways figures were calculated using Penn DOT centerline files and liquid fuels data and subtracted out of open or forested land.

** * Water resources include lands occupied by Raystown Lake.

Source: Huntingdon County Planning Commission

Table 25
Huntingdon County
Public Lands - 2007

Category	Acreage	Percent
State Forest	68,260.8	46.0%
State Park	1,148.8	0.8%
State Game Land	38,224.5	25.7%
State Prison Land	407.0	0.3%
Federal, Raystown Land	20,949.7	14.1%
Federal, Raystown Water	8,300.0	5.6%
Penn State, Stone Valley	6,750.0	4.5%
Municipal Authorities	2,693.2	1.8%
Boroughs	654.2	0.4%
Townships	159.6	0.1%
Public Schools	336.5	0.2%
County	50.7	0.0%
Non-profit (private schools, fire companies, medical)	562.0	0.4%
Other	0.5	0.0%
Total State	108,041.1	72.8%
Total Federal	29,249.7	19.7%
Total Municipal	3,557.7	2.4%
Total Non-profit, school, other	7,649.1	5.2%
Total Public Land	148,497.5	100.0%
Total County	568,694.0	100.0%
Total Public Land	148,497.5	26.1%

Source: Huntingdon County
Planning Commission

Municipal Ordinances

Table 26 provides a current listing of the county's municipalities and their status regarding zoning and subdivision ordinances, flood insurance and building permits.

Zoning - Five boroughs (Alexandria, Huntingdon, Mt. Union, Orbisonia and Shade Gap) and five townships (Henderson, Oneida, Smithfield, Walker and Warriors Mark Township) have zoning ordinances. Half of these ordinances are over fifteen years old and out of date. Three ordinances were adopted within the past five years, two are six to ten years old and five are over fifteen years old.

The 2000 Comprehensive Plan recommends that all boroughs and high growth townships should adopt a zoning ordinance. Cromwell, Dublin, Juniata, Miller, Springfield and Tell Townships are growing rapidly and should consider adoption of a zoning ordinance.

Shirley Township is the most populated municipality without zoning, with 2,526 persons in 2000. Other areas with over 1,000 persons without zoning are: Porter Township (1,917), Cromwell Township (1,632), Warriors Mark (1,635), Dublin Township (1,280), Oneida Township (1,129), and Brady Township (1,035).

Subdivision - Thirty of the forty-eight municipalities have subdivision ordinances. The largest municipality without a subdivision ordinance is Mt. Union Borough. Only two municipalities do not require development or floodplain permits: Birmingham Borough and Shade Gap Borough.

The vast majority of the municipal subdivision and land development ordinances are over fifteen years old and inconsistent with current planning practice. Seventeen ordinances are over fifteen years old, three are eleven to fifteen years old, one is six to ten years old and nine are less than five years old. A major weakness in protecting county land is the lack of subdivision ordinances at both the county and local municipality levels.

Uniform Construction Code (UCC) – The UCC covers all forty-eight municipalities. Only one municipality (Birmingham Borough) opted out of the option to locally enforce the code. Most municipalities have contracted with one of two private code firms that serve the county. Sixteen municipalities belong to the Huntingdon County Council of Governments, working as a group to secure the services of a code enforcement firm.

TABLE 26
Huntingdon County
Municipal Land Use Ordinances

MUNICIPALITY	COMP PLAN	SUBDIVISION ORD	ZONING ORD	FLOOD/ DEVELOPMENT PERMIT ORD	UNIFORM CONST CODE	MUNICIPALITY	COMP PLAN	SUBDIVISION ORD	ZONING ORD	FLOOD/ DEVELOPMENT PERMIT ORD	UNIFORM CONST CODE
						Miller Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Alexandria Boro	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Morris Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Barree Twp	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Mount Union Boro	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Birmingham Boro	No	No	No	No	Yes	Oneida Twp	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Brady Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Orbisonia Boro	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Broad Top City Boro	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Penn Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Carbon Twp	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Petersburg Boro	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Cass Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Porter Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Cassville Boro	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Rockhill Boro	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Clay Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Saltillo Boro	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Coalmont Boro	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Shade Gap Boro	No	No	Yes	No	Yes
Cromwell Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Shirley Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Dublin Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Shirleysburg Boro	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Dudley Boro	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Smithfield Twp	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Franklin Twp.	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Springfield Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Henderson Twp	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Spruce Creek Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Hopewell Twp	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Tell Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Huntingdon Boro	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Three Springs Boro	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Jackson Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Todd Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Juniata Twp	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Union Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Lincoln Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Walker Twp	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Logan Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Warriors Mark Twp	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mapleton Boro	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	West Twp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Marklesburg Boro	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Wood Twp	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Mill Creek Boro	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	**Totals**	**14**	**30**	**10**	**46**	**48**

Source: Huntingdon County Planning Commission

69
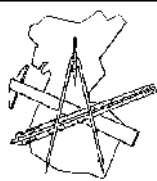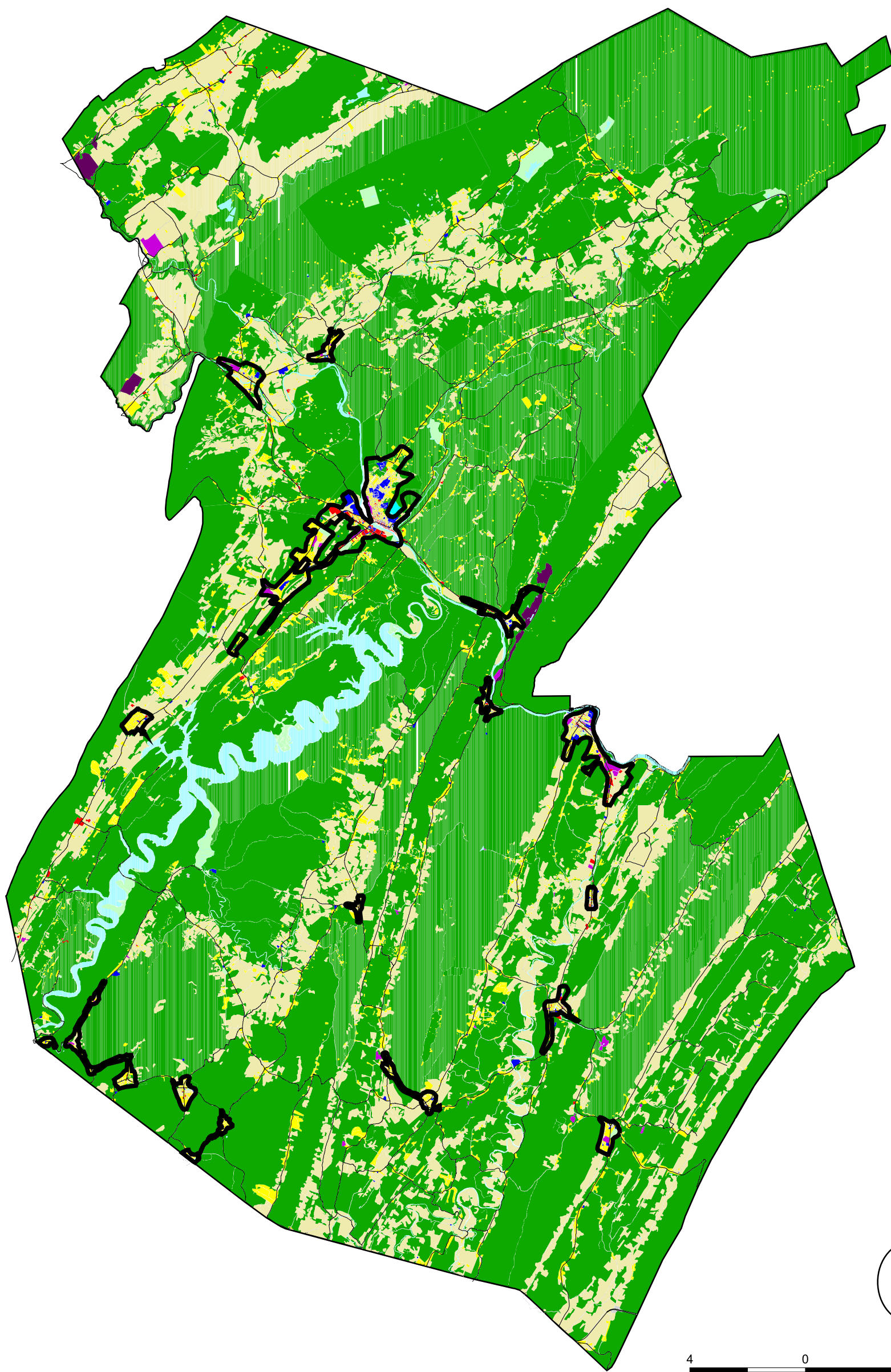
HUNTINGDON COUNTY
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

MAP 28
GROWTH AREA BOUNDARIES

**HUNTINGDON COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION**

**HUNTINGDON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Agriculture
Commercial
Forest
Industrial
Institutional

Mining
Recreation
Residential

Transportation
Water
Growth Area Boundary

4   0   4 Miles

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HUNTINGDON COUNTY
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

MAP 29
DEVELOPMENTS OF
REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

**HUNTINGDON COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION**

**HUNTINGDON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

★ **Business Centers**

● **Major Developments**

○ **10 - 24 Lots**

● **25 - 55 Lots**

● **56 - 253 Lots**

• **Top Employers**

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G

H-3

H-1

H-2

H-5

F

H-4

B

H-6

J

H-7

H-9

H-10

H

H-13

H-8

H-12

H-14

H-11

H-15

K

HUNTINGDON COUNTY
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

MAP 30
PROPOSED GREENWAY COORIDORS
HUNTINGDON COUNTY

**HUNTINGDON COUNTY
PLANNING COMMISSION**
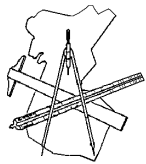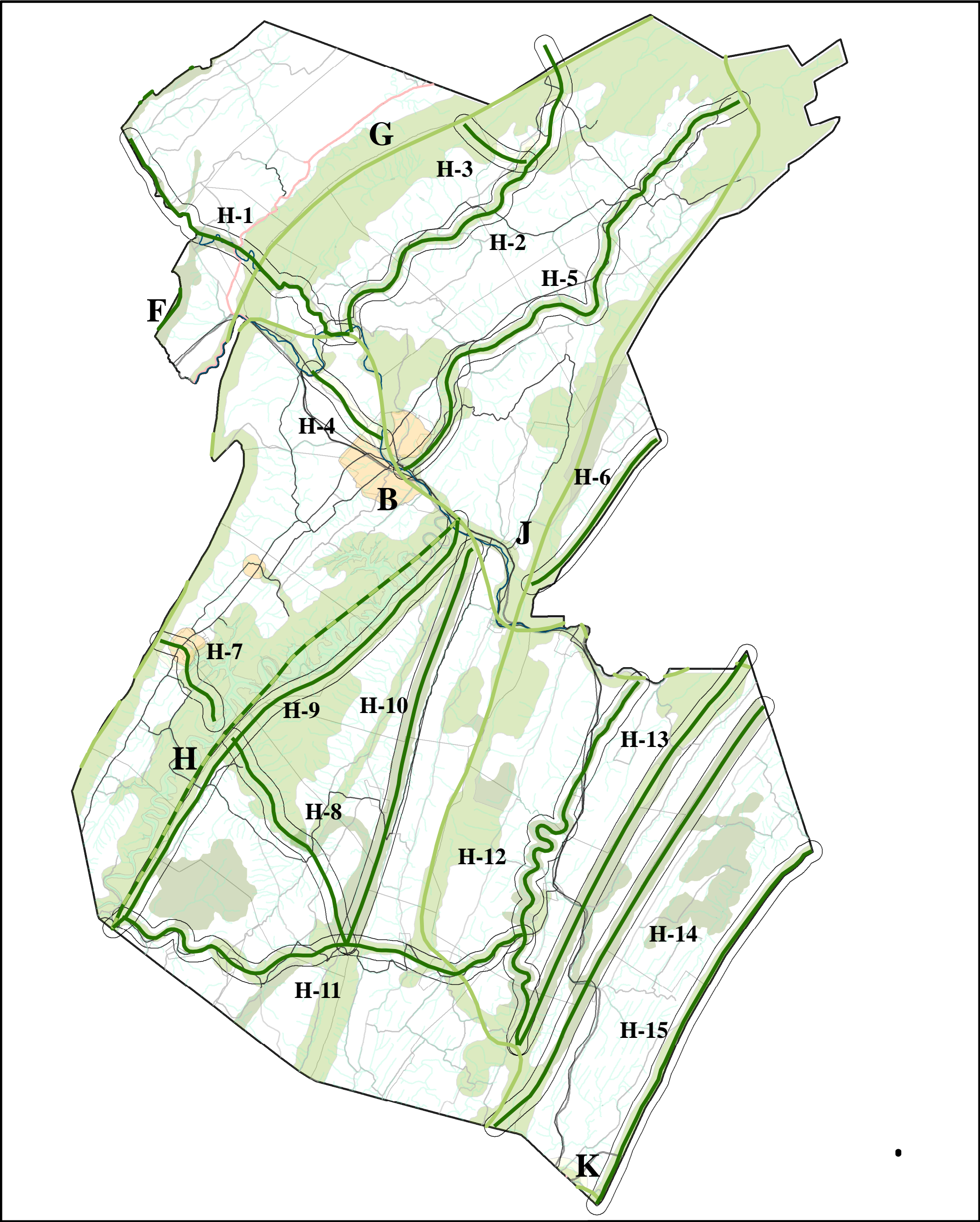
**HUNTINGDON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

PRESERVATION

PRESERVATION/RECREATION

RECREATION

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TABLE 27
HUNTINGDON COUNTY GREENWAY PROJECT SUMMARY

Map Key	Project/Corridor Name	Total Project Length (miles)	Length of Trail Constructed (miles)	Length of Water Trail (miles)	Unimproved Project Corridor (acres)
	Regional Project Corridors within Huntingdon County				
B	Main Line Canal Greenway: Pennsylvania Millenium Trail	31.8	4.7	22.8	8,150.7
G	Mid-State Greenway	31.0	31.0	NA	-
H	Potomac to Raystown Greenway North	21.3	20.1	NA	637.4
J	Tuscarora Greenway	46.0	46.0	NA	-
	Regional Project Total	130.1	101.8	22.8	8,788.1
	Huntingdon County Project Corridors				
H-1	Little Juniata Connector	13.1	2.5	8.3	4,002.6
H-2	Shavers Creek Corridor	16.3	2.1	16.3	5,361.9
H-3	Rothrock Loop	3.0	-	-	1,132.8
H-4	Pulpit Rocks Corridor	3.9	0.7	-	1,208.3
H-5	Stone Creek Corridor	22.6	2.9	22.6	7,438.7
H-6	Jacks Mountain Wildlife Corridor	7.7	5.3	-	906.2
H-7	Raystown West Corridor	4.4	-	-	1,661.4
H-8	Raystown East Corridor	9.6	1.0	-	3,247.4
H-9	Terrace Mountain Corridor	21.6	7.6	-	5,286.4
H-10	Sidling Hill Wildlife Corridor	16.5	4.3	-	4,606.7
H-11	Broad Top Mountain Corridor	18.3	2.6	-	5,928.3
H-12	Aughwick Creek Wildlife Corridor	18.9	1.3	18.9	6,645.8
H-13	Blacklog Mountain Wildlife Corridor	18.0	1.6	-	6,192.6
H-14	Shade Mountain Wildlife Corridor	19.9	-	-	7,514.2
H-15	Tuscarora Mountain Wildlife Corridor	16.5	12.5	-	1,510.4
	County Corridor Sub-total	210.3	44.4	66.1	62,643.8
	County Greenway Corridor Total	**340.4**	**146.2**	**88.9**	**71,432.0**

Source: *Connections in Our Landscape*

CHAPTER 6.

Summary Of Findings

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Introduction

This section summarizes the Background Studies of the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan 2007 Update: Continuity Through Conservation II.

Land Use

a. Agriculture covers 143,048 acres, making it the second largest land use in Huntingdon County.

b. Half of all agricultural acreage (72,191 acres) is in agricultural security area and 415 acres have been permanently protected through farm easements.

c. Mines and quarries constitute an important land use with 326.48 acres (four limestone quarries and one sandstone quarry).

d. Huntingdon County has numerous developments of regional significance: concentrated animal feeding operations, strip mines and quarries, business centers, shopping centers and large housing developments.

e. Most municipal subdivision ordinances are over fifteen years old and have not been kept up with changes in the Municipalities Planning Code and planning practice.

f. Half of the municipal zoning ordinances are over fifteen years old and are inconsistent with recent changes in the Municipalities Planning Code and planning practice.

g. While development is presently focused in and around the county's eighteen boroughs and along the US 22 corridor, residential and commercial growth is increasing in the US 522 and PA 26 corridors.

h. Like other rural areas, only a small percentage of the county's total land area is developed (7.46% not including agriculture).

i. Few municipalities have local comprehensive plans or zoning ordinances and the county has no land development regulations.

j. Approximately 26 percent of the county is state or federally owned: State Gamelands, State Forest, State Parks, Raystown Lake Project.

k. Development in the past ten to fifteen years has shifted from low intensity development surrounding Raystown Lake to low to medium density development near Huntingdon and Centre County. From 1996 through 2006 3,321 lots were reviewed by HCPC, 33% in the Spruce Creek Region, 16% in the Huntingdon Region and 13% in the Juniata Valley Region.

l. The predominant land use in the County is forest at 72 percent (410,910 acres). Of this total, 270,712.5 are private and 140,197.5 are publicly owned forest.

Environmental Resources

a. Twenty-five percent (144,028 acres) of the land area of Huntingdon County is Prime Farmland.

b. A large percentage of the county is environmentally sensitive by virtue of steep slope and floodplain areas. Thirty three percent (189,068 aces) of the County consists of areas with greater than 25% slope, while another five percent (27,346 acres) is within the floodplain area.

c. Eighty identified Biological Diversity Areas (BDA's) (28,290 acres) contain important habitat for rare and endangered plant and animal species.

d. The large forested acreage of the county, 72%) provides excellent watershed protection as well as habitat for wildlife.

e. Air quality is within federal limits and qualifies as among the least polluted in the state, with the exception of acid rain.

f. Large areas of the county contain valuable mineral resources such as limestone, coal, sandstone and ganister.

g. The county's groundwater resources are vulnerable to pollution, particularly in those areas with carbonate geology.

h. With few exceptions, stream water quality is good and improving.

Housing

a. Housing growth in the County has greatly outpaced population growth with 9.19% growth in total housing units between 1990 and 2000.

b. Seasonal housing constitutes approximately 25% of all new housing starts. The county has a high percentage of seasonal housing (3,180 units or 15.1%) compared with the state (2.8%).

c. The county contains relatively few rental or multifamily dwelling units outside of Huntingdon and Mt Union Boroughs.

d. The demand for moderate income housing exceeds the supply.

e. Manufactured housing (mobile homes) makes up a higher percentage of the housing stock than in the state (14.5% compared with 5.2%).).

f. The county has a high percentage of owner-occupied housing (77.5%) compared with 71.3%) when compared with the state.

Population/Demographics

a. Huntingdon County has grown by 3.22% between 1990 and 2000 compared with 3.36% for Pennsylvania.

b. The median household income for Huntingdon County was significantly below that of the state in 2000 ($33,313 versus $40,106).

c. County residents exhibit below average levels of educational attainment for persons over 25 years of age.

d. The high percentage of persons in group quarters, such as Juniata College and two state prisons, skews various demographic characteristics, for example by lowering per capita income figures and increasing minority percentages.

e. With the exception of the large group quarters population, Huntingdon County exhibits demographic characteristics that are similar to other central Pennsylvania counties.

Economy

a. The county has a higher percentage of manufacturing workers (23%) than either Pennsylvania or the U.S. as a whole.

b. Similar to other rural counties, a higher than average percentage of workers (29.8%) commute out of the county for employment.

c. For the past several decades unemployment in the county has been higher than the state average, and has often been the highest in the state.

d. The county workforce is characterized as primarily blue collar.

e. Wages paid by area businesses are below average for the state.

f. The percentage of government employees (23%) is much higher than average, reflecting the presence of state prisons and several important state offices in the area.

g. Farm employment includes 789 full and part-time workers in addition to the farm owner, on 219 farms.

Infrastructure/Community Facilities

a. In Huntingdon County 21 wastewater treatment plants provide service to 8,817 customers in 32 municipalities.

b. Huntingdon County has 23 community water facilities providing service to 7,677 customers in 26 municipalities, 42% of all occupied households.

c. The availability of local community park and recreation facilities is limited despite the existence of large areas of public land in the county.

d. Water and sewer facilities are in the county are limited in both number and in their capacity to accept expanded growth.

e. Fire and ambulance companies are having difficulty recruiting and retaining trained volunteers.

f. Countywide rural addressing and 911 service provide improved response time for police, fire and EMS services.

g. While nearly 40 percent of county housing units are served by community water and/or sewer, a majority of rural homes still rely on groundwater and on-lot sewage disposal.

h. County residents rely predominately on private facilities for fire, ambulance and recreational needs.

i. Few local municipalities have full-time management staff, relying on part-time staff, consultants and volunteer boards for these services.

Transportation

a. The county has no public transportation, creating nearly total reliance on private automobile transportation.

b. Intercity passenger access is difficult due to limited rail passenger service and a lack of scheduled air service in the county.

c. While County residents do not have direct access to the Interstate Highway System, Interstate Highway access is within 30 to 60 minutes of all areas of the county.

d. While most county roads operate at an acceptable level of service, many are inadequately maintained and do not meet modern design standards.

e. The county's ridge and valley topography makes travel (particularly east-west) difficult and road construction expensive.

Historical and Cultural Heritage

a. The county has an abundance of historic resources, including two National Historic Landmarks, seven historic districts and 31 National Register Historic Sites.

b. County historic sites are not protected by any local ordinances.

c. Preservation and development of the county's historic sites as economically productive properties is being encouraged by the Huntingdon County Heritage Committee in cooperation with local agencies and the Allegheny Heritage Development Corporation.

d. Heritage sites which are currently "visitor ready" include: East Broad Top Railroad, Pulpit Rocks, Greenwood Furnace State Park and Historic District, Huntingdon Historic District, Mount Union Historic District, Alexandria Historic District, Robertsdale Historic District, Rockhill Trolley Museum and Paradise Furnace at Trough Creek State Park.

e. The county's premier heritage site, the East Broad Top Railroad, is threatened by structural deterioration due to deferred maintenance and lacks interpretive facilities and programs.

Vision Statement
Community Development
Goals and Objectives

A Vision For The 21st Century

Elements of the Vision:

Economic prosperity, evidenced by an increase in median-family income, and a reduction in unemployment.

Maintain and enhance rural and small-town atmosphere.

Protect farmland, forest land, natural resources, and the environment.

Focus new development in and around existing boroughs and villages, the "Centers" concept.

Develop greenways along rivers and ridges.

Emphasize excellence in both personal and community development.

Access to the rest of Pennsylvania and the world.

Vision Statement:

> **It is our goal that Huntingdon County achieve economic prosperity while retaining the qualities of rural and small-town living.**

It is our goal that Huntingdon County achieves economic prosperity while retaining the qualities of rural and small-town living.*

It is our vision that future development be focused on existing boroughs and villages to take advantage of the existing public investment in utilities and services. The vast majority of land in the County will remain in productive private rural land uses such as agriculture, forestry, and recreation. A system of "Greenways" will be established along mountain ridges, streams, and rivers to protect water quality, to provide habitat for wildlife, to enhance recreational opportunities, and to protect scenic beauty.

Excellence will be the theme for both personal and community development in Huntingdon County. With the rise of the

> **Excellence will be the theme for both personal and community development in Huntingdon County.**

information/service economy, many economic activities are no longer site-specific. Entrepreneurs and employees are no longer restricted to a particular place, as even the shipping of goods is not a barrier to locational decisions. It is to be expected that people and capital will gravitate to the communities with the best jobs, educational/cultural opportunities, and high environmental quality. Huntingdon County's vision for itself is to be one of those communities.

While retaining its rural and small-town atmosphere, Huntingdon County will remain accessible to Pennsylvania and the rest of the world. Information, goods, and services will travel to and from Huntingdon County by a complete network of highway, rail, and electronic modes.

*This prosperity requires stable or growing employment, a reduction in average unemployment by 25 percent, and an increase in local median-household income, to be within 90 percent of the State median-household income by the year 2010. It is anticipated that future employment will be balanced among the farm-forest-resource, retail, service, manufacturing and public sectors.

LAND USE PLAN
ELEMENTS OF THE VISION (GOALS)

Maintain and Enhance Rural and Small Town Atmosphere
Focus New Development in and Around Existing Boroughs and Villages, the Growth Areas Concept

To Provide for the Development, Use and Protection of Land in Huntingdon County in a Manner which is Sensitive to the Needs of both Present and Future Generations.

A. **OBJECTIVE: Promote development of various types of land uses to support the needs of the present and future County population.**

POLICIES:

1. Analyze population projections to determine community growth needs.

2. Conduct an inventory of existing land use on a regular schedule to establish a baseline for the land use plan.

3. Encourage inter-municipal compatibility analysis as part of the review standard of municipal comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances.

4. Coordinate investment of public infrastructure (water and sewer) in those areas targeted for growth.

5. Allocate sufficient land in the future land use plan to accommodate projected future population including all land uses.

B. **OBJECTIVE: Encourage the conservation and sustainable use of rural areas of the County for use as farmland, private forestland, public lands, and various compatible low intensity uses.**

POLICIES:

1. Discourage construction of public utilities in areas of low density development, except where part of the County or municipal land use plan.

2. Encourage Agricultural Security Areas (ASA) in those municipalities with substantial agricultural acreage not currently enrolled.

3. Include an Agricultural Nuisance Disclaimer on deeds for residential lots created abutting Agricultural Security Areas and/or effective agriculturally zoned areas indicating potential impacts of normal agricultural operations and the Pennsylvania Right to Farm Law.

4. Develop standards to regulate large-scale, confined animal operations in local land use ordinances.

5. Encourage limited public acquisition of land or development rights (less than fee simple) to implement the greenway concept.

6. Develop and encourage a process whereby land purchases by State and Federal agencies can be part of, or linked to, a cohesive greenway network.

7. Promote a strategy for the preservation of agricultural land which includes the addition of new Agricultural Security Areas, purchase of agricultural easements, agricultural zoning, and other techniques.

8. Integrate the protection of environmentally sensitive areas (steep slope, riparian, floodplain, wetland) into local zoning and subdivision ordinances.

9. Encourage conservation and protection of forest resources and their ecosystem through implementation of woodland management plans.

10. Encourage agriculture, forestry and mineral resource utilization in agricultural and low intensity areas as an economic development measure that is consistent with County and local comprehensive plans.

11. Monitor the effectiveness of state regulations for the utilization and extraction of mineral resources and communicate and encourage the state to revise any regulations that are found to be inadequate.

C.   **OBJECTIVE: Promote the adoption, or revision, of municipal plans and ordinances to achieve consistency with the goals, objectives and policies of the County Comprehensive Plan.**

<u>POLICIES</u>:

1. Encourage planning efforts at the municipal level consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan through the development of a county planning assistance grant program.

2. Include an evaluation of consistency with the County Comprehensive Plan with reviews undertaken as part of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code requirements.

3. Establish Planning Partnerships with municipalities to provide technical and planning assistance.

4. Support municipal and multi-municipal comprehensive planning efforts throughout the county through technical assistance and in-kind support services.

5. Continue the County Planning Commissions' role as a detailed and professional reviewer of subdivision and land development and zoning and local planning activity.

6. Encourage all municipalities to become municipal partners by adopting the County Comprehensive Plan by reference.

7. Encourage the development of municipal and multi-municipal comprehensive plans consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan in all areas of Huntingdon County.

8. Promote the use of uniform planning and zoning terms within County and municipal plans and ordinance through the development and use of model ordinances.

9. Support upgrading zoning and codes administration in Huntingdon County.

10. Continue, and revise as necessary, the on-going process used by the County to measure progress in implementing the Comprehensive Plan.

D.   OBJECTIVE: Maintain an up-to-date future land use plan that identifies growth areas that can be supported by appropriate infrastructure, and rural resource areas that support preservation of important natural resources.

POLICIES:

1. Establish a county-wide system of growth areas to direct growth and preserve rural resources.

2. Provide for town centers, commercial and industrial areas and residential areas within planned growth areas.

3. Designate rural resource areas for agriculture, forestry, mining and low intensity land use.

4. Designate natural resource protection areas for those areas that have sensitive natural resources.

5. Ensure that land use decisions are consistent with the availability of water, sewer and transportation infrastructure.

E.   OBJECTIVE: Develop and implement appropriate land use controls throughout Huntingdon County

POLICIES:

1. Develop and adopt a County Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance to assure countywide regulation of subdivision and land development activities.

2. Assist municipalities in developing zoning ordinances in those areas of the County that anticipate growth.

3. Update subdivision and land development regulations to meet the needs of a changing community.

4. Implement effective land use controls and regulations to manage the impacts of growth

5. Provide incentives for more effective and innovative land development techniques that will benefit the County in the future.

F.   OBJECTIVE: Encourage development in or adjacent to the County's boroughs and villages or in designated centers.

POLICIES:

1. Encourage public and private investment in Growth Areas (whether boroughs or villages) to support development for medium and high density residential use, commercial and industrial uses, and institutional uses.

2. Provide land use controls and regulations that direct growth to the County's boroughs and villages.

3. Limit the expansion of water and sewer infrastructure to areas in and around the boroughs and villages.

4. Direct public and institutional uses to village and town centers. This would include public agencies, private institutions and educational facilities which can influence growth in the community.

5. Amend or enact zoning and subdivision and land development ordinances that include standards for alternative development styles such as cluster housing, planned residential development and traditional neighborhood development.

6. Enhance existing and develop new parks and recreation facilities that are pedestrian accessible and attract new housing development.

G.   OBJECTIVE: Build communities that emphasize compact, efficient development using a mix of land uses.

POLICIES:

1. Promote mixed use development that will serve as centers of business and cultural centers as well as provide for alternative housing, dining/entertainment establishments and niche retail businesses.

2. Encourage development which is sensitive to its surroundings through design guidelines which protect and enhance community themes and manage the bulk, height and setback of new properties.

3. Provide zoning and subdivision/land development ordinances that allow for traditional neighborhood character – Prepare provisions in these ordinances that will support and facilitate innovative development in the communities.

4. Link mobility and access with development patterns and designs – Provide for safe and efficient movement of goods, people and services in the communities. Also provide adequate parking where new and existing demands occur.

5. Improve pedestrian and bicycle access by providing for sidewalks, bike lanes, bike paths, streetscapes and crosswalks that are safe, attractive and efficient.

6. Revitalize older areas of the community, establishing planning and implementation programs that embody the Main Street Principles of organization, appearance, economic restructuring and promotion.

7. Support the use of site-specific real estate tax abatements as a tool of redevelopment in urban areas. Educate local officials about the use of such abatements.

8. Where appropriate, utilize brownfield/land recycling to facilitate the development/ redevelopment of former industrial and commercial sites.

H. *OBJECTIVE: Preserve and protect rural areas of the County to allow the continuation of sustainable agricultural practices by the County's farming community.*

POLICIES:

1. Utilize village centers – Direct growth and development to village centers in rural areas.

2. Rural businesses – Provide for the expansion of rural businesses either through infill development or the expansion of existing businesses.

3. Rural neighborhoods – Provide for future residential development in rural areas adjacent to existing developed areas.

4. Farmland preservation - Encourage farmers to place their farms into agricultural security areas. And continue to preserve quality farmland in the County through the agricultural easement program.

5. Agricultural development strategies – Examine strategies for stimulating agricultural development. These strategies could include: developing agri-tourism; identifying emerging markets for farm products; expanding horticulture; and exploring niche market such as cheese, organics, wineries and hydroponics.

I. *OBJECTIVE: Develop a planning education program to promote best practices in planning and land use regulation techniques and professional administration of land use ordinances.*

POLICIES:

1. Work with developers and public officials so that they can see how development choices affect the aesthetic quality and economic value of development projects.

2. Work with local developers and officials to recognize the benefits of "self-contained neighborhoods."

3. Stress the importance of "Diversity" (all ages and races) in developing neighborhoods and main streets.

4. Develop a proactive land use education campaign that will illustrate the need for land use controls and exhibit the impacts of unbridled growth on the County's infrastructure and natural resources

5. Educate communities on "a sense of place" and the benefit of clearly defined boundaries and "greenways."

6. Educate the public as to the benefits of creating "human scale" communities rather than "car-scale" communities.

7. Educate the public as to the benefits of trees and open space and the positive effects they have on communities.

8. Educate and stress to builders the importance of "humane architecture," architecture that is beautiful, hospitable, and harmonizes with the surroundings.

9. Educate local officials about land use issues and trends.

10. Develop a model subdivision and zoning ordinance which incorporates "best management principles" such as traditional neighborhood development and conservation subdivisions.

11. Educate the public as to the benefits of "outdoor rooms/living spaces" (park spaces) that gives a person the feeling of enclosure and security.

J. **OBJECTIVE: Encourage the targeted development of land for commercial, industrial, and medium to low density residential uses within the Growth Areas of the County where infrastructure is present.**

POLICIES:

1. Concentrate public support to provide major high quality regional development sites at the Huntingdon Industrial Park, Riverview Business Center, and former prison land.

2. Support the transfer and development of all land owned by the State Department of Corrections, south of Route 22 for planned community purposes.

3. Examine the potential use of impact fees for mitigating the off-site affects of large-scale development.

4. Use real estate tax abatements as an incentive to assure quality development.

5. Provide education to local officials on how to use tax abatement tools effectively.

K. **OBJECTIVE: Promote inter-governmental cooperation in identifying and dealing with developments of regional significance and impact.**

POLICIES:

1. Identify developments of regional significance and act proactively to involve all regional stakeholders in the review and approval of subdivision and land development plans.

2. Develop a model zoning ordinance and subdivision and land development ordinance to assist municipalities in addressing the impacts from developments of regional significance.

3. Develop model inter-municipal agreements for the identification, review and approval of development of regional significance and impact.

4. Maintain liaisons with adjacent counties and the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission to identify land uses that may have regional impacts, to promote mutually beneficial projects, and to identify and address the issues and opportunities that such land uses present.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN
ELEMENTS OF THE VISION (GOALS)

Economic Prosperity - An Increase in Median Family Income, and a Reduction in Unemployment . . . .

It is Our Goal that Huntingdon County Achieves Economic Prosperity while Retaining the Qualities of Rural and Small Town Living . . . .

. . . . Future Employment will be Balanced Between the Farm-Forest, Resource Extraction, Retail, Service, Manufacturing and Public Sectors.

To Encourage the Development of a Healthy and Diversified Economic Base Capable of Providing Employment and Goods and Services to the Residents of Huntingdon County.

A. *OBJECTIVE: Support and foster economic development activities which will continue the sustainable use of farm and forest resources. Support sound resource extraction policies.*

<u>POLICIES</u>:

1. Form a Huntingdon County Agriculture Development Council to become a full partner in local economic development efforts.

2. Support the development of new agriculture-related support businesses.

3. Support the direct sale of farm products to County institutions.

4. Support and encourage developing value-added forest products business in the County.

5. Encourage re-mining of areas already mined in Huntingdon County to maximize efficient use of limited resources and to assure sound reclamation.

B. *OBJECTIVE: Support and foster efforts to expand the breadth of tourism attractions and tourism-related business in Huntingdon County.*

<u>POLICIES</u>:

1. Support and encourage the development of a year-round, full-service resort at Raystown Lake.

2. Encourage the preservation, reconstruction, and interpretation of the East Broad Top Railroad to become a major tourist resource. Implement the <u>Full-Steam Ahead</u> report.

3. Support the expansion of new tourist-driven businesses (lodging, dining, retail), especially where they create new entrepreneurial opportunities for County residents.

4. Promote existing heritage festivals and events in the Raystown Country Guide.

5. Provide financial incentive grants for cultural activities at local festivals and events (festival fund).

6. Continue to distribute heritage promotional literature through Raystown Country Visitors Bureau.

7. Maintain the local satellite/tourist information Centers.

8. Develop signage for visitor information locations.

9. Provide for the recruitment and training of volunteers to guide visitors through Huntingdon county (step-on-guides for motor coach tours).

10. Continue to publish and distribute the Huntingdon County Heritage Guide.

11. Coordinate the promotion of local heritage activities with regional events such as Heritage Holidays.

12. Continue to publicize local heritage initiatives and events through local media articles, quarterly inserts, radio and TV coverage.

13. Support Path of Progress tour route and regional heritage partnerships.

14. Support the ongoing efforts of the Huntingdon County Visitor's Bureau in marketing, professional support, and scheduling efforts.

15. Support the development of a full-service amphitheater at Raystown Lake.

16. Examine the feasibility of a living outdoor farm museum at Raystown Lake.

C. **OBJECTIVE: Reduce the flow of retail dollars from Huntingdon County by developing a stronger, more diverse retail service base.**

1. Encourage retail development in both downtowns and planned commercial Centers.

2. Develop a retail market analysis to identify needed retail and services businesses.

3. Improve access to capital by developing a Countywide, two-tiered, subsidized loan program for both micro businesses and small businesses through the auspices of HCBI.

4. Market select high-quality sites for commercial development which will lead to net job and sales increases.

5. Develop former prison land as a high-quality multi-use commercial Center.

6. Encourage the re-use and re-occupation of existing vacant industrial buildings throughout the County.

D. **OBJECTIVE: Continue successful efforts to expand the industrial sector of the economy and attract new industry in sectors which match the County's resources.**

1. Target major industrial-commercial development into 2-3 high-quality sites to be developed as true public-private partnerships.

2. Establish a Pennsylvania Enterprise Zone in the Huntingdon and Mount Union areas. Examine a feasibility of an inter-County Enterprise Zone in the Broad Top area.

3. Pursue the redevelopment and revitalization of the Huntingdon County Industrial Park and surrounding neighborhood.

4. Share local economic development success stories with the general public.

5. Encourage targeted marketing to small to medium industrial firms (roughly 40-70 employee size range) to fit local resources and reduce dependence on a few large employers.

6. Support the development of services to serve local business.

7. Support efforts at labor force training and development as a means to meet the needs of County employees.

8. Discourage large-scale industrial development outside already existing industrial areas or planned business parks.

9. Survey to determine if business service needs (accounting, computer services, communication) are being met for County enterprises.

10. Encourage and support local access to high-speed communications networks (fiber optics, et. al.).

7. Support cooperation and coordination between all development organizations.

8. Offer revolving loan funds to ensure access to capital for all types and sizes of businesses.

E.   OBJECTIVE: Support the development and maintenance of organizational strategies and tools to meet economic development goals.

<u>**POLICIES**</u>:

1. Develop a Huntingdon County presence on the world wide web which provides a positive identity, rich information and is searchable through the use of key words.

2. Determine the need for and support the provision of short-term and longer-term housing for the lead personnel of area businesses.

3. Perform a net-jobs realization general study to apply to specific future developments.

4. Continue the present professional business support and recruitment efforts of HCB&I and local Chambers of Commerce.

5. Examine local economic revitalization tax assistance at all levels of local government.

6.
   Investigate the use of tax increment financing and impact fees to guide economic development.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION PLAN
ELEMENTS OF THE VISION (GOALS)
Protect Farmland, Forest Land, Natural Resources and the Environment

Develop Greenways Along Rivers and Ridges to Protect Water Quality, to Provide Habitat for Wildlife, to Enhance Recreational Opportunities, and to Protect Scenic Beauty

To Provide for the Preservation, Protection, Management, and Enhancement of Huntingdon County's Natural Resources and Environmental Quality for Present and Future Generations.

A.   *OBJECTIVE: Maintain and enhance the use and quality of surface and subsurface water to meet individual and community needs and maintain those natural systems upon which man depends.*

POLICIES:

1. Nominate eligible local rivers as Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers.

2. Protect floodplains and wetlands from development through enforcement of local floodplain management ordinances.

3. Develop a Countywide Wellhead Protection Plan for Huntingdon County to protect public water supplies.

4. Work with the Conservation agencies to encourage proper management of agricultural waste.

5. Promote better enforcement of nutrient management regulations and development of other regulations dealing with Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations.

6. Support the application of sound erosion and sedimentation standards to all development, including forestry.

7. Protect water quality through the development of public sewer and water facilities in areas of population density.

8. Encourage the development of natural vegetative stream buffers to prevent sedimentation and erosion and to serve as greenways.

9. Evaluate the feasibility of developing a single countywide stormwater management plan consistent with Act 167.

B.   *OBJECTIVE: To develop and protect land use patterns that are in accordance with natural resource capabilities and that preserve the land for all living organisms, while simultaneously achieving high visual and scenic qualities.*

POLICIES:

1. Encourage forest landowners to participate in the Stewardship Forestry Program or Tree Farm Program.

2. Where mining does occur, support the efficient re-mining of areas mined in the past to promote full reclamation.

3. Encourage the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) by communities, agriculture, forestry, and land developers.

4. Integrate the protection of environmentally sensitive areas (steep, riparian, floodplain, wetland) into local zoning and subdivision ordinances.

5. Ensure that land use regulations in rural areas do not restrict traditional rural activities such as keeping livestock, or home-based businesses.

6. Encourage the donation of scenic easements to qualified land conservancies or local governments to preserve environmentally sensitive areas.

7. Develop a process whereby land purchases by State and Federal agencies can be part of, or linked to, a cohesive greenway network.

8. Encourage and develop standards for land development that are consistent with the land's capacity.

9. Encourage local governments to financially support existing conservancies.

10. Develop a model sign ordinance to protect the visual qualities of communities and the natural environment.

11. Pursue the policy of linking public lands along the summit and slope of ridges in the County. Promote the physical connection of greenways where natural trails exist by conservation agencies.

12. Encourage the sound use of energy in all municipal and County buildings. Educate the public on sound energy use. Conduct an energy audit of municipal and County buildings.

13. Develop standards for alternative development in rural areas, such as conservation subdivisions.

14. Promote a strategy for the preservation of agricultural land which includes the addition of new Agricultural Security Areas, purchase of agricultural easements, agricultural zoning and other techniques.

C. **OBJECTIVE: Provide for the protection of plant and animal habitats to assure the health and diversity of wildlife species.**

POLICIES:

1. Cooperate in the development of a Natural Heritage Inventory for Huntingdon County.

2. Encourage implementation of greenways to provide diverse habitat for wildlife and plant communities.

D. **OBJECTIVE: Implement the goals and recommendations of the Southern Alleghenies Greenways and Open Space Network Plan when adopted by the Huntingdon County Board of Commissioners**

POLICIES:

1. Incorporate the Huntingdon County-specific elements of the Southern Alleghenies Greenways and Open Space Network Plan into the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan.

2. Huntlingdon County will participate actively as a member of the proposed Southern Alleghenies Greenways and Open Space Task Force.

3. The County will work in partnership with the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission and various groups to implement the Southern Alleghenies Greenways and Open Space Network Plan.

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HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL PLAN
ELEMENTS OF THE VISION (GOALS)

Emphasize Excellence in Both Personal and Community Development, Maintain and Enhance Small Town Atmosphere

Preserve the Historic Resources of Huntingdon County for Their Education, Patriotic, Economic, and Quality of Life Values.

A. *OBJECTIVE: Coordinate local heritage activities with the Huntingdon County Heritage Committee and Huntingdon County Planning Commission.*

<u>POLICIES</u>:

1. Develop a publication on the significant historic architecture of Huntingdon County.

2. Adopt and enforce local codes and ordinances to protect historic sites and districts.

3. Implement the Heritage Resource Management Plan

4. Draft a model historic preservation ordinance.

5. Review local zoning ordinances to ensure compatibility with historic town planning and to encourage the reuse of historic structures.

6. Encourage the use of Historic Architectural Review Board Districts and Historic Overlay Zoning in the protection of historic districts and sites.

7. Encourage the conservation of existing neighborhoods through appropriate regulations and financial incentives.

B. *OBJECTIVE: Focus heritage activities on Huntingdon County's National Register Districts, Landmarks, and Sites:*

Huntingdon Borough National Register Historic District

<u>POLICIES</u>:

1. Support the adaptive reuse of Huntingdon's Union Depot.

2. Coordinate heritage activities with the HCHC.

3. Extend the Historic District boundaries.

Mount Union National Register Historic District

<u>POLICIES</u>:

1. Develop a campaign for the awareness of Mount Union's ethnic cultures.

2. Implement the Linear Park concept along Pennsylvania Avenue.

3. Develop Brick Industry Interpretive Programs (slide show, movies, museum).

4. Develop a transportation link between EBT Railroad and Downtown Mount Union.

5. Develop an interpretive display of the Pennsylvania Canal housed in the Sharrar House Museum.

Robertsdale/Woodvale National Register Historic District

POLICIES:

1. Preserve and restore the former EBT Post Office and train Station.

2. Expand the exhibits at the Reality Theater-Coal Miners Historical Society.

3. Restore a company house as a museum.

4. Develop a transportation link from Robertsdale to Woodvale to interpret coal mining/train.

Greenwood Furnace National Register Historic District

POLICIES:

1. Implement the Greenwood Furnace State Park Interpretive Plan.

2. Continue to present and develop first-person interpretive programs.

3. Establish additional lodging facilities, including the existing Iron Masters Mansion.

4. Establish a "Friends of the Park" group.

Whipple Dam State Park Day Use National Historic District

POLICY:

1. Implement the Whipple Dam State Park Interpretive Plan.

Pennsylvania Railroad National Historic District

POLICIES:

1. Include information on the engineering feat represented by this district in publications or museum exhibit possibly in the HUNT Tower.

2. Place markers along the rail lines to interpret the 11 bridges found along the five-mile stretch.

National Register Historic Sites

POLICIES:

1. Investigate the development and interpretation of Brumbaugh Homestead as a potential site for heritage and environmental activities.

2. Interpret and link the Minersville coke ovens to the historic site in Dudley.

East Broad Top National Historic Landmark

POLICIES:

1. Support the redevelopment of the EBT as recommended in the "Study of Alternatives" and "Full Steam Ahead" reports.

2. Incorporate the EBT Trust and convey the EBT to the Trust.

3. Incorporate an EBT/Tourism Authority or similar public financing agency.

4. Restore service from Rockhill to Robertsdale and Mount Union.

5. Support the recommendation in "Full Steam Ahead" that the EBT be designated as a partner in the Allegheny Ridge State Heritage Park.

6. Provide interpretive material and signage for the EBT.

Potential National Register Districts and Sites

POLICIES:

1. Prepare National Register of Historic Places applications for selected resources.

2. Nominate the following districts:

3. Alexandria - currently in preparation
4. Shirleysburg - declared eligible
5. McAlevy's Fort
6. Petersburg - interest expressed
7. Rockhill - interested
8. Orbisonia - currently in preparation
9. Spruce Creek
10. McConnellstown
11. Brumbaugh Homestead, St. Matthew's Stone Church, Brumbaugh Cemetery and adjacent Schoolhouse and farmstead buildings
12. Three Springs
13. Saltillo

14. Nominate the following sites:

15. Dudley H&BT water tower should be considered for nomination.

16. The Palace Hotel (Ethnic Hotel), in Dudley to be preserved and considered for nomination.

17. Monroe Furnace heritage "Discovery" site

C. **OBJECTIVE: Encourage the preservation, restoration, and adaptive reuse of the built environment.**

POLICIES:

1. Identify historic resources which are threatened by neglect or demolition.

2. Provide technical assistance and preservation guidelines to residents interested in preserving and/or rehabilitating their historic property.

3. Identify canal remains for preservation.

4. Stabilize and protect significant historic sites and structures: iron furnace, coke ovens, 1850 Pennsylvania railroad bridge, Pennsylvania canal artifacts.

5. Create an upper Stone Valley Preservation Plan.

6. Develop and maintain scenic overlooks and tour routes with interpretive exhibits.

7. Improve interpretive facilities at the Rockhill Trolley Museum.

D. *OBJECTIVE: Provide interpretive publications for Huntingdon County.*

<u>POLICIES</u>:

1. Create a fun map/poster of Huntingdon County identifying where the significant heritage sites and transportation routes are located.
2. Publish a map and brochure to coal sites and stories in the Broad Top area.

3. Reprint, update if necessary, and distribute walking tour brochures for historic districts.

4. Continue to develop additional walking tour brochures for new historic districts: Marklesburg, Petersburg, etc.

5. Publish material on Native American history in Huntingdon County (Sheep Rock).

6. Develop workshops for local historical societies and museums on historic interpretation and presentation.

E. *OBJECTIVE: Provide high-quality interpretation at heritage sites and events.*

<u>POLICIES</u>:

1. Work with local historical organizations to interpret the link between various heritage themes and stories (coal, iron, and railroad).

2. Coordinate interpretive materials with the development of trails and tour routes.

3. Encourage the creation and development of first-person interpretive programs at sites like Trough Creek State Park and Broad Top and Coal Miners Museum.

4. Implement the Trough Creek State Park Interpretive Plan.

5. Provide exhibits or develop brochure on the historic transportation routes (Indian paths, canal paths, old rail lines) through Huntingdon County: ex: HUNT Tower revolving exhibits.

6. Work with Mifflin and Juniata Counties to update the regional Juniata River Guide and incorporate canal and other histories into it.

7. Periodically republish the Huntingdon County Heritage Guide.

8. Publish a simple guide and a comprehensive book on Juniata iron resources in Huntingdon County.

9. Implement the Canal/Rail Public Park outlined in the Alexandria Area Preservation Plan, to provide visitor information and small trail head for Lower Trail Extension.

10. Develop canal and railroad interpretive exhibit at the Hartslog Museum.

11. Develop a virtual reality exhibit on coal mining: ex., room in the Coal Miners Museum that looks, smells, feels, and sounds like you're in a coal mine - movie to follow or precede.

HOUSING PLAN
ELEMENTS OF THE VISION (GOALS)

Excellence Will be the Theme for Both Personal and Community Development in Huntingdon County.
This Will be Necessary as Citizens Demand Better Housing, Better Shopping, and Better Education

To Encourage the Provision of Decent, Safe, and Sanitary Housing for All the Residents of Huntingdon County,
Regardless of Age, Race, Sex, Income, Religious, or Ethnic Background

A. *OBJECTIVE: Develop an adequate number of housing units of appropriate types to meet the needs of present and future households.*

POLICIES:

1. Ensure that local land use regulations do not unnecessarily increase the cost of housing.

2. Communities should analyze demographic trends as they set aside areas for future low, medium, or high density housing.

3. Encourage and support private investors who wish to build housing for all housing types, particularly rental housing.

4. Provide adequate infrastructure for high density housing in appropriate locations.

5. Discourage intensive development of housing where infrastructure is lacking.

6. Local zoning should designate adequate land resources to provide for a full range of housing types within the community.

7. Encourage planned residential development with a mixture of housing types as well as appropriate non-residential uses.

8. Encourage the use of residential tax abatements to promote infill housing in Growth Areas.

9. Encourage infill development that is compatible with its surroundings.

10. Plan for mobile homes and manufactured homes by providing suitable zoned areas, while requiring high-quality design standards.

11. Encourage and support private investors who wish to explore market opportunities for new housing types in Huntingdon County.

B. *OBJECTIVE: Reinvest in Huntingdon County's present housing* stock to provide safe, decent housing for all residents.

1. Encourage and cooperate with providers of housing to special needs populations in the County (the elderly, handicapped, developmentally disabled, and others).

15. Target residential tax abatement programs toward affordable neighborhoods.

16. Facilitate housing replacements with compatibly designed units.

2. Examine regional enforcement of codes to improve the administrative capacity of small communities.

3. Continue present public-supported, need-based housing rehabilitation efforts.

4. Encourage private and non-profit rehabilitation of existing housing, through individual and community-based initiatives.

5. Establish standards to prevent the utilization of inappropriate structures as seasonal dwellings.

6. Encourage the adoption of the BOCA Property Maintenance Code in urban municipalities.

7. Support adequate local ordinances to assure a high-quality residential environment.

8. Establish standards for the conversion of single-family dwellings into multi-family dwellings to assure reasonable health and safety standards are met.

9. Where rehabilitation is not a realistic option, support the spot clearance of dilapidated structures.

10. Develop a first-time home buyers program for Huntingdon County and support adequate leadership for the program.

11. Support new avenues for affordable housing in cooperation with the Huntingdon County Housing Authority, and other entities.

12. Encourage the modernization and reconfiguration of public housing in Huntingdon County.

13. Update the Huntingdon County Fair Housing Study on a regular basis.

14. Use an interagency housing roundtable to discuss means to meet housing needs.

TRANSPORTATION PLAN
ELEMENTS OF THE VISION (GOALS)

While Retaining Its Rural and Small-Town Atmosphere, Huntingdon County Will Remain Accessible to Pennsylvania and the Rest of the World. Information, Goods, and Services Will Travel to and Within Huntingdon County by a Complete Network of Highway, Rail, and Electronic Modes.

To Connect Huntingdon County to the Rest of the World Through a Wide Variety of Modes for Communication and Commerce.

A. **OBJECTIVE: Plan for a high-quality arterial highway system which serves to connect Huntingdon County with the rest of the world.**

<u>POLICIES</u>:

1. Promote free-flowing traffic on arterials by promoting sound design standards and avoiding excessive strip development.

2. Support limiting new access onto arterial roads through the PennDOT driveway permit process.

3. Focus State and Federal financial assistance on arterial highway needs.

4. Support the development of secondary (marginal) access roads to minimize entrance to arterial roads.

5. Encourage a key rural access management concept for Routes 26, 22, and 522, including the purchase of scenic easements and limited frontage access.

B. **OBJECTIVE: Participate fully in the highway planning process, as a part of the Southern Alleghenies Rural Planning Organization (RPO), to make highway improvements for safety and economic development.**

<u>POLICIES</u>:

1. Coordinate transportation and land use planning to protect against unintended development impacts.

2. Develop information on the transportation planning process for dissemination to local officials and citizens, in cooperation with PA DOT and Southern Alleghenies.

3. Coordinate both public and private actions in support of transportation improvements, including participation in the transportation planning process.

4. Continue offering testimony to PennDOT and the regional planning agency to support the decision-making process.

5. Develop a County-level Transportation Information System.

C.   **OBJECTIVE: Support the design of collector and local streets consistent with the nature and future land use of the community.**

POLICIES:

1. Encourage an appropriate standard for new rural roads in low-intensity areas through subdivision and land development ordinances. At the same time, discourage excessive highway standards (excessive street widths, unnecessary curbing, overuse of cul-de-sacs, etc.).

2. Discourage strip commercial development in local zoning.

3. Support intersection improvements and realignments for traffic safety.

D.   **OBJECTIVE: Encourage the development of sustainable alternatives to auto travel throughout Huntingdon County.**

POLICIES:

1. Support continued and improved rail passenger service to Huntingdon.

2. Support improved rail freight service.

3. Encourage the restoration of the EBT for rail passenger and freight service.

4. Examine the need for regular bus service to neighboring counties and taxi service.

5. Encourage paved shoulders where appropriate as lanes for pedestrian non-motorized traffic.

6. Encourage the requirement of sidewalks for new development in designated urban or suburban areas.

7. Promote and coordinate the creation of a technology "backbone" and electronic community network throughout Huntingdon County.

8. Support the continued development of improved facilities at the Huntingdon County Airport to become an adequate facility for general aviation and local business use.

9. Promote mass transit rail and para-transit.

E.   **OBJECTIVE: Improve access to Raystown Lake and associated recreation areas.**

POLICIES:

1. Support better access to the Raystown Lake area through upgrading State and local highways.

2. Assist local municipalities in obtaining funding to upgrade Raystown access roads.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES PLAN
ELEMENTS OF THE VISION (GOALS)

*It is Our Vision that Future Development is Focused on Boroughs and Villages
to Take Advantage of Existing Public Investment in Utilities and Services.*

A.   OBJECTIVE: Develop as complete a network of public facilities and services, as possible in designated Growth Areas.

<u>POLICIES</u>:

1. Support adequate community water and sewer in Growth Areas to encourage development, eliminate water pollution, and promote the health and safety of residents.

2. Encourage the development of community parks and play fields in designated urban Growth Areas.

3. Assure all Growth Areas have adequate public buildings.

4. Support the J. C. Blair Memorial Hospital to retain it as a valuable local health care resource.

5. Encourage the placement of new public school facilities in Growth Areas.

6. Analyze local police, ambulance, and fire protection and fill any service gaps.

7. Develop a partnership approach for the delivery of health and social services.

8. Expand local cultural opportunities by expanding schools into multi-use community centers.

9. Solidify liaisons between institutions of higher learning and the County community.

10. Develop a Countywide Cultural Center building for art/cultural events.

B.   OBJECTIVE: Protect water quality and guide development through the provision of public water and sewer.

<u>POLICIES</u>:

1. All municipalities should have updated Act 537 Plans.

2. Ensure that municipal sewage facility plans (Act 537) are compatible with local and County land use plans.

3. Prepare a County Water Supply Plan and investigate implementation of wellhead protection measures.

4. Support intergovernmental cooperation in both planning and delivery of services.

5. Create a Countywide Municipal Authority to provide operator/ billing, financing, and services to small water or sewer systems.

6. Establish new public sewer facilities in Growth Areas which lack them.

7. Establish new public water facilities in Growth Areas which lack them.

8. Assist those urban areas which need public water or sewer to implement the Growth Areas concept.

C.   **OBJECTIVE: Encourage sanitary sewer and water systems that are cost-efficient, meet residents' needs, maintain community health, and provide an equitable level of service.**

POLICIES:

1. Meet existing community needs as a first priority.

2. Encourage cooperation and shared facility use by two or more governmental entities or agencies.

3. Limit extension of public water and sewer facilities into agricultural and low-intensity areas designated on the future land use map.

4. Develop facilities in a cost-effective manner

5. Encourage innovative approaches as an alternative to public utility extensions.

6. Encourage full implementation of on-lot disposal system management programs prior to extending public sewer.

7. Promote strategic investments in local water and sewer systems that will aid community revitalization and preservation, as well as to facilitate new growth and development in target growth areas.

8. **Provide for on-lot management systems that are safe, reliable, and approved by PADEP.**

9. Encourage the development of on-lot management districts by municipalities. These districts are characterized by the following:

   Created by ordinance

   Administered by a public or private entity.

   Require regular septic pumping and system inspection.

   Provide educational information on the maintenance of on-lot systems.

   Provide for a system of fees to cover maintaining and inspection costs.

D.   **OBJECTIVE: Provide appropriate level of services to all areas of the County.**

POLICIES:

1. Support the development and maintenance of trails, including: Lower Trail Extension, Mainline Canal Greenway, Link Trail, Mid-State Trail and other elements of the County Greenway Plan.

2. Investigate Huntingdon/Smithfield to Mount Union trail

3. Continue to provide social services to meet the needs of those citizens who require them.

4. Develop EBT right-of-way as temporary trail between Rockhill and Robertsdale

5. Implement hiking/biking trail around the lake as outlined in the Raystown Lake Master Plan.

6. Support development of municipal conservation parks which would link into a greenway system.

7. Support and encourage construction of municipal buildings in every municipality in Huntingdon County.

8. Support the maintenance and provision of adequate emergency facilities and services.

9. Strengthen the provision of library and information services to all County residents through the public library system and the use of the internet.

10. Maintain both a County emergency service dispatch system and countywide addressing system.

E.   Objective: Assure adequate police, fire and emergency management services to all county residents, including response time..

POLICIES:
Police

1. Support adequate police staffing levels and distribution of personnel at the local level and with the PA State Police (one police officer for every 1,000 persons).

2. Support municipalities in their efforts to establish or increase police staffing.

Fire

3. Review service areas to ensure that response times are keeping pace with the growing needs of the County.

4. Monitor the numbers of trained volunteers available to respond to fire calls especially during weekdays mornings and afternoons, and assist the local companies in their recruitment efforts.

5. The County and local governments should work cooperatively to assist volunteer fire companies in maintaining sufficient funding for new equipment and maintenance of existing equipment.

Emergency Services

6. Maintain and operate an optimum ambulance fleet to serve the County with adequate response times.

7. Provide information to county residents regarding disaster planning and management.

8. Develop and maintain a Hazard Mitigation Plan to minimize property damage and loss of live from natural and man-made hazards.

9. Ensure that police, fire and EMS personnel have current Homeland Protection training.

10. Develop and update a county-wide emergency plan that is coordinated with law enforcement, emergency first responders, county emergency management and PennDOT.

F.   Objective: Improve countywide library facilities to serve as an important part of the County's educational system.

POLICIES:

1. Continue county-wide coordination of library facilities through the Huntingdon County Library System.

2. Provide a regular source of funding for libraries through the county's tax base, aggressively seeking grant finds and seeking funds from various trusts and foundations that may support library activities.

3. Continually update library collections, provide internet services and provide programs for children, teens and adults that will attract people to use library services.

4. Provide adequate library facilities to meet the current and future needs of the community.

G.   OBJECTIVE: Look for opportunities to encourage joint municipal arrangements to improve the delivery efficiency and reduce the cost of local services.

POLICIES:

1. Water and Sewer Services –Promote the regionalization of services and purchasing of supplies and professional services

2. Public Safety Services – Where feasible, promote the regional police, fire and emergency services.

3. Multi-municipal Planning –Promote multi-municipal comprehensive planning efforts in Huntingdon County.

4. Multi-municipal Zoning – Encourage multiple-municipal administration of building code, subdivision regulation and zoning.

7. Maintain the Huntingdon County Geographic Information System, expanding its use beyond addressing and planning activities.

8. Develop "Know Huntingdon County" material for school systems.

9. Prepare a Huntingdon County Historic profile.

10. Prepare a Huntingdon County Natural Resources Inventory.

H. OBJECTIVE: Continue the County's provision of planning, educational, technical, facilitation, and grant management services to municipalities in support of the goals of this Plan.

POLICIES:

1. Encourage formation of multi-municipal recreation commissions as a partnership of boroughs, townships, and school districts.

2. Promote leadership development throughout Huntingdon County, focusing on community, business and government.

3. Continue County support for municipal and multi-municipal planning efforts in Huntingdon County.

4. Support and strengthen the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department to maintain and implement the Comprehensive Plan.

5. Evaluate County government space needs and develop plans for meeting present and future needs.

6. Build municipal administrative capacity through a continuing support and educational role, including support for the Huntingdon County Council of Governments.

ELEMENTS OF THE VISION (GOALS)

Maintain and Enhance Rural and Small Town Atmosphere
Focus New Development in and Around Existing Boroughs and Villages, the Growth Areas Concept

To Provide for the Development, Use and Protection of Land in Huntingdon County in a Manner which is Sensitive to the Needs of both Present and Future Generations.

A. **OBJECTIVE: Promote development of various types of land uses to support the needs of the present and future County population.**

POLICIES:

1. Analyze population projections to determine community growth needs.

2. Conduct an inventory of existing land use on a regular schedule to establish a baseline for the land use plan.

3. Encourage inter-municipal compatibility analysis as part of the review standard of municipal comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances.

4. Coordinate investment of public infrastructure (water and sewer) in those areas targeted for growth.

5. Allocate sufficient land in the future land use plan to accommodate projected future population including all land uses.

B. **OBJECTIVE: Encourage the conservation and sustainable use of rural areas of the County for use as farmland, private forestland, public lands, and various compatible low intensity uses.**

POLICIES:

1. Discourage construction of public utilities in areas of low-density development, except where part of the County or municipal land use plan.

2. Encourage Agricultural Security Areas (ASA) in those municipalities with substantial agricultural acreage not currently enrolled.

3. Include an Agricultural Nuisance Disclaimer on deeds for residential lots created abutting Agricultural Security Areas and/or effective agriculturally zoned areas indicating potential impacts of normal agricultural operations and the Pennsylvania Right to Farm Law.

4. Develop standards to regulate large-scale, confined animal operations in local land use ordinances.

5. Encourage limited public acquisition of land or development rights (less than fee simple) to implement the greenway concept.

6. Develop and encourage a process whereby land purchases by State and Federal agencies can be part of, or linked to, a cohesive greenway network.

7. Promote a strategy for the preservation of agricultural land that includes the addition of new Agricultural Security Areas, purchase of agricultural easements, agricultural zoning, and other techniques.

8. Integrate the protection of environmentally sensitive areas (steep slope, riparian, floodplain, wetland) into local zoning and subdivision ordinances.

9. Encourage conservation and protection of forest resources and their ecosystem through implementation of woodland management plans.

10. Encourage agriculture, forestry and mineral resource utilization in agricultural and low intensity areas as an economic development measure that is consistent with County and local comprehensive plans.

11. Monitor the effectiveness of state regulations for the utilization and extraction of mineral resources and communicate and encourage the state to revise any regulations that are found to be inadequate.

C. **OBJECTIVE: Promote the adoption, or revision, of municipal plans and ordinances to achieve consistency with the goals, objectives and policies of the County Comprehensive Plan.**

POLICIES:

1. Encourage planning efforts at the municipal level consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan through the development of a county planning assistance grant program.

2. Include an evaluation of consistency with the County Comprehensive Plan with reviews undertaken as part of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code requirements.

3. Establish Planning Partnerships with municipalities to provide technical and planning assistance.

4. Support municipal and multi-municipal comprehensive planning efforts throughout the county through technical assistance and in-kind support services.

5. Continue the County Planning Commissions' role as a detailed and professional reviewer of subdivision and land development and zoning and local planning activity.

6. Encourage all municipalities to become municipal partners by adopting the County Comprehensive Plan by reference.

7. Encourage the development of municipal and multi-municipal comprehensive plans consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan in all areas of Huntingdon County.

8. Promote the use of uniform planning and zoning terms within County and municipal plans and ordinance through the development and use of model ordinances.

9. Support upgrading zoning and codes administration in Huntingdon County.

10. Continue, and revise as necessary, the on-going process used by the County to measure progress in implementing the Comprehensive Plan.

D.   **OBJECTIVE: Maintain an up-to-date future land use plan that identifies growth areas that can be supported by appropriate infrastructure, and rural resource areas that support preservation of important natural resources.**

POLICIES:

1. Establish a Countywide system of growth areas to direct growth and preserve rural resources.

2. Provide for town centers, commercial and industrial areas and residential areas within planned growth areas.

3. Designate rural resource areas for agriculture, forestry, mining and low intensity land use.

4. Designate natural resource protection areas for those areas that have sensitive natural resources.

5. Ensure that land use decisions are consistent with the availability of water, sewer and transportation infrastructure.

E.   **OBJECTIVE: Develop and implement appropriate land use controls throughout Huntingdon County**

POLICIES:

1. Develop and adopt a County Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance to assure Countywide regulation of subdivision and land development activities.

2. Assist municipalities in developing zoning ordinances in those areas of the County that anticipate growth.

3. Update subdivision and land development regulations to meet the needs of a changing community.

4. Implement effective land use controls and regulations to manage the impacts of growth

5. Provide incentives for more effective and innovative land development techniques that will benefit the County in the future.

F.   **OBJECTIVE: Encourage development in or adjacent to the County's boroughs and villages or in designated centers.**

POLICIES:

1. Encourage public and private investment in Growth Areas (whether boroughs or villages) to support development for medium and high-density residential use, commercial and industrial uses, and institutional uses.

2. Provide land use controls and regulations that direct growth to the County's boroughs and villages.

3. Limit the expansion of water and sewer infrastructure to areas in and around the boroughs and villages.

4. Direct public and institutional uses to village and town centers. This would include public agencies, private institutions and educational facilities that can influence growth in the community.

5. Amend or enact zoning and subdivision and land development ordinances that include standards for alternative development styles such as cluster housing, planned residential development and traditional neighborhood development.

6. Enhance existing and develop new parks and recreation facilities that are pedestrian accessible and attract new housing development.

G.   **OBJECTIVE: Build communities that emphasize compact, efficient development using a mix of land uses.**

POLICIES:

1. Promote mixed-use development that will serve as centers of business and cultural centers as well as provide for alternative housing, dining/entertainment establishments and niche retail businesses.

2. Encourage development that is sensitive to its surroundings through design guidelines that protect and enhance community themes and manage the bulk, height and setback of new properties.

3. Provide zoning and subdivision/land development ordinances that allow for traditional neighborhood character – Prepare provisions in these ordinances that will support and facilitate innovative development in the communities.

4. Link mobility and access with development patterns and designs – Provide for safe and efficient movement of goods, people and services in the communities. Also provide adequate parking where new and existing demands occur.

5. Improve pedestrian and bicycle access by providing for sidewalks, bike lanes, bike paths, streetscapes and crosswalks that are safe, attractive and efficient.

6. Revitalize older areas of the community, establishing planning and implementation programs that embody the Main Street Principles of organization, appearance, economic restructuring and promotion.

7. Support the use of site-specific real estate tax abatements as a tool of redevelopment in urban areas. Educate local officials about the use of such abatements.

8. Where appropriate, utilize brownfield/land recycling to facilitate the development/ redevelopment of former industrial and commercial sites.

H.   OBJECTIVE: Preserve and protect rural areas of the County to allow the continuation of sustainable agricultural practices by the County's farming community.

POLICIES:

1. Utilize village centers – Direct growth and development to village centers in rural areas.

2. Rural businesses – Provide for the expansion of rural businesses either through infill development or the expansion of existing businesses.

3. Rural neighborhoods – Provide for future residential development in rural areas adjacent to existing developed areas.

4. Farmland preservation - Encourage farmers to place their farms into agricultural security areas. And continue to preserve quality farmland in the County through the agricultural easement program.

5. Agricultural development strategies – Examine strategies for stimulating agricultural development. These strategies could include: developing agri-tourism; identifying emerging markets for farm products; expanding horticulture; and exploring niche market such as cheese, organics, wineries and hydroponics.

I.   OBJECTIVE: Develop a planning education program to promote best practices in planning and land use regulation techniques and professional administration of land use ordinances.

POLICIES:

1. Work with developers and public officials so that they can see how development choices affect the aesthetic quality and economic value of development projects.

2. Work with local developers and officials to recognize the benefits of "self-contained neighborhoods."

3. Stress the importance of "Diversity" (all ages and races) in developing neighborhoods and main streets.

4. Develop a proactive land use education campaign that will illustrate the need for land use controls and exhibit the impacts of unbridled growth on the County's infrastructure and natural resources

5. Educate communities on "a sense of place" and the benefit of clearly defined boundaries and "greenways."

6. Educate the public as to the benefits of creating "human scale" communities rather than "car-scale" communities.

7. Educate the public as to the benefits of trees and open space and the positive effects they have on communities.

8. Educate and stress to builders the importance of "humane architecture," architecture that is beautiful, hospitable, and harmonizes with the surroundings.

9. Educate local officials about land use issues and trends.

10. Develop a model subdivision and zoning ordinance that incorporates "best management principles" such as traditional neighborhood development and conservation subdivisions.

11. Educate the public as to the benefits of "outdoor rooms/living spaces" (park spaces) that gives a person the feeling of enclosure and security.

J. *OBJECTIVE: Encourage the targeted development of land for commercial, industrial, and medium to low density residential uses within the Growth Areas of the County where infrastructure is present.*

POLICIES:

1. Concentrate public support to provide major high quality regional development sites at the Huntingdon Industrial Park, Riverview Business Center, and former prison land.

2. Support the transfer and development of all land owned by the State Department of Corrections, south of Route 22 for planned community purposes.

3. Examine the potential use of impact fees for mitigating the off-site affects of large-scale development.
4. Use real estate tax abatements as an incentive to assure quality development.

5. Provide education to local officials on how to use tax abatement tools effectively.

K. *OBJECTIVE: Promote inter-governmental cooperation in identifying and dealing with developments of regional significance and impact.*

POLICIES:

1. Identify developments of regional significance and act proactively to involve all regional stakeholders in the review and approval of subdivision and land development plans.

2. Develop a model zoning ordinance and subdivision and land development ordinance to assist municipalities in addressing the impacts from developments of regional significance.

3. Develop model inter-municipal agreements for the identification, review and approval of development of regional significance and impact.

4. Maintain liaisons with adjacent counties and the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission to identify land uses that may have regional impacts, to promote mutually beneficial projects, and to identify and address the issues and opportunities that such land uses present.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN
ELEMENTS OF THE VISION (GOALS)

Economic Prosperity - An Increase in Median Family Income, and a Reduction in Unemployment . . . .

It is Our Goal that Huntingdon County Achieves Economic Prosperity while Retaining the Qualities of Rural and Small Town Living . . . .

. . . . Future Employment will be Balanced Between the Farm-Forest, Resource Extraction, Retail, Service, Manufacturing and Public Sectors.

To Encourage the Development of a Healthy and Diversified Economic Base Capable of Providing Employment and Goods and Services to the Residents of Huntingdon County.

A.   **OBJECTIVE: Support and foster economic development activities that will continue the sustainable use of farm and forest resources. Support sound resource extraction policies.**

POLICIES:

1.   Form a Huntingdon County Agriculture Development Council to become a full partner in local economic development efforts.

2.   Support the development of new agriculture-related support businesses.

3.   Support the direct sale of farm products to County institutions.

4.   Support and encourage developing value-added forest products business in the County.

5.   Encourage re-mining of areas already mined in Huntingdon County to maximize efficient use of limited resources and to assure sound reclamation.

B.   **OBJECTIVE: Support and foster efforts to expand the breadth of tourism attractions and tourism-related business in Huntingdon County.**

POLICIES:

1.   Support and encourage the development of a year-round, full-service resort at Raystown Lake.

2.   Encourage the preservation, reconstruction, and interpretation of the East Broad Top Railroad to become a major tourist resource. Implement the Full-Steam Ahead report.

3.   Support the expansion of new tourist-driven businesses (lodging, dining, retail), especially where they create new entrepreneurial opportunities for County residents.

4.   Promote existing heritage festivals and events in the Raystown Country Guide.

5. Provide financial incentive grants for cultural activities at local festivals and events (festival fund).

6. Continue to distribute heritage promotional literature through Raystown Country Visitors Bureau.

7. Maintain the local satellite/tourist information Centers.

8. Develop signage for visitor information locations.

9. Provide for the recruitment and training of volunteers to guide visitors through Huntingdon County (step-on-guides for motor coach tours).

10. Continue to publish and distribute the Huntingdon County Heritage Guide.

11. Coordinate the promotion of local heritage activities with regional events such as Heritage Holidays.

12. Continue to publicize local heritage initiatives and events through local media articles, quarterly inserts, radio and TV coverage.

13. Support Path of Progress tour route and regional heritage partnerships.

14. Support the ongoing efforts of the Huntingdon County Visitor's Bureau in marketing, professional support, and scheduling efforts.

15. Support the development of a full-service amphitheater at Raystown Lake.

16. Examine the feasibility of a living outdoor farm museum at Raystown Lake.

C. ***OBJECTIVE: Reduce the flow of retail dollars from Huntingdon County by developing a stronger, more diverse retail service base.***

POLICIES:

1. Encourage retail development in both downtowns and planned commercial Centers.
2. Develop a retail market analysis to identify needed retail and services businesses.

3. Improve access to capital by developing a Countywide, two-tiered, subsidized loan program for both micro businesses and small businesses through the auspices of HCBI.

4. Market select high-quality sites for commercial development that will lead to net job and sales increases.

5. Develop former prison land as a high-quality multi-use commercial Center.

6. Encourage the re-use and re-occupation of existing vacant industrial buildings throughout the County.

D. ***OBJECTIVE: Continue successful efforts to expand the industrial sector of the economy and attract new industry in sectors that match the County's resources.***

POLICIES:

1. Target major industrial-commercial development into 2-3 high-quality sites to be developed as true public-private partnerships.

2. Establish a Pennsylvania Enterprise Zone in the Huntingdon and Mount Union areas. Examine a feasibility of an inter-County Enterprise Zone in the Broad Top area.

3. Pursue the redevelopment and revitalization of the Huntingdon County Industrial Park and surrounding neighborhood.

4. Share local economic development success stories with the general public.

5. Encourage targeted marketing to small to medium industrial firms (roughly 40-70 employee size range) to fit local resources and reduce dependence on a few large employers.

6. Support the development of services to serve local business.

7. Support efforts at labor force training and development as a means to meet the needs of County employees.

8. Discourage large-scale industrial development outside already existing industrial areas or planned business parks.

9. Survey to determine if business service needs (accounting, computer services, communication) are being met for County enterprises.

10. Encourage and support local access to high-speed communications networks (fiber optics, et. al.).

5. Examine local economic revitalization tax assistance at all levels of local government.

6. Investigate the use of tax increment financing and impact fees to guide economic development.

7. Support cooperation and coordination between all development organizations.

8. Offer revolving loan funds to ensure access to capital for all types and sizes of businesses.

E. **OBJECTIVE: Support the development and maintenance of organizational strategies and tools to meet economic development goals.**

POLICIES:

1. Develop a Huntingdon County presence on the World Wide Web that provides a positive identity, rich information and is searchable through the use of key words.

2. Determine the need for and support the provision of short-term and longer-term housing for the lead personnel of area businesses.

3. Perform a net-jobs realization general study to apply to specific future developments.

4. Continue the present professional business support and recruitment efforts of HCB&I and local Chambers of Commerce.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION PLAN
ELEMENTS OF THE VISION (GOALS)

Protect Farmland, Forest Land, Natural Resources and the Environment

Develop Greenways Along Rivers and Ridges to Protect Water Quality, to Provide Habitat for Wildlife, to Enhance Recreational Opportunities, and to Protect Scenic Beauty

To Provide for the Preservation, Protection, Management, and Enhancement of Huntingdon County's Natural Resources and Environmental Quality for Present and Future Generations.

A. ***OBJECTIVE: Maintain and enhance the use and quality of surface and subsurface water to meet individual and community needs and maintain those natural systems upon which man depends.***

POLICIES:

1. Nominate eligible local rivers as Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers.

2. Protect floodplains and wetlands from development through enforcement of local floodplain management ordinances.

3. Develop a Countywide Wellhead Protection Plan for Huntingdon County to protect public water supplies.

4. Work with the Conservation agencies to encourage proper management of agricultural waste.

5. Promote better enforcement of nutrient management regulations and development of other regulations dealing with Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations.

6. Support the application of sound erosion and sedimentation standards to all development, including forestry.

7. Protect water quality through the development of public sewer and water facilities in areas of population density.

8. Encourage the development of natural vegetative stream buffers to prevent sedimentation and erosion and to serve as greenways.

9. Evaluate the feasibility of developing a single Countywide stormwater management plan consistent with Act 167.

B. ***OBJECTIVE: To develop and protect land use patterns that are in accordance with natural resource capabilities and that preserve the land for all living organisms, while simultaneously achieving high visual and scenic qualities.***

POLICIES:

1. Encourage forest landowners to participate in the Stewardship Forestry Program or Tree Farm Program.

2. Where mining does occur, support the efficient re-mining of areas mined in the past to promote full reclamation.

3. Encourage the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) by communities, agriculture, forestry, and land developers.

4. Integrate the protection of environmentally sensitive areas (steep, riparian, floodplain, wetland) into local zoning and subdivision ordinances.

5. Ensure that land use regulations in rural areas do not restrict traditional rural activities such as keeping livestock, or home-based businesses.

6. Encourage the donation of scenic easements to qualified land conservancies or local governments to preserve environmentally sensitive areas.

7. Develop a process whereby land purchases by State and Federal agencies can be part of, or linked to, a cohesive greenway network.

8. Encourage and develop standards for land development that are consistent with the land's capacity.

9. Encourage local governments to financially support existing conservancies.

10. Develop a model sign ordinance to protect the visual qualities of communities and the natural environment.

11. Pursue the policy of linking public lands along the summit and slope of ridges in the County. Promote the physical connection of greenways where natural trails exist by conservation agencies.

12. Encourage the sound use of energy in all municipal and County buildings. Educate the public on sound energy use. Conduct an energy audit of municipal and County buildings.

13. Develop standards for alternative development in rural areas, such as conservation subdivisions.

14. Promote a strategy for the preservation of agricultural land that includes the addition of new Agricultural Security Areas, purchase of agricultural easements, agricultural zoning and other techniques.

C. **OBJECTIVE: *Provide for the protection of plant and animal habitats to assure the health and diversity of wildlife species.***

POLICIES:

1. Cooperate in the development of a Natural Heritage Inventory for Huntingdon County.

2. Encourage implementation of greenways to provide diverse habitat for wildlife and plant communities.

D. **OBJECTIVE: *Implement the goals and recommendations of the Southern Alleghenies Greenways and Open Space Network Plan when adopted by the Huntingdon County Board of Commissioners***

POLICIES:

1. Incorporate the Huntingdon County-specific elements of the Southern Alleghenies Greenways and Open Space Network Plan into the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan.

2. Huntlingdon County will participate actively as a member of the proposed Southern Alleghenies Greenways and Open Space Task Force.

3. The County will work in partnership with the Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission and various groups to implement the Southern Alleghenies Greenways and Open Space Network Plan.

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HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL PLAN
ELEMENTS OF THE VISION (GOALS)

Emphasize Excellence in Both Personal and Community Development, Maintain and Enhance Small Town Atmosphere

Preserve the Historic Resources of Huntingdon County for Their Education, Patriotic, Economic, and Quality of Life Values.

A.   OBJECTIVE: Coordinate local heritage activities with the Huntingdon County Heritage Committee and Huntingdon County Planning Commission.

POLICIES:

1. Develop a publication on the significant historic architecture of Huntingdon County.

2. Adopt and enforce local codes and ordinances to protect historic sites and districts.

3. Implement the Heritage Resource Management Plan

4. Draft a model historic preservation ordinance.

5. Review local zoning ordinances to ensure compatibility with historic town planning and to encourage the reuse of historic structures.

6. Encourage the use of Historic Architectural Review Board Districts and Historic Overlay Zoning in the protection of historic districts and sites.

7. Encourage the conservation of existing neighborhoods through appropriate regulations and financial incentives.

B.   OBJECTIVE: Focus heritage activities on Huntingdon County's National Register Districts, Landmarks, and Sites:

Huntingdon Borough National Register Historic District

POLICIES:

1. Support the adaptive reuse of Huntingdon's Union Depot.

2. Coordinate heritage activities with the HCHC.

3. Extend the Historic District boundaries.

Mount Union National Register Historic District

POLICIES:

1. Develop a campaign for the awareness of Mount Union's ethnic cultures.

2. Implement the Linear Park concept along Pennsylvania Avenue.

3. Develop Brick Industry Interpretive Programs (slide show, movies, museum).

4. Develop a transportation link between EBT Railroad and Downtown Mount Union.

5. Develop an interpretive display of the Pennsylvania Canal housed in the Sharrar House Museum.

Robertsdale/Woodvale National Register Historic District

POLICIES:

1. Preserve and restore the former EBT Post Office and train Station.

2. Expand the exhibits at the Reality Theater-Coal Miners Historical Society.

3. Restore a company house as a museum.

4. Develop a transportation link from Robertsdale to Woodvale to interpret coal mining/train.

Greenwood Furnace National Register Historic District

POLICIES:

1. Implement the Greenwood Furnace State Park Interpretive Plan.

2. Continue to present and develop first-person interpretive programs.

3. Establish additional lodging facilities, including the existing Iron Masters Mansion.

4. Establish a "Friends of the Park" group.

Whipple Dam State Park Day Use National Historic District

POLICY:

1. Implement the Whipple Dam State Park Interpretive Plan.

Pennsylvania Railroad National Historic District

POLICIES:

1. Include information on the engineering feat represented by this district in publications or museum exhibit possibly in the HUNT Tower.

2. Place markers along the rail lines to interpret the 11 bridges found along the five-mile stretch.

National Register Historic Sites

POLICIES:

1. Investigate the development and interpretation of Brumbaugh Homestead as a potential site for heritage and environmental activities.

2. Interpret and link the Minersville coke ovens to the historic site in Dudley.

East Broad Top National Historic Landmark

POLICIES:

1. Support the redevelopment of the EBT as recommended in the "Study of Alternatives" and "Full Steam Ahead" reports.

2. Incorporate the EBT Trust and convey the EBT to the Trust.

3. Incorporate an EBT/Tourism Authority or similar public financing agency.
4. Restore service from Rockhill to Robertsdale and Mount Union.

5. Support the recommendation in "Full Steam Ahead" that the EBT be designated as a partner in the Allegheny Ridge State Heritage Park.

6. Provide interpretive material and signage for the EBT.

Potential National Register Districts and Sites

POLICIES:

1. Prepare National Register of Historic Places applications for selected resources.

2. Nominate the following districts:

   a. Alexandria - currently in preparation
   b. Shirleysburg - declared eligible
   c. McAlevy's Fort
   d. Petersburg - interest expressed
   e. Rockhill - interested
   f. Orbisonia - currently in preparation
   g. Spruce Creek
   h. McConnellstown
   i. Brumbaugh Homestead, St. Matthew's Stone Church, Brumbaugh Cemetery and adjacent Schoolhouse and farmstead buildings
   j. Three Springs
   k. Saltillo

3. Nominate the following sites:

a. Dudley H&BT water tower should be considered for nomination.
b. The Palace Hotel (Ethnic Hotel), in Dudley to be preserved and considered for nomination.
c. Monroe Furnace heritage "Discovery" site.

C. *OBJECTIVE: Encourage the preservation, restoration, and adaptive reuse of the built environment.*

POLICIES:

1. Identify historic resources that are threatened by neglect or demolition.

2. Provide technical assistance and preservation guidelines to residents interested in preserving and/or rehabilitating their historic property.

3. Identify canal remains for preservation.

4. Stabilize and protect significant historic sites and structures: iron furnace, coke ovens, 1850 Pennsylvania railroad bridge, Pennsylvania canal artifacts.

5. Create an upper Stone Valley Preservation Plan.

6. Develop and maintain scenic overlooks and tour routes with interpretive exhibits.

7. Improve interpretive facilities at the Rockhill Trolley Museum.

D. *OBJECTIVE: Provide interpretive publications for Huntingdon County.*

POLICIES:

1. Create a fun map/poster of Huntingdon County identifying where the significant heritage sites and transportation routes are located.
2. Publish a map and brochure to coal sites and stories in the Broad Top area.

3. Reprint, update if necessary, and distribute walking tour brochures for historic districts.

4. Continue to develop additional walking tour brochures for new historic districts: Marklesburg, Petersburg, etc.

5. Publish material on Native American history in Huntingdon County (Sheep Rock).

6. Develop workshops for local historical societies and museums on historic interpretation and presentation.

E. OBJECTIVE: Provide high-quality interpretation at heritage sites and events.

POLICIES:

1. Work with local historical organizations to interpret the link between various heritage themes and stories (coal, iron, and railroad).

2. Coordinate interpretive materials with the development of trails and tour routes.

3. Encourage the creation and development of first-person interpretive programs at sites like Trough Creek State Park and Broad Top and Coal Miners Museum.

4. Implement the Trough Creek State Park Interpretive Plan.

5. Provide exhibits or develop brochure on the historic transportation routes (Indian paths, canal paths, old rail lines) through Huntingdon County: ex: HUNT Tower revolving exhibits.

6. Work with Mifflin and Juniata Counties to update the regional Juniata River Guide and incorporate canal and other histories into it.

7. Periodically republish the Huntingdon County Heritage Guide.

8. Publish a simple guide and a comprehensive book on Juniata iron resources in Huntingdon County.

9. Implement the Canal/Rail Public Park outlined in the Alexandria Area Preservation Plan, to provide visitor information and small trail head for Lower Trail Extension.

10. Develop canal and railroad interpretive exhibit at the Hartslog Museum.

11. Develop a virtual reality exhibit on coal mining: ex., room in the Coal Miners Museum that looks, smells, feels, and sounds like you're in a coal mine - movie to follow or precede.

HOUSING PLAN
ELEMENTS OF THE VISION (GOALS)

Excellence Will be the Theme for Both Personal and Community Development in Huntingdon County. This Will be Necessary as Citizens Demand Better Housing, Better Shopping, and Better Education

To Encourage the Provision of Decent, Safe, and Sanitary Housing for All the Residents of Huntingdon County, Regardless of Age, Race, Sex, Income, Religious, or Ethnic Background

A. **OBJECTIVE: Develop an adequate number of housing units of appropriate types to meet the needs of present and future households.**

POLICIES:

1. Ensure that local land use regulations do not unnecessarily increase the cost of housing.

2. Communities should analyze demographic trends as they set aside areas for future low, medium, or high-density housing.

3. Encourage and support private investors who wish to build housing for all housing types, particularly rental housing.

4. Provide adequate infrastructure for high density housing in appropriate locations.

5. Discourage intensive development of housing where infrastructure is lacking.

6. Local zoning should designate adequate land resources to provide for a full range of housing types within the community.

7. Encourage planned residential development with a mixture of housing types as well as appropriate non-residential uses.

8. Encourage the use of residential tax abatements to promote infill housing in Growth Areas.

9. Encourage infill development that is compatible with its surroundings.

10. Plan for mobile homes and manufactured homes by providing suitable zoned areas, while requiring high-quality design standards.

11. Encourage and support private investors who wish to explore market opportunities for new housing types in Huntingdon County.

B. **OBJECTIVE: Reinvest in Huntingdon County's present housing stock to provide safe, decent housing for all residents.**

POLICIES:

1. Encourage and cooperate with providers of housing to special needs populations in the County (the elderly, handicapped, developmentally disabled, and others).

2. Examine regional enforcement of codes to improve the administrative capacity of small communities.

3. Continue present public-supported, need-based housing rehabilitation efforts.

4. Encourage private and non-profit rehabilitation of existing housing, through individual and community-based initiatives.

5. Establish standards to prevent the utilization of inappropriate structures as seasonal dwellings.

6. Encourage the adoption of the BOCA Property Maintenance Code in urban municipalities.

7. Support adequate local ordinances to assure a high-quality residential environment.

8. Establish standards for the conversion of single-family dwellings into multi-family dwellings to assure reasonable health and safety standards are met.

9. Where rehabilitation is not a realistic option, support the spot clearance of dilapidated structures.

10. Develop a first-time homebuyers program for Huntingdon County and support adequate leadership for the program.

11. Support new avenues for affordable housing in cooperation with the Huntingdon County Housing Authority, and other entities.

12. Encourage the modernization and reconfiguration of public housing in Huntingdon County.

13. Update the Huntingdon County Fair Housing Study on a regular basis.

14. Use an interagency housing roundtable to discuss means to meet housing needs.

15. Target residential tax abatement programs toward affordable neighborhoods.

16. Facilitate housing replacements with compatibly designed units.

TRANSPORTATION PLAN
ELEMENTS OF THE VISION (GOALS)

While Retaining Its Rural and Small-Town Atmosphere, Huntingdon County Will Remain Accessible to Pennsylvania and the Rest of the World. Information, Goods, and Services Will Travel to and Within Huntingdon County by a Complete Network of Highway, Rail, and Electronic Modes.

To Connect Huntingdon County to the Rest of the World Through a Wide Variety of Modes for Communication and Commerce.

A. **OBJECTIVE: Plan for a high-quality arterial highway system that serves to connect Huntingdon County with the rest of the world.**

POLICIES:

1. Promote free-flowing traffic on arterials by promoting sound design standards and avoiding excessive strip development.

2. Support limiting new access onto arterial roads through the PennDOT driveway permit process.

3. Focus State and Federal financial assistance on arterial highway needs.

4. Support the development of secondary (marginal) access roads to minimize entrance to arterial roads.

5. Encourage a key rural access management concept for Routes 26, 22, and 522, including the purchase of scenic easements and limited frontage access.

B. **OBJECTIVE: Participate fully in the highway planning process, as a part of the Southern Alleghenies Rural Planning Organization (RPO), to make highway improvements for safety and economic development.**

POLICIES:

1. Coordinate transportation and land use planning to protect against unintended development impacts.

2. Develop information on the transportation planning process for dissemination to local officials and citizens, in cooperation with PA DOT and Southern Alleghenies.

3. Coordinate both public and private actions in support of transportation improvements, including participation in the transportation planning process.

4. Continue offering testimony to PennDOT and the regional planning agency to support the decision-making process.

5. Develop a County-level Transportation Information System.

C. *OBJECTIVE: Support the design of collector and local streets consistent with the nature and future land use of the community.*

POLICIES:

1. Encourage an appropriate standard for new rural roads in low-intensity areas through subdivision and land development ordinances. At the same time, discourage excessive highway standards (excessive street widths, unnecessary curbing, overuse of cul-de-sacs, etc.).

2. Discourage strip commercial development in local zoning.

3. Support intersection improvements and realignments for traffic safety.

D. *OBJECTIVE: Encourage the development of sustainable alternatives to auto travel throughout Huntingdon County.*

POLICIES:

1. Support continued and improved rail passenger service to Huntingdon.

2. Support improved rail freight service.

3. Encourage the restoration of the EBT for rail passenger and freight service.

4. Examine the need for regular bus service to neighboring counties and taxi service.

5. Encourage paved shoulders where appropriate as lanes for pedestrian non-motorized traffic.

6. Encourage the requirement of sidewalks for new development in designated urban or suburban areas.

7. Promote and coordinate the creation of a technology "backbone" and electronic community network throughout Huntingdon County.

8. Support the continued development of improved facilities at the Huntingdon County Airport to become an adequate facility for general aviation and local business use.

9. Promote mass transit rail and para-transit.

E. *OBJECTIVE: Improve access to Raystown Lake and associated recreation areas.*

POLICIES:

1. Support better access to the Raystown Lake area through upgrading State and local highways.

2. Assist local municipalities in obtaining funding to upgrade Raystown access roads.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES PLAN
ELEMENTS OF THE VISION (GOALS)

*It is Our Vision that Future Development is Focused on Boroughs and Villages
to Take Advantage of Existing Public Investment in Utilities and Services.*

A.   OBJECTIVE: Develop as complete a network of public facilities and services, as possible in designated Growth Areas.

POLICIES:

1. Support adequate community water and sewer in Growth Areas to encourage development, eliminate water pollution, and promote the health and safety of residents.

2. Encourage the development of community parks and play fields in designated urban Growth Areas.

3. Assure all Growth Areas have adequate public buildings.

4. Support the J. C. Blair Memorial Hospital to retain it as a valuable local health care resource.

5. Encourage the placement of new public school facilities in Growth Areas.

6. Analyze local police, ambulance, and fire protection and fill any service gaps.

7. Develop a partnership approach for the delivery of health and social services.

8. Expand local cultural opportunities by expanding schools into multi-use community centers.

9. Solidify liaisons between institutions of higher learning and the County community.

10. Develop a Countywide Cultural Center building for art/cultural events.

B.   OBJECTIVE: Protect water quality and guide development through the provision of public water and sewer.

POLICIES:

1. All municipalities should have updated Act 537 Plans.

2. Ensure that municipal sewage facility plans (Act 537) are compatible with local and County land use plans.

3. Prepare a County Water Supply Plan and investigate implementation of wellhead protection measures.

4. Support intergovernmental cooperation in both planning and delivery of services.

5. Create a Countywide Municipal Authority to provide operator/ billing, financing, and services to small water or sewer systems.

6. Establish new public sewer facilities in Growth Areas that lack them.

7. Establish new public water facilities in Growth Areas that lack them.

8. Assist those urban areas that need public water or sewer to implement the Growth Areas concept.

C. OBJECTIVE: Encourage sanitary sewer and water systems that are cost-efficient, meet residents' needs, maintain community health, and provide an equitable level of service.

POLICIES:

1. Meet existing community needs as a first priority.

2. Encourage cooperation and shared facility use by two or more governmental entities or agencies.

3. Limit extension of public water and sewer facilities into agricultural and low-intensity areas designated on the future land use map.

4. Develop facilities in a cost-effective manner

5. Encourage innovative approaches as an alternative to public utility extensions.

6. Encourage full implementation of on-lot disposal system management programs prior to extending public sewer.

7. Promote strategic investments in local water and sewer systems that will aid community revitalization and preservation, as well as to facilitate new growth and development in target growth areas.

8. Provide for on-lot management systems that are safe, reliable, and approved by PADEP.

9. Encourage the development of on-lot management districts by municipalities. These districts are characterized by the following:

   a. Created by ordinance
   b. Administered by a public or private entity.
   c. Require regular septic pumping and system inspection.
   d. Provide educational information on the maintenance of on-lot systems.
   e. Provide for a system of fees to cover maintaining and inspection costs.

D. OBJECTIVE: Provide appropriate level of services to all areas of the County.

POLICIES:

1. Support the development and maintenance of trails, including: Lower Trail Extension, Mainline Canal Greenway, Link Trail, Mid-State Trail and other elements of the County Greenway Plan.

2. Investigate Huntingdon/Smithfield to Mount Union trail.

3. Continue to provide social services to meet the needs of those citizens who require them.

4. Develop EBT right-of-way as temporary trail between Rockhill and Robertsdale

5. Implement hiking/biking trail around the lake as outlined in the Raystown Lake Master Plan.

6. Support development of municipal conservation parks that would link into a greenway system.

7. Support and encourage construction of municipal buildings in every municipality in Huntingdon County.

8. Support the maintenance and provision of adequate emergency facilities and services.

9. Strengthen the provision of library and information services to all County residents through the public library system and the use of the Internet.

10. Maintain both a County emergency service dispatch system and Countywide addressing system.

E. Objective: Assure adequate police, fire and emergency management services to all county residents, including response time.

POLICIES:

Police

1. Support adequate police staffing levels and distribution of personnel at the local level and with the PA State Police (one police officer for every 1,000 persons).

2. Support municipalities in their efforts to establish or increase police staffing.

Fire

3. Review service areas to ensure that response times are keeping pace with the growing needs of the County.

4. Monitor the numbers of trained volunteers available to respond to fire calls especially during weekdays mornings and afternoons, and assist the local companies in their recruitment efforts.

5. The County and local governments should work cooperatively to assist volunteer fire companies in maintaining sufficient funding for new equipment and maintenance of existing equipment.

Emergency Services

6. Maintain and operate an optimum ambulance fleet to serve the County with adequate response times.

7. Provide information to county residents regarding disaster planning and management.

8. Develop and maintain a Hazard Mitigation Plan to minimize property damage and loss of live from natural and man-made hazards.

9. Ensure that police, fire and EMS personnel have current Homeland Protection training.

10. Develop and update a Countywide emergency plan that is coordinated with law enforcement, emergency first responders, county emergency management and PennDOT.

F. Objective: Improve Countywide library facilities to serve as an important part of the County's educational system.

POLICIES:

1. Continue Countywide coordination of library facilities through the Huntingdon County Library System.

2. Provide a regular source of funding for libraries through the county's tax base, aggressively seeking grant finds and seeking funds from various trusts and foundations that may support library activities.

3. Continually update library collections, provide Internet services and provide programs for children, teens and adults that will attract people to use library services.

4. Provide adequate library facilities to meet the current and future needs of the community.

G. OBJECTIVE: Look for opportunities to encourage joint municipal arrangements to improve the delivery efficiency and reduce the cost of local services.

POLICIES:

1. Water and Sewer Services –Promote the regionalization of services and purchasing of supplies and professional services

2. Public Safety Services – Where feasible, promote the regional police, fire and emergency services.

3. Multi-municipal Planning –Promote multi-municipal comprehensive planning efforts in Huntingdon County.

4. Multi-municipal Zoning – Encourage multiple-municipal administration of building code, subdivision regulation and zoning.

8. Develop "Know Huntingdon County" material for school systems.

9. Prepare a Huntingdon County Historic profile.

10. Prepare a Huntingdon County Natural Resources Inventory.

H.   OBJECTIVE: *Continue the County's provision of planning, educational, technical, facilitation, and grant management services to municipalities in support of the goals of this Plan.*

POLICIES:

1. Encourage formation of multi-municipal recreation commissions as a partnership of boroughs, townships, and school districts.

2. Promote leadership development throughout Huntingdon County, focusing on community, business and government.

3. Continue County support for municipal and multi-municipal planning efforts in Huntingdon County.

4. Support and strengthen the Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department to maintain and implement the Comprehensive Plan.

5. Evaluate County government space needs and develop plans for meeting present and future needs.

6. Build municipal administrative capacity through a continuing support and educational role, including support for the Huntingdon County Council of Governments.

7. Maintain the Huntingdon County Geographic Information System, expanding its use beyond addressing and planning activities.

Land Use Plan

LAND USE PLAN

The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code states that a comprehensive plan shall include a plan for land use "which may include provisions for the amount, intensity, character, and timing of land use proposed for residence, industry, business, agriculture, major traffic and transit facilities, utilities, community facilities, public grounds, parks and recreation, preservation of prime agricultural lands, floodplains, and other areas of special hazards and other similar uses." The framers of the Code had a concept of land use planning which included the interrelationship of housing, economic development, the conservation of natural resources, and public investment in transportation and utility infrastructure. Consistent with that, the Huntingdon County Land Use Plan is the centerpiece of the entire County Comprehensive Plan. All of the subsequent Plan chapters are a product of the policies contained in this Plan chapter. If the reader wants to understand the basics of County policy over the next decade, it is all contained in the Vision Statement and this chapter.

Summary of Findings: A plan for the future must be solidly based in both the trends that a place has experienced and the desires of the citizens. During the course of preparing this Plan, a number of citizen attitudes related to key trends were obtained.

- From the Visioning session and the Community Attitude Survey:

- Residents of the County community find the overall pattern of land use to be attractive, and rate it as very important to their quality of life.

- Residents of the County community see two primary threats to the land use patterns they prefer:

- A growing pattern of underutilization and deterioration in some of the older established communities and selected rural areas.

- The emergence of some new patterns which are less efficient, more costly to the community and which degrade the quality of the living environment (sprawl).

- Residents of the County community will support land use regulations which:

- Protect pre-existing uses from new uses that would threaten existing use rights and property values.

- Permit full use of property for low-impact, traditional, or community-based activities or purposes

- From the analysis of *Continuity Through Conservation II*, *Phase I, Background Studies* and *Continuity Through Conservation II, 2007 Supplement.*

- In the last few decades, growth has shifted from the Raystown Lake Area to the Huntingdon, Juniata Valley and Spruce Creek Regions.

- Since 1997, 3,321 new lots have been subdivided from parcels totaling 54,919 acres.

- For these past 10 years, the trend has been away from low-density development (2 dwelling units per acre to 2 acres per dwelling unit) toward medium-density development (2 dwelling units per acre to 4 dwelling units per acre).

- While development is presently focused in and around the County's 18 boroughs and along the U.S. 22 corridor, residential and commercial growth is increasing in the U.S. 522 and PA 26 corridors.

- Like other rural areas, only a small percentage of the County's total land area is developed (5.98%, not including agriculture).

- Approximately 26 percent of the County is State or Federally owned: State Game Lands, State Forest, State Parks, and the Raystown Lake project are primary examples.

- The predominant land use is forest, at 75 percent.

- Agriculture constitutes 17 percent of the County's land area, a figure that has declined over the past decade.

- Growth and development have not occurred in even distribution throughout the County.

- There are many places in Huntingdon County with natural conditions that significantly limit growth and development.

- Few municipalities have local comprehensive plans or zoning ordinances and the County does not have land development regulations.

- From the analysis since *Continuity Through Conservation II* (Volume 1) was published:

- Many of the boroughs and villages, where development was traditionally concentrated, are beginning to see deterioration and abandonment.

- Based on population projections prepared by the Pennsylvania Department if Environmental Protection, as part of the preparation of the State Water Plan, Huntingdon County is expected to gain 1,701 persons by 2010, 1,542 by 2020, and 23 by 2030. This will combine with an anticipated shrinking average household size (1990 average - 2.58 persons per household; 2020 average - 2.35 persons per household) to promote housing growth.

ANALYSIS AND PLAN

The Role of the County and the County Land Use Plan: Huntingdon County has municipalities within its borders. These municipalities are the foundation of government in the County, with the ability to provide citizens with basic public services and protection of public health, safety, and general welfare as necessary. Huntingdon County does not envision itself as the usurper of these local rights and responsibilities. Rather, the County, through this Plan, defines a role for itself as a partner who helps townships and boroughs meet the needs of citizens. This role has four parts: the County as technician, the County as educator, the County as grantsman, and the County as facilitator.

The role of the County Planning Commission as technician is based upon the fact that it is unrealistic to expect the County's small municipalities to hire professional staff planners. For some, it will even be difficult to undertake a single community comprehensive plan or administer a land use ordinance. It is not unreasonable to believe that over the next ten years, the County Planning Commission will be the only planning entity with significant resources in the County. The County is therefore prepared to make its resources available locally in the following ways:

Huntingdon County has encouraged municipalities that do not have a locally adopted comprehensive plan to adopt the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan by reference. This can be done by municipal resolution following a public hearing. The adoption will give the municipality an official Statement of Development Objectives which gives them official right of comment on actions by other public entities, such as municipal authorities or school districts, related to the extension, demolition, construction, sale, or purchase of public property and facilities. As an alternative, communities may also pass a resolution of support that states their support of the County Plan and general agreement with its policies. In either case, these municipal partnerships can form a basis for further planning.

It may be recognized by some municipal partners that the County Plan does not address a local data need or future issue in sufficient detail. In such cases, the County Plan can be used as a starting point to develop a municipal comprehensive plan. For communities in which single municipal plans are infeasible, the County can be a facilitator toward developing multi-municipal or regional partnerships. It's important to note that two or more municipalities that join together for the preparation of a multi-municipal comprehensive plan can request amendments to the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan for the purpose of achieving general consistency between the multi-municipal plan and the county comprehensive plan to allow for the County Plan to adequately reflect localized needs and issues.

This level of services can extend past the point of plan preparation into the area of implementation. Recognizing that the preparation of zoning or subdivision and land development ordinances is time-consuming, expensive, and often unnecessarily repetitive, the County has developed model approaches and model text for zoning and subdivision and land development ordinances. Such ordinances and approaches have provided a practical, locally oriented means to provide needed county-wide subdivision coverage and zoning protection for high-growth townships and boroughs (all boroughs are at greater risk due to a higher density of development).

The County can make greater strides in ensuring countywide subdivision and land development ordinance coverage through the preparation and adoption of a Huntingdon County Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. Under the provisions of the Municipalities Planning Code, the County has the ability to enact subdivision and land development ordinances limited to land in municipalities that have no subdivision and land development ordinance in effect at the time. A county ordinance would remain in place until a municipal subdivision and land development ordinance is put into place. Further, any municipality may adopt by reference the subdivision and land development ordinance of the county, and may by separate ordinance designate the county planning agency, with the county planning agency's concurrence, as its official administrative agency for review and approval of plats.

The County also has a role as an educator. Choices about land use decisions, now, will affect many aspects of the community over the next one hundred years.

The role of educator by the County Planning Commission is recommended to include specific initiatives directed toward local governments, developers, and other real estate professionals and citizens.

The County can also utilize its financial resources to implement planning at the local level. For example, Community Development Block Grant funding is distributed by the County to 3 to 5 municipalities each year. This funding has made a major difference in infrastructure and housing at the local level.

As resources are available, the County also provides services preparing competitive grant applications. This has been an important means of funding some large-scale infrastructure projects.

As a facilitator, the County can take advantage of its position as a neutral entity among Huntingdon County's municipalities. For example, if two or more communities choose to submit a grant application for a single joint project, some mistrust or rivalry could be created by one community taking the lead on behalf of the others. The County is not a "competing" level of government. This makes it a natural entity to host or facilitate any project or idea that involves more than one township or borough. The municipal participants can place more trust that a county effort will not favor a single participant at another's expense.

As mentioned before, the Land Use Plan is the centerpiece of the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan, where all of the divergent policies relative to the environment, economy, housing, and public utilities come together. The Land Use Plan is also the initial embodiment of the Vision for the 21st Century by explaining how Huntingdon County can achieve its vision.

Citizens' Vision: The vision for Huntingdon County was graphically expressed by the citizens of the County in 1999. A Citizen Vision Map (see 2000 Plan) was the work of the more than three dozen persons who attended the Huntingdon County mini-conference on land use and environment. The citizens were asked to identify areas of Huntingdon County where the following activities would be appropriate:

Revitalization - These were defined as areas where development had occurred but which had seen deterioration, abandonment, or disinvestment. Citizens were asked to identify areas where such circumstances had occurred and it would be

appropriate for public and community action to spur reinvestment and rebuilding.

Growth - These were areas that are not developed or sparsely developed where it would be appropriate for public and community action to support and encourage development.

Preservation-Conservation - These were two separate categories during the mini-conference. Preservation was defined as areas that should remain exactly as they are. Conservation was defined as undeveloped or sparsely developed areas that could be developed if consideration was taken to be careful of the natural surroundings. During the mini-conference, it was obvious that these two terms were very close in meaning and that in Huntingdon County, the difference was one of degrees. Therefore, the final map combines them into a single category, which might be thought of as areas where the natural systems must be considered as a primary part of the planning and development process.
To construct this map, the citizens were split into eight groups of 4 to 5 persons each. Each group prepared a map based upon the previous criteria. These maps were then merged into a single map by staff and consultants. Where two or more groups agreed, the concept was added to the map. If two or more groups disagreed, the area was simply identified as one where there were conflicting visions.

It then became the responsibility of the professional planners to convert this broad graphic vision into an achievable plan for future land use.

Concept Plan: The Concept Plan was the first and most basic visualization of future land use. It divided all of Huntingdon County into rural, urban, suburban areas, or greenways.

Rural: This is the largest geographical designation on the Huntingdon County Concept Land Use Plan. It is reflective of the current reality of Huntingdon County and the desires of County residents. Rural areas are defined by the low density of people and buildings per acre, the presence of significantly less infrastructure, and large areas of natural landscapes and farmlands.

In counties such as Huntingdon County, rural areas have been a traditional source of wealth by providing food, timber, and minerals. This land-based wealth has produced a number of working landscapes, and it is the vision of the Land Use Plan that these continue.

The key threat to these areas is that development more appropriate to urban or

suburban areas locate here. This creates a number of problems. First, pressure begins to extend public facilities and services to the newer, less intensive development. There can also be conflicts, particularly between higher density residential development and agricultural or mining uses. In either case, the typical result is that the traditional rural uses are unable to continue. Either the conflict or the cost of new services creates an unviable situation.

The policy solution to this is to protect rural uses. Public money should not be used to subsidize the extension of urban services and facilities into rural areas. Rural municipalities must also have tools to protect themselves from the type of high-intensity development that would necessitate the provision of such facilities or services.

The paradox in such a situation is that, as working landscapes, there has always been a diversity of development and multiple uses of properties in rural areas of Huntingdon County. It is the vision of this Plan that communities should not restrict the mixture of very low-density homes, scattered small businesses, farms, and woodlands that characterize rural Huntingdon County. The key to protecting this freedom and diversity is that densities remain low and development remains small scale.

To implement such protection, rural townships should examine covenants such as Agricultural Security Areas, purchase of development rights, and conservation or open space subdivisions. If zoning is pursued, it should be based on rural models, which allow farming, small-scale manufacturing, home occupations, and housing to coexist. It should not be based on more restrictive urban or suburban standards.

Urban: Urban areas will be those places characterized by complete infrastructure — public water, public sewer, paved street systems, sidewalks, and higher levels of municipal services. Because of the high level of public expense, urban areas will be normally characterized by a higher density of development (more buildings per acre). Twenty urban areas have been identified in Huntingdon County. Most of these are characterized historically by a greater density of development than the surrounding countryside. While some lack complete infrastructure, most have a density that makes provision of infrastructure financially possible.

Consistent with the citizen vision, the urban areas are envisioned as the centers of community and economic life for Huntingdon County. Where public dollars are available, the maintenance and revitalization of those areas is a major Plan priority. Visually and physically, these areas will be characterized by pedestrian

orientation, pleasant traditional small-town appearance (tree-lined streets, human scale buildings), a variety of housing opportunities, retail/service business areas within or adjacent to residential areas, and a diversity of residents.

Long-time residents will recognize that the previously mentioned characteristics define what many of their communities were meant to be. In some cases, these characteristics are being lost through a variety of factors, including:

➢ Disinvestment in private property, such as deterioration and abandonment of buildings.

➢ Aging infrastructure, such as cracked, missing sidewalks and antiquated sewer lines.

Why should public and private dollars reinvest in places with such problems? Quite simply, because it makes good economic sense. For 200 years, the people of Huntingdon County have spent countless millions of dollars on sewer, water, streets, sidewalks, landscaping, and buildings. A few dollars spent in the maintenance of this infrastructure (which is necessary to our civilization) is better spent than attempting to replace it elsewhere.

The Plan recommends an emphasis on public investment as a top priority in these areas, especially where it can attract private reinvestment.

This can be accomplished by a number of specific policies in land use regulations, property maintenance/health and safety ordinances, tax incentives, and prioritization for public spending.

Land use regulations are important as both active and passive features in urban centers. Passively, it is important that they do not create unnecessary impediments to the higher density mixed-use development that makes urban areas special. Some of the loss of pedestrian accessibility and community character in centers is actually a result of the type of zoning that rigorously separates various kinds of land uses and requires provision of on-site parking. This type of zoning can prevent the mix of small-scale neighborhood commercial uses and homes, which makes neighborhoods living entities. It can also make it preferable for businesses to demolish older buildings and replace them with a mixture of new buildings and parking lots that make centers less pleasant. To prevent this, urban communities in Huntingdon County should review their zoning ordinances with an eye toward whether the ordinance would allow the replication of their favorite community features. Amendments should be made to assure that the ordinances contain common-sense standards for

nonconforming buildings, setbacks, and yard sizes that reflect historic densities, and allowing on-street or off-site parking. In general, zoning should never keep the good things that have already occurred in development from being repeated.

The model for such an approach is available from a number of sources. There is a school of thought in planning known as "new urbanism," "neo-traditionalism," or "traditional neighborhood development." These various buzz words are simply expressions to describe new development that retains the dimensions and spirit of the traditional American town. Several dozen models for such developments are available. At the present time, there are nine major projects in construction or advance planning in Pennsylvania that would create about 3,000 housing units in neighborhoods that are designed to neo-traditional standards. All are located in the greater Philadelphia or Pittsburgh areas. All are characterized as "infill" developments, using the existing street systems and acting as a natural extension of the surrounding urban area. Some of these approaches might be successfully adopted to the Huntingdon County setting.

Beyond the issue of zoning, many individual buildings in centers have suffered from deterioration and abandonment. At the least, in a high-density area, they devalue neighboring properties. At their worst, they directly threaten the health and safety of citizens. Unfortunately, many smaller urban areas either do not have ordinances to address this problem, have outdated, unenforceable ordinances, or lack an experienced official to enforce dangerous building ordinances.
Almost every expert in the area believes that the best standard for an urban area is the International Property Maintenance Code. There are some good single-purpose, nuisance-type ordinances available. A good property maintenance ordinance is not concerned with aesthetics; its purpose is to protect the community from delinquent buildings destroying life and property by falling down, harboring rats, or burning. Most ordinances require either closing access to abandoned buildings, repairing problems, or demolition. This gives the owner a range of choices. Many such ordinances also address the associated issues of organic garbage and junk that harbor vermin.

The ideal for vacant buildings is that they not are demolished unless they are truly dilapidated. The preferred alternative is that they are reused and reoccupied.

Suburban: Since World War II, our civilization has become increasingly, dependent on motor vehicles for the movement of people and goods. This has a tremendous impact on land use patterns. As writer Tom Hilton has stated, "In accommodating the auto, we have also let it become our only transportation option. This requires that we take our 3,500-pound car everywhere we go. Bear in mind that while a person takes up only 2 square feet of space, a car hogs 70 to 100 square feet. To provide ample 'storage' at each potential destination, we build parking lots." While the negative affects of autos upon planning may be debated, they remain a current reality for which concessions must be made. Among those realities are that most Huntingdon County residents own one or two motor vehicles, many destinations are only accessible4 to them by auto, and virtually the entire American shipping system currently rests on trucking. Large parking lots and heavy truck traffic can have a very negative effect on residential quality of life in urban areas.

In rural areas, there is generally a lack of sufficient transportation infrastructure. Thus, it is appropriate and necessary for Huntingdon County to provide suburban areas for those essential land uses that are neither rural nor urban.

The implementation of such an objective rests on targeting suburban development to areas where there is appropriate land and presence or proximity to appropriate infrastructure, especially arterial highways, public sewer, and public water. Frankly, areas that meet these criteria are not common to Huntingdon County. Therefore, it is imperative that those qualified areas are on the market, be upgraded where necessary, and ready for quality development. This will require an active role for the County and municipalities.

An example of this role of facilitating development in appropriate areas is the action that has taken place at the intersection of US 22 and PA 26. The land at this prime value intersection was transferred from the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (DOC) to Smithfield Township. Following subdivision and the installation of infrastructure one of three parcels has been developed as a regional retail center. Additional land remains for development.

The limiting factor of suitable land also lends itself toward a policy of intensive public investment in a limited number of existing quality sites. At present, these would be the Huntingdon Industrial Park and the Riverview Business Center in the eastern portion of the County and the former prison lands. It is essential that the community approach these developments in a professional, planned manner. The first stage is ensuring adequate infrastructure. The second essential is an intimate understanding of market forces. All development is not equal. The County and communities should stand ready to subsidize the most beneficial development through such programs as the LERTA tax abatement, and begin examining impact fees for less beneficial development. Both of these are bargaining tools. It is recommended that Huntingdon County begin an educational process with local officials to learn about the negotiation process

and the available local government tools.

The suburban areas of Huntingdon County are also the areas where traditional zoning and subdivision and land development regulations can be the most useful. Large-scale commercial/industrial development and medium to low-density housing developments must be separated enough to prevent land use conflicts for the protection of all parties. Industrial developers want the security of some form of business zoning designation to protect them from nuisance lawsuits. Homeowners want the security of knowing that the land around them can only be developed for compatible uses. This is the proper role of a protective zoning ordinance. The subdivision and land development ordinance is also crucial in laying out common-sense residential street systems and managing the parking and traffic impacts of nonresidential development.

Greenways: The forests, fields, wetlands, streams and aquifers of Huntingdon County form the basis of a natural green infrastructure as important to the health and welfare of the county as public water and sewer. Wetlands purify water and hold back flood waters. Tree-clad hills absorb millions of gallons of rainwater and prevent both flooding and erosion. Streams feed between hills and wetlands. These natural systems provide these valuable services at little or no cost while still providing soil and water to grow crops, trees for timber and wildlife for food and recreation. The Concept Plan designation for these ridges and stream-side areas is greenways.

The Commonwealth defined greenways in a recent publication as "corridors of open space. They often follow natural features such as rivers, streams, or ridgetops." In Huntingdon County, a network of greenways is envisioned which will include both public and private lands. The public lands might be State Game Lands, State forests, or other open-space uses. Private lands could be represented by farms, forestry, and various low-intensity uses.

The Land Use Plan embodies the regional Southern Alleghenies Greenway and Open Space Plan as illustrated in Map 30. Preservation of greenway corridors is important for both conservation and outdoor recreation purposes. Many of these corridors will contain trails, others will remain principally conservation areas. Table 27 contains a list of County Greenway Corridors along with estimated development cost.

It is envisioned that Greenways could be implemented by a combination of fee-simple purchases (such as expanded Game Lands), purchase of conservation easements, and landowner initiatives (such as Agricultural Security Areas). It is also the policy of the Comprehensive Plan that private lands in greenways be

valued for traditional rural uses, such as harvesting of timber, farming, and hunting or fishing. If these uses can retain an innate value, pressures for inappropriate development are lessened.

Future Land Use Plan: The conceptual plan represents a workable implementation of the vision, articulated by Huntingdon County's stakeholders. Yet, this conceptual map can only be implemented by practical planning based upon real-world projections of what is likely to happen in Huntingdon County over the next 10 to 15 years. To articulate such a detailed plan, it is necessary to examine specific land use types (residential, commercial, etc.) and consider how much land they realistically need, what type of land, and where it will be available.

Residential needs will be based on new households and their needs. Over the next 10 to 20 years, Huntingdon County is expected to gain new households as follows:

➢ About 700 new households headed by persons age 40 to 54 by 2010, rising to 1,000 households by 2020.

- These households are at peak income years
- They have no small children
- There is an average 2.3 persons per household ±
- Their housing preferences range to larger lots, suburban or rural settings, and new homes.

➢ About 750 new households of persons 55 to 70 by 2010, rising to 1,100 by 2020. These households can be generalized as:

- Early retirees
- Empty nesters
- They have less income than earlier cohorts
- They have 1.8 persons per household ±

➢ About 400 new elderly households (age 70+) by 2010, rising to 1,100 by 2020.

- Wide variety of housing/care needs, based on individual health.
- More single-person households
- 1.3 persons per household
- Consistently lower incomes

> Finally, the County will have newly created households from the existing population. These will number about 750 households, largely headed by persons under the age of 40.

- Great number of single-person/single-parent households
- More likely to be renters than homeowners
- Generally lower incomes
- Will be drawn to affordable housing opportunities

Land Use Implications - 2010-2020

A.   The County should plan for 700 to 1,000 new low-density/intensity households. This will require an average of 2.84 acres per household, or 2,840 acres.

The County should plan for 750 to 1,100 new medium-density households. These will require about 368 acres, virtually all of which will need public sewer/water service.

The County should plan for 1,150 to 1,850 new, affordable or elderly households consisting of various forms of medium and high-density housing. This may require about 255 acres. Virtually all of this population will need public water and sewer.

B.   Geographic Distribution of New Households.

It should not be assumed this growth would occur evenly throughout Huntingdon County. Each planning region might be affected differently. About one half of this growth will occur in the Huntingdon Area. Ten to fifteen percent each will occur in the Spruce Creek, North Huntingdon and South Huntingdon regions, with the rest scattered throughout the County.

Commercial Land Use Growth

> Huntingdon County is currently underserved by retailers.

> If present trends continue, these national retailers will pursue a policy of establishing facilities in what were once ignored as "minor markets" (places like Huntingdon County).

In such a scenario, Huntingdon might see two new superstore/plaza facilities at 15 acres each or a single regional commercial business complex of 30-40 acres. These 30-40 acres of anchor development could generate another 60 to 70 acres of retail development for smaller stores.

Thus, for planning purposes, 100 acres will be the assumed commercial acreage to be required over the next 15 to 20 years.

Industrial Land Use Growth

> Industrial park land in Huntingdon County historically developed at rates of 3-6 acres per year.

> Recent successful industrial development ventures will likely accelerate this. Thus, for primary purposes, 120 acres will be the assumed industrial acreage to be needed over the next 15 to 20 years.

Geographic Distribution of Industrial and Commercial Development

> Due to the principles of commercial location (primarily that greater concentrations increase the size of the total market area). Region 4 (the Huntingdon Area) will probably see the bulk of commercial development.

> In rural areas, industrial development is driven by public investment in sites (land acquisition, sewer, water, etc.). The most recent investment has been in the Mount Union area, which coincidentally has the best access from Route 22 (the County's most important highway) to I-76 (the nearest Interstate highway) in the County. Thus, the Mount Union Area will probably absorb the bulk of industrial growth with a secondary concentration in the Huntingdon Area. Finally, it should be noted that significant amounts of land that were subdivided in the past for residential purposes were never developed. Huntingdon County may have a reserve of more than 2,000 vacant lots.

Agricultural Land - Agricultural land has been declining significantly in

Huntingdon County. While a very important component in the County economy, agricultural land has been lost to development and to simple abandonment (smaller or less fertile farmland ceases to be tilled and returns to forest land). This trend is expected to continue, though it may be reduced in scale.

These market trends must be viewed against natural and human factors that will limit future development. Some factors, such as steep slopes or floodplains, represent a practical constraint on future development. Human factors such as the presence of public sewer or good highway access will attract development. To examine the variety of potential factors, the Huntingdon County Planning Commission staff created a matrix of land uses that could be applied uniformly in the County.

TABLE 28
LAND USE PLAN MATRIX

Criteria	Commercial and Industrial	High- and Medium- Density Residential	Low-Density Residential	Low-Intensity Uses/ Conservation	Agriculture	Park and Open Space
Within ½ mile of Arterial Highway	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Within 1 mile of Arterial Highway	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Within ½ mile of Collector Highway	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Existing sewer and water service	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Within 2,000 feet of sewer and water service	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Within 2,000 feet of Act 43 area	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Class I - IV Soil	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Steep Slope	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES
Floodplain	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Geologic Hazard	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
Existing Ag Land	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO
Existing Low-Density Residential	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO
Existing Industrial and Commercial	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Existing High- and Medium-Density Residential	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Within developed areas having significant deterioration	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES
Wellhead/Water Supply Area	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES*	YES

*Certain low-intensity forms of agriculture only.

Because of the geographic information systems (GIS) technology, it was possible to look at all of the various factors presented in the matrix on a map depicting all of Huntingdon County. This process was completed by consultant and staff in a series of discussion meetings.

The GIS system allowed planners to view a wide variety of what-if scenarios. For example, areas of gentle slope, which are developable, could be viewed in the context of the presence of public water or public sewer. Such areas did not abut previously developed residential areas, and there was nearby highway access as another layer. Such land could be considered suitable for commercial or industrial development.

First, however, it was essential to remove non-developable parcels from consideration. To do this, significant constraints were examined in the context of the existing land use base. The significant constraints were steep slopes, which are areas that have a slope of greater than 25% (an elevation change of greater than 25 feet over 100 lineal feet). Floodplains were also considered, which are subject to significant inundation at least once per one hundred years. And then finally, land in public ownership for recreation, conservation, or open space purposes was identified.

The results of this mapping process are summarized in the Developmental Constraints Map. This map illustrates how little truly suitable land resources Huntingdon County has for intensive future development.

Future Land Use Plan: The GIS system allowed planners to focus upon those few areas, which are truly developable, with some degree of accuracy. Applying the matrix to Huntingdon County, the Future Land Use Plan was developed. This Plan defines future land use in the County as being one of nine future categories.

Urban Residential - Urban residential are residential uses at a density of 4 or more dwelling units per acre. All urban residential areas either have public water and sewer, or such infrastructure is recommended.

Low-Density Residential - These are lands recommended for residential uses at densities up to 4 units per acre or as low as 1 unit per 2 acres. It is anticipated that the higher densities would be served by public water and sewer and the densities of 1 unit per acre or less would have on-lot sewer and water.

Commercial - Areas established for offices, retail businesses, and similar uses. These areas could be established at densities high enough to support either

pedestrian or auto access. Full infrastructure is present or recommended.

Institutional Uses - These are lands and buildings owned by government bodies or non-profits that provide community services. Examples include the State Correctional facilities and Juniata College.

Industrial/Commercial - These are lands currently used or recommended for use as manufacturing, warehousing, offices, business parks, and the commercial uses listed previously.

Public Open Space - These are lands owned by public entities for conservation or recreation purposes. Examples include Raystown Lake and State Game Lands.

Agriculture - Lands used for tillage, orchards, pasturage, forage, and similar food and fiber production (with the exception of major forest holdings).

Low Intensity - Rural areas which will be a mixture of very low-density housing (more than 2 acres per unit), scattered small businesses, farms, and private forest lands.

Resource Protection – These are areas of very steep slope (over 25%) or floodplain. Exceptional care needs to be taken to protect the rural resource area from development. Residential density should average less than one dwelling unit per ten acres, with agriculture, forest management and recreation as preferred uses.

Urban Growth Boundary and Rural Resource Areas
The recommended land use plan places urban residential, low-density residential, commercial, institutional and industrial/commercial categories within a proposed Urban Growth Boundary (Map 28). This area should have access to community water and sewer and other urban services.

The County's Rural Resource Area is the area outside the Urban Growth Boundary, principally in the public open space, agriculture, low intensity and resource protection categories. This area should not be served by community water and sewer and other urban services.

In the context of the future Land Use Plan, the roles of the County discussed previously should be kept in mind. The future Land Use Plan is a general plan for Huntingdon County. It is not a lot-by-lot depiction of the future, or an ordinance limiting future land use to those described. For example, the Plan

makes reference to urban residential areas. It is conceived in the context of the general plan that the character of these areas would be urban residential, but every single development within that area would not need to be residential. It is entirely possible that such an area would have institutional or public uses (such as churches and schools) or even neighborhood commercial businesses (such as a convenience store) within its limits.

In urban residential areas, the County should plan for new or expanded residential development of varying densities. It would be envisioned that significant amounts of these areas would be served by public water or public sewer in the future. This would accommodate a variety of residential settings to meet the needs of Huntingdon County citizens.

Commercial areas are those in which significant commercial development has already occurred. This includes many of the urban centers, commercial downtowns, and some highway or suburban-oriented "strip development" on such areas as Route 22. It is our vision for the Future Land Use Plan that these areas continue to provide opportunities for the County's citizens to purchase goods and services.

Industrial/Planned Business Parks: In a traditional land use plan or zoning ordinance, quite often commercial and industrial land uses were originally separated from one another. In an environment where much industrial growth is coming from light industry, with few problems of pollutants or noxious discharge, and commercial development is getting larger and more intensive, planning can be used to assure that both forms of development can take place in one single high-quality setting. An example of this integrated approach to development can be seen at the Riverview Business Park where such uses as a medical office, grocery store, and electronics manufacturer coexist in a single park-like setting, within short distances of each other. The recommendation of this Plan is that large-scale development be concentrated in a few high-quality sites, with access to utilities and major highways. This would facilitate the use of public funds to subsidize the quality sites that would make these types of developments successful. However, there also remain older industrial areas where the character is predominately industrial and retrofit to a mixed-use business park is less likely. These areas are designated industrial.

Institutional use includes the secondary schools, post-secondary schools, government buildings, and such institutions as the two State Correctional facilities in Huntingdon County. These are an important part of the local economy in these rural communities and the facilities should be given opportunity to continue, expand, and thrive. It is the policy of the Huntingdon

County Comprehensive Plan that as public facilities, these should be located in or adjacent to urban centers or where the infrastructure necessary to support them is readily available.

The agricultural lands illustrated on the map should be protected from land use conflicts that would devalue them from their current use and prevent them from being able to continue. There are also farms scattered throughout the various areas depicted on the map as low-intensity. It is the vision of the Future Land Use Plan that low-intensity areas will not be served by public infrastructure, but will be home to a wide variety of low-density and low-intensity developments. This might include rural homes on very large lots; small businesses, such as country stores; small manufacturing facilities; farms; or small institutional uses, such as churches. This is the mix of uses that makes the Huntingdon County countryside attractive now and which should be able to continue to thrive into the future.

Resource Protection areas are areas where development of any kind is discouraged due to severe conditions in the natural environment or because of valuable ecological resources. These areas form the heart of the proposed greenway network. Large areas of the proposed greenways are publicly owned.

It is necessary for the Future Land Use Plan to ensure that adequate room is provided for future development. For uses that are driven by private-sector new development (residential, commercial), there should be more acreage provided than is actually needed. This is simply because many tracts of land suitable for such purposes may not be truly available (they may not be for sale, may be priced too high, etc.). The following table is provided as a cross-check to illustrate the acreage used by various categories, their projected growth, and the provision made on the Future Land Use Plan for that growth.

Development of Regional Significance and Impact
One of the changes in the requirements for the preparation of county comprehensive plans contained in the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) that resulted from the passage Act 68 of 2000 is the need to identify various land uses which have a regional significance and impact.

The MPC now contains a definition of "developments of regional significance and impact" that reads as follows:

"Any land development that, because of its character, magnitude, or location will have substantial impact upon the health, safety, or welfare of citizens in more than one municipality."

Examples of Developments of Regional Significance and Impact include large residential subdivisions, shopping centers, industrial and business parks, recreational areas, waste disposal facilities, and major highways. Development impacts may include traffic, noise, light, storm water runoff, pollutants, loss of open space, commercial market encroachment, and/or water/sewer demand.

There are several existing developments in and around Huntingdon County that meet the definition of a Development of Regional Significance and Impact. A few Huntingdon County examples are provided below, however, more developments that would be considered of regional significance and impact currently exist, or are in the foreseeable future.

• Industrial and Business Parks
Huntingdon County's industrial and business parks serve as major employment centers. The creation of new parks and/or expansion of existing parks will create additional jobs in the County and may have regional impacts on traffic patterns and volumes, housing demand, community facilities, and public services. In addition, as these facilities are occupied, the economic impact would likely expand beyond the immediate area into many of the surrounding communities.

• Shopping Centers
Major shopping centers have regional impacts on transportation, economic development, land use, and other community development issues. Major shopping areas have the potential to draw customers from a significant region. While such facilities provide jobs, shopping opportunities, and increased municipal revenues, they also generate traffic and often place additional demands on public infrastructure.

• Recreational Areas
The Raystown Lake Recreation Area already attracts visitors from across the region and beyond. Additional significant recreational development could include state parks, and historic and cultural resources that serve as a regional attraction, such as the East Broad Top Railroad.

Other potential Development of Regional Significance and Impact would include future landfills, major new industrial parks, the major expansion or upgrade of local sewer and water facilities, and transportation improvements.

The following thresholds should be used to determine if a development is of regional significance or impact. They should be incorporated into local zoning and be used by the County Planning Commission in reviewing subdivision and land developments.

- Regional shopping center with more than 30,000 gross square feet of retail or office space;

- Individual industrial or commercial office facility, or a planned industrial or office park with more than 250 employees;

- Petroleum or highly flammable or explosive material refining, processing, or storage area;

- Warehouse complex with more than 250,000 gross square feet, or trucking terminal averaging more than 100 container or trailer loads per day;

- Regional entertainment and recreational complex, including theaters or centers for the performing arts, stadiums for competitive sports (totaling more than 500 seats), amusement parks, downhill ski areas, horse and dog racing tracks, drag strips and automobile raceways, and similar facilities;

- Hospital and medical center offering inpatient care facilities;

- Public use airports;

- Institution of higher education, such as a college, university or technical school, and other school campuses on tracts of land ten acres or more;

- Commercial corridors combining retail, office, industrial, or warehousing uses on contiguous tracts of land fronting on a highway with more than 250 employees;

- EPA designated superfund sites;

- Municipal and hazardous waste disposal facilities;

- Quarrying, mining, or other extractive operations removing 50,000 tons or more per year;

- CAFO (concentrated animal feeding operation with either more than 1,000 animal equivalent units, or operations with 301 to 1,000 AEUs that are CAOs)

- Developments that are expected to increase the volume of traffic on adjacent public roads by more than 15%, or which will cause a "D" level of service or worse on adjacent public roads.

The identification of potential developments of regional significance and impact is of little value if there is not a process or procedure for communities to review and attempt to mitigate the potential negative impacts of the development. To achieve this the County and municipalities should establish a process for review and approval of developments of regional significance and impact when

proposed within any participating municipality. This procedure, when incorporated in the County local subdivision and land development ordinance would provide adjacent municipalities that may be impacted by the development an opportunity for input into the review process. In instances where no local ordinance currently exists, and prior to the adoption of a countywide subdivision and land development ordinance by Huntingdon County, the County Planning Commission may offer a mediation option to any municipality which believes that its citizens will experience harm as the result of an applicant's proposed subdivision or development of land in a contiguous municipality, if the municipalities agree. At a minimum, the County Planning Commission should advertise a public hearing on the development to give impacted individuals and communities an opportunity to comment.

Agricultural Preservation Policy
The future land use component of the county comprehensive plan indicates that areas designated as agriculture should be protected from land use conflicts that would devalue them from their current use and prevent them from being able to continue. To achieve this, Huntingdon County has developed an Agricultural Preservation Policy, to provide to support for agricultural production; protect agricultural lands from incompatible land uses; and to increase agricultural income and farm-related employment opportunities by creating conditions that further the county's agricultural industry.

Tools for Preserving Valuable Farmland
Since 1994, by executive order of the governor of Pennsylvania, there has been an Agricultural Land Preservation Policy in Pennsylvania that applies to all agencies under the governor's jurisdiction. They are ordered and directed to seek to mitigate and discourage conversion of prime agricultural land.
In addition, the Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) requires all comprehensive plans to identify a plan for the preservation and enhancement prime agricultural land. The following tools and recommendations are either currently being used or could be used in Huntingdon County for preserving important agricultural lands.

Agricultural Security Areas (Act 43 of 1981)
The Huntingdon County Agricultural Land Preservation Program also operates within the guidelines of the Agricultural Securities Areas Law, and monitors those agricultural security areas in Huntingdon County. Agricultural Security Areas (ASA) are tools for strengthening and protecting agriculture in Pennsylvania. There is a total of 72,191 acres of land located within an ASA in Huntingdon County. This is 12.7% of the total County land area. ASAs are established on a voluntary action by the landowners, requesting the local governing body to create an ASA. This tool for protecting our farms and farmland from encroachment of non-agricultural uses provides benefits to farmland in three ways.

- The local officials agree to support agriculture by not passing nuisance laws, which would restrict normal farming operations.
- Limitations are placed on the ability of government to condemn farmland in the ASA for highways, parks, schools, etc.
- Landowners will be eligible to voluntarily apply to sell a conservation easement to the commonwealth and/or the county.

These security areas are reevaluated every seven years; however, new parcels of farmland may be added to an established ASA at any time. A combined minimum of 250 acres is required for the establishment on ASA. An ASA may include non-adjacent farmland parcels of at least 10 acres or be able to produce $2,000 annually from the sale of agricultural products.

Agricultural Easement Program
Enabled by 1988 amendments to Act 43, the purchase of conservation easements permanently preserves farmland by purchasing development rights. Agricultural conservation easements prevent the development or improvement of the land for any purpose other than agricultural production. Conservation Easements purchased by the Huntingdon County Agricultural Land Preservation Program are perpetual.

As of December 2006 3,048 farms representing 344,465 acres in 53 of the 67 counties have been approved for easement purchase in Pennsylvania. In Huntingdon County, 4 farms encompassing approximately 415 acres are protected by an agricultural conservation easement in perpetuity.
The Huntingdon County Agricultural Land Preservation Board has developed a numerical ranking system to be used to prioritize applications for the appraisal of properties meeting the minimum criteria listed in Section 103 of the County Program. After initial review, sites are evaluated using the system. A farm's ranking is determined by favorable natural conditions and location factors that make farming a viable undertaking presently and in the future. Applications are accepted annually from landowners who want to protect their farm.

Pennsylvania State Act 442
Land Preservation for Open Space Use authorizes the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, counties, and local government units therein to preserve, acquire,

or hold land for open space uses. Specific authorization is given to local governments to impose new taxes for open space purposes, subject to voter approval.

Pennsylvania State Act 319

Act 319 of 1974, commonly referred to as the "Clean and Green Act" is designed to provide a method for determining the value of land based on its use rather that on the fair market value. This approach in determining the assessed valuation often yields a lower value than fair market value. In turn, a lower tax bill results as the tax millage rate is applied to a lower assessed value.

The Right-to-Farm Law

Pennsylvania's "right to farm" law protects farm operations that have been in existence and have remained substantially unchanged for one year from nuisance suits from neighbors. It also provides immunization from nuisance suits for any new or expanded operation that has obtained approval of a nutrient management plan and is in compliance with the Nutrient Management Act.

Municipalities Planning Code

The Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) specifies that a comprehensive plan shall include a plan for the protection of natural resources (including prime agricultural land), identify a plan for prime agricultural land preservation and enhancement, encourage the compatibility of land use regulations with existing agricultural operations, and recognize that commercial agricultural production may impact water supply sources. Zoning ordinances authorized under the MPC may promote, permit, prohibit, regulate, restrict, and determine protection and preservation of prime agricultural land and activities. Zoning ordinances can encourage the continuity, development, and viability of agricultural operations and may not restrict agriculture or changes to or expansions of agricultural operations in geographic areas where agriculture has traditionally been present unless the agricultural operation will have a direct adverse effect on the public health and safety. Zoning classifications may be made within any district for the regulation, restriction, or prohibition of uses and structures at, along, or near agricultural areas.
Municipal comprehensive plans provide the legal basis for agricultural zoning to support agricultural preservation, address productive soils, and demonstrate that agriculture is an established land use that is important to the local economy.

Zoning techniques include:

- Sliding scale – this is the most widely acceptable way to limit development and has been upheld in the courts.

- Residential development standards – dwelling are clustered, located on least productive soils, minimum and maximum lot sizes, agricultural nuisance disclaimer.
- Limited permitted uses – those that are compatible with and supportive of agriculture and places appropriate standards for normal agriculture
- Addresses large scale agricultural uses
- Allows non-farm uses compatible with agriculture

Transfer of Development Rights

The MPC enables municipalities to institute a municipal or multi-municipal Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs) program. TDR refers to a method for protecting land by transferring the "rights to develop" from one area to another. This approach involves severing the right to develop an area that the public wishes to preserve in low density or open space (or for agricultural purposes, in this example) and transferring those rights to another site where higher than normal density would be compatible and desirable. Currently, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania counties, does not have a community that employs this method of preserving valuable farmland. This concept, however, could provide an additional way of protecting important agricultural farmland.

Agencies Supporting Agricultural Preservation

Huntingdon County Agricultural Land Preservation Board

The Huntingdon County Agricultural Land Preservation Board was appointed by the Huntingdon County Commissioners in 2001 to implement the County's Agricultural Land Preservation Program to conserve and protect agricultural lands and assure that farmers in Huntingdon County have sufficient agricultural lands to provide farm products for the people of the county and Pennsylvania. The county program has been approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, and operates within the guidelines of the Agricultural Securities Areas Law.

It is the purpose of this program to protect viable agricultural lands by acquiring agricultural conservation easements that prevent the development or improvement of the land for any purpose other than agricultural production.

Further, it is the purpose of this program to:

(1) Encourage landowners to make a long-term commitment to agriculture by offering them financial incentives and security of land use;

(2) Protect normal farming operations in agricultural security areas from incompatible non-farming uses that may render farming impracticable;

(3) Protect farming operations from complaints of public nuisance against normal farming operations;

(4) Assure conservation of viable agricultural lands in order to protect the agricultural economy of this Commonwealth;

(5) Provide compensation to landowners in exchange for their relinquishment of the right to develop their private property; and

(6) Maximize agricultural easement purchase funds and protect the investment of taxpayers in agricultural conservation easements.

Huntingdon County Conservation District

The Huntingdon County Conservation District administers the County Agricultural Land Preservation Program. The District is a subdivision of state government at the county level. A volunteer board of directors governs this District. District programs range from science-based conservation efforts to serving as a clearinghouse for public information and education. The Conservation District advances its programs by linking the support of individuals, organizations, and agencies equally committed to the wise use of natural resources.

Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department

The Huntingdon County Planning and Development Department is responsible for writing the Agricultural Land Preservation Program for the County. Adoption of this Program by the County Commissioners created the Land Preservation Board. The Department assists the Conservation District by conducting a GIS-based evaluation of each farm application, including soils, development potential, farm potential and clustering potential. At the present time, the Planning Director and member of the planning commission serve on the Land Preservation Board.

Huntingdon County Farm Bureau

There is an active Farm Bureau in Huntingdon County under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau. The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau is a private professional organization that is financed and controlled by members. Annual membership in the Huntingdon County Farm Bureau is $75.00, and benefits include educational programs and lobbying opportunities as well specialized

group services and discounts. There are 54 County Farm Bureaus in Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture encourages, protects and promotes agriculture and related industries throughout Pennsylvania. The department administers the Farmland Preservation Program at the state level. Easement purchase is funded through a tax on cigarettes and Growing Greener funds. The department's regional office, whose coverage includes Huntingdon County, is located in Altoona.

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

The NRCS provides assistance to land users (including farmers) in planning and installing conservation practices on their land. Major objectives include the reduction of soil erosion, improving water quality, ad other environmental improvements. They cooperate and partner with the Huntingdon County Conservation District.

USDA's Farm Service Agency

The U.S Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides federal farm programs to county farmers that stabilize farm income, help conserve land and water resources, provide credit to new and disadvantaged farmers and help farm operations recover from the effects of disaster.

PSU Cooperative Extension, Huntingdon County

Penn State Cooperative Extension in Huntingdon County gives local residents easy access to the resources and expertise of the Pennsylvania State University. Through educational programs, publications, and events, cooperative extension agents deliver unbiased, research-based information to Huntingdon County citizens.

Plan Consistency Policy

County/Municipal Consistency

The County Planning Commission is charged by the legislature to, "publish advisory guidelines to promote general consistency with the adopted county comprehensive plan." These guidelines shall promote uniformity with respect to local planning and zoning terminology and common types of municipal land use regulations.

Prior to Acts 67 and 68, there was no requirement for plan consistency between

the county comprehensive plan and a city, borough, or township plan. The new Code now requires general consistency between county and local plans.

One of the intended purposes of the amendments to the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC) undertaken in 2000 was to promote consistency between all levels of government charged with planning and land use regulation. Act 68 of 2000 also highlighted the role of the County Planning Commission in coordinating and analyzing the consistency of planning efforts at various levels.

For the first time, the MPC started to define what consistency was, how consistency was to be achieved, and provided incentives for consistency. Consistency is defined in the MPC as:

"agreement or correspondence between matters being compared which denotes a reasonable, rationale, similar connection or relationship".

The amendment clearly charged the County Planning Commission with directing efforts to achieve consistency. Section 301.4.(b) of the MPC now reads as follows:

> Section 301.4. Compliance by Counties
>
> (b)   County planning commissions shall publish advisory guidelines to promote general consistency with the adopted county comprehensive plan. These guidelines shall promote uniformity with respect to local planning and zoning terminology and common types of municipal land use regulations.

This Project Memorandum discusses the intent of a Comprehensive Plan Consistency Policy and potential approaches the County Planning Commission could take to promote and implement consistency. The purpose of the County's Plan Consistency Policy is to:

- Encourage the adoption, or revision, of municipal plans and ordinances to achieve consistency with the goals, objectives and policies of the County Comprehensive Plan;

- Encourage innovation in municipal ordinances to effectively manage land use in a manner consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan;

- Foster multi-municipal planning efforts to effectively address planning issues facing Huntingdon County municipalities; and

- Promote the use of professional planning expertise to address land use

and other planning issues at the municipal and multi-municipal level.

Below are actions to be implemented to meet the stated purpose of Consistency Policy. Due to funding, staffing and level of municipal interest, the Consistency Policy needs to be flexible in its approach.

County Project Review

The Huntingdon County Planning Commission is afforded the opportunity, in accord with several state and federal laws, to review grant applications, project proposals, and development plans submitted by municipalities, agencies or developers. The purpose of the review is to ensure that such proposals and plans conform to the county comprehensive plan. The Huntingdon County Planning Commission should take its review role seriously and uphold the vision and objectives of the county plan. It should represent and be accountable to the broad public interest that created the plan.

Work in Cooperation With Communities to Implement Comprehensive Plan

It is acknowledged that the Huntingdon County Planning Commission has only partial ability to implement the Comprehensive Plan. Municipalities have authority in community development and infrastructure projects, zoning, other regulations and taxation. Independently governed and financed agencies play lead roles in economic development, housing, agriculture, etc.

Therefore, municipalities and agencies should be recruited as partners in implementing the plan. They should be asked to support plan implementation voluntarily and cooperatively, and be encouraged to do the things they do best in support of county plan vision and objectives.

Recent amendments to the MPC address this issue directly. Article 11 of the MPC is entitled Joint Municipal Planning Commissions but it provides much more than this subject. Article 11 enables regional planning and specifies its objectives. It defines municipal versus County roles in the regional planning process. And finally, it provides for inter-municipal implementation agreements.

In order to implement multi-municipal comprehensive plans, under Section 1103 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, counties and municipalities have authority to enter into intergovernmental cooperative agreements.

Cooperative implementation agreements between a county and one or more

municipalities achieve the following.

(1) Establish the process that will be used to achieve general consistency between the county or multi-municipal comprehensive plan and zoning ordinances, subdivision and land development and capital improvement, including adoption of conforming ordinances within two years and a mechanism for resolving disputes over the interpretation of the multi-municipal comprehensive plan and the consistency of implementing plans and ordinances.

(2) Establish a process for review and approval of developments of regional significance and impact that are proposed within any participating municipality.

(3) Establish the role and responsibilities for implementation of the plan, including the provision of public infrastructure services, the provision of affordable housing, and purchase of real property, including rights-of-way and easements.

(4) Require a yearly report by participating municipalities to the county planning agency and by the county planning agency to the participating municipalities concerning activities carried out pursuant to the agreement during the previous year.

(5) Describe any other duties and responsibilities as may be agreed upon by the parties.

Cooperative implementation agreements may designate growth areas, future growth areas and rural resource areas within the plan. The intergovernmental agreement also provides a process for amending the multi-municipal comprehensive plan and redefining the designated growth area, future growth area and rural resource area within the plan.

The county may facilitate convening representatives of municipalities, municipal authorities, special districts, public utilities, whether public or private, or other agencies that have an interest in providing a public infrastructure service in a public infrastructure service area or a portion of a public infrastructure service area within a growth area, for the purpose of negotiating agreements for the provision of such services. The county may provide or contract with others to provide technical assistance, mediation or dispute resolution services in order to assist the parties in negotiating these agreements.

The County will seek resolutions from municipalities to support the Comprehensive Plan and would agree to review how their plans and ordinances

can help implement the Plan. The County will seek resolutions of support during the first years of this plan. Municipalities that agree to support the vision will enter into a "Plan Implementation Partnership" with the County. Municipalities that participate in the Partnership have access to technical assistance and planning grants (if funding is available) to assist them in improving local planning programs and achieving consistency with the principles of the Huntingdon County Comprehensive Plan.

The county would be required to undertake the development of an implementation agreement to operationalize the Plan. Such implementation agreement should be developed with the assistance of local officials, county planning staff, solicitors and planning consultant(s). It should be detailed enough to convey the expectations of each municipality yet simple enough to be understood and not discourage involvement.

County Consistency Review Report

Either in conjunction with a municipality that signed on to the Partnership, or independently, after receiving an endorsed Memorandum of Understanding from a municipality, the County Planning Commission would complete a detailed review of municipal plans and ordinances to determine consistency with the County Comprehensive Plan. The County Consistency Review Report would analyze municipal planning and land use documents such as:

- Municipal Comprehensive Plan
- Open Space, Recreation and Natural Resources Plan
- Zoning Ordinance
- Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance
- Act 537 Plan
- Other documents deemed appropriate

Creation of Planning Grant Assistance Program

An excellent tool to encourage local and multi-municipal planning which is consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan is the creation of a Planning Grant Assistance Program to help municipalities develop comprehensive plans.

A Planning Grant Assistance Program may take a number of forms based on the funding available to the County. The program may allow for county funds to be dispersed to municipalities, or multi-municipal groups, to undertake planning activities.

Some Pennsylvania counties have developed initiatives that provide

reimbursement to communities that undertake planning efforts that implement countywide priorities such as multi-municipal comprehensive plans, agricultural zoning or infrastructure planning.

If the County does not have cash to contribute, the program could also provide grant writing assistance, in-kind staff support or GIS data to a municipality, or group of municipalities, seeking to apply for an existing grant program, such as the LUPTAP program.

In either capacity, the County through the establishment of the grant program or grant assistance guidelines can ensure that the municipal planning projects are consistent with the direction and vision of the County Comprehensive Plan.

Chester County's Vision Partnership Program is considered an excellent example of grant program that directly promotes cooperation and consistency between local governments and the county to implement the County Comprehensive Plan. The Vision Partnership Program is a planning grant and technical assistance program available to local municipalities who seek to improve their planning programs and achieve consistency with the goals of the County Comprehensive Plan.

Items that the county has identified as inconsistent with the County Comprehensive Plan are eligible for funding under the program. The grant program can provide up to 75 percent of eligible municipal planning costs. In addition, the program provides funds up to 90 percent of eligible multi-municipal planning projects. The County sets minimum standards for the

projects to be undertaken and provides assistance in the development of scopes of work and the selection of planning consultants.

During 2005, a total of 53 municipalities entered into a grant agreement with Chester County. These agreements consisted of 33 individual municipal grants and four multi-municipal grants for projects that support and promote the policies of the County Comprehensive Plan. The cash grants awarded for the program totaled $114,243.50 in 2005 with another $49,627.32 provided as in-kind grants for County technical assistance.

SECTION IV.

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Land Use Inventory by Municipality and Planning Region

Table 7
Huntingdon County Population Projection by Planning Regions: 2000 - 2030

Name	2000 Population	2030 Population	Change	Percent Change		Name	2000 Population	2030 Population	Change	Percent Change
Huntingdon County	**45,586**	**48,852**	**3,266**	**7.16%**		**Planning Region 6**	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**
Average	1014	1018	68	0.15%		Cass township	1062	1170	108	10.17%
						Cassville borough	152	149	-3	-1.97%
Planning Region 1	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**		Mapleton borough	473	435	-38	-8.03%
Birmingham borough	91	84	-7	-7.69%		Todd township	1004	1165	161	16.04%
Franklin township	447	424	-23	-5.15%		Union township	1005	1186	181	18.01%
Morris township	416	423	7	1.68%		**Trough Creek - total**	**3696**	**4105**	**409**	**11.07%**
Spruce Creek township	263	296	33	12.55%		*Trough Creek - avg*	739	821	82	2.21%
Warriors Mark township	1635	1975	340	20.80%		**Planning Region 7**	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**
Spruce Creek - total	**2852**	**3202**	**350**	**22.19%**		Mount Union borough	2504	1750	-754	-30.11%
Spruce Creek - avg	570.4	640.4	70	4.44%		Shirley township	2526	2764	238	9.42%
Planning Region 2	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**		Shirleysburg borough	140	139	-1	-0.71%
Barree township	460	506	46	10.00%		**Mount Union - total**	**5170**	**4653**	**-517**	**-10.00%**
Jackson township	882	980	98	11.11%		*Mount Union - avg*	1723	1551	-172	-3.33%
Miller township	514	550	36	7.00%		**Planning Region 8**	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**
West township	528	665	137	25.95%		Clay township	920	952	32	3.48%
Northern Huntingdon - total	**2384**	**2701**	**317**	**13.30%**		Cromwell township	1632	1960	328	20.10%
Northern Huntingdon - avg	596	675	79	3.32%		Orbisonia borough	425	430	5	1.18%
Planning Region 3	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**		Rockhill Furnace borough	414	398	-16	-3.86%
Alexandria borough	401	390	-11	-2.74%		Saltillo borough	343	350	7	2.04%
Logan township	703	742	39	5.55%		Springfield township	612	752	140	22.88%
Petersburg borough	455	485	30	6.59%		Three Springs borough	445	485	40	8.99%
Porter township	1917	2155	238	12.42%		**Southern Huntingdon - total**	**4791**	**5327**	**536**	**11.19%**
Juniata Valley - total	**3476**	**3772**	**296**	**8.52%**		*Southern Huntingdon - avg*	684	761	77	1.60%
Juniata Valley - avg	869	943	74	2.13%		**Planning Region 9**	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**
Planning Region 4	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**		Broad Top City borough	384	390	6	1.56%
Huntingdon borough	6918	7150	232	3.35%		Carbon township	428	430	2	0.47%
Oneida township	1129	1200	71	6.29%		Coalmont borough	128	125	-3	-2.34%
Smithfield township	4466	4400	-66	-1.48%		Dudley borough	192	186	-6	-3.13%
Walker township	1747	2050	303	17.34%		Hopewell township	587	636	49	8.35%
Huntingdon - total	**14260**	**14800**	**540**	**3.79%**		Wood township	713	755	42	5.89%
Huntingdon - avg	3565	3700	135	0.95%		**Broad Top - total**	**2432**	**2522**	**90**	**3.70%**
Planning Region 5	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**		*Broad Top - avg*	405	420	414	0.62%
Juniata township	553	650	97	17.54%		**Planning Region 10**	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**
Lincoln township	319	355	36	11.29%		Dublin township	1280	1520	240	18.75%
Marklesburg borough	216	225	9	4.17%		Shade Gap borough	97	98	1	1.03%
Penn township	1054	1170	116	11.01%		Tell township	648	714	66	10.19%
Woodcock Valley - total	**2142**	**2400**	**258**	**12.04%**		**Shade Valley - total**	**2025**	**2332**	**307**	**15.16%**
Woodcock Valley - avg	536	600	64	11.94%		*Shade Valley - avg*	675	777	102	5.05%
						Planning Region 11	**2000 pop.**	**2030 pop.**	**Pop. Change**	**Percent Change**
						Brady township	1035	1043	8	0.77%
						Henderson township	972	1060	88	9.05%
Source: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Projection and						Mill Creek borough	351	337	-14	-3.99%
Huntingdon County Planning & Development Department						**Mill Creek - total**	**2358**	**2440**	**82**	**3.48%**
						Mill Creek - avg	786	813	27	1.16%

Natural Heritage Areas

Natural Heritage Areas
(categorized by significance)

Exceptional Significance
Alan Seeger Natural Area BDA
Jackson Township
Bureau of Forestry Natural Area containing two mature forest communities and kidney-leaved twayblade, a plant species of special concern.

Exceptional Significance
Aughwick Creek LCA
Cromwell Township, Shirley Township, Shirleysburg Borough, Springfield Township
Watershed that contains numerous natural communities, plants and animals of special concern, and smaller-scale BDAs.

Bear Meadows Natural Area BDA
Jackson Township
A relict bog that provides habitat for at least two plant species of special concern in Pennsylvania

Beaver Pond Bog BDA
Jackson Township Habitat for a bog community that supports three invertebrate species of concern.

Blacklog LCA
Cromwell Township, Shirley Township, Tell Township
Landscape containing contiguous forest covering areas up to 10,000 acres, and 3 BDAs.

Butler Knob BDA
Cromwell Township, Cass Township
Habitat for the northeastern bulrush, a federally endangered plant species.

Colerain Ice Holes BDA
Franklin Township**,** Spruce Creek Township
Unusual forest community supporting twinflower, a plant species of special concern.

Deeter Hollow BDA
Union Township Forested hollow supporting an unusually large population of thick-leaved meadow rue, a plant species of special concern.

Dungarvin Ponds BDA
Franklin Township
Vernal pool habitat supporting populations of
weak rush and clasping-leaved St. John's wort, and surrounding xeric forest that includes pitchpine - scrub oak woodland.

Jacks Mountain LCA
 Brady Township, Cass Township, Clay Township, Cromwell Township, Mount Union Borough, Saltillo Borough, Shirley Township, Three Springs Borough, Union Township
Landscape containing contiguous forest covering areas greater than 10,000 acres, and 4 BDAs.

Maddensville BDA
SpringfieldTownship
Habitat occupied by an animal species of state and global concern.

Martin Gap BDA
Miller Township
 Bureau of Forestry Natural Area containing two plant species of special concern.

Meadow Gap BDA
Springfield Township
Shale barren community and stream habitat supporting two plant species of special concern and three animal species of special concern.

Miranda Hill BDA
Cromwell Township, Shirley Township
Stream habitat supporting three animal species of special concern.

Neff Limestone Barren BDA
Porter Township
Calcareous rocky slope that provides habitat for a regionally rare natural community, four plant species of special concern, and four invertebrate species of special concern.

Petersburg Limestone Cliff BDA
Porter Township
 Calcareous cliff community that supports two plant species of special concern.

Pogue BDA
Cromwell Township
A landscape that contains a regionally rare community type, two plant species of special concern, and two animal species of special concern.

Raystown Dam BDA
Juniata Township**,** Henderson Township, Smithfield Township
A landscape that contains a variety of habitats that support a regionally rare natural community, four plant species of special concern, and seven animal species of special concern.

Raystown Lake LCA
Cass Township, Henderson Township, Hopewell Township, Juniata Township, Lincoln Township, Penn Township, Todd Township
Landscape surrounding Raystown Lake that contains numerous natural communities, plants and animals of special concern, and smaller scale BDAs.

Rockhill BDA
 Cromwell Township
A landscape that contains a regionally rare community type, shale-barren evening primrose - a plant endemic to shale barrens, and a globally rare animal.

Rogers Hill Road BDA
Cromwell Township Roadside shale barrens hosting round-headed gayflower and shale-barren evening primrose, plant species of special concern.

Sand Knob BDA
Jackson Township Habitat for yellow fringed orchid, a plant species of concern, and two invertebrate species of special concern.

Sheep Rock – Chiniotta Barrens BDA
Penn Township
Shale barrens and adjoining forest that support a regionally rare community type, four plant species of special concern, and three animal species of special concern.

Exceptional Significance
Sideling Hill Creek BDA
Clay Township
Habitat for a globally rare animal species of special concern.

Stone Mountain LCA
Brady Township, Henderson Township, Jackson Township, Miller Township
Landscape containing contiguous forest covering areas greater than 10,000 acres, and 3 BDAs.

Tram Road BDA
Logan Township, West Township
Habitat for the northeastern bulrush, a Federally Endangered plant species

Union Furnace BDA
Morris Township
Calcareous slope supporting the only known occurrence of white camus in the state.

Warriors Ridge Barrens BDA
Logan Township**,** Oneida Township
Forested landscape supporting habitat for two plant species of special concern: lupine, and northeastern bulrush, a Federally Endangered species.

Whisper Rocks BDA
Porter Township
Habitat for a globally rare clubmoss and and the eastern small-footed myotis, a globally rare animal species of special concern.

High Significance
Aughwick Ford BDA
SpringfieldTownship Habitat for a globally rare animal species of special concern.

Barree Limestone Barren BDA
Logan Township**,** Porter Township
Calcareous rocky slope that provides habitat for a round-head gayflower, a plant species of special concern.

Blacklog Mountain BDA
Shirley Township Habitat occupied by the Allegheny woodrat, an animal species of state and global concern.

Birmingham BDA
Warriors Mark Township
Calcareous rocky slope that supports spreading rockcress and brome grass, two plant species of special concern.

Cave Hill BDA
Clay Township
 Habitat occupied by the northern myotis, an animal species of special concern.

Center Union Wetlands BDA
Oneida Township
 Forested floodplain supporting a small population of thick-leaved meadow rue, a plant species of special concern.

Flemings Water Cave BDA
Tell Township
 Habitat occupied by the northern myotis, an animal species of special concern.

High Significance
Genismore BDA
Spruce Creek Township, Warriors Mark Township
Limestone bank that provides habitat for threeflowered melic-grass, a plant species of special concern.

Greenlee Run BDA
Jackson Township
 Forested floodplain supporting a small population of thick-leaved meadow rue, a plant species of special concern.

Greenwood Furnace Iron Mine BDA
Jackson Township
Habitat occupied by the northern myotis, an animal species of special concern.

Grove Barrens North BDA
Penn Township
Shale barren community supporting apopulation of shale-barren evening-primrose, a state-threatened plant species.

Hall Cave BDA
Porter Township, Walker Township
Habitat occupied by the northern myotis, an animal species of special concern.

Hesston Cave BDA
Penn Township
Habitat occupied by the northern myotis, an animal species of special concern

Hill Valley BDA
 Cromwell Township
Shale barren community supporting a population of shale-barren evening-primrose, a state-threatened plant species.

Huntingdon Furnace BDA
 Franklin Township
Forested habitat supporting mountain phlox, a state-endangered plant species.

Huntingdon Rocks BDA
Huntingdon Borough, Smithfield Township
Habitat occupied by the eastern small-footed myotis, a state and globally rare animal species.

Jacks Narrows BDA
Brady Township
River floodplain, talus slopes, and upland riparian forest habitat occupied by Virginia mallow, thick-leaved meadow rue, and the Allegheny woodrat.

Johnson Ridge BDA
Cromwell Township
Roadside shale bank and adjoining dry oak –heath forest habitat supporting populations of round-head gayflower and shale-barren eveningprimrose.

Kenrock BDA
Carbon Township
Habitat occupied by the Allegheny woodrat, an animal species of state and global concern.

Laurel Run BDA
Jackson Township
Forested stream valley that is home to the stateendangered
Roger's clubtail dragonfly.

High Significance
Long Cock Cave BDA
 Cromwell Township
Habitat occupied by the northern myotis, an animal species of special concern.

Maddensville Quarry BDA
SpringfieldTownship
 Habitat occupied by the northern myotis, an animal species of special concern.

McFadden Cave BDA
Cromwell Township
Habitat occupied by the northern myotis, an animal species of special concern.

Mill Creek Hollow BDA
Henderson Township
Forested slope on State Game Land #112 that supports a population of the state rare Hooker's orchid.

Neelyton BDA
Dublin Township
Habitat occupied by the Allegheny woodrat, an animal species of state and global concern.

Pennsylvania Furnace BDA
Franklin Township
Marsh habitat supporting populations of Torrey's rush and marsh bedstraw, both plants of concern in PA.

Petersburg Cave BDA
Logan Township**,** Oneida Township, Porter Township
Habitat occupied by the eastern small-footed myotis, an animal species of state and global concern.

Piney Ridge BDA
 Penn Township
 Seasonal floodplain wetland that supports Curtis's goldenrod, a species of special concern.

Rays Hill BDA
 Wood Township Habitat occupied by the Allegheny woodrat, an animal species of state and global concern.

Ross Spring BDA
 Franklin Township
Habitat for kidney-leaved twayblade, a plant species of special concern.

Ruth Cave BDA
 Spruce Creek Township
 Habitat occupied by two animal species of special concern.

Shaver Creek Wetland BDA
Barree Township
Depression wetland within the Stone Valley Experimental Forest that is home to false hop sedge, a plant species of state concern.

Shy Beaver BDA
Hopewell Township
Forested habitat overlooking Raystown Lake that supports the federally endangered bald eagle.

Snyders Run BDA
Smithfield Township
Old-field habitat supporting Virginia mallow, a plant species of global and state concern.

High Significance
Standing Stone Creek BDA
Oneida Township
Riparian habitat supporting a population of wild rice, a plant species of concern.

Stone Mountain BDA
Miller Township
 Forested stream valley within State Game Land #112 that provides habitat for puttyroot, an orchid species of concern.

Weaver Bridge BDA
Hopewell Township
 Old-field habitat supporting Virginia mallow, a plant species of global and state concern.

Notable Significance
Aitch Barrens Natural Area BDA
Lincoln Township
 Shale barren communities on steep, south-facing slopes along Raystown Lake.

Ardenheim Railroad BDA
Henderson Township
 Shale bank along Juniata River that provides habitat for shale-barren evening-primrose, a plant species of global and state concern.

Aughwick Creek Benchmark BDA
Cromwell Township Riparian woodland along Auchwick Creek that supports a small population of thick-leaved meadow-rue, a species of state concern.

Big Flat Laurel Natural Area BDA
Jackson Township
 A scrub oak – shrubland community of local significance.

Detweiler Run BDA
Jackson Township
A forest community complex within the Detweiler Run Natural Area that contains a small patch of old-growth hemlock-tuliptree-birch forest.

Field Station Shale Barren BDA
Penn Township**,** Lincoln Township
Small shale barren community on a steep, southfacing slope along Raystown Lake.

Genismore Run BDA
Warriors Mark Township
Seepage wetland habitat occupied by cattail sedge, a plant of state concern.

James Creek Inlet BDA
 Penn Township
 Forested riparian habitat supporting thick-leaved meadow-rue, a plant species of state concern.

Joller BDA
Todd Township
Habitat occupied by the Allegheny woodrat, an animal species of state and global concern.

Mill Creek BDA
 Brady Township
 Old-field habitat supporting Virginia mallow, a plant species of global and state concern.

Owl Gap BDA
Jackson Township Forested stream valley providing habitat for the northern pigmy clubtail, a state rare dragonfly.

Notable Significance
Seven Stars BDA
Franklin Township
Old-growth dry oak – heath forest community on western slope of Tussey Mountain.

Shirleysburg BDA
 Shirley Township
Aquatic habitat supporting a population of Illinois pondweed, a state rare plant species.

Snyders Run BDA
Smithfield Township
Roadside thicket occupied by Virginia mallow, a plant species of global and state concern.

Sugar Grove Run BDA
Henderson Township
 Roadside shale bank providing habitat for a population of round-head gayflower.

Trough Creek Confluence BDA
Cass Township**,** Todd Township
Riparian habitat in an agricultural area that supports a small population of thick-leaved meadow-rue, a state-threatened plant species.

Trough Creek South BDA
 Todd Township
 Riparian forest that provides habitat for thickleaved meadow rue, a state-threatened plant species.

County Significance
Chestnut Spring BDA
 Jackson Township
Forested headwaters of Standing Stone Creek.

Dungarvin Ponds North BDA
Franklin Township, Warriors Mark Township
Complex of vernal pools.

Lodge Shale Barren BDA
 Lincoln Township
 Small shale barren community on a steep, southfacing slope along Raystown Lake.

Mothersbaugh Swamp BDA
Barree Township, Jackson Township
Large wetland supporting a unique community complex.

Trough Creek Gorge BDA
Cass Township, Penn Township, Todd Township
Steep gorge with interesting geologic features and diverse natural communities.